

Creating a multi-lingual site

with

Joomla® 1.7



Joomla 1.7 includes a basic way to implement a multi-language site.

This feature does not work as an association-type display where each content, whatever it is, has an equivalent in another language.

In 1.6 the module is set to redirect to the Default Home page for each content language.

In 1.7 was introduced a new feature that lets associate menu items to other menu items in different languages.

In this case the Language Swicher module will redirect to the associated menu items.

(It does not replace other multi-lingual managers extensions such as Joomfish)

1. Install Joomla without sample data

Basic Settings

Site Name *

[▶ Advanced Settings - Optional](#)

Your Email *

Admin Username *

Admin Password *

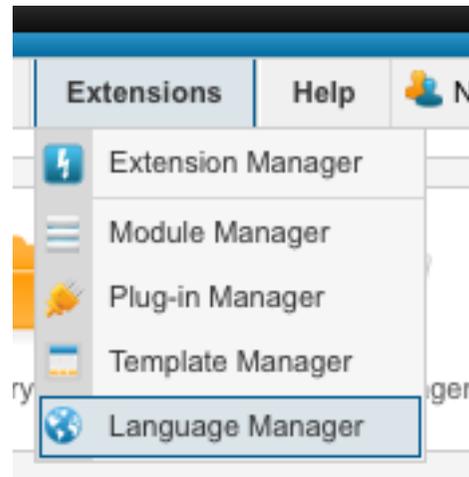
Confirm Admin Password *

Sample Data set

Default English (GB) Sample Data

Installing sample data is strongly recommended for beginners. This will install sample content that is included in the Joomla! installation package.

The French (fr-FR) language pack has been installed.
Go to the Language Manager



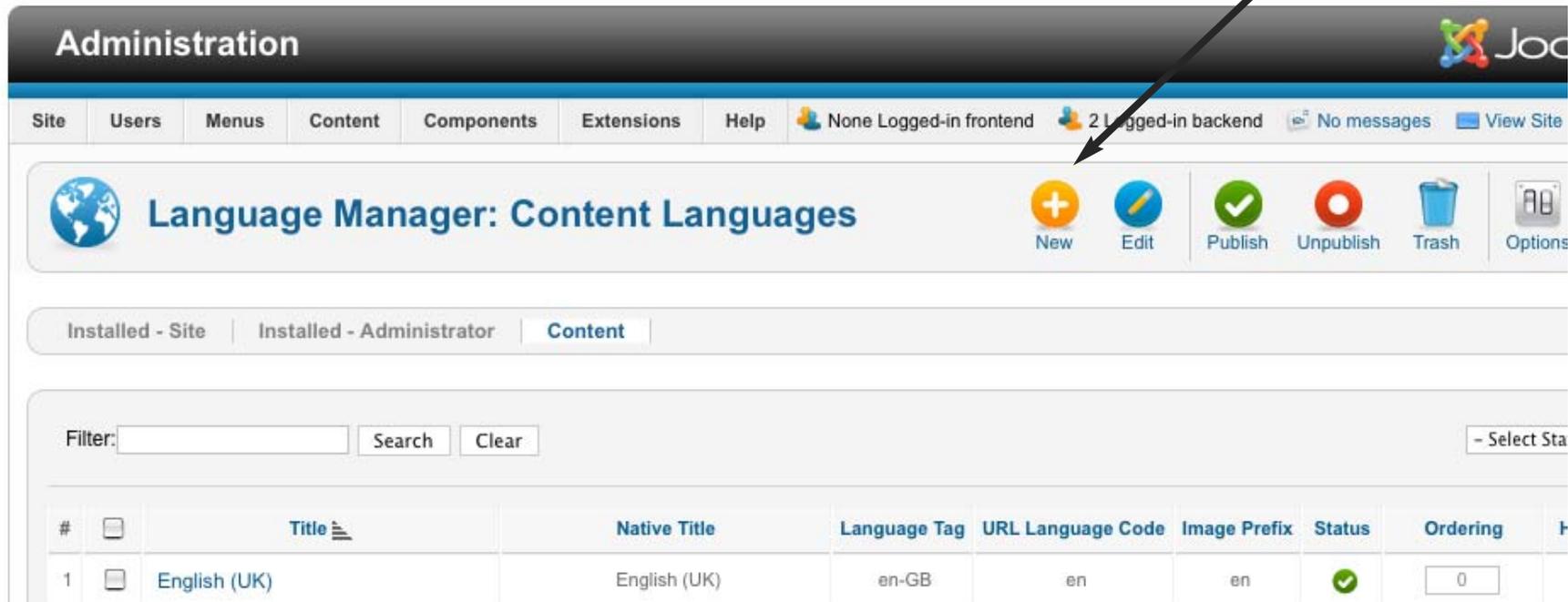
2. Create Content Languages

Click on the 'Contents' tab.

English has already been created as default Content language.

Create a new Content Language.

(This can be done BEFORE installing the language pack)



The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for Site, Users, Menus, Content, Components, Extensions, and Help. Below this, there is a status bar showing "None Logged-in frontend" and "2 Logged-in backend". The main content area is titled "Language Manager: Content Languages" and features a toolbar with buttons for New, Edit, Publish, Unpublish, Trash, and Options. A black arrow points to the "New" button. Below the toolbar, there are tabs for "Installed - Site", "Installed - Administrator", and "Content". A search filter is present, and a table lists the existing content languages.

#	Title	Native Title	Language Tag	URL Language Code	Image Prefix	Status	Ordering
1	English (UK)	English (UK)	en-GB	en	en	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0

All parameters shall be unique.
The Language Tag is the same as the one used for the pack
(fr-FR, en-GB, etc.)

The screenshot displays the Joomla! Administration interface. At the top, the 'Administration' header is on the left, and the Joomla! logo is on the right. Below the header is a navigation menu with tabs for Site, Users, Menus, Content, Components, Extensions, and Help. A status bar indicates 'None Logged-in frontend', '2 Logged-in backend', 'No messages', 'View Site', and 'Log out'. The main content area is titled 'Language Manager: Edit Content Language' and includes a toolbar with icons for Save, Save & Close, Save & New, Close, and Help. The form is divided into two main sections: a left panel for 'Record ID: 2' and a right panel for 'Metadata Options'. The left panel contains fields for Title (French), Title Native (Français), URL Language Code (fr), Image Prefix (fr), Language Tag (fr-FR), Status (Published), and Description. The right panel contains fields for Meta Keywords and Meta Description. The ID of the record is shown as 2 at the bottom left.

Record ID: 2	
Title *	French
Title Native *	Français
URL Language Code *	fr
Image Prefix *	fr
Language Tag *	fr-FR
Status	Published
Description	
ID	2

▼ Metadata Options

Meta Keywords

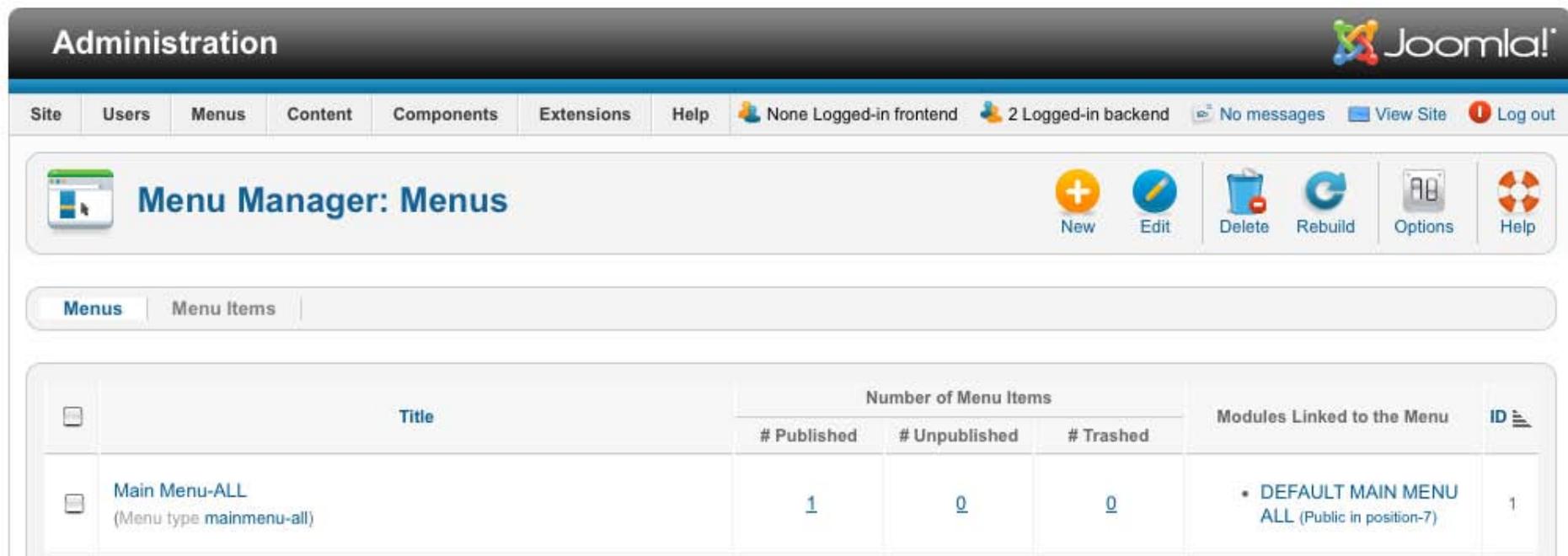
Meta Description

Once these are defined,
they will be available all over Joomla User Interface.



