

## Progression to A Level French at Prior Pursglove College

The Specification for French A Level is interesting and varied as you can see....

### 1. Overview of WJEC Eduqas A Level specification

#### 1.1 Overview of the Specification for A level FRENCH

There are two areas of interest staged over two years.

- The areas of interest will be studied with reference to the countries/communities where French is spoken as well as in a wider, global context where appropriate.
- Language teaching and learning is embedded in the current lifestyle and social climate and also the historical and cultural heritage of the countries/communities where French is spoken.
- France and *les pays francophones* across the world can be used as a focus for study.

#### Areas of interest

- i. Social issues and trends.
- ii. Political, intellectual and artistic culture.

Each of the two areas of interest contains two themes, making a total of four themes for A level.

Note that two of the four themes for A level are the same as the two themes taught for AS, enabling the qualifications to be co-taught.

#### The themes and sub-themes

Each theme is in turn divided into sub-themes (bulleted below):

1. Social issues and trends (co-teachable with AS)

##### **Being a young person in French-speaking society**

- Families and citizenship  
*Changing family structures; the changing nature of marriage and partnership; being a good citizen*

- Youth trends and personal identity  
*Trends in fashion; how young people respond to modern technology; relationships with others and peer pressure*
- Education and employment opportunities  
*The education system and student issues; work and travel opportunities and changing work scene*

## 2. Political, intellectual and artistic culture (co-teachable with AS)

### **Understanding the French-speaking world**

- Regional culture and heritage in France, French-speaking countries and communities  
*Festivals; customs and traditions; historical sites; museums and galleries*
- Media, art, film and music in the French-speaking world  
*Trends in media and art; film and music in the lives of young people*

## 3. Social issues and trends

### **Diversity and difference**

- Migration and integration  
*Reasons for migration; factors which make migration/integration easy/difficult*
- Cultural identity and marginalisation  
*Reasons for marginalisation; ways to eliminate marginalisation*
- Cultural enrichment and celebrating difference  
*The positive aspects of a diverse society*
- Discrimination and diversity  
*Life for those who are discriminated against*

## 4. Political, intellectual and artistic culture

### **France 1940-1950: The Occupation and post-war years**

- From June 1940 – May 1945  
*Life in occupied France; the French Resistance*
- The cultural dimension in occupied France  
*The political context of theatre and cinema productions*
- 1945-1950  
*Rebuilding and restructuring society in post-war years*

While studying these areas of interest and their themes and sub-themes learners will,

through the use of authentic materials, develop knowledge and understanding of the countries/communities where French is spoken through speaking, listening, reading and writing.

The themes 1-3 and their sub-themes can be related to any country/community (*les pays francophones*) where French is the spoken language.

All texts for listening, reading and speaking activities in the examination relate to the countries or communities where the language of study is spoken. In this way learners will be immersed in the language and culture of the language of study at all times and will gradually develop their understanding of the cultural background.

## 2.2 Question types in the new specification

1. Translation into English and translation into French/German/Spanish.
2. Essay questions on a film and/or literary work(s).
3. Comprehension exercises (listening and understanding and reading and understanding):
  - There are a variety of question forms and exercises that will be used to elicit responses from material in both written and spoken French/German/Spanish.
  - Listening to or reading an extract. The extracts will be taken from a range of sources e.g. journalistic material, news reports, podcasts, blogs, reviews, conversations, dialogue, interviews, literary texts.
  - Questions will be designed to ensure that all the Assessment Objectives are covered appropriately.

## 2.3 Approaches to Translation

40% of the marks in Component 2 at A level are allocated to the translation tasks; 20 marks for translation into English and 20 marks for translation into French. It is important therefore to ensure that adequate time is spent by learners on developing translation skills in lessons as well as at home.

Translating a text is a complex task requiring a mastery of vocabulary, grammar, syntax and idiomatic expressions. Grammar and translation go together hand in hand and the teaching of a point of grammar can be incorporated easily into a translation task. Translating individual sentences related to a grammar point is a fun way of introducing learners to translation.

