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FRENCH

EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL

COURSE CODE: 1FRO

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Name:

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FRENCH SP – TOPIC 1

THEME 1, Topic A: Who am I?

INCLUDES: Relationships; when I was younger; what my friends and family are like; what makes a good friend; interests; socialising with friends and family; role models.

PRESENT TENSE:

YOU	A mon avis, passer le temps en famille est très important	In my opinion, spending time as a family is very important
My	Mais mon frère aîné préfère sortir avec ses amis	But my older brother prefers going out with his friends
Cependant,	un bon rapport avec sa famille est bon pour la santé mentale	a good relationship with your family is good for your mental health
Aussi,	franchement j'adore faire les magasins avec ma mère car elle me donne de l'argent!	honestly I love shopping with my Mum

PAST TENSE: when I was younger...

Y	Quand j'étais petit, j'écoutais à la musique emo	When I was younger I used to like emo music
M	Mais ma soeur n'écoute que K-pop	But my sister only listens to K-Pop
C	Cependant, maintenant j'aime les chansons qui me rendent heureux	However now I like songs that make me happy
A	Aussi avant je détestais lire mais maintenant je l'adore.	Also before I used to hate reading but now I love it.

FUTURE: socialising with friends and family

Y	Le weekend prochain je vais aller au ciné avec mes amis pour qu'on puisse regarder un film d'horreur	Next weekend I will go to the cinema with my friends so that we can watch the new horror film.
M	Ma meilleure amie, qui s'appelle Nadia, va nous accompagner, même si elle a peur des films d'horreur!	My best friend, who is called Nadia, is going to come with us, even though she is scared of horror films!
C	Cependant, il faut que je sois honnête, je préférerais aller au parc avec Nadia car j'adore promener en plein air.	However, truth be told, I would prefer to go to the park with Nadia because I love walking in the fresh air.
A	Si je n'étais pas si occupé, je passerais tous mes temps avec elle! Elle est tellement rigolo!	If I weren't so busy, I would spend all my time with her! She is so funny!

Aiming High phrases

1. Relative clause	Mon frère cadet, qui s'appelle Louis est tellement agaçant.	My brother, who is called Louis, is so annoying.
2. High level phrases	Mon frère est le plus pénible	My brother is the most annoying
3. Subjunctive Mood	Il faut que je sois honnête,	Truth be told,
4. Conditional + Imperfect	Il serait mieux si je n'avais pas de frère!	It would be better if I didn't have a brother!
5. After having done something	Après avoir mangé avec mes parents, j'ai regardé mon émission préférée	After having eaten with my parents I watched my favourite TV show

Tricky Vocab

FRENCH	English
sensible	sensitive
sage	Well-behaved / wise
bavard	chatty
moche	Ugly / gross
Têtu	stubborn
mignon	Cute
Il croit en moi	He believes in me
Je m'entends bien avec...	I get along with...
On se chamaille	We bicker with each other
je peux lui parler de tout	I can talk to him/her about anything
On a les mêmes centres d'intérêt	We have the same interests
Elle semble timide	She seems shy
Il a des boutons	He is spotty
Je rêvais d'être comme	I used to dream of being like
Elle m'inspire	She inspires me
Il porte des lunettes	He wears glasses
Elle me fait rire	She makes me laugh
Il prend soin de moi	He takes care of me
Un bon ami serait	A good friend would be
Peut-être	perhaps

Practice:

Your turn! Translate these sentences into FRENCH using the resources on this page:

- I have a brother, who is called Guy.
- When I was younger, I used to listen to rock music.
- A best friend would be funny, chatty and cute perhaps! I would spend all of my time with a friend who makes me laugh.
- I used to dream of being like my cousin because he inspires me and he believes in me, but he is spotty and likes emo music.
- Next weekend I am going to go shopping with my Mum because, even though she seems shy, I can talk to her about anything

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 2

THEME 1, Topic B: Daily Life

INCLUDES: Customs and everyday life; food and drink; shopping; social media and technology (use of, advantages and disadvantages)

PRESENT TENSE: favourite hobbies

YOU	Mon émission préférée est un dessin animé qui s'appelle The Simpsons	My favourite TV programme is a cartoon, which is called "the Simpsons"
My	Mais ma belle-soeur préfère lire car elle trouve que les dessins animés sont pour les enfants	But my stepsister prefers reading because she finds that cartoons are for children.
Cependant,	Cependant, on aime sortir au cinéma ensemble pour regarder les nouveaux films sur le grand écran	However, we love going to the cinema together, to watch the new films on the big screen.
Aussi,	Le samedi on passe l'après-midi en ville – d'abord on regarde un film au ciné et puis on mange au fast-food	Every Saturday we spend the afternoon in town - first we go to the cinema, then we eat at the fast food restaurant

PAST TENSE: when I was younger...

Y	Hier j'ai mangé du poulet pour le dîner	Yesterday I had chicken for dinner
M	Mais ma mère ne mangeait que des légumes car elle est végétarienne	but my mum had only vegetables because she's vegetarian.
C	Cependant je ne supporte pas les choux de Bruxelles	However, I can't stand Brussel Sprouts
A	Aussi je suis allergique aux produits laitiers donc on a dû changer la façon dont on prépare nos repas!	Also, I'm allergic to dairy products so we had to change the way in which we prepare our meals!

FUTURE: the future of technology

Y	Je pense que la technologie sera de plus en plus importante pour les jeunes	I think that technology will be more and more important for young people,
M	Mais mon père dit que les réseaux sociaux va devenir trop dangereux	but my father says that social media is going to become too dangerous
C	Cependant, j'utilise Snapchat tous les jours pour rester en contact avec mes amis, et ça ne va pas changer!	However, I use Snapchat every day in order to stay in contact with friends, and that's not going to change!
A	Aussi on aura toujours besoin d'Internet pour faire des recherches.	Also, we will always need the Internet to do research.

Aiming High phrases

1. Relative clause	Mon ami, qui s'appelle Joe, a été harcelé en ligne	My friend, who is called Joe, was cyberbullied.
2. High level phrases	Bien que l'internet soit dangereux, ça vaut la peine!	Although the internet is dangerous, it's worth it!
3. Subjunctive Mood	Pour que on puisse	So that we I can
4. Conditional + Imperfect	Il serait mieux si ce restaurant avait un menu sans gluten	It would be better if this restaurant had a gluten free menu
5. After having done something	Après avoir lu un article sur le Cyber-harcèlement, je ne mets jamais mes données personnelles sur les réseaux sociaux.	After having read an article on cyber-bullying, I never put my personal details on social media.

Tricky Vocab

FRENCH	English
Mon ordinateur / ordi	My computer
Les portables	phones
Chatter en ligne	to chat online
Envoyer les SMSs	to send a text message
J'ai mis les photos sur Instagram	I put some photos on Instagram
Télécharger des chansons	to download songs
Passer trop de temps devant un écran	to spend too much time in front of the screen
On peut toujours bloquer d'autres comptes	You can always block other people's accounts
Ce que j'aime est que	The thing that I like is that
Je le trouve formidable	I find it amazing
Je le trouve débile	I find it idiotic
Il faut être prudent	You must be careful
Il est accro aux réseaux sociaux	He is addicted to social media
Une vraie menace	A real threat
méchant	nasty

Practice

Your turn! Translate these sentences into FRENCH using the resources on this page:

- I think that we will always need phones and that's not going to change!
- For example, I use my phone every day to do my homework and to stay in contact with my friends.
- But you must be careful because cyber-bullying is a real threat.
- Although the internet is dangerous, it's worth it and you can always block nasty people's accounts.
- Technology is important for young people, but my brother is addicted and spends too much time in front of a screen.

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 3

THEME 1, Topic C: Cultural Life

INCLUDES: Celebrations and festivals; reading; music; sport; film and television

PRESENT TENSE: my favourite celebration

YOU	Ma fête préférée est la fête des Rois car on mange une galette des rois	My favourite festival is Twelfth Night (Epiphany) because we eat 'king cake'
My	Mais ma sœur aînée préfère la fête de la musique car c'est gratuit.	but my older sister prefers World Music Day because it's free.
Cependant,	Cependant j'aime bien l'Épiphanie car on peut la fêter en famille	However, I really like Epiphany because you can celebrate it as a family
Aussi,	Aussi j'aime porter une couronne et trouver la fève dans la galette des rois!	Also, I like to wear a crown and find the figurine in the King Cake!