3. Default Home page assigned to 'All'

It is compulsory to keep a Default Home page assigned to 'All'.
To prevent further confusion,
rename the default main Menu to Main Menu-ALL



The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Administration' and the Joomla! logo. Below the navigation bar, there are tabs for 'Site', 'Users', 'Menus', 'Content', 'Components', 'Extensions', and 'Help'. The 'Menus' tab is active, and the page title is 'Menu Manager: Menus'. The page contains a table with the following data:

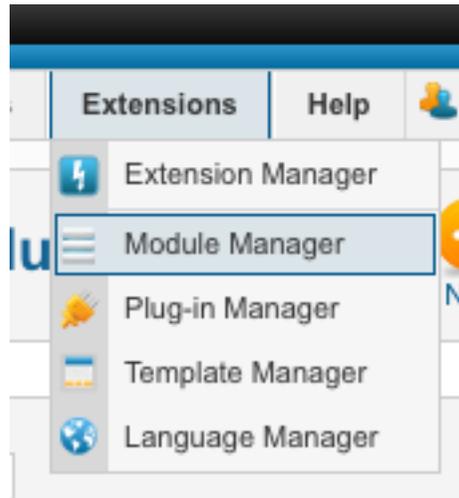
Title	Number of Menu Items			Modules Linked to the Menu	ID
	# Published	# Unpublished	# Trashed		
Main Menu-ALL (Menu type mainmenu-all)	1	0	0	• DEFAULT MAIN MENU ALL (Public in position-7)	1

Keep there any type of Menu item defined as Default Home page and assigned to Language 'All'

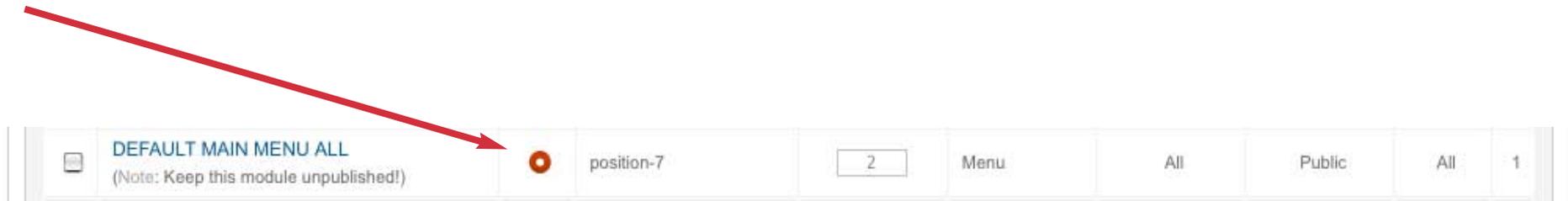
The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface. At the top, the 'Administration' header is visible with the Joomla! logo. Below the header, there are navigation tabs for Site, Users, Menus, Content, Components, Extensions, and Help. The 'Menus' tab is active, and the 'Menu Manager: Menu Items' view is displayed. The interface includes a toolbar with icons for New, Edit, Publish, Unpublish, Check In, Trash, Home, Rebuild, and Help. Below the toolbar, there are filter options for Menu, Search, and various dropdown menus for Main Menu, Max Levels, Status, Access, and Language. The main content area displays a table of menu items. The table has columns for Title, Status, Ordering, Access, Menu Item Type, Home, Association, Language, and ID. A single menu item is listed: 'Home-ALL' with a status of 'Published', an ordering of '1', and is assigned to the 'All' language. A red arrow points to the 'All' language assignment in the 'Language' column.

	Title	Status	Ordering	Access	Menu Item Type	Home	Association	Language	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	Home-ALL (Alias: home-all, Note: Module Unpublished in multilanguage)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	Public	Articles » Featured Articles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		All	101

Go to the Module Manager



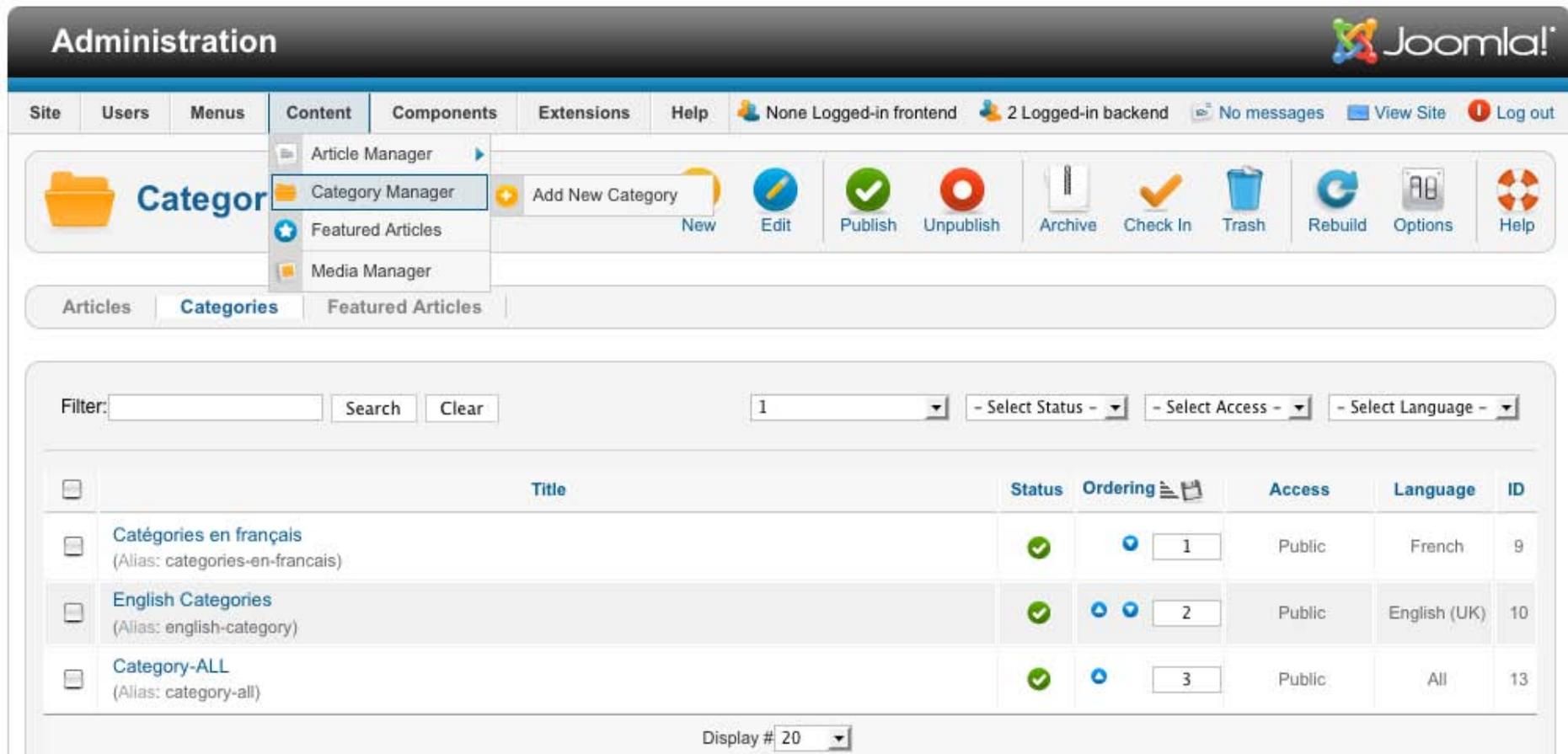
UNPUBLISH the Menu module displaying the Main Menu-ALL menu. The module itself is assigned to Language 'All'



4. Site contents structure

A multi-lingual site has to be structured in a specific way to avoid 404 when drilling down / navigating.

1. Create, for each Content Language, a ROOT parent category for each component used. Assign to the Content Language.

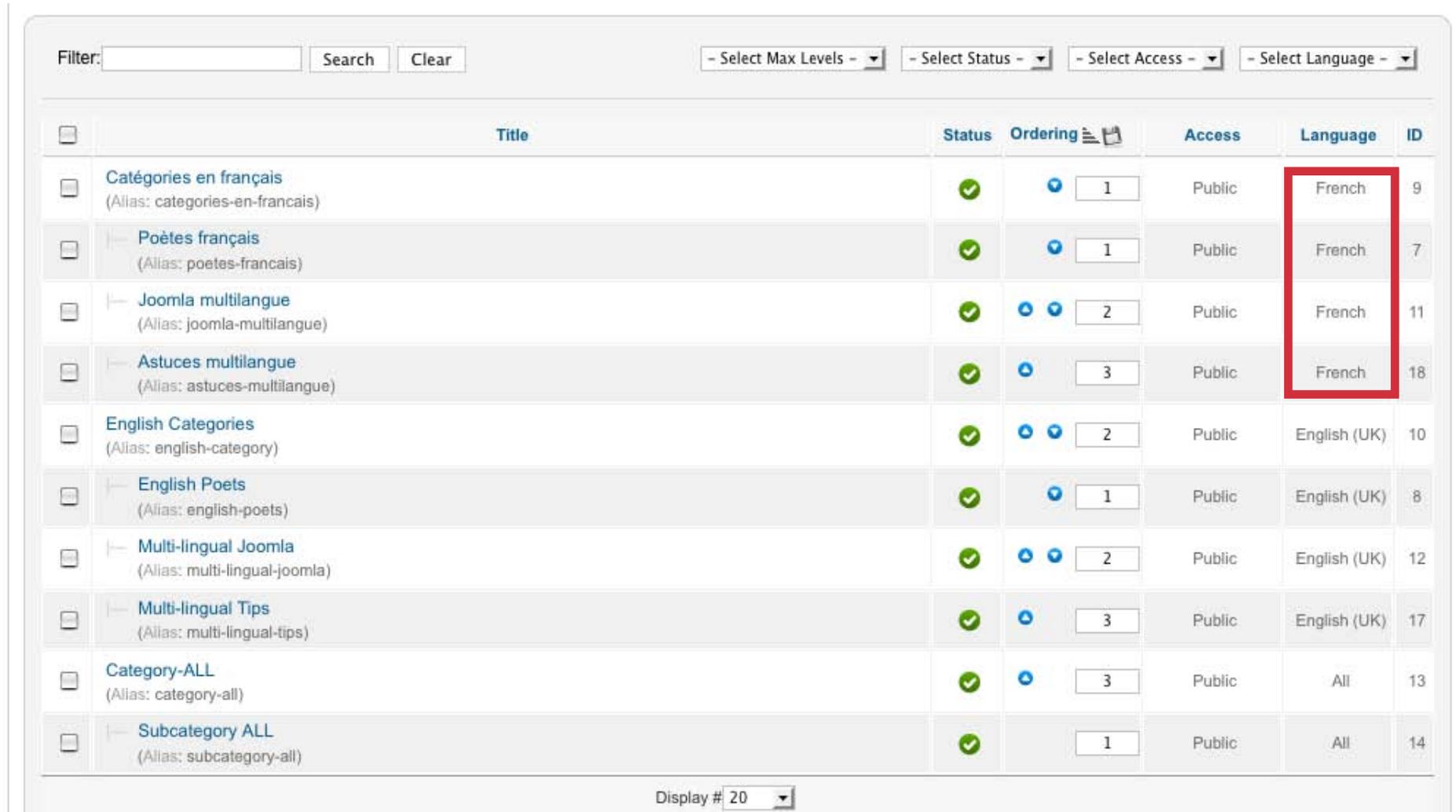


The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Administration' and the Joomla! logo. Below it, a menu bar contains 'Site', 'Users', 'Menus', 'Content', 'Components', 'Extensions', and 'Help'. The 'Content' menu is expanded, showing 'Article Manager', 'Category Manager', 'Featured Articles', and 'Media Manager'. The 'Category Manager' sub-menu is active, displaying 'Add New Category' and several action icons: New, Edit, Publish, Unpublish, Archive, Check In, Trash, Rebuild, Options, and Help. Below the menu, there are tabs for 'Articles', 'Categories', and 'Featured Articles'. The 'Categories' tab is selected, showing a list of categories with columns for Title, Status, Ordering, Access, Language, and ID. The list contains three categories: 'Catégories en français' (French), 'English Categories' (English (UK)), and 'Category-ALL' (All). A filter bar at the top of the list includes a search field, a 'Clear' button, and dropdown menus for page number (1), status, access, and language. A 'Display #' dropdown at the bottom is set to 20.

