

French GCSE Content Overview

The French GCSE content is engaging and relevant. It is designed to develop your language skills, build on your cultural knowledge and give you confidence to use French both in and outside the classroom.

Theme 1: People and Lifestyle

Topic 1:
Identity and Relationship
with others

Topic 2:
Healthy living and Lifestyle

Topic 3:
Education and Work

Theme 2: Popular Culture

Topic 4:
Free-time activities

Topic 5:
Customs, Festivals and
Celebrations

Topic 6:
Celebrity Culture

Theme 3: Communication and the World around us

Topic 7:
Travel and Tourism, including
Places of interest

Topic 8:
Media and Technology

Topic 9:
The Environment and Where
people live



Paper 1: Listening

25%

	F	H
Section A: Answer Questions in English	32 marks	40 marks
Section B: Dictation	8 marks	10 marks
Total marks	40	50
Exam duration including 5 minutes reading time at the start and 2 minutes to proof-read at the end	35 mins	45 mins

Paper 2: Speaking

25%

	F	H
Role-play: using the stimulus material	10 marks 1-1.5 mins	10 marks 1-1.5 mins
Reading Aloud: 5 or 6 short sentences to read, followed by a short unprepared conversation	15 marks 35 words 2-2.5 mins	15 marks 50 words 3-3.5 mins
Photo card: using the stimulus, followed by a short unprepared conversation	25 marks 4-5 mins	25 marks 6-7 mins
Total marks	50	50
Total duration in addition to the 15 mins supervised preparation time at the start	7-9 mins	10-12 mins

Paper 3: Reading

25%

	F	H
Section A: Answer Questions in English	40 marks	40 marks
Section B: Translation from French into English	10 marks 35 words	10 marks 50 words
Total marks	50	50
Exam duration	45 mins	60 mins

Paper 4: Writing

25%

F	H
Question 1: 10 marks Write 5 sentences in French to describe a photo	Question 1: 10 marks Translation of sentences into French- 50 words
Question 2: 10 marks Write 50 words to answer 5 bullet points question	Question 2: 15 marks Write 90 words to answer a 3 bullet points question (choice from 2 questions)
Question 3: 5 marks 5 short grammar tasks	Question 3: Write 150 words to answer a 2 bullet points question (choice from 2 questions)
Question 4: 10 marks Translation of sentences into French- 35 words	
Question 5: 15 marks Write 90 words to answer a 3 bullet points question (choice from 2 questions)	
Total marks 50	Total marks 50
Duration 70 mins	Duration 75 mins

Grammar Overview

Noun phrases:

Formation of feminine and plural nouns

Infinitive used as a noun

Articles and determiners

- definite and indefinite articles
- partitive articles
- demonstrative, possessive and interrogative adjectives

Pronouns:

- subject pronouns
- singular direct object pronouns
- singular indirect object pronouns
- singular reflexive pronouns
- emphatic pronouns "moi /toi"
- relative pronoun "qui"

+ Higher Tier

Other determiner:

aucun

Pronouns:

- plural DOP
- plural IOP
- Y and EN
- plural reflexive
- all emphatic pronouns

Adjectival phrases:

Adjectives

Gender agreement

including high frequency irregular adjectives

Number agreement

including high frequency irregular adjectives

Position of adjectives

Adjectives in comparative structures

+ Higher Tier

Adjectives in superlative structures

Verb phrases:

Negation

Interrogatives

Verbs

- Regular -ER, -IR and -RE verbs + spelling irregularities
- Most common irregular verbs: avoir, être, aller, faire
- Common irregular verbs following the same patterns as:
venir, ouvrir, partir, prendre, traduire
- Other common irregular verbs following the same patterns as:
boire, connaître, courir, croire, écrire, recevoir, rire, suivre, voir
(singular forms only)
- Impersonal verbs:
il y a / il fait + adj. / il + weather / il faut + inf. / il est + time
- Modal verbs: devoir, pouvoir, savoir and vouloir
- Reflexive verbs (singular forms only)

Tenses and moods

- Present tense
- Perfect tense
- Near future
- Imperative
- Imperfect (singular forms only)
- Conditional (singular forms only) of vouloir

+ Higher Tier

Verbs

- Verbs following the same pattern as:
Connaître and écrire

Tenses and Moods

- Present tense with depuis
- Present participle
- Perfect tense of reflexive verbs
- Imperfect
- Conditional of regular -ER verbs
- Conditional of most common irregular and modal verbs (singular forms only)
- Simple future of regular -ER verbs and reflexive verbs
- Simple future of most common irregular verbs (singular forms only)

Adverbial phrases:

- adverbs
- position of adverbs
- use of regular and irregular comparative structures with adverbs

+ Higher Tier

Adverbs in superlative structures

Prepositions:

- verbs followed by " à / de " + noun
- infinitive constructions using: " à / de "
- " en / à " + places
- contraction of definite articles with " à / de "
- indicating possession with : " de "
- preposition " pour / sans " + infinitive

+ Higher Tier

- avant de + infinitive
- après avoir + past participle

1. Year 10

Identity and relationships

Family nationalities

Relationships je m'entends etc more complicated verbs

Personality

Future me

Families nowadays

friends

2.

Celebrity culture

Do you want to be famous

What would you do to be famous

The life of a celebrity

Famous francophones



3. Year 10

Travel and Tourism, including places of interest

Francophone islands

Blog of holidays/gap year

Dream holiday

Discovering big cities

4.

Education and work

6th form and uni

Dream school

Creative jobs

Work experience



5. Year 10

Free-time activities

Last weekend

TV, cinema and music

Leisure around the world

Sport

6.

Healthy living and lifestyle

Food

Addictions

Healthy lifestyles

yesterday

How to stay health



7. Year 11

Media and technology

The world before and after the internet

My life in the digital world

How I use technology – all tenses

Dangers on line

8.

Customs, festivals and celebrations

Birthdays

Describing popular customs in the past

Celebrations past and future

Festivals eg. Cannes



Year 11

- ▶ 9.
- ▶ The environment and where people live
- ▶ Save the planet
- ▶ Local environment
- ▶ Guide to my town
- ▶ Ideal town
- ▶ Traditional francophone houses