PAST TENSE: an event last year

Y	L'année dernière, je suis allé au carnaval à Nice, qui est très célèbre	Last year, I went to the carnival in Nice, which is very famous
M	Maman a fait des crêpes. Je les adore!	Mom made pancakes. I love them!
C	Cependant j'ai assisté au défilé pour la première fois!	However, I took part in the parade for the first time!
A	Aussi on a vu un spectacle son et lumière. C'était un rêve devenu réalité	Also, we saw a light and sound show. It was a dream come true

FUTURE: a future event

Y	Un jour je voudrais assister à la fête de la musique en France. La fête a lieu le 21 juin car c'est le jour le plus long de l'année.	One day, I would like to attend World Music Day in France. The festival takes place on June 21st because it's the longest day of the year.
M	Mon frère voudrait aller à Paris le 14 juillet pour voir les feux d'artifice qui seront tirés devant la tour Eiffel.	My brother would like to go to Paris for July 14th to see the fireworks set off in front of the Eiffel tower.
C	Cependant, les feux d'artifices me font peur!	However, fireworks scare me!
A	Aussi ils ont même été interdits dans certaines villes.	Also, they have even been banned in some towns.

Aiming High phrases

1. Relative clause	Mon petit neveu, qui s'appelle Luc, adore manger la galette des rois	My little nephew, who is called Luc, loves to eat King Cake
2. High level phrases	ça coûte les yeux de la tête.	It costs an arm and a leg (it's very expensive)
3. Subjunctive Mood	Il faut que je sois honnête,	Truth be told,
4. Conditional + Imperfect	Il serait mieux si on fêtait ça en Angleterre.	It would be better if we celebrated that in England.
5. After having done something	Après avoir mangé le repas de Noël, on a décoré le sapin	After having eaten Christmas dinner, we decorated the tree

Tricky Vocab

FRENCH	English
La fête de la musique	World Music Day
la fête des Rois	Twelfth Night (Epiphany)
le 14 juillet / la Fête nationale	Bastille Day (French national day)
La fête a lieu	The celebration takes place
Je viens de fêter	I've just celebrated
Assister à	To attend / take part in
Un défilé	A parade
Un spectacle	A show
les gobelets réutilisables	Reusable cups
Un festival écolo	An eco-friendly festival
Soyez écolo	Be green
Les feux artificiels	fireworks
gratuit	free
cher	Expensive
Donner un cadeau	To give a present
La Nuit blanche	First Saturday of October when many museums and art galleries stay open all night

Practice

Your turn! Translate these sentences into FRENCH using the resources on this page:

- Truth be told, my favourite festival is Christmas, even though it costs an arm and a leg!
- Last year I went to Nice to celebrate Christmas with my grandparents and we ate a huge Christmas dinner.
- It would be better if we had reusable cups at World Music Day because it's eco-friendly.
- After having decorated the tree, I gave a present to my little nephew, who is called Samuel.
- One day I would like to take part in the parade at the carnival in Nice.

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 4

THEME 2, Topic A: Holidays

INCLUDES: Preferences; experiences; destinations

PRESENT TENSE:

You	Tous les étés, je passe mes vacances en Bretagne. J'y vais avec ma famille et on fait du camping.	Every summer, I spend my holiday in Brittany. I go there with my family and we go camping.
My	Mais mon ami riche, qui s'appelle Montgomery, va aux états-unis en jet privé.	But my rich friend, who is called Montgomery, goes to the U.S. by private jet.
Cependant,	Même si dormir à l'extérieur me donne la chair de poule, je ne suis pas jaloux car on peut faire rôtir des Chamallows sur le feu de camp.	However, even though sleeping outside gives me the creeps, I'm not jealous because we can make roasted marshmallows on the campfire.
Aussi,	Aussi, il n'y a aucun bruit donc c'est très reposant. On n'a pas besoin d'un voyage de luxe pour bien s'amuser.	Also, there is no noise so it's very restful. We don't need a luxury to have lots of fun.

PAST TENSE: a nightmare holiday!

Y	Avant de partir, j'avais tout préparé: j'avais fait ma valise et trouvé mon passeport	before leaving, I had prepared everything: I had packed my suitcase and found my passport
M	Mais mon frère s'est cassé la jambe en faisant de la voile et l'hôtel était sale! Il y avait même un cafard dans mon lit!	But my brother broke his leg while sailing and the hotel was dirty! There was even a cockroach in my bed!
C	Cependant, le paysage était beau, même si le camping-car est tombé en panne!	However, the landscape was beautiful, even though the camper van broke down!
A	Aussi on a voulu se bronzer mais il y avait des déchets partout à la plage du coup on a dû rebrousser chemin! Quel cauchemar!	Also, we wanted to get a tan but there was litter everywhere on the beach so as a result we had to turn back! What a nightmare!

FUTURE: dream holiday plans

Y	Si j'avais le choix, pour aller en Inde, je voyagerais en bateau car c'est mieux pour l'environnement.	If I had the choice, to go to India, I would travel by boat because it's better the environment.
M	Mais ma tante pense que le trajet en bateau est trop barbant et elle a le mal de mer.	But my aunt thinks that boat journeys are too boring, and she gets seasick.
C	Cependant, je voudrais être un touriste responsable, donc peut-être je pourrais voyager en train.	However, I would like to be a responsible tourist, so perhaps I could travel by train.
A	Alors, si j'étais riche, je logerais dans hôtel 5 étoiles sur une île déserte où je nagerais avec les poissons tropicaux et le soir je regarderais le coucher du soleil!	So, if I were rich, I would stay in a 5-star hotel on a desert island where I would swim with tropical fish and watch the sunset in the evening.

Aiming High phrases

1. Relative clause	L'hôtel, où on loge, a la climatisation dans les chambres	The hotel, where we stay, has air-conditioning in the rooms.
2. High level phrases	Je n'y retournerai jamais!	I will never go back there!
3. Subjunctive Mood	Il faut que je sois honnête,	Truth be told,
4. Conditional + Imperfect	Il serait mieux si j'avais fait des recherches	It would be better if I had done some research
5. After having done something	Après avoir fait un tour de monde, j'étais fatigué!	After having done a world trip, I was exhausted

Tricky Vocab

FRENCH	English
Au pays de Galles	To/at/in Wales
Aux Pays-Bas	To/at/in the Netherlands
Je loge dans un gîte	I stay in a holiday cottage
Dans une auberge de jeunesse	In a youth hostel
Dans une chambre d'hôte	In a bed and breakfast
On y va tous les ans	We go there every year
Je me baigne dans la mer	I bathe in the sea
Je me bronze	I get a tan
On peut faire de la rando	We can go hiking
On va faire de l'escalade	We are going to go climbing
Aller à la pêche	To go fishing
On joue à la pétanque	We play boules
On peut faire de la planche à voile	You can go windsurfing
On peut faire de la voile	You can go sailing
Un billet d'avion	A plane ticket
En car	By coach
En voiture	By car

Practice

Your turn! Translate these sentences into FRENCH using the resources on this page:

- The hotel where we stay is not dirty.
- Before leaving, I found my passport and packed my suitcase, but my car broke down!
- Truth be told, it would be better if I had prepared everything.
- If I were rich, I would travel by private jet to a desert island where I would go windsurfing and fishing.
- I hate spending my holidays in a youth hostel in Brittany because we go there every year and it gives me the creeps!

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 5

THEME 2, Topic B: Travel and tourist transactions

INCLUDES: Travel and accommodation; asking for help and dealing with problems; directions; eating out; shopping

PRESENT TENSE: reserving a table

YOU	Je voudrais réserver une table pour cinq personnes, s'il vous plaît.	I would like to reserve a table for five please.
My	Ma belle-mère préférerait une table en terrasse, si c'est possible	My step-mum would prefer a table on the terrace, if possible
Cependant,	Cependant, selon moi il serait mieux si on avait une table à l'intérieur – il fait un froid de canard!	However, in my opinion, it would be better if we had a table indoors – it's freezing cold!
Aussi,	Aussi, on va tous prendre le menu à 30 euros. Qu'est-ce que vous avez comme desserts?	Also, we are all going to have the 30-euro set menu. What desserts do you have?

PAST TENSE: reporting a crime

Y	Il y a deux ans, je suis allé à Londres avec mes amis	Two years ago, I went to London with my friends
M	Mais mon amie était bien déçue car quelqu'un l'a volé son sac à main!	But my friend was really disappointed because someone stole her handbag!
C	Cependant, son portable était dans sa poche. Quelle chance!	However, her phone was in her pocket. What luck!
A	Alors on a dû aller au commissariat.	So, we had to go to the police station.

FUTURE: buying souvenirs

Y	Je voudrais aller à Milan car il y a beaucoup de magasins et je suis accro au shopping!	I would like to go to Milan because there are lots of shops and I'm addicted to shopping!
M	Mais mon cousin m'a dit qu'il serait mieux si j'achetais les produits du commerce équitable	But my friend told me that it would be better if I bought fair trade products.
C	Cependant, j'ai envie de faire une folie en allant faire des achats dans un grand centre commercial.	However, I feel like splashing out by going to make some purchases in a big shopping centre.
A	Aussi, il sera bientôt mon anniversaire donc... que penses-tu de ce foulard? C'est de l'arnaque?!	Also, it will be my birthday soon so...what do you think of this scarf? Is it a rip-off?!

