

## Year 11 GCSE French (AQA) – Overview

### → Assessments

GCSE French has a Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4–9). Students must take all four question papers at the same tier. All question papers must be taken in the same series.

Paper	component	What is assessed	How is assessed	Questions
1	Listening 25% of GCSE	Understanding and responding to different types of spoken language.	Foundation: 35 minutes (40 marks) Higher: 45 minutes (50 marks)	A – questions and answers in English B – questions and answers in French Examples: True and false / multiple choice / single word answers / short answers / Positive, negative or both
2	Speaking 25% of GCSE	Communicating and interacting effectively in speech for a variety of purposes.	Foundation: 7-9 minutes (60 marks) Higher: 10-12 minutes (60 marks)  Plus 12 minutes of preparation time	Role-play – 15 marks (2 minutes) Photo card – 15 marks (2 min. F / 2 min. H) General conversation – 30 marks (3-5 minutes Foundation / 5-7 minutes Higher)
3	Reading 25% of GCSE	Understanding and responding to different types of written language	Foundation: 45 minutes (60 marks) Higher: 60 minutes (60 marks)	A – questions and answers in English B – questions and answers in French C – translation from French into English Examples: True and false / multiple choice / single word answers / short answers / Positive, negative or both / Past, Now or Future
4	Writing 25% of GCSE	Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes	Foundation: 60 minutes (50 marks) Higher: 75 minutes (60 marks)	Foundation F - write 4 sentences to describe a picture F - translating 5 sentences from English into F - 40 words writing task F & H - 90 words writing task H – 150 words writing task H – translating a full paragraph from English into French.

### → Themes

The specification covers three distinct themes. These themes apply to all four question papers. Students are expected to understand and provide information and opinions about these themes relating to their own experiences and those of other people, including people in countries/ communities where Spanish is spoken.

Theme	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3	Topic 4
1: Identity and culture	Me, my family and friends • Relationships with family and friends • Marriage/partnership	Technology in everyday life • Social media • Mobile technology	Free-time activities • Music • Cinema and TV • Food and eating out • Sport	Customs and festivals in French-speaking countries/communities
2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest	Home, town, neighbourhood and region	Social issues • Charity/voluntary work • Healthy/unhealthy living	Global issues • The environment • Poverty/homelessness	N/a
3: Current and future study and employment	My studies	Life at school/college	Education post-16	Jobs, career choices and ambitions

## What can you do to prepare for each component?

### Listening

[www.newsinslowfrench.com](http://www.newsinslowfrench.com)

Use the free non-subscription material to read and listen to short news bulletins. You can vary the speed of the text that you are listening to.

Past papers, Studio French end of module assessments and Zig Zag differentiated listening material – *Student Share – Departments – Modern Foreign Languages – French GCSE – Listening*

Make good use of the transcripts for all of the above to develop your listening.

### Reading

Memrise – Log into our class GCSE group to develop your vocabulary for each unit ([www.memrise.com](http://www.memrise.com))

Past papers, Studio French end of module assessments and Zig Zag differentiated reading material – *Student share – Departments – Modern Foreign Languages – French GCSE - Reading*

Kate Jones Reading booklet (Student Share)

### Speaking

AQA Role play and image booklets (sample 1)

Practise all speaking questions from speaking booklet using prepared flashcards

Ensure that you know the question stems off by heart and can form questions accurately

AQA GCSE French: Sample role-plays – Student share ([katelanguages.co.uk](http://katelanguages.co.uk))

All of these resources are in *Student share – Departments – Modern Foreign Languages – French GCSE – Speaking*

### Writing

Ensure that knowledge and application of the past, present, future and conditional are secure using verb sheets from Studio Grammar book (photocopied) Kate Jones Writing booklet (Student Share) and past papers

*Student share – Departments – Modern Foreign Languages – French GCSE – Writing*

**Additional resources: ISBN-13: 978-1292132884, ISBN-13: 978-1292131351**