	Title	Status	Ordering	Access	Language	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	Catégories en français (Alias: categories-en-francais)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	Public	French	9
<input type="checkbox"/>	English Categories (Alias: english-category)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	Public	English (UK)	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Category-ALL (Alias: category-all)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3	Public	All	13

2. Create children categories for each root or parent category. Assign the same Content language used for the root category.

NOTE: A root category and siblings assigned to Language 'All' shall be structured the same way as those prepared for Content Languages.



The screenshot displays the Joomla! Category Manager interface. At the top, there is a search bar with 'Filter:', 'Search', and 'Clear' buttons. To the right are four dropdown menus: '- Select Max Levels -', '- Select Status -', '- Select Access -', and '- Select Language -'. Below these is a table of categories with columns for checkboxes, Title, Status, Ordering, Access, Language, and ID. The 'Language' column for the first four categories is highlighted with a red box.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Title	Status	Ordering	Access	Language	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	Catégories en français (Alias: categories-en-francais)	✓	1	Public	French	9
<input type="checkbox"/>	├─ Poètes français (Alias: poetes-francais)	✓	1	Public	French	7
<input type="checkbox"/>	├─ Joomla multilingue (Alias: joomla-multilingue)	✓	2	Public	French	11
<input type="checkbox"/>	├─ Astuces multilingue (Alias: astuces-multilingue)	✓	3	Public	French	18
<input type="checkbox"/>	English Categories (Alias: english-category)	✓	2	Public	English (UK)	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	├─ English Poets (Alias: english-poets)	✓	1	Public	English (UK)	8
<input type="checkbox"/>	├─ Multi-lingual Joomla (Alias: multi-lingual-joomla)	✓	2	Public	English (UK)	12
<input type="checkbox"/>	├─ Multi-lingual Tips (Alias: multi-lingual-tips)	✓	3	Public	English (UK)	17
<input type="checkbox"/>	Category-ALL (Alias: category-all)	✓	3	Public	All	13
<input type="checkbox"/>	├─ Subcategory ALL (Alias: subcategory-all)	✓	1	Public	All	14

Display # 20

3. Create contents in each of these categories and assign them to the same Content language as the root category. Example here for Articles.

The screenshot displays the 'Edit Article' interface. The main form on the left contains the following fields:

- Title ***: Guillaume Apollinaire
- Alias**: guillaume-apollinaire
- Category ***: - Poètes français (indicated by a red arrow)
- Status**: Published
- Access**: Public
- Permissions**: Set Permissions
- Featured**: Yes (indicated by a red arrow)
- Language**: French (indicated by a red arrow)
- ID**: 1

The **Article Text** area at the bottom contains a rich text editor with a toolbar and the following text:

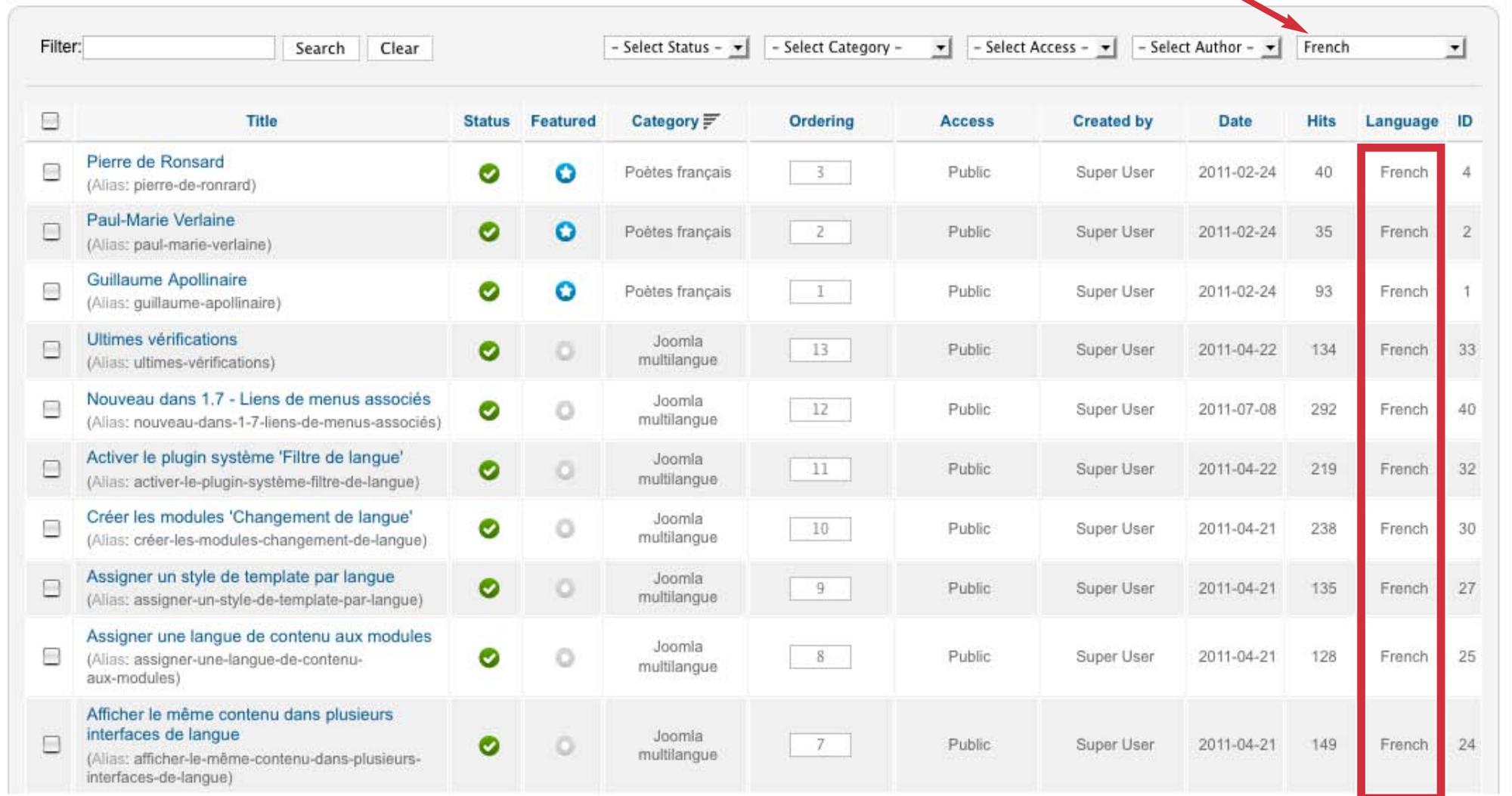
Le 26 août 1880, Naissance à Rome de Guillaume, Albert, Vladimir, Apollinaire de Kostrowitzky, fils de Angélique de Kostrowitzky et fils putatif de François Flugi d'Aspermont. 1882, Naissance

On the right side, the **Publishing Options** panel shows the following details:

- Created by**: adminuser
- Created by alias**: (empty)
- Created Date**: 2011-02-24 11:54:21 (23)
- Start Publishing**: 2011-02-24 11:54:21 (23)
- Finish Publishing**: 0000-00-00 00:00:00 (23)
- Modified by**: adminuser
- Modified Date**: 2011-03-08 09:01:48
- Revision**: 7
- Hits**: 93

Below the publishing options are expandable sections for **Article Options** and **Metadata Options**.