Aiming High phrases

1. Relative clause	Au restaurant, où on mangera, je prendrai les escargots en entrée	At the restaurant, where we will eat, I will have the snails as a starter
2. High level phrases	Je serai aux anges si on peut y aller	I will be super happy if we can go there
3. Subjunctive Mood	Pour que je puisse prendre	So that I can take (have / take – use for food)
4. Conditional + Imperfect	Il serait mieux si j'avais choisi un autre restaurant	It would be better if I had chosen another restaurant
5. After having done something	Après avoir mangé, on a fait du shopping	After having eaten, we did some shopping

Tricky Vocab

FRENCH	English
Au commissariat	At the police station
Un vol	A theft (can also mean a flight!)
à l'intérieur	indoors
à l'extérieur	outdoors
Au coin	In the corner
Je n'ai pas de la monnaie	I don't have any change
Je n'ai qu'un billet de 50 euros	I only have a 50 euro bill
Ça coûte combien?	How much does it cost?
On va prendre	We'll have (take)
Le bureau de change	The money exchange office
Le plat du jour	The dish of the day
Le menu à 20 euros	The 20-euro set menu
L'addition	The bill
On peut avoir l'addition s'il vous plaît.	Can we have the bill please.

Practice

Your turn! Translate these sentences into FRENCH using the resources on this page:

- It will be my birthday soon so I will have the snails as a starter.
- Two years ago, my friend, who is called Hubert, was addicted to shopping.
- I would like to go to India so that I can buy fair trade products.
- It would be better if I had chosen a table indoors because it's freezing cold! Can we have the bill please?
- I feel like splashing out by going to eat in a restaurant where you can have a 100-euro set menu. I will be super happy if we can eat snails there...what do you think? Is it a rip-off? I'm addicted to snails!

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 6

THEME 2, Topic C: Town, region and country

INCLUDES: Weather; places to see; things to do

PRESENT TENSE: my region

YOU	Dans ma région, qui s'appelle Bourgogne, il y a beaucoup des collines et des vignobles.	In my town, which is called Burgundy, there are lots of hills and vineyards.
My	Mais mon ami habite à La Rochelle, où il y a une port de pêche et la mer.	but my friend lives in La Rochelle, where there is a fishing port and the sea
Cependant,	Cependant, je pense que la campagne est plus belle que la mer!	However, I think that the countryside is more beautiful than the sea.
Aussi,	Aussi on peut faire de la rando et du VTT en été.	Also, you can go hiking or mountain biking in summer.

PAST TENSE: when I was younger...

Y	Quand j'étais petit, j'habitais chez mes grandparents à Lyon	When I was younger, I used to live with my grandparents in Lyon
M	Mais mon demi-frère habitait chez mes parents à Dijon.	But my stepbrother lived with my parents in Dijon.
C	Cependant, il y avait rien pour les jeunes à Dijon donc il a déménagé	However, there was nothing for young people in Dijon, so he moved
A	Aussi, il n'y avait ni parc ni aire de jeux, et il n'y avait qu'un seul magasin près de sa maison!	Also, there was neither a park nor a playground and there was only one shop near to his house!

FUTURE: when a tourist comes to visit

Y	En été, ma ville sera remplie de touristes, donc on va aller à la plage car il sera animé	In Summer, my town will be full of tourists, so we are going to go to the beach because it will be lively.
M	Mais ma soeur dit qu'il y aura trop de bruit	But my sister says that there will be too much noise
C	Cependant il sera chouette car on pourrait retrouver mes amis!	However, it will be awesome because we will be able to meet up with my friends!
A	Si j'étais touriste ici, je serais content du quartier car la côte est vraiment magnifique	If I were a tourist here, I would be happy with the area because the coast is really wonderful.

Aiming High phrases

1. Relative clause	Une région que je connais bien, c'est les Pays de la Loire	A region that I know well is Pays de la Loire
2. High level phrases	Je tiens à visiter l'aquarium	I'm keen on visiting the aquarium
3. Subjunctive Mood	Il faut qu'on aille au château	We must go to the castle.
4. Conditional + Imperfect	Il serait mieux si je visitais la plus vieille église d'Amsterdam	It would be better if I visited the oldest church in Amsterdam
5. After having done something	Après avoir passé toute la journée à la cathédrale, je suis allé à l'hôtel car j'étais fatigué	After having spend the whole day in the cathedral, I went to the hotel because I was tired.

Tricky Vocab

FRENCH	English
en banlieue	In the outskirts (on a dodgy estate)
J'y habite depuis	I've lived there since
Chez moi	Where I live
Les espaces verts	Green spaces
Un poids lourd	HGV (truck)
Le gaz d'échappement	Exhaust fumes
La circulation	traffic
Une zone piétonne	A pedestrian zone
Le périphérique	The ringroad
Les environs	The surroundings
Les gendarmes	The police
Un parking	A car park
Trop de bruit	Too much noise
bryant	noisy
Un embouteillage	A traffic jam
L'heure de pointe	Rush hour
Les rues	The streets

Practice

Your turn! Translate these sentences into FRENCH using the resources on this page:

1. A region that I know well is West Sussex.
2. When I was younger, I used to live with my stepbrother in La Rochelle.
3. However, there was nothing for young people to do after having spent the whole day at the playground.
4. We must go to the oldest cathedral in Lyon and I'm also keen on visiting the fishing port.
5. It would be better if I were a tourist because I would go to the beach and go mountain biking.

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 7

THEME 3, Topic A: What school is like

INCLUDES: School types; school day; subjects; rules and pressures; celebrating success

PRESENT TENSE: my current school

You	The Regis School est un collège mixte pour les élèves de onze à seize ans	The Regis School is a mixed school for pupils from 11 to 16.
My	Mais ma cousine est en internat très loin de sa maison.	But my cousin goes to a boarding school really far from her house.
Cependant,	Cependant, je suis fier de mon collège, même si on a beaucoup de devoirs	However, I'm proud of my school, even though we have lots of homework
Aussi,	Aussi les profs de langues sont les meilleures du monde... 😊	Also, the language teachers are best in the world... 😊

PAST TENSE: yesterday at break

Y	Hier, pendant la récré, j'ai joué à Chat avec mes amis	Yesterday, during break, I played Tag with my friends
M	Mais ma meilleure amie a eu une retenue pour mâcher du chewing-gum	But my best friend had a detention for chewing gum.
C	Cependant, je le trouve injuste!	However, I find that unfair!
A	Aussi j'ai essayé de faire des recherches pour mes devoirs mais la bibliothèque était fermé.	Also, I tried to do some research for my homework, but the library was closed.

FUTURE: celebrating the end of exams

Y	Après avoir passé mes examens, je vais fêter avec mes amis	After having sat my exams, I am going to celebrate with my friends
M	Ma soeur cadette sera trop jalouse car on va partir à Barcelona	My little sister will be too jealous because we are going to go to Barcelona
C	Cependant, on va rentrer en Angleterre le jour des résultats du bac!	However, we are going to return to England on GCSE results day!
A	Aussi ma mère va m'acheter un cadeau si je réussis tous mes examens. Je croise les doigts!	Also, my mum is going to buy me a present if I pass all my exams. Fingers crossed!

Aiming High phrases

1. Relative clause	Le principal, qui s'appelle Monsieur Oakes, n'est jamais grincheux	The headteacher, who is called Mr Oakes, is never grumpy
2. High level phrases	Les profs de français sont beaucoup plus intelligentes que les profs d'allemand...	French teachers are a lot more intelligent than German teachers...
3. Subjunctive Mood	Je doute que mon amie ait réussi ses examens – elle aime rester dans sa chambre toute la nuit en jouant à Fortnite.	I doubt that my friend has passed her exams – she likes to stay in her room all night playing Fortnite.
4. Conditional + Imperfect	Il serait mieux si on ne portait pas l'uniforme scolaire	It would be better if we didn't wear school uniform
5. After having done something	Après avoir fini mes cours, Je suis rentrée à la maison.	After having finished my lessons, I went home.

Tricky Vocab

FRENCH	English
Le brevet	French version of GCSEs
Passer le bac	To take A Levels
Je vais m'inscrire au lycée	I'm going to sign up to college
Il est interdit de	It's forbidden to
Porter des bijoux	Wear jewellery
Porter trop maquillage	Wear too much make-up
Ceux qui harcèle d'autres élèves	Those who bully other pupils
Auront une heure de colle	(they) will have an hour detention
J'ai des bonnes notes	I have good marks
On a trop de contrôles	We have too many exams
J'apprends	I learn
La récré/ le déjeuner	Break / lunch
On ne redouble pas	We don't repeat the year
Le redoublement	Repeating the year
Le bâtiment	The building
Est tout neuf	Is brand new
Les salles d'informatique	Computer rooms
J'apporte mon déjeuner à l'école	I take a packed lunch to school

Practice

Your turn! Translate these sentences into FRENCH using the resources on this page:

- I doubt that my friend has passed her exams because she is grumpy and always has a detention.
- She will be very jealous when I pass all my exams and sign up to college. Fingers crossed!
- I am proud of my school because the building is brand new and there are lots of computer rooms.
- After having finished my lessons, I tried to do my homework in the library, but it was closed.
- Repeating the year is a good idea for those who bully other pupils.

