



huish HEADSTART

French



Huish Headstart 2020

French

French is the first or second language in more than 40 countries and is spoken by 175 million people around the world.

By learning French, you will also enrich your understanding of French culture and heritage.

With A Level French, you will go further into how to speak and write the French language.

French is a good base for learning other languages, especially languages like Spanish, Italian, Portuguese and Romanian as well as English, since a significant percentage of English vocabulary is derived from **French**.

What will I study?

A-Level Year 1

Aspects of French speaking society-current trends: the changing nature of family, the “cyber-society”, the place of voluntary work.

Artistic culture in the French-speaking world: cultural, heritage, contemporary Francophone music, cinema (the 7th art form).

A-Level Year 2

Aspects of French speaking society-current issues: positive features of a diverse society, life for the marginalised, how criminals are treated.

Aspect of political life in the French speaking world: teenagers, the right to vote and political engagement, demonstrations and strikes- Who holds the power? Politics and immigration.

Film study

Book study



Assessment Method

Two written papers and oral exam.

Paper 1 : Listening, Reading and Writing-50%

Paper 2 : Essay writing based on the study of a book and a film-20%

Paper 3 : Speaking exam based on an Independent Research Project-30%

Future opportunities and careers

There are a wide range of occupations in which students can use French for example: journalism, business, tourism, government services, teaching, engineering, marketing, law and the Armed Forces. A language A level can be a fantastic asset in any job, it can open up the opportunity to travel with work and make you more employable.

Entry requirement

Grade 6 in GCSE French.

What can I do to improve my French?

Learning any language needs daily practice here are some useful tips on how to find the best method for you.

To improve your French skills, you can:

- Revise vocabulary on quizlet or Memrise.
- Download Duolingo on your phone and with this App you will be able to practice your vocabulary, listening and reading skills.
<https://www.duolingo.com/skill/fr/Basics-1/1>
- Watch or listen to the news in French. Look for news clips with subtitles. Illini offers French students five free videos a month, with bilingual subtitles, an online dictionary and a slow motion option.
<https://www.franceinter.fr/>
<https://www.radio.net/s/skyrock> Skyrock is for adolescents with music and fun presenters.
<https://www.virginradio.fr/>
- Listen to podcasts in French.
<https://dailyfrenchpod.com/>
<https://www.podbean.com/podcast-detail/hugkp-475d/Learn-French-with-daily-podcasts>
- Watch French films :
 - You can borrow them in your local library.
 - You can buy them or hire them on Amazon, Google Play, ITunes ...
 - You can watch them on Netflix or Amazon if you have a subscription.

The key is the repetition. Therefore don't hesitate to watch the same film several times. And keep in mind it doesn't matter if you don't understand everything. Try to follow the following advice:

Advice n°1 : Take notes and write down new vocabulary or new expressions.

Advice n°2 : Watch several times the same scene.

Advice n°3 : Activate the French subtitles and watch the film in French. It's easier to memorise the words.

Advice n°4 : Choose films adapted to your level. Go onto the following website, they suggest 12 films you can watch.

<https://parlez-vous-french.com/12-films-pour-apprendre-le-francais/>



- Go online onto <https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/frenchindex.html> for interactive grammar exercises. Each grammar point comes with explanatory notes and lots of practice exercises and activities including matching, gap fills and crosswords. Perfect for nailing verbs and tenses.
- Listen to French songs. Find out what songs are currently popular in France. It's amazing how lyrics stick in the mind! Try to read the lyrics as you listen, to look up new words and to work out what the song is about.
- Go on BBC Bitesize <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z98jmp3>. This revision site hosts a wealth of resources for modern foreign language learning at home, including reading, listening, vocabulary, grammar notes and more.