



HOLYPORT
COLLEGE

FRENCH TRANSITION WORK 2025

About A Level French:

The specification we teach is produced by AQA. The unit code is 7652 (A Level) and a full copy of this specification and other useful information is available at:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/french/a-level/french-7652/specification/specification-at-a-glance>

How it is examined:

1. Paper 1 – Listening, Reading & Writing (2h30m) - **50%**

Comprehension and translation questions

2. Paper 2 – Writing (2h) - **20%**

Essay on a novel and a film in French

3. Paper 3 – Speaking (21-23 minutes + 5 minutes preparation) - **30%**

Individual Research Project (IRP) and a discussion of one of the four themes on a speaking card

Compulsory Summer Work - this must be handed in by the end of the first week of September:

Task 1: The Culture & History of France– Independent Research Task

1. Create a fact file on France with a timeline of key French historical dates, key figures and information about them, regional culture and traditions.

2. Ensure that you include at least some information on:

- Autonomous Regions – languages, gastronomy, geography etc.
- Culturally Important Sites and Monuments
- Famous French People – writers, artists, architects etc.
- Festivals & traditions
- Key Historical Periods e.g. Gallo-Roman, the Renaissance, the French Revolution
- Any other key information/facts/figures or aspects which interest you

This should be a significant piece of research and be done in the form of a booklet/presentation. Be ready to hand in or present.

Completing this will help you build your background knowledge of France and French culture.

Task 2: News and current affairs – Comprehension and summary task

1. Find a news story that you find interesting that is reported in the French press (e.g. in Le Monde, Le Figaro, Le Parisien...).
2. Create a short summary of the main points in French and note down any interesting/new vocabulary. Be ready to present your summary.



Extra work you could do to prepare for A Level French:

It is important to keep up to date with French news and watch French TV/movies. This will improve your listening and reading skills, and your cultural knowledge. Below is a list of websites and movies to choose from:

TELEVISION:

- <http://www.tv5monde.com/> - access French TV shows and <http://apprendre.tv5monde.com/> where you can watch clips and answer comprehension questions and do grammar exercises.

MOVIES:

- La Haine, Mathieu Kassovitz (1995)
- Au Revoir les Enfants, dir. Louis Malle (1987)
- Chocolat, dir. Claire Denis (1988)
- La Vie en Rose, dir. Olivier Dahan (2007)
- Les Choristes, dir. Christophe Barratier (2004)
- Les 400 Coups, dir. François Truffaut (1959)

RADIO:

- Radio France www.radiofrance.fr

NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES:

- <http://www.lefigaro.fr/>
- <http://www.20minutes.fr>

WEBSITES:

- <https://www.laits.utexas.edu/tex/gr/index.html> - for grammar revision. Revise verbs in each tense: *present, perfect, imperfect, future, conditional*.
- www.languagesonline.org.uk - for grammar revision