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 8

THEME 3, Topic B: School activities

INCLUDES: School trips; events and exchanges

PRESENT TENSE: school trips

YOU	Je te donne de conseil, il faut profiter des sorties scolaires	I'll give you some advice, you must make the most of school trips
My	Mon oncle dit qu'ils sont une perte de temps et d'argent	My Uncle says that they are a waste of time and money
Cependant,	Cependant on peut bien s'amuser et même visiter un autre pays.	However, you can really have a lot of fun and even visit another country.
Aussi,	Aussi c'est une expérience inoubliable avec ses camarades de classe	Also, it's an unforgettable experience with your classmates

PAST TENSE: an exchange partner

Y	Mon correspondant anglais est arrivé il y a cinq jours et j'ai été très content de le rencontrer.	My English exchange partner arrived five days ago, and I was very pleased to meet him.
M	Mais mon frère jumeau boudait car il ne participait pas à l'échange.	But my twin brother was sulking because he didn't take part in the exchange.
C	Cependant, mon corres s'est trompé entre nous donc au début il a pensé que j'étais très lunatique	However, my exchange partner got us mixed up so at first, he thought I was very moody
A	Aussi nous avons visité un château ensemble et il a ronflé pendant le trajet en car. C'était rigolo!	Also, we visited a castle together and he snored during the coach journey. It was funny!

FUTURE: the next school trip

Y	En été je vais aller en Italie avec cinquante élèves	Next summer I am going to go to Italy with 50 pupils
M	Mais mon ami ne peut pas nous accompagner car il n'a pas de passeport. Tant pis!	But my friend cannot come with us because he doesn't have a passport. What a shame!
C	Cependant on va faire une promenade en bateau de la côte amalfitaine	However, we are going to do a boat trip along the Amalfi Coast
A	Aussi on verra les ruines de Pompéi et on visitera le Vésuve, le célèbre volcan de Naples	Also, we will see the ruins of Pompeii and we will visit Mount Vesuvius, the famous volcano in Naples.

Aiming High phrases

1. Relative clause	L'élève dont je parle participe à la chorale	The pupil that I'm talking about takes part in the choir
2. High level phrases	Il faut regarder les choses du bon côté	Always look on the bright side
3. Subjunctive Mood	Pour que je puisse	So that I can
4. Conditional + Imperfect	Il serait mieux si je faisais l'échange scolaire	It would be better if I did the school exchange
5. After having done something	Après avoir profité de la sortie au Futuroscope, j'étais fier car j'avais plus de confiance en moi	After having made the most of the trip to Futuroscope, I was proud because I had more self-confidence

Tricky Vocab

FRENCH	English
profitez	Make the most
Les sorties scolaires	School trips
Les excursions scolaires	School trips
On améliore ses compétences en langue	You improve your language skills
À l'étranger	abroad
L'école fournit l'équipement	The school provides the equipment
Le club de lecture extrascolaire	The after-school reading club
Un programme d'enrichissement	Enrichment program
Un échange scolaire	A school exchange
On se fait de nouveaux amis	We make new friends
Mon correspondant français	My French exchange partner

Practice

Your turn! Translate these sentences into FRENCH using the resources on this page:

1. The pupil that I'm talking about is my English exchange partner
2. He arrived ten days ago, and he is very moody.
3. You should make the most of the afterschool reading club so that you can improve your language skills.
4. It would be better if I made the most of school trips because so that I can make new friends and have more self-confidence.
5. Last summer, we visited an old church and a famous volcano in Italy. It was an unforgettable experience abroad.

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 9

THEME 4, Topic A: Using languages beyond the classroom

INCLUDES: Forming relationships; travel; employment

PRESENT TENSE: the importance of languages

You	Franchement, je suis tellement fier que je peux parler une deuxième langue	Honestly, I'm so proud that I can speak a 2nd language
My	Mon père m'a dit que ça va m'aider à trouver un stage à l'étranger	My Dad told me that it's going to help me to find a job abroad.
Cependant,	Cependant, savoir parler des langues est aussi indispensable pour certaines professions en Angleterre	However, knowing how to speak languages is also essential for certain jobs in England
Aussi,	Aussi il nous aide à comprendre mieux notre propre langue	Also, it helps us to understand our own language better

PAST TENSE: when I was younger...

Y	Quand j'étais petit, je pensais que savoir parler les langues ne servait à rien pour d'autres	When I was younger, I used to think that knowing how to speak languages was of no use
M	Mais ma grand-mère ne parlait que polonais, donc j'ai dû apprendre	But my grandma only spoke Polish, so I had to learn
C	Cependant c'était un vrai défi!	However, it was a real challenge!
A	maintenant je sais que savoir parler une langue est un atout	Also, now I know that speaking a language is an asset

FUTURE: a future with languages

Y	Je voudrais savoir beaucoup de langues pour que je puisse voyager partout dans le monde	I would like to know lots of languages so that I can travel all over the world,
M	Mais mon frère cadet voudrait maîtriser l'espagnol	But my younger brother wants to become an expert in Spanish
C	Cependant, si je savais parler plusieurs langues, il me donnerais plus de possibilités de carrière	However, if I spoke several languages, it would give me more career options
A	Aussi je pourrais se faire des amis partout dans le monde	Also, I could make friends all over the world

Aiming High phrases

1. Relative clause	J'apprends une langue qui s'appelle catalan	I speak a language that is called Catalan
2. High level phrases	Mon neveu ne parle aucune langue étrangère	My nephew doesn't speak any foreign languages
3. Subjunctive Mood	Pour qu'on puisse	So that you can
4. Conditional + Imperfect	Il serait mieux si je parlais toutes les langues du monde!	It would be better if I spoke every language in the world!
5. After having done something	Après avoir appris le français, j'ai commencé à étudier le chinois.	After having learnt French, I started to study Chinese

Tricky Vocab

FRENCH	English
Savoir parler	To know how to speak
Maîtriser une langue	To become an expert in a language
Je me débrouille en	I get by in
Je parle couramment...	I speak... fluently
Mon beau-père se débrouille en...	My stepdad gets by in...
Actuellement, ma sœur apprend...	Currently, my sister is learning...
L'allemand	German
Le mandarin	Mandarin
On peut mieux connaître les gens et la culture d'un pays	You can get to know the people and culture of a country better
On a plus de chances d'obtenir une promotion	You have more chance of promotion
On peut trouver plus facilement un bon emploi dans un autre pays	You can find a job more easily in another country

Practice

Your turn! Translate these sentences into FRENCH using the resources on this page:

- I would like to know how to speak several languages.
- When I was younger, I only spoke French, so I had to learn English.
- After having learnt English, I now understand my own language better.
- It would be better if we spoke Mandarin at school because you can find a job more easily in another country.
- My nephew told me that he had to learn Spanish at school, and it was a real challenge but now he has more chance of promotion.

THEME 4, Topic B: Ambitions

INCLUDES: Further study; volunteering; training

PRESENT TENSE: studying towards a job

You	je suis étudiant en langues et j'apprends à devenir journaliste	I'm a language student and I'm studying to be a journalist
My	Mais mon père dit qu'il serait mieux si j'étais hôtesse d'air	but my Dad says that it would be better if I was an air hostess
Cependant,	Cependant pour faire ce métier, il faut être souriant!	However, to do this job you have to be smiley!
Aussi,	Aussi si j'ai des bonnes notes, je peux faire un stage journalisme à l'étranger	Also, if I have good grades, I can do a work placement in journalism abroad

PAST TENSE: a part-time job

Y	Avant, je travaillais comme serveur dans un petit café	Before I worked as a waiter in a little café
M	Mes collègues étaient tous sympa, sauf la patronne qui était toujours grincheuse	My co-workers were all nice, except for the boss who was always grumpy
C	Cependant j'étais assez satisfait de mon travail	However, I was quite satisfied with my job
A	Aussi c'était bien payé même si le travail était monotone	Also, it was well-paid even though the work was monotonous

FUTURE: plans for afterschool

Y	Si je réussis mes examens, je voudrais aller à la fac	If I pass my exams, I would like to go to uni
M	Ma cousine dit qu'il serait mieux si je cherchais un boulot ou faisais un apprentissage	My cousin says that it would be better if I looked for a job or did an apprenticeship
C	Cependant je crois que ce serait une bonne expérience pour moi	However, I think that it would be a good experience for me
A	Aussi, quand je serai diplômé, je partirai en vacances	Also, when I'm qualified I will go on holiday

Aiming High phrases

1. Relative clause	Mon ami, qui s'appelle Lucie, veut aller au lycée	My friend, who is called Lucie, wants to go to college
2. High level phrases	Mon frère est le plus travailleur	My brother is the most hard-working
3. Subjunctive Mood	Il faut que je sois honnête,	Truth be told,
4. Conditional + Imperfect	Il serait mieux si je pouvais faire un apprentissage	It would be better if I could do an apprenticeship
5. After having done something	Après avoir fini mes études, je ferai un stage en Irlande	After having finished my studies, I will do a work placement in Ireland

Tricky Vocab

FRENCH	English
Réussir	To pass/ be successful
Aller au lycée	To go to college / sixth form
j'ai eu mon bac avec mention très bien	I achieved my A Level with top grades
Je voudrais aller à la fac	I would like to go to uni
Je voudrais faire un stage	I would like to do a work placement
je voudrais voyager	I would like to travel
Je voudrais faire du bénévolat	I would like to volunteer
soigner	To look after
accueillir	To welcome
soutenir	To support
L'hôtellerie et la restauration	hospitality and catering
Le plus important est de	The most important thing is to
Faire quelque chose pour aider les autres	Do something to help others

Practice

Your turn! Translate these sentences into FRENCH using the resources on this page:

1. My little sister, who is called Marine, says that the most important thing is to help others.
2. Truth be told, before I used to work in hospitality and catering, and it was really monotonous.
3. When I'm qualified, I would like to do a work placement in Ireland or volunteer because I think that would be a good experience for me.
4. It would be better if I weren't an air hostess because my boss is always grumpy.
5. If I pass my exams, I would like to do a work placement.

