



GCSE French

Introduction and course overview

A language is an essential skill. The job market gets more competitive every day. Can you afford not to have skills in a second language? In GCSE French you will learn to use four main aspects of essential skills in communication in French (and, indeed, in any language): Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing.

During the course you will cover the following topic areas:

Theme 1: Me, my family and friends, technology in everyday life, free time activities, customs and festivals in French-speaking countries.

Theme 2: Hometown, neighbourhood and region, social issues, global issues, travel and tourism.

Theme 3: My studies, life at school, education post-16, jobs, career choices and ambitions.

Aims of the course

This course will encourage students to develop their ability and ambition to communicate with native speakers both written and verbally. The study of French will also broaden their horizons and encourage them to step beyond familiar cultural boundaries.

Students will be encouraged to:

- Develop the ability to communicate confidently and coherently with native speakers in speech and writing, conveying what they want to say with increasing accuracy.
- Listen to and understand clearly articulated, standard speech at near normal speed.
- Deepen their knowledge about how language works and enrich their vocabulary to increase their independent use and understanding of extended language in a range of contexts.
- Acquire new knowledge, skills and ways of thinking through the ability to understand and respond to spoken and written material, adapted and abridged, as appropriate, including literary texts.
- Develop awareness and understanding of the culture and identity of the countries and communities where French is spoken.



Method of assessment

In your French GCSE all four areas of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing will be assessed:

The candidates will be tested in the four main skills; listening, speaking, reading and writing. The four skills are tested at the end of the course by examination. All papers are available at either foundation or higher tier. However, candidates will not be able to mix tiers on different papers.

Paper 1 Listening: 25% of the total mark which is assessed by an end of course examination

Paper 2 Speaking: 25% of the total mark which is assessed by an end of course examination

Paper 3 Reading: 25% of the total mark which is assessed by end of course examination

Paper 4 Writing: 25% of the total mark which is assessed by end of course examination

Useful resources and further information

A GCSE in French is extremely useful for a variety of jobs, not just teaching or translating; for example, tourism, web design, medicine, engineering or ICT. If you are thinking you would like a career in any of these fields, or you just want to keep your options open for the future - a GCSE in languages may be just what you need!

AQA GCSE French specification: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/french-8658>