All managers can be filtered per Content Language



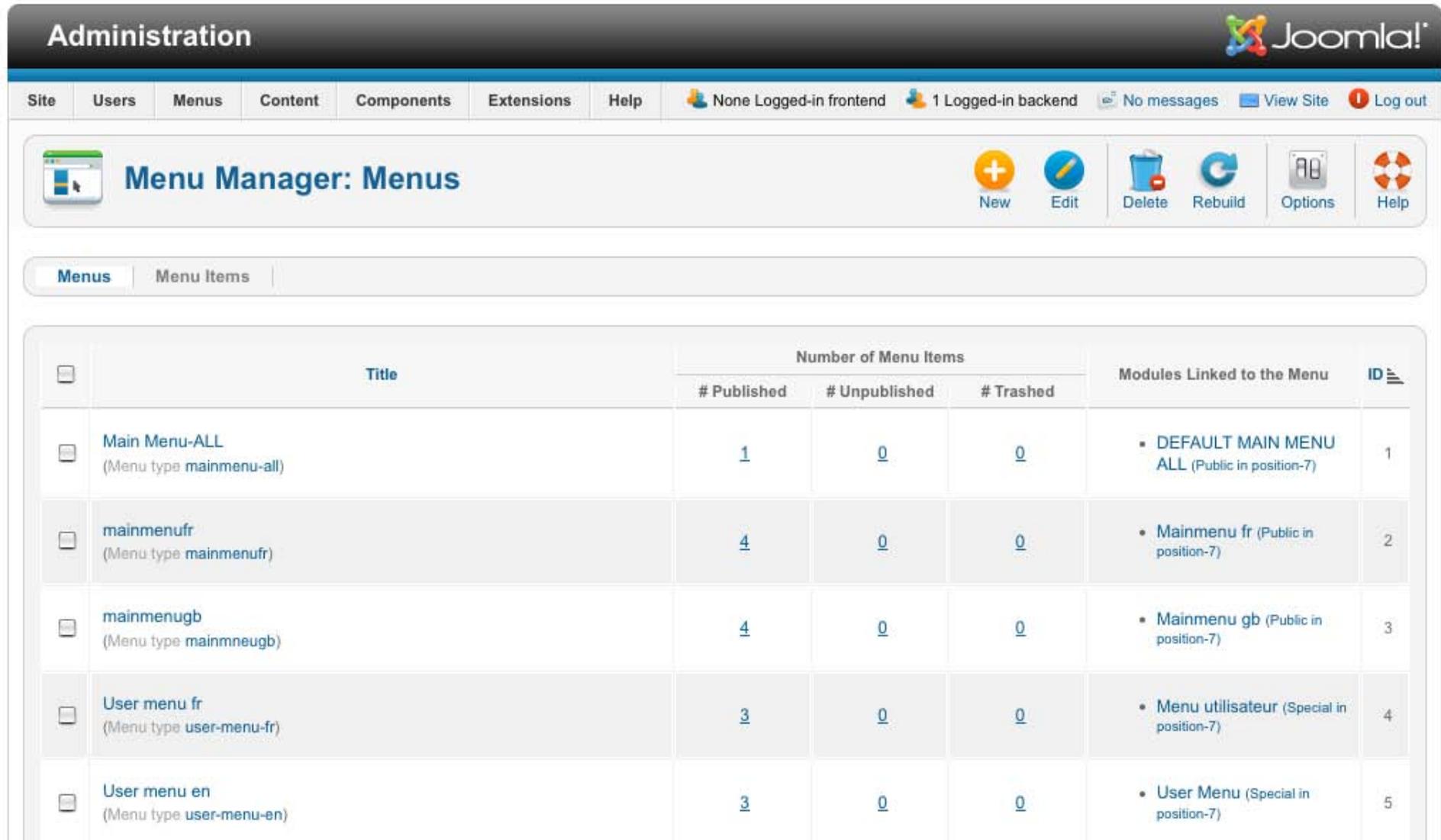
Filter: Search Clear

- Select Status - - Select Category - - Select Access - - Select Author - French

<input type="checkbox"/>	Title	Status	Featured	Category	Ordering	Access	Created by	Date	Hits	Language	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pierre de Ronsard (Alias: pierre-de-ronnard)	✓	★	Poètes français	<input type="text" value="3"/>	Public	Super User	2011-02-24	40	French	4
<input type="checkbox"/>	Paul-Marie Verlaine (Alias: paul-marie-verlaine)	✓	★	Poètes français	<input type="text" value="2"/>	Public	Super User	2011-02-24	35	French	2
<input type="checkbox"/>	Guillaume Apollinaire (Alias: guillaume-apolinaire)	✓	★	Poètes français	<input type="text" value="1"/>	Public	Super User	2011-02-24	93	French	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ultimes vérifications (Alias: ultimes-vérifications)	✓	○	Joomla multilingue	<input type="text" value="13"/>	Public	Super User	2011-04-22	134	French	33
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nouveau dans 1.7 - Liens de menus associés (Alias: nouveau-dans-1-7-liens-de-menus-associés)	✓	○	Joomla multilingue	<input type="text" value="12"/>	Public	Super User	2011-07-08	292	French	40
<input type="checkbox"/>	Activer le plugin système 'Filtre de langue' (Alias: activer-le-plugin-système-filtre-de-langue)	✓	○	Joomla multilingue	<input type="text" value="11"/>	Public	Super User	2011-04-22	219	French	32
<input type="checkbox"/>	Créer les modules 'Changement de langue' (Alias: créer-les-modules-changement-de-langue)	✓	○	Joomla multilingue	<input type="text" value="10"/>	Public	Super User	2011-04-21	238	French	30
<input type="checkbox"/>	Assigner un style de template par langue (Alias: assigner-un-style-de-template-par-langue)	✓	○	Joomla multilingue	<input type="text" value="9"/>	Public	Super User	2011-04-21	135	French	27
<input type="checkbox"/>	Assigner une langue de contenu aux modules (Alias: assigner-une-langue-de-contenu-aux-modules)	✓	○	Joomla multilingue	<input type="text" value="8"/>	Public	Super User	2011-04-21	128	French	25
<input type="checkbox"/>	Afficher le même contenu dans plusieurs interfaces de langue (Alias: afficher-le-même-contenu-dans-plusieurs-interfaces-de-langue)	✓	○	Joomla multilingue	<input type="text" value="7"/>	Public	Super User	2011-04-21	149	French	24

5. Create specific menus & menu items

Create menus for each Content language.



The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface for the Menu Manager. The top navigation bar includes 'Administration' and the Joomla! logo. Below it, a secondary navigation bar shows 'Site', 'Users', 'Menus', 'Content', 'Components', 'Extensions', and 'Help'. A status bar indicates 'None Logged-in frontend' and '1 Logged-in backend'. The main content area is titled 'Menu Manager: Menus' and features a toolbar with icons for 'New', 'Edit', 'Delete', 'Rebuild', 'Options', and 'Help'. Below the toolbar, there are tabs for 'Menus' and 'Menu Items'. The main content is a table listing various menus with their titles, menu item counts, and linked modules.

	Title	Number of Menu Items			Modules Linked to the Menu	ID
		# Published	# Unpublished	# Trashed		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Main Menu-ALL (Menu type mainmenu-all)	1	0	0	• DEFAULT MAIN MENU ALL (Public in position-7)	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	mainmenufr (Menu type mainmenufr)	4	0	0	• Mainmenu fr (Public in position-7)	2
<input type="checkbox"/>	mainmenugb (Menu type mainmneugb)	4	0	0	• Mainmenu gb (Public in position-7)	3
<input type="checkbox"/>	User menu fr (Menu type user-menu-fr)	3	0	0	• Menu utilisateur (Special in position-7)	4
<input type="checkbox"/>	User menu en (Menu type user-menu-en)	3	0	0	• User Menu (Special in position-7)	5

Create menu items for each menu

Rules

All menu items created in a specific menu should be assigned to the same language or to language 'All'.

One of the menu items—in only one menu—should be defined as default home page for this language.

The menu items assigned to a specific language have to display contents assigned to the same language.

In this respect, Language 'All' should be considered as any other specific language.

Administration Joomla!

Site Users Menus Content Components Extensions Help None Logged-in frontend 1 Logged-in backend No messages View Site Log out

Menu Manager: Menu Items

New Edit Publish Unpublish Check In Trash Home Rebuild Help

Menus **Menu Items**

Filter: Search Clear mainmenufr - Select Max Levels - - Select Status - - Select Access - - Select Language -

Select a Menu Item Type:

Contacts

- List All Contact Categories
- List Contacts in a Category
- Single Contact
- Featured Contacts

Newsfeeds

- List All News Feed Categories
- List News Feeds in a Category
- Single News Feed

Weblinks

- List All Web Link Categories
- List Web Links in a Category
- Submit a Web Link

Articles

- Archived Articles
- Single Article
- List All Categories
- Category Blog
- Category List
- Featured Articles
- Create Article

Search

- List Search Results

Users Manager

- Login Form
- User Profile
- Edit User Profile
- Registration Form
- Username Reminder Request
- Password Reset

Wrapper

- Iframe Wrapper

System Links

All menu items created in a specific menu should be assigned to the same language or to language 'All'.

Menu Manager: Edit Menu Item

Save Save & Close Save & New Save as Copy

Details

Menu Item Type * Featured Articles Select

Menu Title * Accueil

Alias accueil

Note

Link index.php?option=com_content&view=featured

Status Published

Access Public

Menu Location * mainmenufr

Parent Item Menu Item Root

Target Window Parent

Default Page No Yes

Language French

Template Style - Use Default -

ID 102

Layout Options

Select Categories

- All Categories -
- Catégories en français
- Poètes français
- Joomla multilingue
- Astuces multilingue
- English Categories
- English Poets
- Multi-lingual Joomla
- Multi-lingual Tips
- Category-ALL

If a field is left blank, global settings will be used

Leading Articles 1

Intro Articles 2

Columns 2

Links 4

Multi Column Order Use Global

Category Order Use Global

Article Order Use Global

Date for Ordering Use Global

Pagination Use Global

Name of the menu

Language

One of the menu items — in ONLY one menu — has to be defined as Default Home page for that language.

The menu items assigned to a specific language have to display contents assigned to the same language.

Details

Menu Item Type *

Menu Title *

Alias

Note

Required Settings

Select Article *

The modal displayed allows filtering

Filter:

- Select Access - - Select Status - - Poètes français French

Title	Access	Category	Language	Date	ID
Guillaume Apollinaire	Public	Poètes français	French	2011-02-24	1
Paul-Marie Verlaine	Public	Poètes français	French	2011-02-24	2
Pierre de Ronsard	Public	Poètes français	French	2011-02-24	4

Display #

Example:
The mainmenufr with its menu items,
one of them defined as Default Home page

