

GCSE French

AQA
Exams in 2025



GCSE French Exams Information 2025

- Exam board: **AQA**
- There are 4 exams, one in each skill: **Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing**
 - Each exam is worth 25% of the overall grade
- The **Speaking exam** will be first, scheduled for w/c 7th April (the week before Easter – details TBC)
 - **Listening and Reading** exams are on May 21st
 - The **Writing** exam is on 5th June
- There is a Foundation exam and a Higher exam – you will do the same tier for all 4 exams. Tiers will be finalised after the final set of mocks.
 - Foundation covers grades 1-5, Higher covers grades 4-9
 - The topics covered are listed in the box to the right

Topics to revise:

Theme 1: Identity and culture

Topic 1: Me, my family and friends:
Relationships with family and friends,
Marriage/partnership

Topic 2: Technology in everyday life: Social
media, Mobile technology

Topic 3: Free-time activities: Music, Cinema
and TV, Food and eating out, Sport

Topic 4: Customs and festivals in French-
speaking countries/communities

Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest

Topic 1: Home, town, neighbourhood and
region

Topic 2: Social issues: Charity/voluntary work,
Healthy/unhealthy living

Topic 3: Global issues: The environment,
Poverty/homelessness

Topic 4: Travel and tourism

Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

Topic 1: My studies

Topic 2: Life at school/college

Topic 3: Education post-16

Topic 4: Jobs, career choices and ambitions

A menu of timings and tasks for your own revision

Revision resources:

- Cue cards
- Revision guides
- Online sources
- Past papers
- Booklets from school (ie speaking)
- Revision mindmaps
- Knowledge organisers
- VLE

10-15 minute activities

- Complete an extended task on the VLE
- Go through a whole topic section on BBC Bitesize
- Record answers for oral exam questions to listen to them
- Plan a past paper role play and photo card
- Complete a translation and check it
- Find a text and practise reading / listening

5 minute activities

- Quick online vocab test on the VLE
- Look cover check on vocab lists
- Make a quiz on a topic
- Write out key verbs for a tense from memory
- Plan a writing question – what to write for each bullet point
- Rehearse out loud planned oral exam question answers

30 minute activities

- a past paper for listening/reading
- planning answers to questions for the oral exam
- planning out 2 roles plays and 2 photo cards completing a writing task (2 (H) and 4 bullet point versions)
- Make a revision mind map for a topic or some grammar

A one hour session could look like this....

Explore an exam style question

Take one or more bullet points from a writing task and plan out your paragraph to include at least 3-4 extended sentences and at least 1 opinion. **(5 mins)**

Make notes/lists, a revision clock or cue cards on a topic area or grammar point – divide your mindmap into 6 X 10 minute sections **(15 mins)**

Go online and spend **10 minutes** on a topic area:

You could use

- VLE resources
- BBC bitesize
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french/mafrance/podcast/>
- <http://ielanguages.com/frenchlistening.html>
- <http://www.languagesonline.org.uk>

10 Minute break:

- Listen to music
- Make a cup of tea
- Go out in the garden

Most importantly leave the room you are working in and get away from a screen.

Practice a question (30 mins)

Could be

- part of a past paper for listening/reading
- planning answers to questions for the oral exam
- planning out 2 roles plays and 2 photo cards completing a writing task (2 (H) and 4 bullet point versions)
- 2 translations

For exam skills: VLE links

- **French Foundation Writing**

Tutorial: <https://vle.lionhearttrust.org.uk/mod/resource/view.php?id=72548>

- **French Higher Writing**

Tutorial: <https://vle.lionhearttrust.org.uk/mod/resource/view.php?id=72549>

- **French Reading Tutorial (non-**

tiered): <https://vle.lionhearttrust.org.uk/mod/resource/view.php?id=72938>

- More items can be found on the VLE revision course

<https://vle.lionhearttrust.org.uk/course/view.php?id=953>

For online vocab retrieval:

- French AQA Spec vocab on Quizlet: <https://quizlet.com/MFL-at-HPS/folders/aqa-gcse-french-vocabulary/sets>
- **BBC bitesize –**
- French: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zr8bmfr>

Look for past paper resources, including for speaking, on the AQA website:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/find-past-papers-and-mark-schemes>