The following questions can help the learner to avoid translation pitfalls:

- Have I applied the conventions of the word order common in my mother tongue?
- Have I avoided the traps of 'false friends'?
- Does the sentence I produced read like an English sentence, in other words is it idiomatic?
- Have I used correct tenses / direct and indirect articles etc.?

## Newspapers and magazines

Access to some online newspapers is free e.g. <http://www.20minutes.fr/>. Others will allow you to

read the beginning of an article but invite you to subscribe to read the remainder. The usual cost can be 1 Euro a day after perhaps a free month. For French, “*Le Parisien*”, “*La voix du Nord*”, “*Ouest-France*” are useful (see the language specific web site pages in the appendices). They all allow the reader to search within their archives for articles on specific topics e.g. immigration, the environment, social problems. The electronic versions of these and similar newspapers are available via apps on smartphones and tablets.

### 3.3 Applications which are useful languagetools.

An example of a monolingual French dictionary is ‘*dictionnaire l’internaute*’ (which also has short English equivalents.) There is also ‘*dictionnaire littré*’ and the Larousse dictionaries.

## French

### Newspapers and magazines

Le Monde	<a href="http://www.lemonde.fr">www.lemonde.fr</a>
Le Figaro	<a href="http://www.lefigaro.fr">www.lefigaro.fr</a>
20 Minutes	<a href="http://www.20minutes.fr">www.20minutes.fr</a>
Agence France Presse	<a href="https://www.afp.com">https://www.afp.com</a>
France 24 news	<a href="http://www.france24.com/fr">http://www.france24.com/fr</a>
7 sur 7	<a href="http://www.7sur7.be/">http://www.7sur7.be/</a>
Agence presse africaine	<a href="http://apanews.net/">http://apanews.net/</a>
Le Soir	<a href="http://www.lesoir.be/">http://www.lesoir.be/</a>
DH	<a href="http://www.dhnet.be/">http://www.dhnet.be/</a>
Luxemburger Wort (French)	<a href="http://www.wort.lu/fr">http://www.wort.lu/fr</a>
La Presse	<a href="http://www.lapresse.ca/actualites/montreal/">http://www.lapresse.ca/actualites/montreal/</a>
Okapi Le magazine des ados ouverts au monde	<a href="http://www.okapi.fr/">http://www.okapi.fr/</a>
Phosphore	<a href="http://www.phosphore.com">www.phosphore.com</a>
RFI France	<a href="http://www.rfi.fr/">http://www.rfi.fr/</a>
RFI Africa	<a href="http://www.rfi.fr/afrique">www.rfi.fr/afrique</a>

### Television and radio

Arte tv	<a href="http://www.arte.tv/fr">http://www.arte.tv/fr</a>
TV5 monde	<a href="http://www.tv5.org">www.tv5.org</a> :
RTFB	<a href="http://www.rtbfb.be/">http://www.rtbfb.be/</a>
Agence presse africaine	<a href="http://apanews.net/tv/">http://apanews.net/tv/</a>
Tele Quebec	<a href="http://www.telequebec.tv/">http://www.telequebec.tv/</a>
RTL France	<a href="http://www.rtl.fr/direct">http://www.rtl.fr/direct</a>
TF1	<a href="http://www.tf1.fr/tf1/direct">http://www.tf1.fr/tf1/direct</a>
France 2	<a href="http://www.france2.fr/">http://www.france2.fr/</a>

Other websites of national or regional stations can be found by using a search engine such as Google.

Towns and cities in French speaking countries all have their own websites, for example: Paris

	<a href="http://www.paris.fr">http://www.paris.fr</a>
Nice	<a href="http://www.nice.fr">http://www.nice.fr</a>
Bordeaux	<a href="http://www.bordeaux.fr">http://www.bordeaux.fr</a>
Lille	<a href="http://www.lille.fr">http://www.lille.fr</a>
Quimper	<a href="http://www.quimper.bzh">http://www.quimper.bzh</a>
Geneva	<a href="http://www.geneve.ch">http://www.geneve.ch</a>

Sites on tourism with links to places of interest, activities etc.:

Belgium	<a href="http://www.belgique-tourisme.fr">http://www.belgique-tourisme.fr</a>
Cameroon	<a href="http://www.mintour.gov.cm">http://www.mintour.gov.cm</a>
France	<a href="http://www.tourisme.fr">http://www.tourisme.fr</a>
Quebec	<a href="http://www.quebecregion.com/fr">http://www.quebecregion.com/fr</a>
Switzerland	<a href="http://www.myswitzerland.com/fr">http://www.myswitzerland.com/fr</a>
Luxembourg	<a href="http://www.visitluxembourg.com/en">http://www.visitluxembourg.com/en</a>

### **Search engines**

General search engines return slightly different results depending on whether the French (.fr) or English website (.com or .co.uk) is used. It is therefore worth logging on to French sites.

