

A LEVEL MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Please see subject stands for information on the **SPANISH** specifications

FRENCH A LEVEL

Examining Board: AQA

Link Tutor: Ms E Sanders

This qualification is linear; students will sit all their examinations at the end of the course. Students are examined on their listening, reading, speaking and writing skills.

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing

What's assessed

- Aspects of French speaking society : current trends
- Aspects of French speaking society : current issues
- Artistic culture in the French speaking world
- Aspects of political life in the French speaking world
- Grammar

How it's assessed

- Written exam : 2 hours 30 minutes
- 100 marks
- 50% of A Level

Paper 2 : Writing

What's assessed

- One text and one film or two texts from the list set in the specification
- Grammar

How it's assessed

- Written exam : 2 hours
- 80 marks in total
- 20% of A Level

Paper 3 : Speaking

What's assessed

- Individual research project
- One of four themes (Aspects of French speaking society; current trends. Aspects of French speaking society: current issues, Artistic culture in the French speaking world, Aspects of political life in the French Speaking world)

How it's assessed

- Oral exam : 21 – 23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time)
- 60 marks in total
- 30% of A Level

Subject Content

Social Issues and Trends

- The changing nature of family
- The cyber society
- The place of voluntary work
- Positive features of a diverse society
- Life for the marginalized
- How criminals are treated

A LEVEL MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGE (Cont'd)

Artistic culture in the French speaking world

- A culture proud of its heritage
- Contemporary francophone music
- Cinema – the 7th art form

Aspects of political life in the French speaking world

- Teenagers – the right to vote and political commitment
- Demonstrations, strikes – who holds the power?
- Politics and immigration

Library texts and films

Students must study either one text and one film, or two texts from a prescribed list.

Individual research project

Grammar

- Knowledge of the grammar and structures specified for GCSE is assumed

Artistic Culture in the French speaking world.

Resources include:

Language specific textbooks, Kerboodle (an online resource for all 3 languages) Vocab Express, a number of dedicated language websites

Lesson style:

Lessons conducted as far as possible in the target language, and listening, reading, speaking and writing skills developed through the topics studied.

Time Allocation:

If groups are very small they are usually allocated 4-6 hours per fortnight taught time. More time is allocated to larger groups.

Private Study Requirement:

Teachers set independent study tasks that are to be marked by the students themselves. Ideally students should aim to complete 1 hour of extra self-study for every hour taught. Realistically students should complete 5 hours of extra self-study per fortnight.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities:

- Language trip in the autumn term
- language study days
- community service opportunities exist by assisting with younger French classes
- possibility of work experience abroad if time and work commitments allow.

Advisable for following careers:

There are countless opportunities for good linguists in any profession including Business, Communication, Education, Government Services, Humanities and Arts, Sciences, Technology and Travel Services. A good website to visit is www.vistawide.com/languages

Good Combination with:

The addition of any Modern Foreign Language will positively enhance any portfolio combination. Students studying sciences often take a language in order to broaden their horizons. University courses frequently offer the study of a language as an extra-curricular module alongside their main studies.