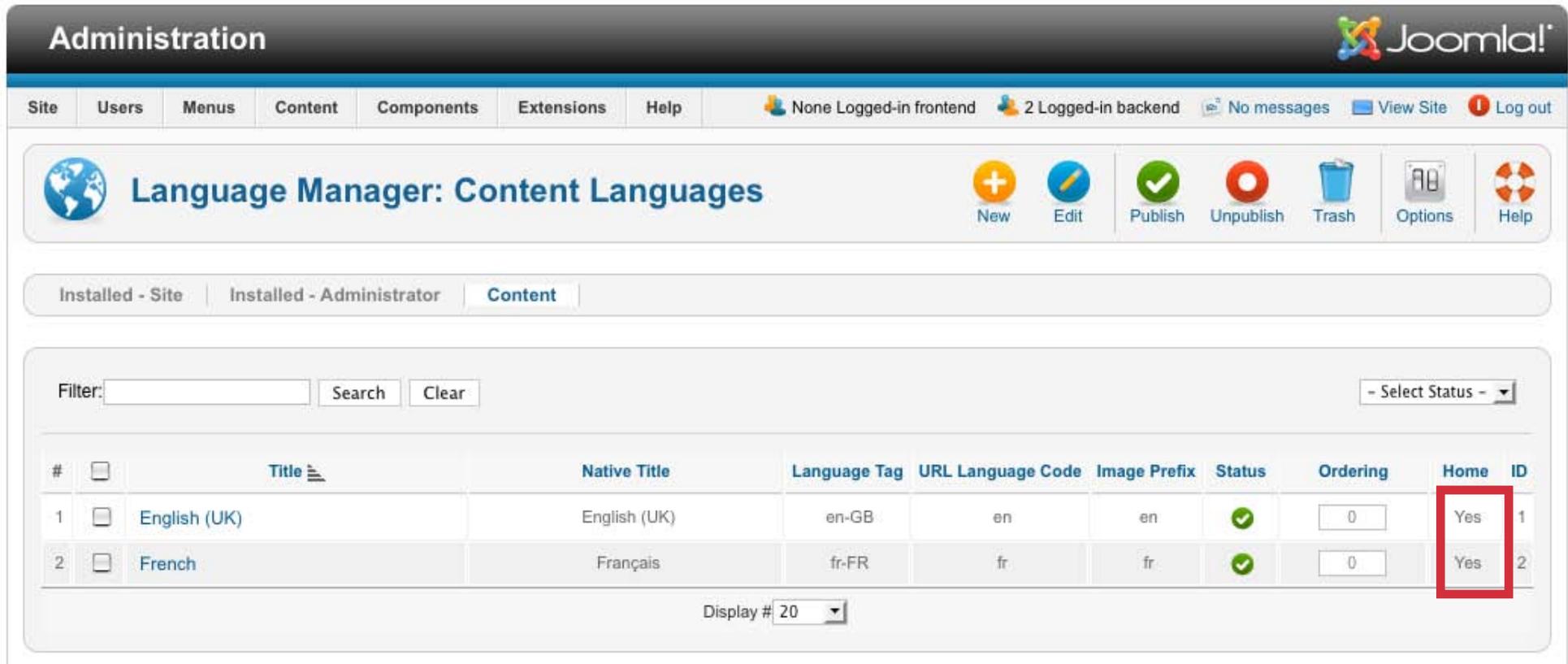
The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface for the Menu Manager: Menu Items. The top navigation bar includes 'Administration' and the Joomla! logo. Below the navigation bar, there are tabs for 'Menus' and 'Menu Items'. The main content area displays a table of menu items with the following columns: Title, Status, Ordering, Access, Menu Item Type, Home, Association, Language, and ID. The table contains four items:

Title	Status	Ordering	Access	Menu Item Type	Home	Association	Language	ID
Acceuil (Alias: acceuil)	✓	1	Public	Articles » Featured Articles	🇫🇷		French	102
Guillaume Apollinaire (Alias: guillaume-apollinaire)	✓	2	Public	Articles » Single Article	☆		French	110
Poètes français (Alias: poètes-français)	✓	3	Public	Articles » Category List	☆		French	111
Lorem ipsum -ALL- fr (Alias: lorem-ipsum-all-fr)	✓	4	Public	Articles » Single Article	☆		French	123

A red arrow points to the 'Language' column for the 'Lorem ipsum -ALL- fr' item. A tooltip 'Unset French Default' is visible over the 'Home' column of the 'Guillaume Apollinaire' item. Below the table, there is a 'Display # 20' dropdown and a 'Batch process the selected menu items' section with a 'Set Access Level' dropdown set to '- Keep original Access Levels -'.

This menu item is set to display a content tagged to language 'All'.
It can be tagged to 'All' or to the Content Language used for the
other menu items in this menu.

The Language Manager Contents tab displays the existence or not of a Default Home Page for each Content Language

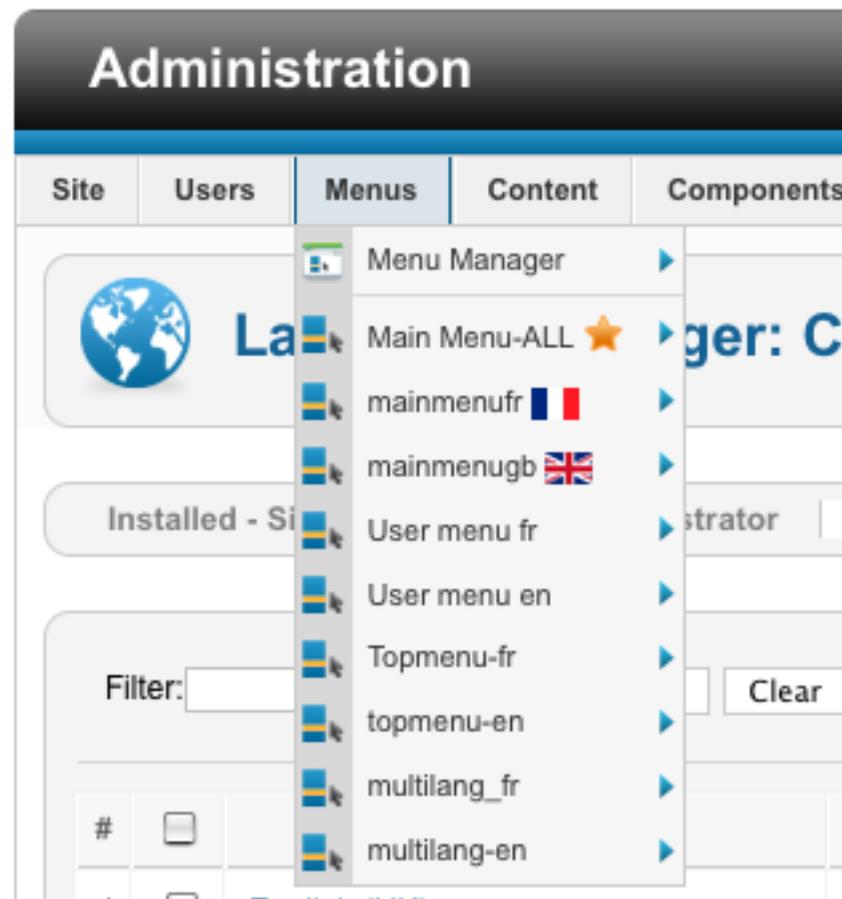


The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Administration' and the Joomla! logo. Below it, a secondary navigation bar shows 'Site', 'Users', 'Menus', 'Content', 'Components', 'Extensions', and 'Help'. The main content area is titled 'Language Manager: Content Languages' and features a toolbar with icons for New, Edit, Publish, Unpublish, Trash, Options, and Help. The 'Content' tab is selected, and the 'Home' column in the table is highlighted with a red box.

#	<input type="checkbox"/>	Title	Native Title	Language Tag	URL Language Code	Image Prefix	Status	Ordering	Home	ID
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	English (UK)	English (UK)	en-GB	en	en		0	Yes	1
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	French	Français	fr-FR	fr	fr		0	Yes	2

The Administrator Menu displays the flags for the menus which contain a Default Home page.

If a Content Language does not have a Default Home page, the front-end language switcher module will NOT display that language!!



6. Create menu modules

Create menu modules for each menu.

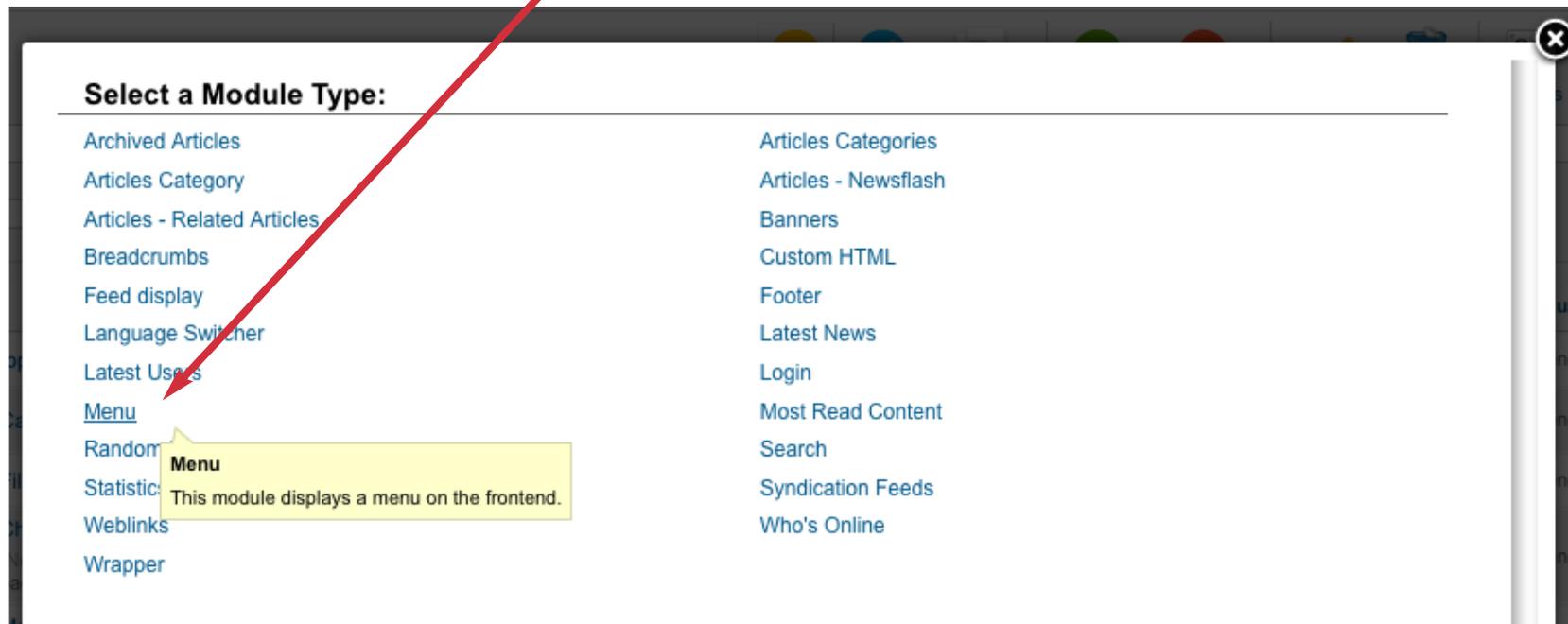
Assign these modules to the Content Languages concerned
(or to Language 'All')

A menu module assigned to Language 'All' should display a menu which only contains menu items assigned to Language 'All'.

This module will display for all Content Languages.

A menu module assigned to a specific language may display a menu containing menu items assigned to the same language as well as menu items assigned to Language 'All'.

Select the menu module



The screenshot shows a Joomla! administrator interface for selecting a module. A red arrow points from the top of the page to the 'Menu' module in the list. A tooltip is visible over the 'Menu' module, providing a description.

Select a Module Type:

Archived Articles	Articles Categories
Articles Category	Articles - Newsflash
Articles - Related Articles	Banners
Breadcrumbs	Custom HTML
Feed display	Footer
Language Switcher	Latest News
Latest Users	Login
Menu	Most Read Content
Random	Search
Statistic	Syndication Feeds
Weblinks	Who's Online
Wrapper	

Menu
This module displays a menu on the frontend.

