

GCSE French – how you can help your child achieve their potential

How is the GCSE split?

Speaking (25% of grade)

Reading (25% of grade)

Listening (25% of grade)

Writing (25% of grade)

How to help revise

Speaking:

Students will need to give their opinion about all manner of things. For top marks, they should give both sides of the argument. **Please ask them for their opinion (they must tell you in French, regardless of you understanding it or not) about things as and when you see them.** This will get them used to speaking aloud in French and being put on the spot. Eg. Say to them fruit and they give an opinion and reason about fruit in French.

Students have a list of questions that they may be asked in their speaking exam. Practising these out loud or preparing some possible answers and practising them is a great way to be well prepared for the speaking exam.

THESE ARE BEST STARTED NOW AS A) THE EXAM IS SO SOON AND B) THIS IS NOT SOMETHING THAT CAN BE LEARNED THE NIGHT BEFORE. Slow and steady wins the race!

Reading & Listening:

Little and often is the trick for learning vocabulary, even 5 minutes can make a difference.

Memrise (there is even an app for car journeys) – fantastic for vocab – the students have already been sent links. www.memrise.com // Students should be doing 20 minutes 3 times a week as part of their revision. If they start this now it will equate to 20 hours of vocab practice between now and the exams!

Quizlet – students can make their own cue cards and practise. Encourage them to do the topics they find the hardest as opposed to those they are confident with. www.quizlet.com

Vocab books – highlight if they wish, and test them sporadically. It's a great during-dinner game that the whole family can play.

www.Kerboodle.com – Username: as school username. Password: date of birth (yyyymmdd).

Centre code: atm9

They can revisit all the lesson content here as this is our text book online. The vocab pages by topic come with sound files so they can look at the word AND listen to how it sounds – fab for listening skills.

<http://readlang.com/> is brilliant for reading authentic material. It is an app and once downloaded onto a computer you can hover the mouse over words and it translates them!

www.lyricstraining.com is a listening game with authentic French songs that will help with listening skills and will keep them up to date with French artists.

If you have Spotify, go to France's top 50 and there will be the current chart

www.aqa.org.uk - the board that we use for the GCSE. Lots of past papers for GCSE here.

www.wordreference.com - always use an online DICTIONARY, not an internet translator

www.zut.org.uk Username: 6844. Password: Ringwood02

www.languagesonline.org.uk - grammar exercises, explanations and vocab games

www.kahoot.it - great for creating games for friends to play against each other.

Writing

As a general rule, if a student is confident in speaking they will be able to apply the same rules to their writing. The basic verbs they MUST know (with correct French spellings) are:

il y a = there is

je suis allé = I went

c'est --it is

on peut = you can

j'ai = I have

je pense que = I think that

j'aime = I like

je vais = I go

je déteste = I hate

je voudrais = I would like

je peux = I can

ce sera = it will be

il y avait = there was

je vais aller = I am going to go

c'était = it was

je préfère = I prefer

il y aura = there will be

on doit – you must

If you could encourage your child to write these on post it's and stick them around the house/on the tv remote/next to their bed / on the fridge, they would be more likely to commit them to memory.