

Subject: French GCSE

Exam board: Edexcel

You need to KNOW:

Students need to work on vocabulary recall as well as on developing language skills such as using context to deal with unfamiliar words, applying grammar effectively and expressing themselves in speaking and writing on the following topics.

1. Family and friends
2. Free time
3. Daily life
4. Local area
5. School
6. Holidays
7. Work
8. Environment

How to revise KNOWLEDGE in this subject:

Vocabulary recall

We have created very comprehensive vocabulary lists on all the topics that are part of the specification. These are a great tool for learning vocabulary in a fun interactive way and the students can even use their mobile phone for that. Your child will find them on

<https://quizlet.com/class/3627256/>

The booklets used for each topic contain the key vocabulary and students are encouraged to take home and use them as a revision tool.

Reading and listening

Students have individual log in details for <https://www.pearsonactivelearn.com/app/Home> which is an on-line database that includes a variety of GCSE style questions for the listening and reading exams. They are closely linked to what we have been studying in class and tasks are set for homework. Please encourage your child to practice these skills regularly.

Speaking

The speaking exam starts with a role-play and students will be given a booklet with worked up exemplars for each theme, which they need to practice at home. You could help by playing the role of the teacher and checking that your child is able to answer your questions.

This is followed by a picture-based discussion and students are expected to describe the photo and answer five questions that are listed on the card.

Finally, students need to prepare a one-minute presentation on a topic of their choice. This is followed by supplementary questions about their presentation and then some questions on one of the topics studied in class. For each topic, students have been given exemplar questions and answers, which will be useful for their mock and their real exam. You could help by listening to your child practicing their answers for the various questions.

Writing

Students need to write 2 or 3 texts of various lengths (from 40 to 150) to respond to a given task. We have worked on writing exemplars for each module and students have been provided with example answers. Please encourage your child to prepare for their writing exam using the work produced in class and test themselves under controlled.

All GCSE students have been taught in lessons how to revise. So when they claim there is: 'Nothing to revise', or 'I don't know how to revise', this is simply not the case! Encouraging them to revise effectively at home is vital to achieve the very best grades.

How to practise the SKILLS required to be successful in this subject:

Test yourself... Create a set of flash cards for you to use. This can also be printed from the vocabulary lists on quizlet. Make it fun and challenging- how many can you get right in a row? This also allows you to work through the ones you don't get right or struggle with. It also helps you to check that you are working at a higher enough level to achieve the top grades.

Mind Maps... Excellent for organising information for the speaking and writing exams. Often students cannot think of things to talk about and a mind map will help them focus on what things they could cover for each topic.

MP3... If you are always listening to music, what else could you be listening to instead? Revision notes? A recording for your speaking exam? All questions and answers for the speaking exams will be provided with the corresponding recordings. This also takes the stigma out of revision because no one knows what they are listening to.

The MFL department are running revision sessions every Monday after school in room BY32 which everyone is welcome to attend.

In preparation for your GCSE French exams, you may find it useful to purchase copies of revision books. These can be purchased from the college. However, please remember that in your exam you will only have pen and paper and you need to test yourselves in exam conditions and not be over-reliant on the games or interactive activities available on line.

Key websites:

<https://www.pearsonactivelearn.com/app/Home>

Online platforms recommended:

<https://www.gcsepod.com/>

<https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>

Wider reading/ watching recommended:

Any reading or listening materials that will enable you to practice your French.