THEME 4, Topic C: Work

INCLUDES: Jobs; careers and professions

PRESENT TENSE: career plans

YOU	Je suis passionné par la loi et la justice	I'm passionate about law and justice
My	Mais ma mère est ingénieure et elle dit que c'est un métier bien payé	but my Mum is an engineer and she says that it's a well-paid job
Cependant,	Cependant mon but est de trouver un poste en droit	However, my aim is to find a job in law
Aussi,	Aussi je suis faible en maths mais j'ai des très bonnes notes en anglais	Also, I am rubbish at maths but I have very good grades in English

PAST TENSE: previous work experience

Y	Avant, je travaillais comme serveur dans un petit café	Before I worked as a waiter in a little café
M	Mes collègues étaient tous sympas, sauf la patronne qui était toujours grincheuse	My co-workers were all nice, except for the boss who was always grumpy
C	Cependant j'étais assez satisfait de mon travail	However, I was quite satisfied with my job
A	Aussi c'était bien payé même si le travail était monotone	Also, it was well-paid even though the work was monotonous

FUTURE: plans for a future career

Y	Je voudrais travailler à plein temps dans le tourisme	I would like to work full time in tourism
M	Mais mon camarade de classe a décidé de changer d'orientation car il n'aime pas travailler avec les clients!	But my classmate decided to change direction because he doesn't like working with customers!
C	Cependant je vais apprécier surtout le contact avec les gens	However, I am going to particularly enjoy dealing with people
A	Aussi je vais essayer d'apprendre le japonais pour que je puisse travailler à l'étranger	Also, I am going to try to learn Japanese so that I can work abroad.

Aiming High phrases

1. Relative clause	Mon frère aîné, qui est soldat, est tellement courageux	My older brother, who is a soldier, is so brave
2. High level phrases	Lorsque j'étais plus jeune, je rêvais d'être factrice	When I was younger, I dreamed of being a postman
3. Subjunctive Mood	Il faut que je sois honnête,	Truth be told,
4. Conditional + Imperfect	Il serait mieux si j'étais créateur de mode car je suis accro au shopping!	It would be better if I were a fashion designer because I'm addicted to shopping!
5. After having done something	Après avoir étudié pendant cinq ans, j'ai réalisé mon rêve de devenir médecin	After having studied for five years, I achieved my dream of becoming a doctor

Tricky Vocab

FRENCH	English
Un boulot	A job
Un métier	A job
Au chômage	unemployed
Un bureau	An office
Je rêvais d'être	I used to dream of being
Au lieu de	Instead of
Infirmier	A nurse
informaticien	A computer scientist
éboueur	A bin man
coiffeur	A hairdresser
soldat	A soldier
médecin	A doctor
maçon	A builder
facteur	A postman
créateur de mode	A Fashion designer
boulangier	A baker
boucher	A butcher
agriculteur	A farmer
avocat	lawyer
Je voudrais travailler sur un chantier	I would like to work on a building site

Practice

Your turn! Translate these sentences into FRENCH using the resources on this page:

- I have a brother, who is a baker and a sister who is a farmer.
- Truth be told, when I was younger, I dreamed of being a builder.
- My classmate changed direction because he decided to become a hairdresser instead of a bin man!
- It would be better if I were not a computer scientist because I'm rubbish at maths!
- However, I have very good grades in French and History, and I used to work with my step-dad who is a lawyer, but he was always grumpy.

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 12

THEME 5, Topic A: Bringing the world together

INCLUDES: Sports events; music events; campaigns and good causes

PRESENT TENSE: good causes

YOU	Ce qui me préoccupe le plus, c'est les enfants qui n'ont pas assez à manger	What worries me the most is that there are children who don't have enough to eat
My	Mais mon frère dit que le réchauffement climatique est pire que ça.	But my brother says that global warming is worse than that.
Cependant,	Cependant, il ne faut pas ignorer les enfants!	However, we must not ignore the children!
Aussi,	Aussi c'est très facile à parrainer un enfant qui habite dans un pays pauvre	Also, it's very easy to sponsor a child who lives in a poor country

PAST TENSE: going to the World Cup

Y	Quand j'étais petit, j'ai accompagné mon père au Brésil pour regarder le Coupe du Monde	When I was younger, I went with my Dad to Brazil to watch the world cup
M	Mais mon frère est resté à la maison car il préfère regarder les matchs à la télé	But my brother stayed at home because he prefers watching matches on TV
C	Cependant je le trouve fou! C'était une expérience inoubliable	However, I think he's mad! It was an incredible experience
A	Aussi j'ai rencontré beaucoup de gens	Also, I met lots of people.

FUTURE: going to an eco-festival

Y	L'été prochain, il y aura un festival écolo dans ma ville	Next summer there will be an eco-friendly festival in my town
M	Mais mon amie ne pourra pas y aller car elle sera en vacances. Tant pis!	But my friend will not be able to go there because she will be on holiday. Shame!
C	Cependant, il y un atelier, où on peut créer un gobelet réutilisable	However, there will be a workshop where you can create a reusable cup
A	Aussi je vais travailler sur un stand d'Oxfam – ça me donnera le sentiment d'être utile	Also, I'm going to work on an Oxfam stand – that will make me feel helpful!

Aiming High phrases

1. Relative clause	Le festival, qui aura lieu le 7 mai, sera écolo	The festival, which will take place on May 7th, will be eco-friendly
2. High level phrases	D'un côté, ça.. En plus, ça.. D'un autre côté, ça.. Je me suis rendu compte que	On the one hand, it... What's more, it.. On the other hand I realised that
3. Subjunctive Mood	Il faut que je sois honnête,	Truth be told,
4. Conditional + Imperfect	Il serait mieux si tous les événements étaient écolo	It would be better if every event was eco-friendly
5. After having done something	Après avoir participé à la manifestation, j'ai écrit à mon député	After having taken part in the protest, I wrote a letter to my MP

Tricky Vocab

FRENCH	English
Les panneaux solaires	Solar panels
Les toilettes sèches	"dry" toilets (like portaloos)
Les véhicules électriques	Electric vehicles
Le papier recyclé	Recycled paper
les gobelets réutilisables	Reusable cups
Un festival écolo	An eco-friendly festival
Soyez écolo	Be green
Un avantage de cet événement, c'est que	An advantage of this event is that
Ça met en avant la culture	It promotes the culture
Ça met en avant la ville hôte	It promotes the host city
Ça crée un sentiment de fierté nationale	It creates a sense of national pride
Ça unit les gens	It brings people together
Mais ça laisse une empreinte carbone très importante	it leaves a significant carbon footprint
Il n'y a personne devant moi	There's no one in front of me

Practice

Your turn! Translate these sentences into FRENCH using the resources on this page:

- Truth be told, the World Cup leaves a significant carbon footprint.
- But on the other hand, it brings people together.
- I am going to stay home to watch the World Cup on TV because then there will be no one in front of me!
- After having met a lot of people at the eco-friendly festival, I realised that global warming is a big problem.
- The thing that worries me the most is my carbon footprint.

