

Modern Foreign Languages - French and German

Examination Board: AQA
Specification title: GCSE French / GCSE German

Introduction

Thanks to new technology and improved travel and communications, the world has become a much smaller place. It is crucial, therefore, that we learn to speak with and understand each other. This can only be done effectively by learning other languages and appreciating associated cultures.

A GCSE in a modern foreign language rewards practical communication skills and adds a European and international dimension to your studies. Learning another language will improve your general communication and literacy skills, help you to understand and appreciate different countries and cultures, improve your employability both at home and abroad and deepen your understanding of English. In short, it will better equip you for life in the multilingual and multicultural world we live in.

Previous knowledge or experience required

You have developed important foundation language skills and knowledge at Key Stage 3. The GCSE course will build substantially on this and introduce you to a wider range of language structures and vocabulary.

What type of student is this course for?

You will enjoy a GCSE in French and German if you want to develop a range of personal and communicative skills within a variety of learning activities in topics as diverse as technology in everyday life, customs and festivals, healthy living and career choices.

A GCSE in French and German will appeal to you if you are keen on travel, different countries and cultures, and are interested in more than the confines of Anglo-Saxon and American culture. A GCSE in French and German includes learning about communities and regions around the world where French and German are spoken.

Career Destinations

A language qualification at GCSE will enable you to study French or German at Advanced Level. It will also facilitate the learning of other languages later in life. In the multinational nature of modern business and commerce, employers are always looking for employees with language skills and experience, and a language qualification will put you in a stronger position for interesting employment with good career and travel opportunities.

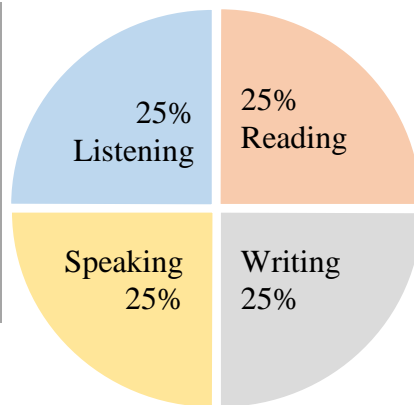
Examples of employment where language skills are particularly valued include journalism and media, engineering, marketing, travel and tourism, customer service, the Civil Service (diplomatic service, customs and excise, immigration) and teaching, both in the UK and abroad.

This qualification is linear; you will sit all your examinations at the end of the course. GCSE French / German has a Foundation Tier (GCSE grades 1-5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4-9). You must take all four papers at the same tier. Each of the four skills is worth 25% of the total GCSE marks.

Vocabulary		
Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3
Family and friends	Home, town and region	My studies
Technology	Social issues	Life at school
Free-time	Global issues	Education post-16
Customs and festivals	Travel and tourism	Jobs and careers



Paper 1
Listening exam 35 min (F) / 45 min (H) Questions in English and in TL (Target Language, e.g. French)



Paper 3
Reading exam 45 mins (F) / 60 mins (H) Questions in English Questions in TL Translation into English

Paper 2
Speaking exam 7–9 mins (F) / 10–12 mins (H) Role-play (2 mins F & H) Photo card (2 mins F / 3 mins H) General conversation (3–5 mins F / 5–7 mins H)

Paper 4
Writing exam 60 mins (F) / 75 mins (H) Photo task (F) 40 words task (F) 90 words task (F & H) 150 words task (H) Translation into TL (F & H)



Grammar			
Past tenses	Present tense	Adjectival agreement	Connectives
Future tenses	Intensifiers	Comparatives	Time phrases
Conditional	Infinitive expressions	Adverbs	Prepositions
	Negatives	Opinions	

Specification in Detail: French

	Topic	Grammar Focus
Autumn Year 10	self, family, daily routine, description, fashion and trends, special occasions, technology	question forms, prepositions, present tense –er verbs, adjectives, past tense, negatives, question words, direct object pronouns, “It”/“that”/“c”, pronouns <i>moi, toi, lui, elle</i>
Spring Year 10	television, music, film programmes, lost property, free-time activities	<i>Avec + sans</i> , the pronoun <i>y</i> , using <i>grâce à</i> , interrogative pronouns, perfect tense with <i>être</i> ,
Summer Year 10	Talking about food and drink, sports, examination and past paper practice	reflexive verbs, opinion verbs, adverbs of frequency, pronoun <i>en</i> , opinion verbs
Autumn Year 11	obligation, daily routine in the past, shopping and money, food and restaurants, leisure activities	<i>devoir / il faut + inf</i> , reflexive verbs in the perfect tense, saying “this” and “that”, what and which, <i>venir de</i> , object pronouns
Spring Year 11	leisure, holidays, weather, hotels, camp sites and youth hostels, describing a holiday in the past	<i>jouer à / de</i> , <i>faire du / de la</i> , adverbs, pluperfect tense, comparatives and superlatives, future tense
Summer Year 11	future plans, advantages and disadvantages of jobs, advantages and disadvantages of new technology, examination preparation and past paper practice	expressions with <i>avoir</i> , <i>qui</i> and <i>que</i> , reflexive verbs with parts of the body, <i>en + present participle</i>

Specification in Detail: German

	Topic	Grammar Focus
Autumn Year 10	Relationships with family and friends Marriage and partnership Social media Mobile technology Music, cinema and TV	present tense regular and irregular verbs, reflexive verbs, separable verbs, using wollen, possessive adjectives, future tense, comparative and superlative adjectives direct and indirect object pronouns, using weil, wenn, wann and als, the imperative, the imperfect tense separable and reflexive verbs in the perfect tense
Spring Year 10	Food and eating out Sport Germany and customs Festivals in Germany, Switzerland and Austria Home	the present tense, word order – V2 and TMP, du, ihr and Sie, forming questions, modal verbs, past, present and future time frames, separable and reflexive verbs in the future tense adjectives used as nouns, V2, the perfect tense, personal pronouns, TMP word order using prepositions, prepositions with the dative
Summer Year 10	Where you live Charity and voluntary work Healthy and unhealthy living	using können, adjective endings, questions and interrogatives in with the accusative and dative, dieser and jeder, wenn clauses, using als to talk about the past, um ... zu ... , using müssen, the imperfect tense
Autumn Year 11	Environment, poverty and homelessness Holidays and travel, regions of Germany	the imperative, the pluperfect tense, the conditional tense and wenn clauses, reflexive pronouns, weak masculine nouns, reflexive verbs with a direct object, adjective endings after etwas, nichts, viel, wenig, alles imperfect tense of irregular verbs, the TMP rule in the perfect tense, coordinating and subordinating conjunctions, impersonal verbs, prepositions with the dative and accusative, relative pronouns, using was, complex question words
Spring Year 11	School and subjects Life at school University or work? Choice of career	using seit and vor, adjective endings after etwas, nichts, viel, wenig, alles, infinitive constructions (um ... zu ... / ohne ... zu ...) reflexive verbs, the imperative, common subjunctive forms, comparative and superlative adjectives using welcher ?, adverbs, verbs followed by zu, wäre and hätte in conditional sentences subordinating conjunctions, prepositions with the genitive case, the genitive case, subordinate clauses
Summer Year 11	examination preparation and practice papers	