The menu module displaying the mainmenufr containing the Default Home Page for fr-FR

Administration 

Site Users Menus Content Components Extensions Help     

Module Manager: Module Menu

Details

Title *	<input type="text" value="Mainmenu fr"/>
Show Title	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Show <input type="radio"/> Hide
Position *	<input type="text" value="position-7"/> <input type="button" value="Select position"/>
Status	<input type="text" value="Published"/>
Access	<input type="text" value="Public"/>
Ordering	<input type="text" value="4. Mainmenu fr"/>
Start Publishing	<input type="text" value="0000-00-00 00:00:00"/> 
Finish Publishing	<input type="text" value="0000-00-00 00:00:00"/> 
Language	<input type="text" value="French"/>
Note	<input type="text" value="Affiche le menu contenant la page d'accueil par"/>
ID	19 Menu
Site	
Module Description	This module displays a menu on the frontend.

Basic Options

Select Menu	<input type="text" value="mainmenufr"/>
Start Level	<input type="text" value="1"/>
End Level	<input type="text" value="All"/>
Show Sub-menu Items	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes

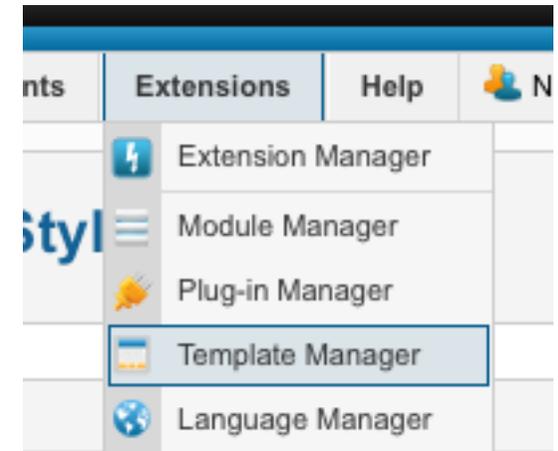
Advanced Options

7. Assign a template style per Content language

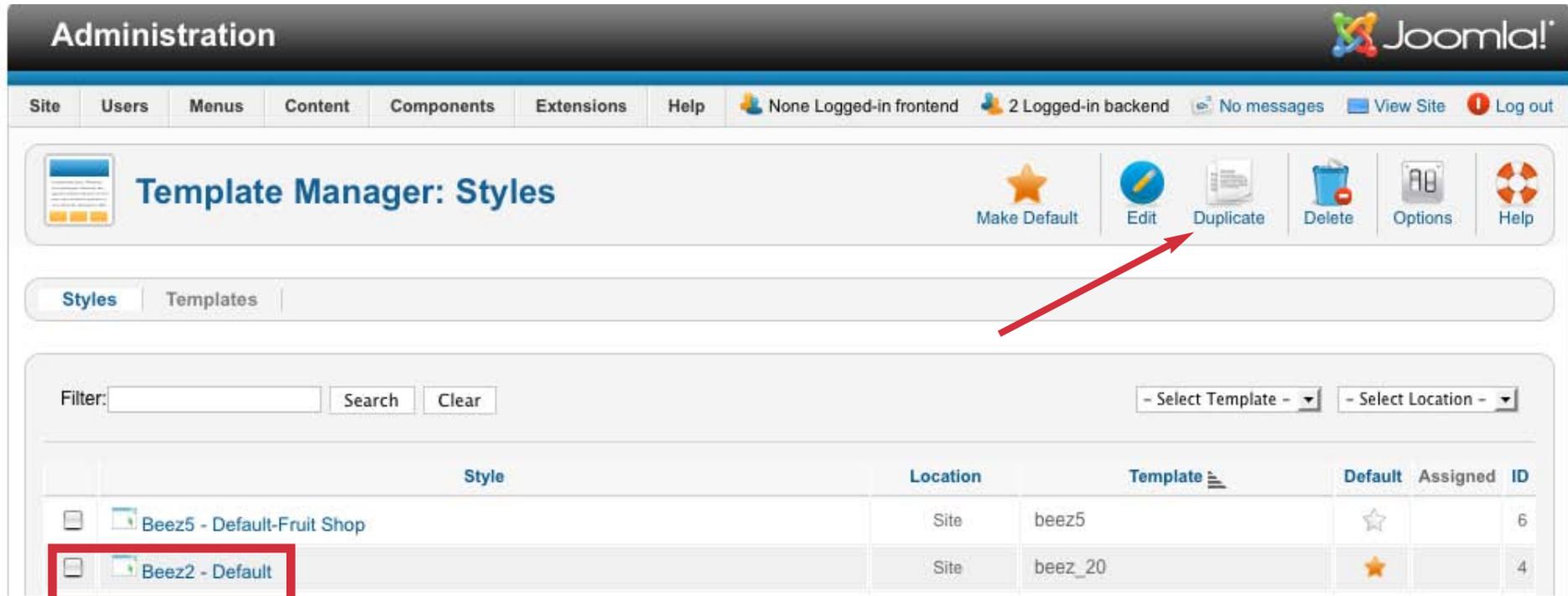
One can assign a default template style per Content Language.

This lets customize the template for logos and headers.

The style is also used as default for this language.



Select a style, duplicate it.

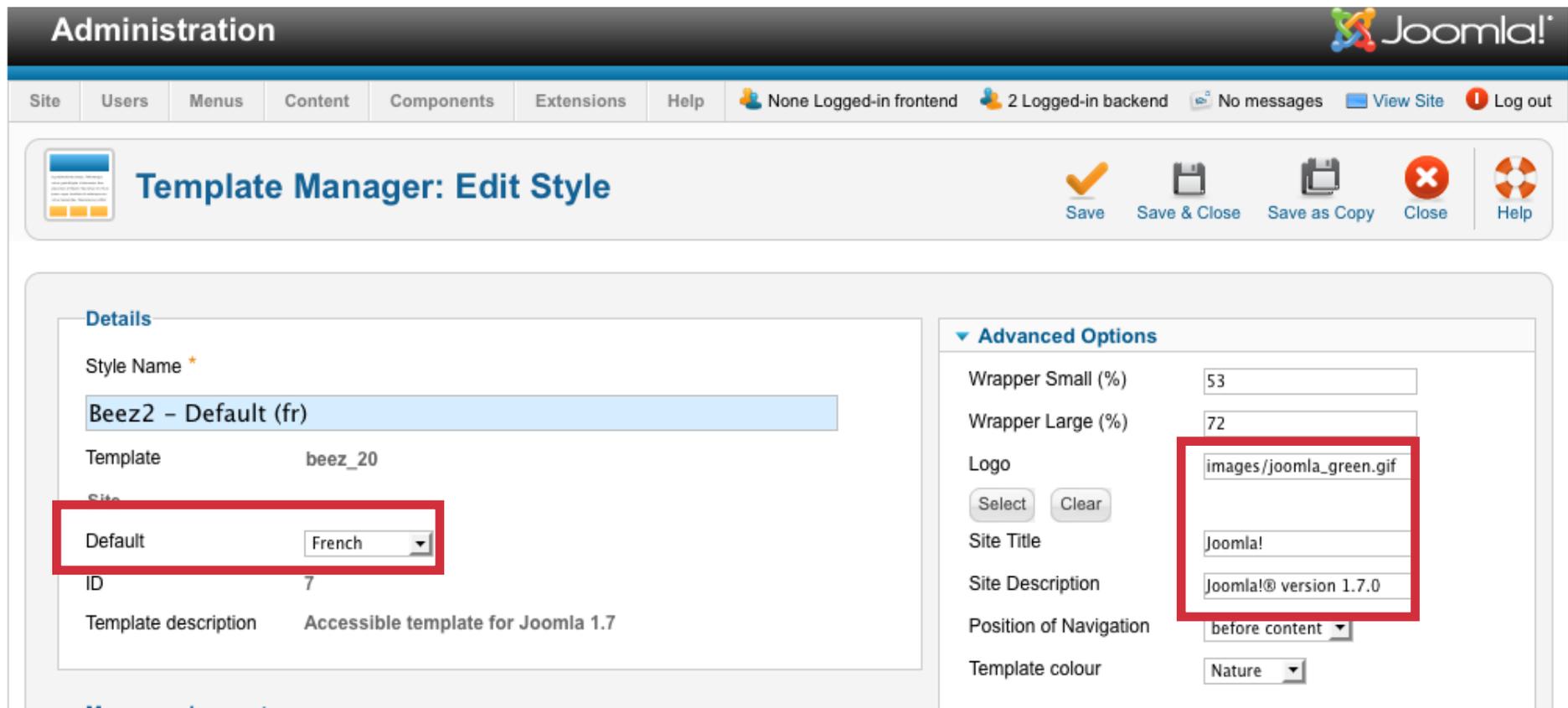
A screenshot of the Joomla! administration interface, specifically the 'Template Manager: Styles' page. The page title is 'Administration' and 'Joomla!'. The navigation bar includes 'Site', 'Users', 'Menus', 'Content', 'Components', 'Extensions', and 'Help'. The main content area shows 'Template Manager: Styles' with several action buttons: 'Make Default', 'Edit', 'Duplicate', 'Delete', 'Options', and 'Help'. A red arrow points to the 'Duplicate' button. Below the buttons, there are tabs for 'Styles' and 'Templates'. A search filter is present with 'Search' and 'Clear' buttons. Below the search, there are two dropdown menus: '- Select Template -' and '- Select Location -'. A table lists the styles with columns: 'Style', 'Location', 'Template', 'Default', 'Assigned', and 'ID'. The table contains two rows: 'Beez5 - Default-Fruit Shop' and 'Beez2 - Default'. The 'Beez2 - Default' row is highlighted with a red border, and it has a star icon in the 'Default' column.

Style	Location	Template	Default	Assigned	ID
Beez5 - Default-Fruit Shop	Site	beez5	☆		6
Beez2 - Default	Site	beez_20	★		4

This template style is assigned to fr-FR

WARNING!

Some templates available on the Net are not 1.7 compatible. They do not let you create duplicates of a style or, if they do, they do not let assign a different menu containing a specific language Default Home page per language assigned style.



