For French documents
This module tries to do similar things as the frenchb.ldf in \LaTeX:

- automatic space before » and after «, :, ?, ; and !
- changing symbol for itemize environment

If I remember right, the \LaTeX babel package does a much better job at language switching, but I don’t know, how this is possible in Con\TeXt...

Many thanks to Hans Hagen and Wolfgang Schuster for their help!

\texttt{\normalfont 1 \texttt{\writestatus{loading}{Typesetting French documents}}}

\texttt{\normalfont 2 \texttt{\startsetups french}}
\texttt{\normalfont 3 \hspace{1em} \% Todo: This should be also active in footnotes, headers and footers,}
\texttt{\normalfont 4 \hspace{1em} \% and not active in verbatim text:}
\texttt{\normalfont 5 \hspace{1em} \setcharacterspacing[frenchpunctuation]}
\texttt{\normalfont 6 \hspace{1em} \% A question of style:}
\texttt{\normalfont 7 \hspace{1em} \setupitemize[symbol=2]}
\texttt{\normalfont 8 \stopsetups}
\texttt{\normalfont 9 \texttt{\startsetups not-french}}
\texttt{\normalfont 10 \hspace{1em} \setcharacterspacing[reset]}
\texttt{\normalfont 11 \hspace{1em} \setupitemize[symbol=\currentitemlevel]}
\texttt{\normalfont 12 \stopsetups}
\texttt{\normalfont 13 \setuplanguage [default] [setups=not-french]}
\texttt{\normalfont 14 \setuplanguage [fr] [setups=french]}
\texttt{\normalfont 15 \mainlanguage [fr]}
\texttt{\normalfont 16 \ifx \ieme \undefined \def\ieme {\highordinalstr{e}} \fi}
\texttt{\normalfont 17 \ifx \iemes \undefined \def\iemes {\highordinalstr{es}} \fi}
\texttt{\normalfont 18 \ifx \ier \undefined \def\ier {\highordinalstr{er}} \fi}
\texttt{\normalfont 19 \ifx \iere \undefined \def\iere {\highordinalstr{re}} \fi}
\texttt{\normalfont 20 \ifx \iers \undefined \def\iers {\highordinalstr{ers}} \fi}
\texttt{\normalfont 21 \ifx \ieres \undefined \def\ieres {\highordinalstr{res}} \fi}
\texttt{\normalfont 22 \continueifinputfile{t-french.mkiv}}

Usage example:

\texttt{\normalfont 23 \texttt{\startbuffer[items]}}
\texttt{\normalfont 24 \texttt{\startitemize}}
\texttt{\normalfont 25 \hspace{1em} \texttt{\item test}}
\texttt{\normalfont 26 \hspace{1em} \texttt{\item test}}
\texttt{\normalfont 27 \texttt{\startitemize}}
\texttt{\normalfont 28 \hspace{1em} \texttt{\item test}}
\texttt{\normalfont 29 \hspace{1em} \texttt{\item test}}
\texttt{\normalfont 30 \texttt{\startitemize}}
For French documents

\item test
\item test
\stopitemize
\stopitemize
\stopitemize
\stopbuffer
\usemodule[french]
\starttext
\startbuffer
Voilà: Voilà? Voilà! Voilà;
\start
\language[en]
\getbuffer[items]
\start
\language[en]
\getbuffer[items]
\stop
\stopbuffer
\typebuffer
\getbuffer
\stoptext