

# AQA French

## Overview of the AQA GCSE Course

### Paper 1: Listening

Foundation – 35 minutes / 40 marks  
Higher – 45 minutes / 50 marks

**25% GCSE**

### Paper 3: Reading

Foundation – 45 mins / 60 marks  
Higher – 60 mins / 60 marks

**25% GCSE**

### Paper 2: Speaking

Foundation – 7 - 9 mins / 60 marks  
Higher – 10 -12 mins / 60 marks

**25% GCSE**

### Paper 4: Writing

Foundation – 1 hour / 60 marks  
Higher – 1 hour 15 / 60 marks

**25% GCSE**

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## Speaking Exam

**Foundation:** 7 – 9 minutes + preparation time

**Higher:** 10 – 12 minutes + preparation time

Format is the same for both tiers but with different stimulus and timings

### **Part 1: Role Play**

15 Marks (Foundation & Higher 2 minutes)

### **Part 2: Photo Card**

15 Marks (Foundation: 2 minutes, Higher: 3 minutes)

### **Part 3: General Conversation**

30 marks (Foundation: 3-5 minutes, Higher: 5-7 minutes)

# AQA French

## Foundation

### **Question 1: Photo Card**

Write four sentences in response to a photo  
**8 marks**

### **Question 2: short passage**

Write approximately 40 words in response to four brief bullet points  
**16 marks**

### **Question 3: Translation from English into French**

Minimum 35 words to be translated  
**10 marks**

### **Question 4 – Writing Task**

Write approximately 90 words in response to four compulsory detailed bullet points. There is a choice from two questions  
**16 marks**

## Higher

### **Question 1 – Writing Task**

Write approximately 90 words in response to four compulsory detailed bullet points. There is a choice from two questions.  
**16 marks**

### **Question 2: Open Ended Writing Task**

Write approximately 150 words in response to two detailed bullet points. There is a choice from two questions  
**32 marks**

### **Question 3: Translation from English into French**

Minimum 50 words to be translated  
**12 marks**

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## Course Content

### **Theme 1: Identity & Culture**

- Family & Relationships
- Free time & Interests
- Technology
- Customs & Festivals

### **Theme 2: Local, national & global areas of interest**

- Travel & Tourism
- Home & Local Area
- Social & Global Areas of Interest

### **Theme 3: Current & future study & employment**

- Education & School
- World of Work
- Future Plans

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## Get Into Good Habits

The key to being a successful language learner is to practice it little and often. Start doing these things today to ensure you get the grade you want at the end of your GCSE.

- **Practice vocabulary:** keep a vocabulary book, start making vocabulary flashcards or practice online using languagesonline, Senecalearning or quizlet. It doesn't matter which method you decide to use, just start doing it now! It is impossible to cram for a language exam. Aim to do 10 minutes of vocabulary 2 or 3 times a week to ensure you are confident for the exam.
- **Grammar:** learn your verb endings. Test yourself weekly. Again you could make flashcards or go online to practice. Grammar is key to being able to communicate in the writing & speaking exams.
- **Make revision notes:** when you finish a unit make a mind map/KO of language/phrases you could use in your writing & speaking exams
- **Be organised:** Keep your books tidy and any handouts organised into a folder. This will make your life much easier when it comes to revision time.
- **Use your French:** Read newspapers/magazines online. Listen to French music. Watch French films. Speak French. You can only get better at a language by practicing it!