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 13

THEME 5, Topic B: Environmental issues

INCLUDES: Being 'green'; access to natural resources

PRESENT TENSE: being green

You	Actuellement je fais déjà pas mal de chose pour protéger la planète	At the moment, I already do quite a lot to protect the planet
My	Mais mon frère aîné ne fais pas grand-chose	but my older brother doesn't do much
Cependant	Cependant il devrait faire le tri et aller au collège à vélo, comme moi	However, he ought to sort the recycling and go to school by bike, like me
Aussi,	Aussi c'est facile à prendre une douche au lieu d'un bain le soir	Also, it's easy to take a shower instead of a bath in the evening

PAST TENSE: a voluntary trip abroad

Y	Il y a deux ans, j'ai fait du bénévolat au Cameroun	Two years ago, I volunteered in Cameroon
M	Mon amie, qui habitait dans le village, marachait 15k pour aller chercher de l'eau potable	My friend, who lived in the village, had to walk 15k to go and look for drinking water
C	Cependant les villageois étaient toujours souriants	However, the villagers were always smiling
A	Aussi j'ai lu des livres à des enfants et je les ai donné des nouveaux vêtements	Also, I read books to the children and I gave them some new clothes

FUTURE: how to save our planet

Y	À l'avenir je pense que je vais participer à plus de manifestations pour la planète	In the future I think that I'm going to participate in more protests for the planet
M	Mais ma tante dit que il serait plus efficace si on lançait des pétitions	But my Aunt says that it would more effective if we wrote petitions
C	Cependant je pourrais manifester avec mes amis, donc il serait plus amusant!	However, I could protest with my friends so it would be more fun!
A	Aussi je voudrais favoriser le covoiturage dans ma communauté	Also, I would like to encourage car-sharing in my community

Aiming High phrases

1. Relative clause	La manifestation, qui est contre la fracturation hydraulique, aura lieu mardi prochain	The protest, which is against fracking, will take place next Tuesday
2. High level phrases	Ce qui me préoccupe le plus, c'est	The thing that worries me the most, is
3. Subjunctive Mood	Où que j'aille, quoi que je fasse	Wherever I go, whatever I do
4. Conditional + Imperfect	Il serait mieux si tout le monde utilisait les transports en commun	It would be better if everybody used public transport
5. After having done something	Après avoir regardé une documentaire sur les sans-abris, j'ai lancé une pétition en ligne	After having watched a documentary on homeless people, I started an online petition

Tricky Vocab

FRENCH	English
Les ouvriers	The workers
Sous-payé	underpaid
Une usine	A factory
Le covoiturage	Car sharing
L'eau potable	Drinking water
L'eau du robinet	Tap water
Pour sauver notre planète on devrait	To save our planet we ought to
Récupérer l'eau de pluie	collect rain water
Pour arroser les fleurs	to water the plants
Faire le tri	sort the recycling
Éviter les produits jetables	avoid disposable products
Acheter les produits du commerce équitable	Buy fair trade products
Tirer la chasse d'eau moins fréquemment	Flush the toilet less frequently
N'utiliser pas les gobelets jetables	Not use disposable cups
Le gaspillage	waste
économiser	To save

Practice

Your turn! Translate these sentences into FRENCH using the resources on this page:

1. The protest, which is against disposable products, will take place next Saturday.
2. Three years ago, I volunteered in my community – I read books to children and
3. It would be better if everybody didn't use disposable cups
4. The thing that worries me the most is waste. We ought to save water.
5. Wherever I go, whatever I do, I would like to save our planet.

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 14

SPEAKING Part 1: Role Play

INTRODUCTION

The first part of the speaking exam will be a role play
You will have part of the 12 minutes preparation time on the day to prepare this.
There are 5 bullet points each worth 2 marks
The third bullet point is an unprepared question (!)
The last bullet point is always a question to ask

KEY WORDS

comment	How (mode of transport)
heure	Hour (time)
Raison	Reason
où	Where
quand	when
Durée	Duration (how long will something take)
désiré	Desired (as in 'what activity do you want to do')
Pour qui	For who
Faire demain?	Do tomorrow (e.g. what do you want to do tomorrow)
Combien de temps	How much time?
Prénom	First name
prix	prize

FURTHER LINKS

BBC Bitesize has role play questions and model answers.

EXAM TIPS:

- You will need to exchange information
- Read the instructions carefully. The context will be in English and repeated in the French instructions
- What role are you playing and which role is your teacher playing?
- Are you going to use Vous or tu to address your teacher?
- Use the preparation time to understand what you have to say and make notes
- Try to answer in a sentence but above all GET THE MESSAGE ACROSS
- The first 4 prompts will be statements
- The 3rd bullet point is a ! – you will have to answer an unprepared question – listen for the question word
- The 5th prompt means you have to ask a question
- DO NOT just repeat the words in the task

KEY FACTS TO MEMORISE

Each prompt has a key word to give you a clue as to what to say. Learn the meanings of these key prompts

raison = reason
trajet/ voyage = journey
Visite/ excursion = visit
opinion = opinion
chambre = room
heure = time
genre/sorte/ type = type
durée/ duration = length / how long
Prix = price
Une description = description
Quel/quelle/ lequel/ laquelle – which

IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND SAY –
désolé/ pardon? - (pardon!)

EXAM QUESTIONS

Vous téléphonez à un restaurant pour réserver une table pour une occasion spéciale:

- Reservation - quand
- Table - où
- !
- Raison de la visite – occasion spéciale
- ? Menus

Vous êtes dans un magasin en France et vous voudriez acheter des vêtements:

- Vêtements – quel type
- Vêtements – description
- !
- Porter - raison
- ? cabines d'essayage

Vous allez étudier dans un collège en Suisse. Vous parlez à la directrice:

- Matières désirées
- Étudier en Suisse - raison
- !
- personnalité
- ? rester en ville

STRETCH

Try to form a question for each of these prompt words

? nourriture végétarienne
 ? soirée - duration
 ? entraîneur - prénom
 ? transport
 ? trajet – durée
 ? Film – Prix
 ? Hôtels – Information
 ? salaire

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 15

SPEAKING Part 2: Discussing a Photo

INTRODUCTION

This is the second part of the speaking exam. You will need to describe a photo on one of the 5 themes and then discuss the photo by answering a further 4 questions. You will be able to make notes and prepare the photo in the 12 minutes preparation time just before the exam. You will not be allowed to use a dictionary. You may take the notes into the exam.

KEY WORDS

Sentence 1 : what Sur la photo il y a	In the photo there is
Sentence 2: where Je pense qu'ils sont	I think that they are
Sentence 3: action Ils sont en train de parler Il est en train de manger	They are in the middle of speaking He is in the middle of eating
Sentence 4: feeling Il a l'air content	He seems happy
On voit ... au centre de la photo	we see... in the middle of the photo
À droite il y a .. =	On the right there is
À gauche il y a ...	On the left there is
Ça me fait penser à... =	That makes me think about
PAST : je suis allé	I went
PAST : j'ai mangé	I ate
FUTURE : je voudrais	I would like
FUTURE : je vais aller	I'm going to go

FURTHER LINKS

BBC Bitesize has a lot of practise photo questions and model answers.

EXAM TIPS:

You may take your preparation notes into the exam. Try not to just read them out. It is supposed to sound like a conversation. Write tense prompts on your preparation sheet rather than trying to answer each point in turn – YOU WILL RUN OUT OF PREPARATION TIME.

There are 5 bullet points. You should fully describe the photo but don't neglect the other questions. Aim to say at least 3 sentences for each one and use the correct tense.

- Bullet point 1 – description of the photo
- Bullet point 2 – give an opinion (present tense)
- Bullet point 3 – past tense answer
- Bullet point 4 – future tense answer
- Bullet point 5 – Another opinion

If you don't understand the bullet points, say something about the topic in general in the correct tense

KEY FACTS TO MEMORISE

Bullet Point 1 Describe the photo See Key Words	Use the structure: 1 – what 2 – where 3 – action (en train de) 4 – feeling
Bullet Point 2 Opinion YMCA	J'aime / j'adore 😊 Je n'aime pas / je déteste 😞 CAR C'EST = because it's Chouette = awesome Barbant = boring
Bullet Point 3 Past tense YMCA	J'ai mangé = I ate Mais mon frère a mangé = but my brother ate... J'ai bu = I drank J'ai regardé = I watched Quand j'étais petit, j'aimais = when I was younger I used to like... Je suis allé = I went C'était = it was
Bullet Point 4 Future tense	Je vais aller = I am going to go Mais mon ami va aller = but my friend is going to go... On va manger = we are going to eat Il sera = it will be
Bullet Point 5	Another opinion!

EXAM QUESTIONS

STIMULUS FP10

Topic: Daily life



(Source: © Syda Productions / Shutterstock)

Regarde la photo et prépare des réponses sur les points suivants :

- la description de la photo
- ton opinion sur les portables
- comment tu as utilisé les ordinateurs au collège récemment
- comment tu vas utiliser la technologie à l'avenir
- ton opinion sur les réseaux sociaux

STRETCH

Have a look at the photos on your phone, in an album or on Google Images. Choose a few each week to describe and then say an opinion about what is happening in the photo and 2-3 sentences in the past and 2-3 sentences in the future.

Topics to consider: Identity and Culture, Town and Holidays, School, Jobs and Future Plans, Environment and global events.