The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface. At the top, the 'Administration' header is visible with the Joomla! logo. Below the header, a navigation bar includes links for Site, Users, Menus, Content, Components, Extensions, and Help. The main content area is titled 'Template Manager: Edit Style' and features several action buttons: Save, Save & Close, Save as Copy, Close, and Help. The 'Details' section on the left shows the following information:

Style Name *	Beez2 - Default (fr)
Template	beez_20
Site	Default
Language	French
ID	7
Template description	Accessible template for Joomla 1.7

The 'Advanced Options' section on the right includes the following settings:

Wrapper Small (%)	53
Wrapper Large (%)	72
Logo	images/joomla_green.gif
Site Title	Joomla!
Site Description	Joomla!® version 1.7.0
Position of Navigation	before content
Template colour	Nature

Red boxes highlight the 'Default' site and 'French' language selection in the Details section, and the 'Logo' field in the Advanced Options section.

The Template Style Manager displays the language flag in a column.

One template style has to remain assigned to Language 'All'

The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface for the Template Manager: Styles. The top navigation bar includes 'Administration' and the Joomla! logo. Below it are tabs for Site, Users, Menus, Content, Components, Extensions, and Help. A status bar shows 'None Logged-in frontend', 'Logged-in backend', 'No messages', 'View Site', and 'Log out'. The main content area is titled 'Template Manager: Styles' and includes icons for 'Make Default', 'Edit', 'Duplicate', 'Delete', 'Options', and 'Help'. There are tabs for 'Styles' and 'Templates'. A search filter and a dropdown menu for 'Select Template' are present. The main table lists styles with columns for Style, Location, Template, Default, Assigned, and ID. A red arrow points to the star icon in the 'Default' column for the 'Beez2 - Default' style.

	Style	Location	Template	Default	Assigned	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	Beez5 - Default-Fruit Shop	Site	beez5	☆		6
<input type="checkbox"/>	Beez2 - Default	Site	beez_20	★		4
<input type="checkbox"/>	Beez2 - Default (en-GB)	Site	beez_20	🇬🇧		8
<input type="checkbox"/>	Beez2 - Default (fr)	Site	beez_20	🇫🇷		7

8. Create the 'Langswitcher' module(s)

To display the language choice in front-end,
create mod_languages module(s) (langswitcher).

One can create one module per Content Language if the Pre-text or Post-text are filled, or an unique module to which is assigned Language 'All' if not.

The module displays flags or names for the Published Content Languages.
Parameter the module to choose layout.

Publish the module(s) before enabling the Language Filter system plug-in.

NOTE: If menu associations are not implemented, it is unnecessary to display the module(s) on other pages than the Default Home pages, as it is designed to link to the Default Home page for the language chosen.

If there are menu associations,
the module should also be displayed on the pages concerned.

This Switcher is customized for fr-FR

Module Manager: Module Language Switcher

Save Save & Close Save & New Save as Copy Close Help

Details

Title *

Show Title Show Hide

Position *

Status

Access

Ordering

Start Publishing

Finish Publishing

Language

Note

ID 22 Language Switcher

Site

Module Description This module displays a list of available Content Languages (as defined and published in Language Manager Content tab) for switching between them when one wants to use Joomla! as a multilanguage site.
--The plugin 'System - Language Filter' has to be published.--

Basic Options

Pre-text

Post-text

Use Dropdown No Yes

If Use Dropdown is set to 'Yes', the display options below will be ignored

Use Image Flags No Yes

Horizontal Display No Yes

Active Language No Yes

If Use Image Flags is set to 'Yes', the display options below will be ignored

Languages Full Names No Yes

This switcher is assigned to the Default Home page for the specific Content Language

1. Open Language Manager - Content tab and make sure the Languages you want to use in contents are published and have a Language Code for the URL as well as prefix for the image used in the module display.
2. Create a Home page by assigning a language to a menu item and defining it as Default Home page for each published content language.
3. Thereafter, you can assign a language to any Article, Category, Module, Newsfeed, Weblinks in Joomla.
4. Make sure the module and the plugin are published.
5. When using associated menu items, make sure the module is displayed on the pages concerned.
6. The way the flags or names of the languages are displayed is defined by the ordering in the Language Manager - Content Languages.

Menu Assignment

Module Assignment

Only on the pages selected 

Menu Selection:

Select All Clear Selection Toggle Selection

Main Menu-ALL

mainmenufr

mainmenugb

multilang-en

multilang_fr

topmenu-en

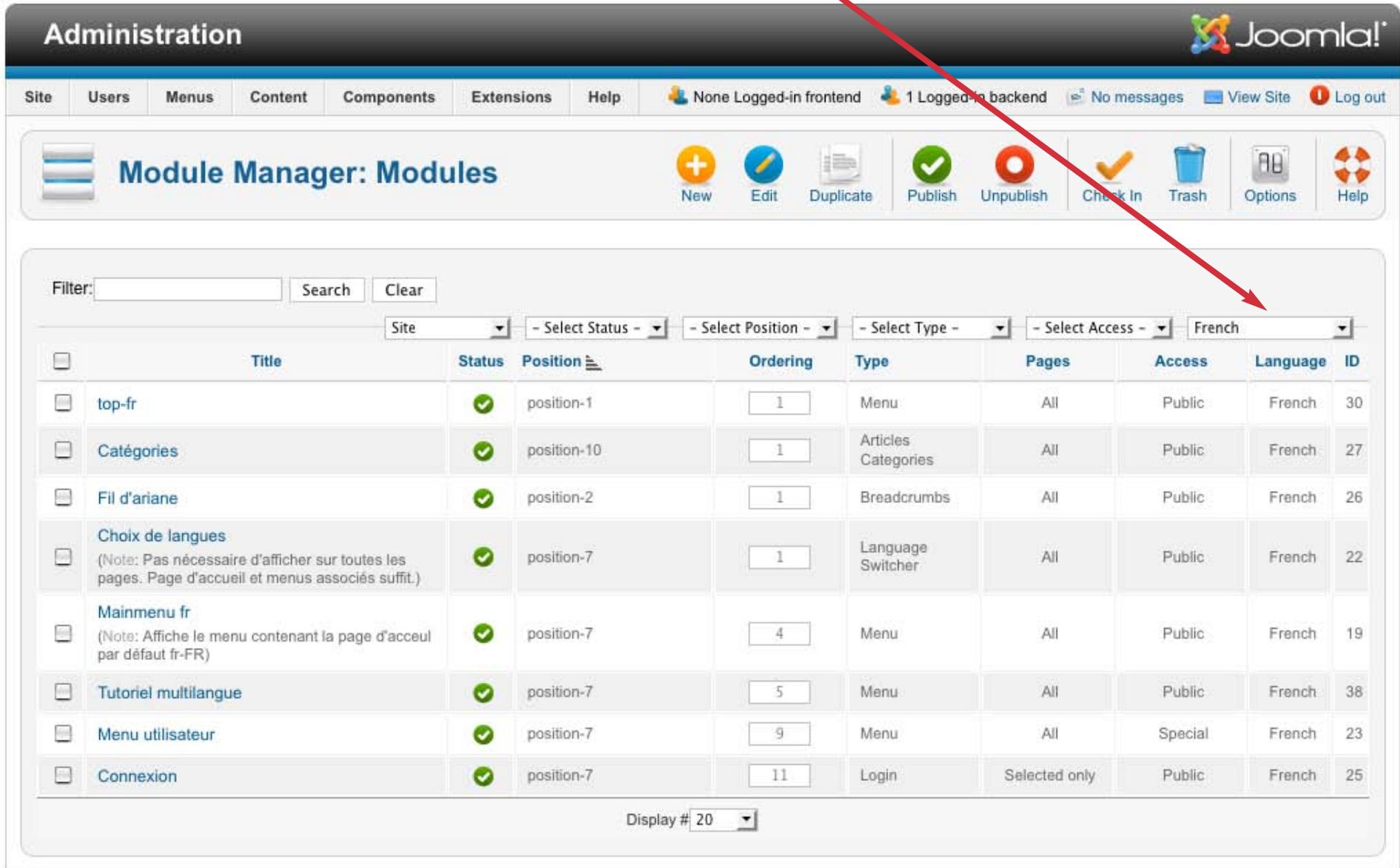
Topmenu-fr

User menu en

User menu fr

- Accueil
- Guillaume Apollinaire
- Poètes français
- Lorem ipsum -ALL- fr

Module Manager filtered per Content Language



The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface for the Module Manager. The top navigation bar includes 'Administration' and the Joomla! logo. Below it, a secondary navigation bar shows 'Site', 'Users', 'Menus', 'Content', 'Components', 'Extensions', and 'Help'. The main content area is titled 'Module Manager: Modules' and features a toolbar with icons for New, Edit, Duplicate, Publish, Unpublish, Check In, Trash, Options, and Help. A filter section at the top of the table includes a search box and dropdown menus for Site, Status, Position, Type, Access, and Language (set to 'French'). The table lists several modules, all of which are filtered to show only those in French. A red arrow points to the 'Language' dropdown menu in the filter section.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Title	Status	Position	Ordering	Type	Pages	Access	Language	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	top-fr	✓	position-1	<input type="text" value="1"/>	Menu	All	Public	French	30
<input type="checkbox"/>	Catégories	✓	position-10	<input type="text" value="1"/>	Articles Categories	All	Public	French	27
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fil d'ariane	✓	position-2	<input type="text" value="1"/>	Breadcrumbs	All	Public	French	26
<input type="checkbox"/>	Choix de langues <small>(Note: Pas nécessaire d'afficher sur toutes les pages. Page d'accueil et menus associés suffit.)</small>	✓	position-7	<input type="text" value="1"/>	Language Switcher	All	Public	French	22
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mainmenu fr <small>(Note: Affiche le menu contenant la page d'accueil par défaut fr-FR)</small>	✓	position-7	<input type="text" value="4"/>	Menu	All	Public	French	19
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tutoriel multilingue	✓	position-7	<input type="text" value="5"/>	Menu	All	Public	French	38
<input type="checkbox"/>	Menu utilisateur	✓	position-7	<input type="text" value="9"/>	Menu	All	Special	French	23
<input type="checkbox"/>	Connexion	✓	position-7	<input type="text" value="11"/>	Login	Selected only	Public	French	25

Display #

9. Enable the 'Language Filter' system plug-in

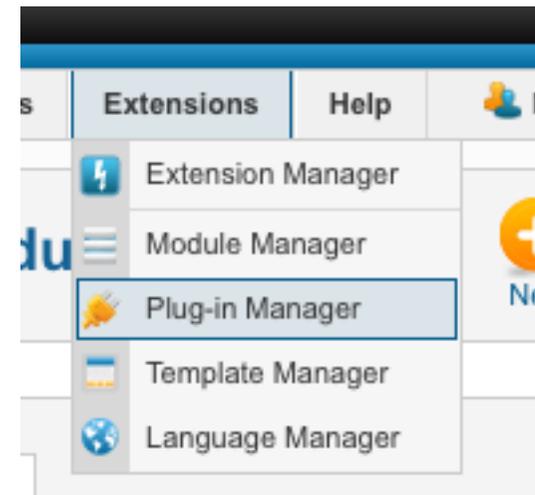
The Language Filter system plug-in has to be enabled to activate the multi-language functionality.

