

French Y10 and Y11

Name of Subject: French Foreign Language

Exam Board: Cambridge

Syllabus Code: 0520

Components: Paper 1 Listening, Paper 2 Reading, Paper 3 Speaking, Paper 4 Writing

Overall Aims and Objectives of the Syllabus:

The aims of the syllabus outline the educational purposes of a course in a foreign language for the Cambridge IGCSE examination. They are not listed in order of priority.

The syllabus aims to:

- develop the ability to communicate effectively using the target language;
- offer insight into the culture and society of countries where the language is spoken;
- develop awareness of the nature of language and language learning; encourage positive attitudes towards speakers of other languages and a sympathetic approach to other cultures and civilisations;
- provide enjoyment and intellectual stimulation;
- develop transferable skills (e.g. analysis, memorising, drawing of inferences) to complement other area of the curriculum;
- form a sound base of the skills, language and attitudes required for progression to work or further study, either in the target language or another subject area.

Final IGCSE Assessment: Assessment is based on written examinations sat in May of Year 11, plus an individual, interactive Speaking Paper organised during April / May.

Paper 1 Listening Approx. 45 minutes, 45 marks

Candidates will encounter a variety of question types on the Listening Paper and wherever possible objective questions are used, requiring little writing in the target language. Where candidates are required to produce written answers in the target language, it is important that they write briefly, relevantly and concisely. Long answers often contain irrelevant information which can distort meaning and candidates writing at length may find it hard to keep up with the recording.

The aim of the paper is to test candidates' listening comprehension skills and therefore they are not penalised for incorrect or inaccurate language unless it makes their answers ambiguous.

Paper 2 Reading 1 hour, 45 marks

Candidates will encounter a variety of question types on the Reading Paper. The Paper is designed to test comprehension skills and includes objective questions and questions which require candidates to write answers in the target language. Where candidates are required to write answers in the target language, they are not penalised for incorrect language unless it makes their answers ambiguous. It is important that they write briefly, relevantly and concisely. Provided that answers are unambiguous, long answers in full sentences are not required. Candidates should be encouraged to paraphrase and manipulate the language in order to answer questions appropriately. They are unlikely to score high marks on this paper if they simply copy large chunks from the stimulus material with no attempt to select what is relevant.

Paper 3 Speaking 15 mins, 100 marks

The Speaking examination consists of a single interview with three compulsory parts:

- Test 1: Role Plays

- Test 2: Topic Presentation / Conversation
- Test 3: General Conversation

Paper 4 Writing 1hr, 50 marks

Section 1 (20 marks)

- Question 1: Candidates are required to write a series of single words linked to a topic. Suggestions to help the candidate (in the form of pictures) are provided on the question paper, but any words relevant to the topic are produced by the candidate in the examination will be considered for reward.
- Question 2: a directed writing task, 80-90 words in total are required.

Marks are only awarded for material which addresses the set tasks. Minus marks are never used; candidates are given every opportunity to gain marks for what they can do.

Section 2 (30 marks)

- Question 3: candidates are offered a choice of 3 tasks (an email/letter, an article, and a narrative) and must complete one of these. 130-140 words total are required.

Candidates are expected to communicate accurately and should make use of a variety of idiom, vocabulary, structure and appropriate tense. A system of positive marking is used. Irrelevant material is not rewarded.

Assessment:

All assessment – including class work, homework, mid- and end-of-year examinations - will be based on preparatory work for the final examinations; the majority will be graded according to the official Cambridge grading criteria and will be based upon the assessment objectives for Cambridge IGCSE Second Language French:

AO1: Understand and respond to spoken language

AO2: Understand and respond to written language

AO3: Communicate in speech, showing knowledge of a range and variety of vocabulary, and applying grammar and structures of the target language accurately

AO4: Communicate in writing, showing knowledge of a range and variety of vocabulary, and applying grammar and structures of the target language accurately

The four components are given a weighting and attract a maximum mark of 25% each. Candidates are required to show knowledge and understanding in five topic areas: Everyday Activities, Personal and Social Life, The World Around Us, The World Of Work and The International World. These topics are broken down into sub-topics which provide contexts for the acquisition of vocabulary and study of grammar and structures. Through the study of these Topic areas, candidates also gain insight into target countries and communities.

Resources:

Our primary resource is the AQA GCSE French textbook ((Oxford University Press), supplemented by the teachers' own and online resources. Past and Specimen Examination papers are introduced throughout the course.

For more details, please visit:

<http://www.cie.org.uk/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-french-foreign-language-0520/>

The syllabus document can be found at:

<http://www.cie.org.uk/images/203241-2017-2019-syllabus.pdf>