

GCSE FRENCH EDEXCEL

Paper 1: Speaking in French

Internally conducted and externally assessed:

Foundation tier: 7-9 minutes plus 15 minutes' preparation time; 50 marks

Higher tier: 10-12 minutes plus 15 minutes' preparation time; 50 marks

25% of the qualification

Students are assessed on their ability to speak using clear and comprehensible language for a range of audiences and purposes, in different contexts, which are relevant to their current and future needs and interests. There are three consecutive tasks:

Task 1: Read aloud (12 marks)

Read aloud a short text and undertake a short, unprepared interaction relating to the text. In the read aloud task itself students will be assessed on their pronunciation and in the short interaction that follows students will be assessed on their communication. The task card will be allocated by Pearson.

Task 2: Role play (10 marks)

Undertake a transactional role play, in a setting taken from the defined list on pages 16–17. The task card will be allocated by Pearson.

Task 3: Picture task (12 marks) with conversation (16 marks)

Students select their thematic context for Task 3 in advance of the assessment. Students select one option from a choice of two of the six thematic contexts. The two options will be randomly generated by Pearson. The task card will be allocated by Pearson.

Describe a picture stimulus, related to the selected thematic context. Students have a choice of two pictures on the stimulus card. Answer two compulsory questions related to the subject matter of the picture, then move on to a short unprepared conversation developed from the same thematic context.

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Paper 2: Listening and understanding in French

Written examination:

Foundation tier: 45 minutes, including 5 minutes' reading time, 50 marks

Higher tier: 60 minutes, including 5 minutes' reading time, 50 marks

25% of the qualification

Students are assessed on their understanding of standard spoken French by one or more speakers, across a range of formal and informal contexts, and in familiar and unfamiliar settings.

Section A: Listening (40 marks)

Students respond to multiple-choice, multiple-response and short-answer open response questions. All questions are set in English and students produce all responses in English.

Section B: Dictation (10 marks)

Students are assessed on their ability to transcribe spoken French into written French. They will be rewarded for their accuracy of spelling based on their knowledge and understanding of French phonics.

Paper 3: Reading and understanding in French

Written examination:

Foundation tier: 45 minutes, 50 marks

Higher tier: 60 minutes, 50 marks

25% of the qualification

Section A: Reading and Understanding (40 marks)

Students respond to multiple-choice, multiple-response and short-answer open response questions based on these texts.

All questions are set in English and students produce all responses in English.

Section B: Translation into English (10 marks)

Students translate a passage from French into English, with instructions in English.

Paper 4: Writing in French

Written examination:

Foundation tier: 1 hour 15 minutes; 50 marks.

Higher tier: 1 hour 20 minutes; 50 marks.

25% of the qualification

Students are assessed on their ability to communicate effectively through writing in French for different purposes and audiences. Students are required to produce responses of varying lengths and types to express ideas and opinions in French. The instructions to students are in English.

Foundation Tier

Question 1: picture-based task (8 marks)

Question 2: one of two open-response questions, set in formal context (14 marks)

Question 3: one of two open-response questions, set in informal context (18 marks)

Question 4: translation into French (10 marks)

Higher Tier

Question 1: one of two open-response questions, set in informal context (18 marks)

Question 2: one of two open-response questions, set in formal context (22 marks)

Question 3: translation into French (10 marks)

A recommended word count is specified for each open-response question