

French Inclusive Writing Recommendations Abstract

Introduction

In French, pronouns, nouns, and adjectives reflect the gender of the object to which they refer. Furthermore, French has no neutral grammatical gender. These recommendations will help French writers counter gender stereotypes and be more inclusive through neutral constructions.

Recommendations

1. Use appropriate, respectful, fair and inclusive terminology

Use the terms included in the *OPS Bilingual Glossary on Gender Identity*.

2. Avoid using honorifics

Avoid using honorifics unless you know who you are addressing and their preferred pronoun.

3. Use collective forms

Use collective nouns, which refer to a group of people, men or women. Examples: community, group, population, public.

4. Be creative and reword your content

Use neutral phrases or reword your content to avoid referring to individuals. In French you

can use pronouns, nouns or adjectives that can be either masculine or feminine.

Examples: *membre, population, francophone*.

5. Use lexical and syntactical feminization

Use feminine forms of titles (lexical feminization) which are included in dictionaries and widely accepted.

Use *doublets* (syntactical feminization) to include both the feminine and the masculine forms. Example: *les Canadiennes et les Canadiens*.

6. Include a note

Include a note stating that your content is written in a gender-neutral way to include all people, regardless of their gender identity.

Conclusion

Language is evolving. Please help us enrich our living documents by contacting ontranslation@ontario.ca.