It should only be enabled after making sure that the Langswitcher modules are published!

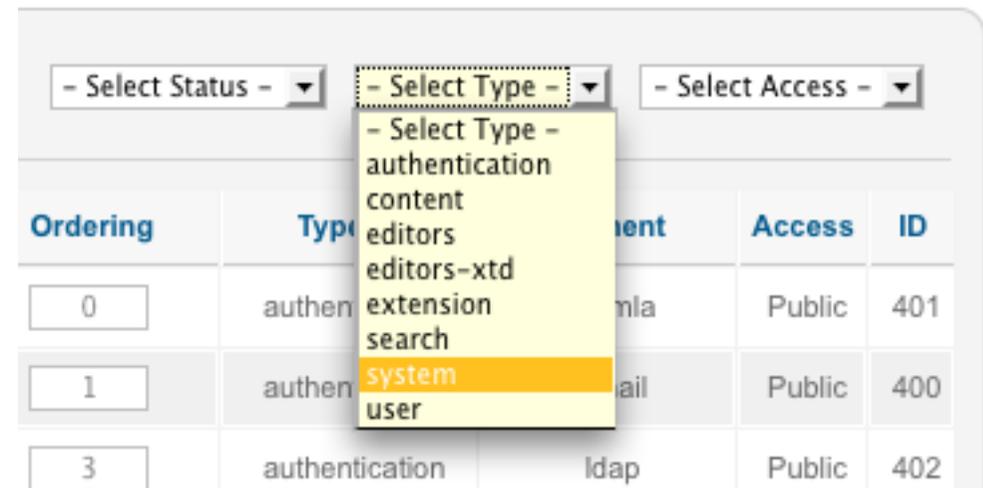
There are 3 options to define in the plug-in:

1. The site language selection for new visitors.
2. The site language display when a logged user changes its default site language.
3. A new parameter in 1.7 that let's associate menu items to which are assigned different languages.

Go to the Plugin Manager



Filter by System



Edit the Language Filter System plugin and save its parameters. Here we use Menu Association

The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Joomla! logo and the word "Administration". Below this is a menu bar with options: Site, Users, Menus, Content, Components, Extensions, and Help. To the right of the menu bar, there are status indicators: "None Logged-in frontend", "1 Logged-in backend", "No messages", "View Site", and "Log out".

The main content area is titled "Plug-in Manager: System - Language Filter". It features a toolbar with icons for Save, Save & Close, Close, and Help. The configuration is divided into two sections:

- Details:** This section contains the following parameters:
 - System - Language Filter
 - Enabled:
 - Access:
 - Ordering:
 - Plug-in Type: system
 - Plug-in File: languagefilter
 - ID: 422
 - Description: This plugin filters the displayed content depending on language. This plugin is to be enabled only when the Language Switcher module is published.
- Basic Options:** This section contains the following options:
 - Language Selection for new Visitors:
 - Automatic Language Change: No Yes
 - Menu associations: No Yes

A yellow tooltip box is positioned over the "Menu associations" option, containing the text: "Menu associations This option will allow menu associations when switching from one language to another".

10. New in 1.7 - Associated menu items

It is now possible to associate menu items in different languages.

When a menu item, let's say tagged to fr-FR, is associated to a menu item tagged en-GB, **if the Language Switcher module is present on the page**, clicking on the en-GB flag/name redirects to the en-GB menu item and reciprocally.

If a menu item is not associated, the behavior will be the same as in 1.6, that is redirect to the Default Home page in the language concerned.

This let's therefore the choice for the webmaster to associate or not, item per item.

Activate the Language Filter plugin and make sure that 'Menu Association' is set to 'Yes'. Save the parameters. Edit one menu item to which a language is assigned.

A new slider called 'Menu Items Associations' is now displayed.

Menu Manager: Edit Menu Item

Save Save & Close Save & New Save as Copy Close Help

Details

Menu Item Type *

Menu Title *

Alias

Note

Link

Status

Access

Menu Location *

Parent Item

Target Window

Default Page No Yes

Language

Template Style

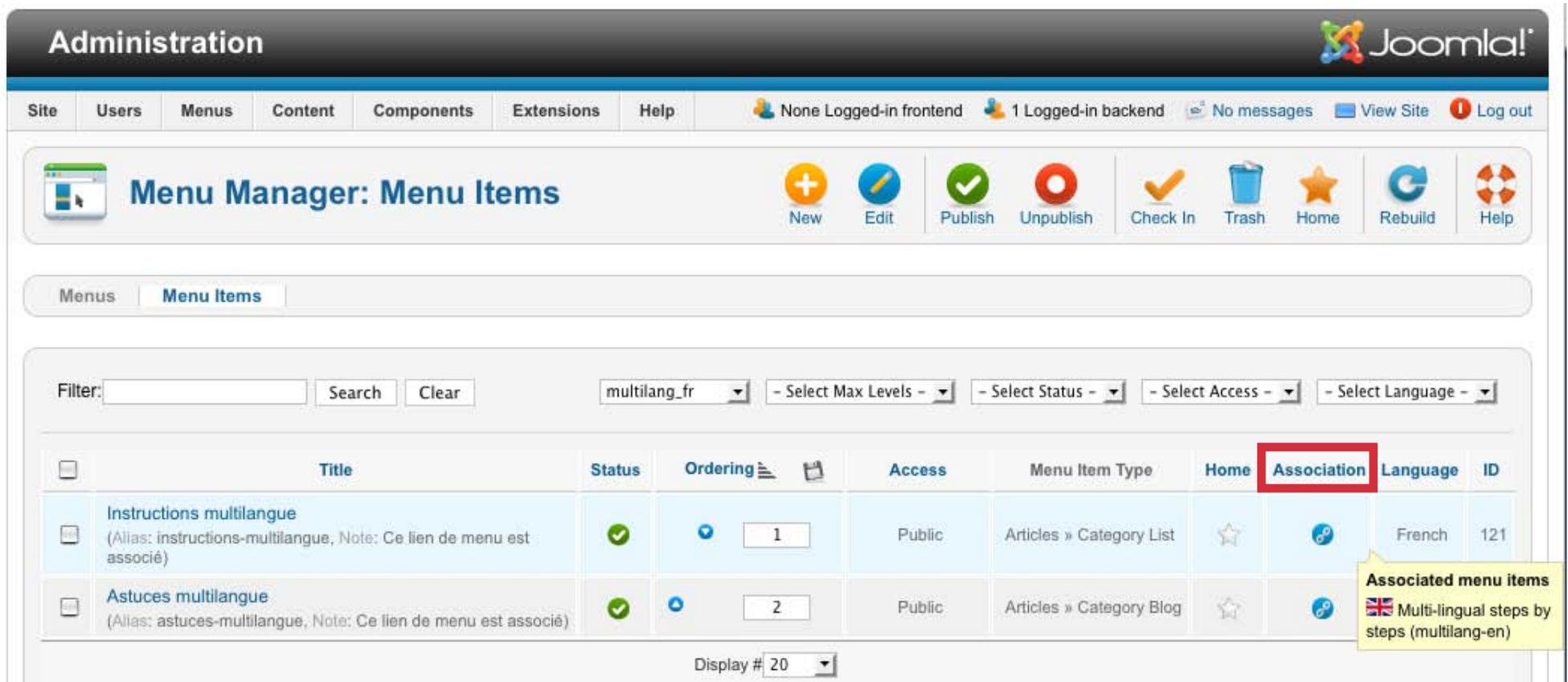
ID 121

Association

en-GB tagged menu items only are presented in dropdown

- Category Options
- List Layouts
- Article Options
- Integration Options
- Link Type Options
- Page Display Options
- Metadata Options
- Menu Item Associations**
 - Multilanguage only! This choice parameter 'Menu Associations' target language. This association redirect to the associated menu sure to display the Language sv menu item set to language 'All'
 - no association -
 - mainmenu-all
 - mainmenufr
 - mainmneugb
 - Home
 - Lewis Carroll
 - English Poets
 - Lorem ipsum-ALL-gb
 - multilang-en
 - Multi-lingual steps by steps
 - Multi-lingual Tips
 - multilangfr
 - topmenu-en
 - Home
 - Multi-lingual Tutorial
 - Joomla.org
 - topmenu-fr
 - user-menu-en
 - User Profile
 - Create Article
 - English (UK)
 - Multi-lingual steps by steps
- Module Assignment for this Menu Item

The Menu Manager displays the associated menu items



The screenshot shows the Joomla! Administration interface for the Menu Manager. The top navigation bar includes 'Administration' and the Joomla! logo. Below it, a secondary navigation bar shows 'Site', 'Users', 'Menus', 'Content', 'Components', 'Extensions', and 'Help'. A status bar indicates 'None Logged-in frontend', '1 Logged-in backend', 'No messages', 'View Site', and 'Log out'.

The main content area is titled 'Menu Manager: Menu Items' and features a toolbar with icons for New, Edit, Publish, Unpublish, Check In, Trash, Home, Rebuild, and Help. Below the toolbar, there are tabs for 'Menus' and 'Menu Items'. A filter section includes a search box, a 'Clear' button, and several dropdown menus for filtering by language (currently 'multilang_fr'), max levels, status, access, and language.

The main table displays the following menu items:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Title	Status	Ordering	Access	Menu Item Type	Home	Association	Language	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	Instructions multilangue (Alias: instructions-multilangue, Note: Ce lien de menu est associé)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	Public	Articles » Category List	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	French	121
<input type="checkbox"/>	Astuces multilangue (Alias: astuces-multilangue, Note: Ce lien de menu est associé)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2	Public	Articles » Category Blog	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Multi-lingual steps by steps (multilang-en)	

At the bottom of the table, there is a 'Display # 20' dropdown menu. A yellow callout box points to the 'Association' column, containing the text: 'Associated menu items' and 'Multi-lingual steps by steps (multilang-en)' with a small flag icon.