

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WmnC2u0Spa4>

## What the Fuck France – La Romance

Hi my name's Paul Taylor, I'm English, but I live here in France.  
One of the things that I've never understood is romance.  
“Sorry could you be any more stereotypical right now?”

What the fuck France!

Speaking of clichés is a well-known stereotype across the world, Jean-Pierre, that you guys are the most romantic, you're the best lovers on the planet and you try really hard to maintain this image but we both know that it is bullshit.

“Now why is it bullshit Paul?” (said with a French accent) / “I'm glad you fucking asked.”

The concept of the French lover is bullshit for 3 reasons.

**Number one** : the architecture. If there's anything that's romantic in France, it's not you, it's the architecture. Because you can't not be blown away by the beauty of the buildings here, especially in big cities. But for some reason you get all the credit for it.

“Oh my God, it's amazing”

“Je sais”

“Hey, hey, hey, Haussmann, did you build this with you own hands?”

“Non”

“Well shut up then! He's not being romantic, he's just taking you for a walk. How is that romantic?”

“You're being so romantic and you're ruining my French fantasy!”

One piece of architecture that's questionable when it comes to being romantic or not is the condom vending machine. Surely that's the least romantic thing possible or maybe it's genius.

“This is so romantic.”

“Je sais, je sais, je sais. Mon amour, j'en rigole tous les jours”

**Number two** : sex. Most of the world thinks you have sex more than anybody else but it's not true 'cause I've been here for seven years, so I know the reality: you have sex just as little as everybody else, it's just that your walls are thinner, so you hear it more.

“Plus fort, plus fort” / “Tiens” / “Ca pue, mais c'est tellement bon”

And most of the time, you're not even having sex, you're just eating cheese. Hey, do you want to keep it down? A bit of respect should be nice.

**Number three** : the language. Most Anglophones think that French is a sexy romantic language. So much so that we call it a Romance language but that means it comes from Rome in Italy. So technically Italian is sexier than French. But for some reason “je t'aime” is more romantic than “Ti amo”. However it's not romantic at all, it's a complete scam because it's got a very quick get-out clause.

“Je t'aime” / “Ah bon?” / “Bien. Je t'aime bien” / “Tu m'as fait peur”

See, cause all you have to do is add 'bien’ at the end to avoid a complete awkward situation.

“Je t'aime” means “I love you” but “je t'aime bien” means 'I like you'. It's like the morning-after pill but for language.

Well, in this digital age, “I love you” isn't even the most romantic thing that you can say.

The most romantic thing that you can say is “Would you save your fingerprint on my phone?”

“oui, oui, oui”



## Find synonyms in the script

cliché

nonsense, drivel

widespread, common

emotionally affected (+)

benefit from

manipulate

uncertain, arguable

brilliant

make love

narrow, fine

make less noise

a scheme to deceive people

a means to escape a difficult situation

embarrassing

## Are these statements presented here as true or false? Explain. Develop

The French are the most romantic people in the world

France has the most beautiful architecture on the planet

The myth of the French lover is still alive

A condom vending machine is more romantic than a classic building

French people are the most sexually active people

The Italian language is sexier than French

“Je t'aime” and “Je t'aime bien” mean the same thing.

“Je t'aime” is the most romantic something you can say to someone

## Questions

What is for you the most amusing / the funniest thing in the video ?

What is the aim of the video ? / What is Paul Taylor aiming at?

Can you think of other clichés about the French as seen from across the Channel?

## Find synonyms in the script

cliché	stereotype
nonsense, drivel	bullshit
widespread, common	well-known
emotionally affected (+)	blown away
benefit from	get the credit
manipulate	take for a walk
uncertain, arguable	questionable
brilliant	genius
make love	have sex
narrow, fine	thin
make less noise	keep it down
a scheme to deceive people	a scam
a means to escape a difficult situation	a get-out clause
embarrassing	awkward

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