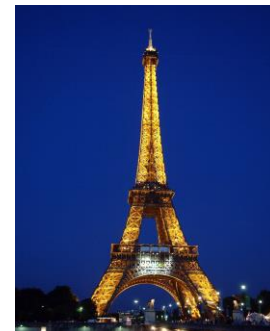


FRENCH

Board: Pearson-Edexcel Specification: 1FR1



Specification link: [GCSE \(9-1\) French Specification - Issue 1](#)

AIMS

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable pupils to:

- *communicate confidently with native speakers in speech and writing,*
- *express and develop thoughts and ideas spontaneously and fluently,*
- *listen to and understand standard speech at near normal speed,*
- *deepen their knowledge about how language works and to increase their independence,*
- *acquire skills to understand and respond to a range of material,*
- *develop understanding of the culture of the countries where the language is spoken,*
- *make links to other areas of the curriculum and...*
- *develop language-learning skills for further language study in Higher education or employment.*

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The vocabulary in this qualification enables students to communicate across a range of engaging and relatable thematic contexts, which are relevant to their current and future needs.

This new specification has refocused on topics that are meaningful and interesting to pupils and selected the following six broad thematic contexts to provide a focus for the teaching and learning of the vocabulary and grammar listed:

- My personal world
- Lifestyle and wellbeing
- My neighbourhood
- Media and technology
- Studying and my future
- Travel and tourism

Within the thematic contexts, students could use the specified vocabulary and grammar to listen, to read, speak and write about the following subjects:

family	friends	relationships	equality
physical well-being	mental well-being	food and drink	sports
places in town	shopping	transport	the natural world
environmental issues	social media and gaming	future opportunities (e.g. work, travel)	school
music	TV and film	accommodation	tourist attractions

Each pupil has their own textbook which complements the on-line **ActiveHub** resources (www.pearsonactivelearn.com/features.asp) and grammar and translation material used in lessons as well as essential examination practice and study guides.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Examinations in Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing at Foundation or Higher Tier take place at the end of Year 11. Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing are weighted equally (25%). There are two tiers of examination and the 9 – 1 grading system is used. Decisions about the specific tier for each candidate will be made after the Year 11 mock examinations.

★ **Listening examination:** Candidates listen to a range of material and complete a variety of tasks: true or false, multiple choice, grid completion, note-taking and interpreting into English. This also includes dictation.

★ **Speaking examination:** This paper is comprised of three tasks -

- reading a short text aloud
- a role play based on one topic that is allocated by Edexcel,
- a conversation based on a picture stimulus based on one theme.

★ **Reading examination:** Candidates read a range of written material, including longer texts and respond to tasks in French or in English. There are also short translation tasks from French into English.

★ **Writing examination:** Candidates are assessed on their ability to communicate effectively for different purposes and audiences. Pupils are required to produce responses of varying lengths. Word counts are specified for each question and all questions must be answered, which include translation from English.

Pupils are expected to engage fully and participate in all classroom and extended learning activities. Conscientious completion of both written, online and oral homework is essential, as well as an active personal involvement in using French in lessons.

★EXTRA COMMITMENTS

A comprehensive dictionary, revision guide and *Pearson/Edexcel* vocabulary pack are of benefit.

★EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to the above, the Faculty runs a *Young MFL Leaders* initiative, which enables pupils to apply their learning in leadership roles with local feeder primary schools. The possibility to participate in a trip to France is under consideration, if circumstances permit. This would be an opportunity to experience the country and practise the language which is valuable for GCSE with its emphasis on communication and understanding of authentic spoken and written language.

★FURTHER EDUCATION & CAREERS

Advanced level French is offered in Years 12 and 13. Pupils can go on to study French single honours or combined with another subject at university level. Language skills can enhance career opportunities in both the UK and abroad and are a useful addition to one's curriculum vitae, considering that many major companies offering employment in Hertfordshire have links with continental Europe.