

Old Montreal, Step by Step

*Historical rally and mini-tour
of the Centre d'histoire de Montréal*

Since 1992, the Centre d'histoire has welcomed groups of students learning a second language. Visiting the museum has become a way for these groups to practice their skills in an immersive environment. With *Old Montreal, Step by Step*, the Centre d'histoire is offering a new experience for beginners, specifically designed to correspond with work done in class.

Note: The word student as used here describes all persons registered with an educational institution to receive full- or part-time instruction. It therefore applies to children, teenagers and adults alike.

Example of a rally question:

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At the centre of Place d'Armes, there is a **monument** to Paul de Chomedey, sieur de Maisonneuve.

Q: On one of its corners, there is a statue of a woman and a child. Who is she?

R: _____



INFORMATION

Level

Students learning English and other groups

Duration

1 hour 30 minutes

Capacity

Maximum 20 students (1 class)

Cost

\$1,75 per student

Objective

Participants will get to know the city's oldest neighbourhood better and be able to point out some places of historical and geographical interest.

Pre-visit activity for ESL classes

The vocabulary worksheet

Centre d'histoire de Montréal

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Old Montreal

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ville.montreal.qc.ca/chm

Old Montreal, Step by Step

The Visit

Old Montreal, Step by Step was originally created for beginner-level French students (*Le Vieux-Montréal à petits pas*). However, the activity has proven to be as useful and popular with intermediate and advanced groups, and demand is such that we have even translated the activity for ESL classes.

We offer students a 2-in-1 visit: both the Centre d'histoire de Montréal and Old Montreal in ninety minutes! The adventure begins with a half-hour guided tour of the museum's permanent exhibition, allowing participants to get an overview of Old Montréal's history and layout. The guide will reference concepts and places that will feature in the rally.

After the tour, the rules of the rally are explained, and the group is split into teams of two. Each is sent out on one of several routes through Old Montreal: towards the Old Port, the faubourg des Récollets, Place d'Armes, Square Victoria or the Centre de commerce mondial. Activity sheets provide teams with directions they must follow and questions about the neighbourhood. After forty minutes, teams return to the Centre d'histoire de Montréal to check their answers.

A Different Experience

The rally offers students a different experience than the classic tour of the permanent exhibit, *Discovering Traces of Montreal's Past*, in order to better suit the objectives of beginner-level English classes.

It should be noted that the tout component of the activity last only thirty minutes, and it is therefore impossible to cover more than 500 years of Montreal's history, as one does with the regular visit. The goal of the visit is simply to put some of the places and concepts covered in the rally in their historical and geographic perspective.

Thus, a group that has done *Old Montreal, Step by Step* can easily return later on with a more advanced class for the *Discovering Traces of Montreal's Past* visit. The content and the objectives of the two activities are complimentary.

Objectives

- To read instructions and be able to orient oneself.
- To familiarize oneself with some of Old Montreal's geographic and historical points of interest.

Activity schedule (90 min.)

1. Tour of the permanent exhibition: 30 min.
2. Instructions and distribution of materials for the rally: 10 min.
3. Rally in Old Montreal: 40 minutes.
4. Students return, check answers, and return materials: 10 min.

Pre-visit activity: Vocabulary Worksheet

We suggest that students complete our double-sided vocabulary worksheet before their visit. Depending on the level of your group, it may be useful to go over some of the words that will feature in the rally, whether they appear in the directions or in the neighbourhood itself.

Teams of Two

If possible, please form teams of two before arriving at the museum. This way, the students will be ready sooner to head outside and tackle the rally.

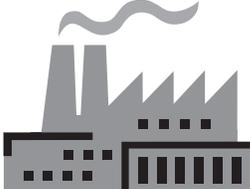
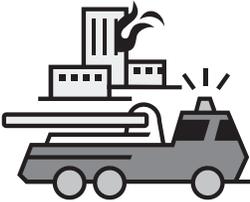
During the Visit

Student will need to be dressed appropriately for the weather, since half the activity takes place outside. While inside, coats and other clothing can be left at our coat check. If desired, students are allowed to bring pocket dictionaries for the rally (one per team).

Exercise 3: Matching words and pictures

Match the following words with the corresponding pictures:

Boat – Building – Chapel – Clock – Column – Epidemic (illness) – Factory – Fire – Flood – Fountain – Gate – Hardware Store – Lamppost – Métro (subway) – Religious Congregation (community) – Scale Model – Sculpture (work of art) – Skyscraper – Statue – Windmill

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