

GCSE French – Course code: 8658

General Course Information

Exam Board: AQA

Many students find that continuing their French studies complements other subjects.

It will enable you to use your skills and qualifications to access career opportunities both at home and abroad.

If you are keen to travel either for work or pleasure, then having a GCSE in a language will help you.

This recently redesigned course will encourage you to:

- Develop the knowledge and skills acquired and therefore use French in a wide range of contexts
- Gain a useful insight into another culture and reflect on various aspects of contemporary society
- Enhance your employment prospects, facilitate foreign travel and experience the enjoyment and motivation of improving your linguistic level

French Year 9 topics: myself and people around me, daily routine, leisure, new technologies, French films, healthy living, future plans.

How is the course assessed?

You will be assessed on 4 skills: Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing at the end of the course (Yr11).

Paper 1: Listening

- Written exam: 35 minutes (Foundation Tier), 45 minutes (Higher Tier)
- 40 marks (Foundation Tier), 50 marks (Higher Tier)
- 25% of GCSE
- You will be expected to answer questions in French and questions in English.

Paper 2: Speaking

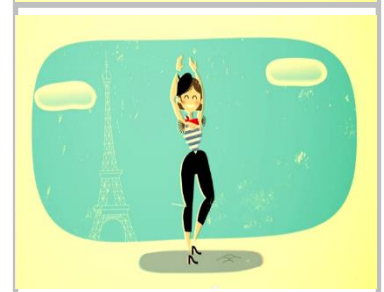
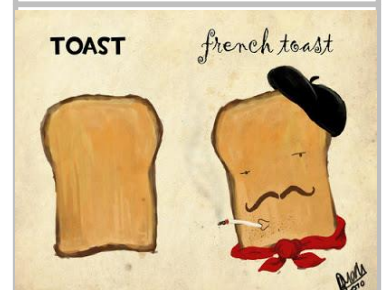
- 7–9 minutes (Foundation Tier) + preparation time
- 10–12 minutes (Higher Tier) + preparation time
- 60 marks (for each of Foundation Tier and Higher Tier)
- 25% of GCSE
- You will be assessed on the following three stimulus: a role-play / a photo card and a conversation with your teacher.

Paper 3: Reading

- Written exam: 45 minutes (Foundation Tier), 1 hour (Higher Tier)
- 60 marks (for each of Foundation Tier and Higher Tier)
- 25% of GCSE
- You will be expected to answer questions in French and questions in English.
- You will have to translate from French into English

Paper 4: Writing

- Written exam: 1 hour (Foundation Tier), 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher Tier)
- 50 marks at Foundation Tier and 60 marks at Higher Tier
- 25% of GCSE
- You will be expected to complete writing tasks in French
- You will be expected to translate from English to French



What students should be doing to achieve:

- Complete all homework
- Put their maximum effort in every lesson
- Asking their teachers for extra help / extra work
- Learn and revise vocabulary on a regular basis
- Attend support and/or intervention sessions
- Complete additional exercises from the Cahier d'exercice (ask for one if you have not got one).
- Use on-line revision: www.linguascope.com , www.bbc.co.uk/schoolsgcse/bitesize
- Study the grammar sections in grammar books, especially how to create and how to recognise different tenses.
- Use the vocabulary booklet and the CD that allows you to create your own vocabulary tests (you can buy both for £4 from your language teacher).
- Use quizzlet to revise your vocabulary and SAM learning to complete a variety of tasks

Even better if you :

- Tune into French radio (this can be done via the Linguascope website)
- Watch French films (even with subtitles these are very valuable). You can access this via BBC on line.
- Read bilingual books – one page in English and the other page in French
- Make a diary of your daily life; write a few sentences every day and research new vocabulary. Please give this to your Languages Teacher for feedback.
- Practise speaking French with a friend; this is particularly helpful during the weeks prior to the speaking exams.

How parents / carers can help students achieve:

- Support your child to ensure they do all of the above
- Encourage your child to have a conversation with their MFL teacher for any questions
- Encourage your child to attend support / intervention after school sessions
- Help them create a revision timetable

Support and Interventions available at school:

- Please do not hesitate to your language teacher for any questions

Who I can contact for further advice / help:

Lguillemin@cityleicester.Leicester.sch.uk

You can also visit:

www.whystudylanguages.ac.uk

www.languageswork.org.uk