**False friends**

The AQA specification refers to 'false friends' (see section 3.4.1.6). These are words in French that may be misunderstood as the equivalent of an English word with similar or identical spelling. This list contains words within the 2000 most frequent in French, and not on the AQA vocabulary list, that might be misunderstood by an L1 English-L2 French learner. For example, ‘actuel’ might appear like ‘actual’, but means 'current'.

Word class key: adj: adjectives; adv: adverbs; conj: conjunctions; nm/nf: nouns (masculine/feminine); prep: prepositions; v: verbs

Source of frequency rankings, translations and word class data: Lonsdale, D. & Le Bras, Y. (2009). *A frequency dictionary of French: Core vocabulary for learners*. London: Routledge

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| **Word** | **Frequency ranking** | **Translation** | **Word class** |
| chef | 386 | head, leader, chief | nm |
| tirer | 391 | to pull, fire | v |
| engager | 408 | to hire, involve | v |
| actuel | 584 | current, present | adj |
| retirer | 657 | to remove, withdraw | v |
| actuellement | 728 | at present, at the moment | adv |
| désigner | 790 | to designate | v |
| engagement | 1042 | agreement, commitment | nm |
| prétendre | 1154 | to pretend | v |
| cité | 1246 | city, housing estate | nf |
| roman | 1262 | novel | adj, nm |
| édition | 1298 | publishing, editing, edition | nf |
| tentative | 1381 | attempt | nf |
| mine | 1403 | mine; appearance, look, mien | nf |
| coin | 1798 | corner | nm |
| don | 1800 | gift | nm |
| hasard | 1882 | chance, luck | nm |
| crier | 1950 | to shout, scream, cry out | v |