[www.yahoo.fr](http://www.yahoo.fr)  
[www.google.fr](http://www.google.fr)

Websites for film study

<http://www.imdb.com/>  
<http://www.worldonlinecinema.com/>



# Défi de l'été- Bridging the Gap – Yr1 French




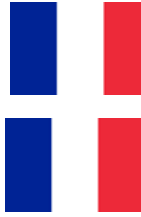

## Other useful websites/app:

Le parisien.fr  
Le Monde.fr  
France 24  
BFM TV

Podcasts:  
Visit this website for suggestions:

<https://www.fluentu.com/blog/french/french-podcasts/>

<https://www.fluentu.com/blog/french/advanced-french-podcast/>

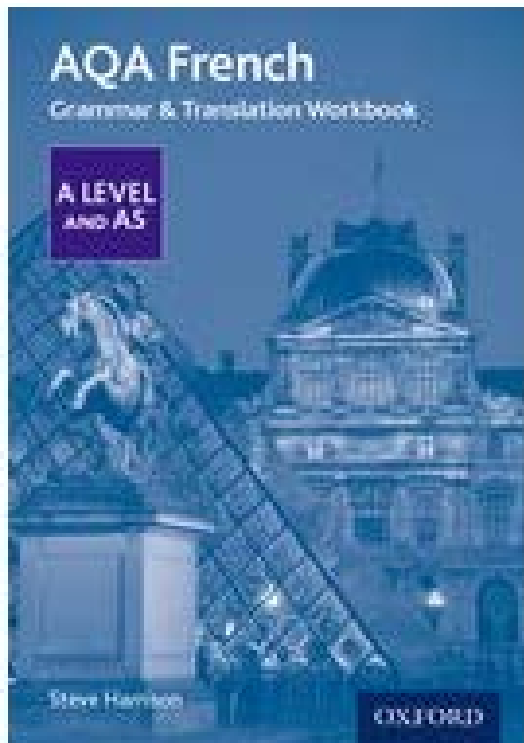
 Do a one week streak on <b>Duolingo...</b>  Then keep going... all Summer long!	Revise vocabulary from your <b>GCSE topics</b> including family/friends, house /home holidays.. Ready to expand upon in Yr1	Create some <b>tenses</b> revision cards from GCSE – include rules/how to form AND <u>learn</u> the irregular verb formations	Create a <b>French playlist</b> on Spotify. Listen to a French song and follow the lyrics. Write down new vocab.
 Spend time on <a href="https://www.languagesonline.org.uk">https://www.languagesonline.org.uk</a> to strengthen your grammar. (or BBC)	<b>Research</b> a famous French landmark – PPT & write a description – could you present it?	<b>Watch a French movie/series</b> in French and write a review. Netflix / Amazon Prime	<b>Listen to Slow News</b> in French Podcast (see link at side) .
 Choose a topic <b>video on 1 jour 1 question(YouTube)</b> and write summary – so many to choose from!	Look on <b>IMDB</b> at a French film – do a poster advertising director /artists /story	<b>Study a newspaper article</b> (see websites at side) and make bullet points as to its content	Find your <b>favourite French singer</b> by going through 'les tubes' (French charts) on YouTube.

Complete a task a week from this grid (or more). Make sure that you have some evidence (photos, parent signature, screenshots 😊) and create your own 'September Ready' A level French Portfolio



This is the recommended grammar book for A Level. It is not compulsory, but it will definitely be a good learning support for those who want to be ahead of the game. You can buy it from the OUP website.

## Product



## AQA A Level French: Grammar & Translation Workbook

Dedicated grammar and translation support for the 2016 specification.

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