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 16

SPEAKING Part 3: Having a conversation

INTRODUCTION This is the third part of the speaking exam. First you will need to choose a topic from one of the 5 themes (Identity and Culture, Local area, holidays and travel, School, Jobs and Future Plans, Environment and Global events) and be prepared to have a conversation about that, using opinions, past and future tense and asking and answering questions spontaneously. Then you will be asked questions about one of the other Themes that you have not spoken about yet. You must not learn a script, as you will not know the questions that your teacher will ask, and you cannot use the 12 minutes preparation time to prepare for this.

KEY WORDS

Bonne question !	Good question!
Y sentence : A mon avis Selon moi Je dirais que	In my opinion According to me I would say that
M sentence : Ma mère m'a dit que Mon frère pense que Mais mon ami, qui s'appelle Joe, n'est pas d'accord	My mum told me that My brother thinks that But my friend, who is called Joe, does not agree
C sentence: Cependant, je trouve que	However, I find that que
A sentence: Aussi je crois que	Also I believe that
PAST Quand j'étais petit	When I was younger
FUTURE Un jour, je voudrais A l'avenir, je vais	One day, I would like In the future, I'm going to

EXAM TIPS:

Make sure you prepare your chosen topic really well weeks before the exam.
Have opinions, past tense and future sentences about your chosen topic ready so that you know that you can.

Always extended answers to questions using the YMCA technique:

- Y** – you – say something about you that answers the question
- M** – mais ma mère – say something about someone else that also relates to the question
- C** – cependant je ne suis pas d'accord – contrast – bring it back to your opinion and add a contrast
- A** – aussi – add or ask – add extra detail or ask the teacher a question

REMEMBER: in French, you can ask a question just by saying a sentence and raising your voice at the end:
Tu aimes le chocolat. = you like chocolate.
Tu aimes le chocolat ? = do you like chocolate ?

KEY FACTS TO MEMORISE

Make sure you can easily use the YMCA sentence structure.

- Y – j'adore mon portable
- M – mais ma mère pense que les portables sont trop chers
- C – cependant j'ai besoin de mon portable pour que je puisse faire mes devoirs
- A – aussi je peux rester en contact avec mes amis

Remember to ask questions back, just like you would in a real conversation:

- **Que penses-tu ?** = what do you think ?
- **Et toi ?** = and you ?
- **Quel est ton avis ?** = what is your opinion ?
- **Aimes-tu..... ?** = do you like.....?
- **Est-ce que tu..... ?** = do you..... ?

If you get stuck in the conversation, don't panic! You might need these phrases:

- **Ça dépend** = that depends
- **Je ne sais pas** = I don't know
- **C'est difficile à dire** = it's difficult to say
- **Répétez, s'il vous plaît** = repeat that please
- **Pardon ?** = excuse me ? (sorry ?)

EXAM QUESTIONS

For your chosen Theme, make sure you are ready to answer a variety of questions on the different topics.

Here are some examples of the types of questions that could come up for each Theme, however this is a conversation not a scripted dialogue, so if you answer "I like football" the teacher will start asking you about that, e.g. "how often do you play?". You can try to guide the conversation by talking about topics that you feel comfortable with.

Theme 1: Identity and Culture

- Tu t'entends bien avec ta famille ?

Theme 2: Local area, holidays and travel

- Décris tes dernières vacances

Theme 3: School

- Qu'est-ce que tu as fait pendant la récré hier ?

Theme 4: Jobs and Future Plans

- Qu'est-ce que tu vas faire pour fêter la fin des examens ?

Theme 5: Environment and Global Events

- Comment peut-on sauver la planète à l'avenir ?

FURTHER LINKS

On BBC Bitesize, search for speaking questions and they have a list of sample questions for each topic that you can hear spoken out loud and give an answer to.

They also have model answers for if you don't know what to say.

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 17

WRITING Question 1: Picture Description and Opinion (FOUNDATION)

INTRODUCTION

Question 1 of the Foundation writing paper asks you to write a 20-30 word description of a photo, using the present tense and an opinion. It is worth 12 marks. It is very similar to the speaking question on describing a photo, however this time you only need to use present tense.

KEY WORDS

Sentence 1 : what Sur la photo il y a	In the photo there is
Sentence 2: where Je pense qu'ils sont	I think that they are
Sentence 3: action Ils sont en train de parler Il est en train de manger	They are in the middle of speaking He is in the middle of eating
Sentence 4: feeling Il a l'air content	He seems happy
On voit ... au centre de la photo	we see... in the middle of the photo
À droite il y a .. =	On the right there is
À gauche il y a ...	On the left there is
Ça me fait penser à... =	That makes me think about

FURTHER LINKS

BBC Bitesize has practise questions on describing a photo and also gives model answers.

EXAM TIPS:

This question is only worth 12 marks and it is very easy to get them as long as you stick to simple grammar, use connectives and give your opinion on the topic.

You can use a structure if it helps:

- Sentence 1:** what is in the photo? (sur la photo il y a...)
Sentence 2: where are they? (je pense qu'ils sont...)
Sentence 3: what are they doing? (ils sont en train de...)
Sentence 4: How are they feeling? (ils ont l'air content)
OPINION: A mon avis (in my opinion)

KEY FACTS TO MEMORISE

Always start off with –

Sur la photo il y a... = in the photo there is

Say how many people there are

.... Six gens / six personnes = 6 people

.... Trois enfants = 3 children

.... Un homme / une femme = a man / a woman

There may be no people

Voici une image de... = here is an image of...

Les montagnes = mountaintains les maisons = houses

Les bâtiments = buildings une ville = a town

Describe the location

Ils/elles sont = they are

Au collège = at school dans le jardin = in the garden

Au bureau = in the office à la maison = at home

au parc = in the park en ville = in town

Describe the action

Ils/elles sont en train de porter = they are wearing

ils/elles sont en train de fêter = they are celebrating

ils/elles sont en train de manger = they are eating

ils/elles sont en train de travailler = they are working

ils/elles sont en train de faire du vélo = they are cycling

ils/elles sont en train de jouer = they are playing

Give an opinion

J'aime = I like / Je déteste = I hate

Car c'est amusant = because it is fun

Parce que c'est barbant = because it is boring

Car c'est bon pour la santé = because it's healthy

EXAM QUESTIONS

Un événement sportif



(Source: Ben Pipe Photography)

Tu participes à un événement sportif au Canada. Tu postes cette photo sur des médias sociaux pour tes amis.

Écris une description de la photo **et** exprime ton opinion sur le sport.

Écris 20-30 mots environ **en français**.

STRETCH

Have a look at the photos on your phone, in an album or on Google Images. Choose a few each week to describe and then say an opinion about what is happening in the photo.

Topics to consider: Identity and Culture, Town and Holidays, School, Jobs and Future Plans, Environment and global events.

You could also use LAWNMOP to give more detail in your answer:

L = location = ils sont au parc

A = action = ils sont en train de parler

W = weather = il fait chaud

N = negative = il ne pleut pas !

M = mood = ils ont l'air content

O = opinion = j'adore aller au parc car c'est amusant

P = physical description = ils portent un pantalon noir

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 18

WRITING Question 2: Short, Formal Letter (FOUNDATION)

INTRODUCTION

For the Foundation Writing paper, you need to be able to write a 40 word formal answer.

This is question 2 in the writing paper and is worth 16 marks.

You will need to respond to 4 bullet points.

You will have to write using the PRESENT and FUTURE tense.

KEY WORDS

Pourquoi	why
Comment	how
quoi	what
quand	when
Avec qui	With who
où	where
Quel genre	What type
quelle durée	How long
Je suis élève	I am a student
J'écris pour vous dire que	I am writing to tell you that
Je voudrais	I would like
Je vais	I'm going
prochain	next
Ce que vous voulez faire	The thing that you want to do (future plans)
Il sera	It will be
J'aimerais bien m'inscrire à	I would really like to sign up to

FURTHER LINKS

There are practise questions on the Edexcel GCSE French website and on BBC Bitesize.

Ask your teacher about the Target revision guides.

EXAM TIPS:

1. Start by reading the title of both and choosing your favourite topic.
2. Write your Aim High phrases and tense tips at the top of the page. You will only need the future tense for this one: je **vais** manger
3. Work out what each bullet point is about and find out which is about the future.
4. Write an answer to the first bullet point using the YMCA technique:

Y – you – say something about you that answers the question

M – mais ma mère – say something about someone else that also relates to the question

C – cependant je ne suis pas d'accord – contrast – bring it back to your opinion and add a contrast

A – aussi – add or ask – add extra detail or ask the teacher a question

5. Leave a line and go onto the next bullet point and use the YMCA technique. Complete all four bullet points.

6. When you think you have finished, you must check your answer for: **opinions, reasons, connectives, time phrases, Aim High phrases and FUTURE TENSE**

KEY FACTS TO MEMORISE

Key phrases to use:

Madame, Monsieur = Sir or Madame (at the start of the letter)

Je vous écris pour envoyer des renseignements = I'm writing to send some information

Je voudrais me présenter = I would like to introduce myself

Pourriez-vous, s'il vous plaît, m'envoyer des renseignements sur... = Please send me information about....

