



West Park School

French

GCSE Examination Summer 2025

Here is a reminder of the themes and accompanying topics:

Theme 1 – Identity and Culture

1. **Me, my family & friends** (relationship with family & friends marriage/partnership)
2. **Technology in everyday life**(mobile technology/social media)
3. **Free time activities** (sport, TV/Cinema/music/eating out)
4. **Customs & festivals in French speaking countries & communities**

Theme 2 – Local, national, international and global areas of interest

1. **Home town, neighbourhood, region**
2. **Social issues** (charity & voluntary work/ healthy & unhealthy living)
3. **Global issues** (environment/poverty & homelessness)
4. **Travel & tourism**

Theme 3 – Current and future study and employment

1. **Jobs, career choice & ambitions**
2. **My studies**
3. **Life at school/college**
4. **Education post 16**

In readiness for your examination in French you must **LEARN** and **REVISE** the following content and skills:

Listening and Reading

Your listening and reading examinations will cover all three themes that you are required to know for your examinations in May. You must make sure you do independent practice of vocabulary using either [Memrise](#) or a revision guide. In addition to this, there is a pre-released list of vocabulary which you can access on Firefly in the GCSE section.

It is also strongly advised to access past papers on the AQA website [AQA | Resources | Past Papers & AQA Mark Schemes](#) and practise these regularly in exam conditions.

Speaking

Your speaking examination will be made up of questions from all three themes. This examination is made up of three parts:

1. Role play (15 marks) – Your answers for this should be brief. You only need to provide the information you are asked for, you do **not** need to develop answers. Accuracy is more

important than detail for this section. You are expected to ask a question during this part of the examination.

2. Photo card (15 marks) – You will be asked to describe a photograph and then asked follow up questions relating to the topic mentioned on the card. You need to give more developed answers with explanation and detail. You must give and explain opinions.
3. General conversation (30 marks) – You will answer your teacher’s questions for 3-5 minutes if you are foundation tier and 5-7 minutes if you are higher tier. You will choose a **theme** to talk about for the first half of the conversation, the theme for the second half of the conversation is a surprise. This is the part of the examination where you are expected to show off what you know. You must include **complex structures, verbs in different tenses, lots of detail** and **justified opinions**. You must also ask your teacher a question at some point during the conversation.

You will be given the role-play and photo card 12 minutes before the start of the examination and are allowed to make notes during this time. You can use your notes during the first two sections of the examination, so you should write yourself a script. Your notes will be taken away before the start of the general conversation.

Writing

You will need to be confident with writing about each of the three themes.

The **foundation tier** paper has 4 questions:

- A photocard description (8 marks)
- A 40-word question (16 marks)
- Sentence translations from English to French. (10 marks)
- A 90-word question (answer **one** from a choice of 2 questions) (16 marks)

The **higher tier** paper has 3 questions:

- A 90-word question (answer **one** from a choice of 2 questions) (16 marks)
- A 150-word question (answer **one** from a choice of 2 questions) (32 marks)
- A paragraph to translate from French into English. (12 marks)

Regardless of tier, you are also expected to include evidence of the following:

- Present tense (regular and irregular verbs)
- Future tense(s)
- Past tense(s)
- Opinions and justification
- Complex structures
- Accuracy

You must ensure you write something for **each bullet** in a question. If you fail to do so, it will cost you a lot of marks. Your teacher will provide you with a hand-out to help you with your verb tenses. You have three pages dedicated to opinions and complex structures at the back of your workbook carnet.