Cordialement = yours sincerely...

EXAM QUESTIONS

Un stage en France

Vous voudriez faire un stage en France.

Écrivez une lettre avec les informations suivantes:

- Quelle date allez-vous arriver en France?
- Pourquoi voulez-vous travailler en France?
- Décrivez vos passe-temps
- Qu'est-ce que vous voulez faire en France?

Une visite au Canada

Vous voudriez passer une semaine au Canada.

Écrivez une lettre avec les informations suivantes:

- La date d'arrivée
- type de chambre
- Combien de personnes
- Ce que vous voulez faire au Canada

Votre ville

Vous travaillez à l'office de tourisme dans votre ville.

La famille Marignier vous a écrit pour vous poser quelques questions sur la ville et la région.

Écrivez une lettre avec les informations suivantes:

- Une description de votre région
- Ce que les jeunes aiment faire dans la ville
- Quelque chose qu'on peut faire le weekend
- Les activités pour l'été prochain

STRETCH

Prepare and learn 5 or 6 future and present tense phrases in the je and nous form. Try to learn at least one sentence starter that uses an irregular verb e.g. je veux = I want, je peux = I can

Je vais étudier = I'm going to study

Nous allons visiter = we are going to visit

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 19

WRITING 80 – 90 words

Q1 (HIGHER) or Q3 (FOUNDATION)

INTRODUCTION

For the Foundation and Higher Writing papers, you need to be able to write an 80-90 word informal response. This is question 3 in the Foundation writing paper, and question 1 in the Higher and is worth 20 marks. You will need to respond to 4 bullet points. You will have to use opinions, reasons, connectives, time phrases, Aim High phrases and AT LEAST three tenses.

KEY WORDS

Past tense time phrases :

avant	before
Récemment	recently
Dernier / dernière	last

Future tense time phrases :

après	after
A l'avenir	In the future
Un jour	One day
Prochain / prochaine	next

Fun informal phrases :

Salut mes lecteurs !	Hi my readers!
Pourquoi en parle-t-on ?	Why is everyone talking about this?
Ce n'est pas mon truc	I'm not really into it
C'est du n'importe quoi!	It's a load of old rubbish!
Les glaces... miam miam!	Ice cream... yum yum!
La réglisse?? Beurk!	Liquorice?? Yuck!
Dis bonjour à ton frère de ma part	Say hi to your brother from me

FURTHER LINKS

BBC Bitesize and the Target books have lots of practise questions.

Ask your teacher about past papers.

EXAM TIPS:

- Remember you have a choice of two questions. Start by reading the title of both and choosing your favourite topic.
- Write your Aim High phrases and tense tips at the top of the page.

FOUNDATION use:

(PA/PR/F) (j'ai mangé/ je mange/ je vais manger)

- Work out which bullet point is about an opinion, which is about the past and which is about the future.
- Start with a positive, cheesy phrase: salut mes lecteurs ! (hi my readers !)
- Write an answer to the first bullet point using the YMCA technique:

Y – you – say something about you that answers the question

M – mais ma mère – say something about someone else that also relates to the question

C – cependant je ne suis pas d'accord – contrast – bring it back to your opinion and add a contrast

A – aussi – add or ask – add extra detail or ask the teacher a question

Remember, you only have to write about 20 words!

- Leave a line and go onto the next bullet point and use the YMCA technique. Complete all four bullet points.
- When you think you have finished, you must check your answer for : **opinions, reasons, connectives, time phrases, Aim High phrases and AT LEAST three tenses.**

KEY FACTS TO MEMORISE

1. Relative clause	Qui s'appelle	Who is called
2. High level phrases	Quand j'étais petit, j'aimais	When I was younger I used to like
3. Subjunctive Mood	Pour que je puisse	So that I can
4. Conditional + Imperfect	Il serait mieux si j'avais	It would be better if I had
5. After having done something	Après avoir mangé, je suis allé au	After having ate, I went to the

EXAM QUESTIONS

Le collègue

Ton amie Angelique veut savoir ton opinion sur ton collège.

Tu dois faire référence aux points suivants:

- Une description de ton collège
- Ton opinion sur l'uniforme scolaire
- Une activité que tu as fait la semaine dernière au collège
- Tes projets pour après les examens

Ton Anniversaire

Ton ami Maxime t'a envoyé une carte pour ton anniversaire.

Écris une réponse à Maxime.

Tu dois faire référence aux points suivants:

- Comment tu as fêté ton anniversaire
- Ton opinion sur les fêtes
- Si fêter les anniversaires est important ou non
- Comment Maxime peut fêter son prochain anniversaire

Les vacances

Ton amie Angèle veut savoir comment tu as passé les dernières vacances.

Écris une réponse à Angèle.

Tu dois faire référence aux points suivants:

- Une activité que tu as fait
- Pourquoi les vacances sont importantes ou non
- Tes vacances idéales
- Ce que tu voudrais faire pendant les grandes vacances

STRETCH

Choose one of the topics and write a paragraph giving an opinion, a paragraph in the past tense, a paragraph in the future tense and a paragraph about why the topic is important.

Include: Present, Perfect Past, Imperfect Past, Conditional, Near Future, Simple Future, Subjunctive

Repeat for all topics!

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 20

WRITING Question 3: 150-word essay to persuade and interest (HIGHER)

INTRODUCTION

This is question 2 on the Higher writing paper and is worth the most marks (28) You should therefore spend the most time on this question. You will have to write 130-150 words. You will have to understand and write about 4 bullet points using a variety of grammar, tenses, and vocabulary. You may have to write a report, article or blog and you need to try to persuade or interest a reader.

KEY WORDS

Tick off the Nifty Nine as you write:

Cultural Awareness	Idioms, Cultural comparisons
Tremendous Tenses	Present, Past (x2), Future (x2), Conditional
Super Structures	Comparatives, Subjunctive, Superlatives Negatives
Wicked words	Adverbs, Connectives, Frequency phrases Prepositions, Qualifiers, Sequencers Time phrases
Spicy Adjectives	barbant, désastreux, embêtant, épouvantable chouette, génial, passionnant, ridicule, sensass
Awesome Opinions	Je pense que... Ce qui me rend + adj est... Ce qui me fait +inf est... me plaît...me passionne! J'ai horreur de.....
Family and Friends	Use the YMCA technique in each paragraph
Cunning Clauses	'si' or 'quand' clause avant de/après avoir/être Modal verbs + infinitives
Absolute accuracy	Check verb endings Check tenses Check agreements

FURTHER LINKS

BBC Bitesize and the Target books have lots of practise questions.

EXAM TIPS:

- You have a choice of two topics – choose wisely!
- You will get marked for covering the 4 bullet points and for your creative use of grammar and vocabulary – make a list before you start of what you want to include and tick it off

KEY FACTS TO MEMORISE

Begin with an introduction

Chères lectrices, chers lecteurs = dear readers

À mes chères lectrices et lecteurs = my dear readers

À tous mes chers followers = my dear followers

Begin with a rhetorical question – remember to use Vous (you)

Qu'est-ce que vous en pensez... = How do you find....?

Que pensez-vous de.....? = What do you think about....?

Vous êtes pour ou contre = Are you for or against....?

Give your point of view in a more varied way

À mon avis = In my opinion

D'après moi = In my opinion

Selon moi.. = according to me..

C'est vrai que ... = It is true that...

Je suis convaincu que.. = I am convinced that...

J'ai l'impression que... = I have the impression that..

Il faut que je dise que... = I must admit, that...

Je le trouve incroyable que = I find it astonishing that...

La chose la plus importante, c'est.. = The most important thing is...

Use linking words to increase the interest

Cependant/ toutefois = however

malgré= in spite of

heureusement = luckily

malheureusement = unfortunately

en outre = furthermore

globalement/ dans l'ensemble = on the whole

c'est un cercle vicieux = it's a vicious circle

State other points of view and give both sides of the argument

Il y a du pour et du contre = there are advantages and disadvantages

En revanche = on the other hand

D'un côté...mais d'un autre côté.. = On the one hand... on the other

Certains pensent que.. = some people think that...

On entend souvent que = You often hear that..

Sum up at the end

Pour conclure = in conclusion

La meilleure solution... = the best solution is...

C'est dommage que = it is a pity that....

EXAM QUESTIONS

- Un site Web français cherche les articles sur la vie d'adolescente.

Écrivez un article pour le site Web, qui s'intéresse aux lecteurs.

Vous devez faire référence aux points suivants:

- Ce que vous faites normalement le weekend.
- Si les réseaux sociaux sont importants ou non
- Vos passe-temps préférés
- Ce que vous allez faire quand vous quittez le collège

- Vous êtes allé à un festival de musique
Écrivez une revue de cet événement, qui s'intéresse aux lecteurs.

Vous devez faire référence aux points suivants:

- Votre opinion et la raison
- Pourquoi les festivals de musique sont importants pour les jeunes
- Les avantages et les inconvénients des événements musicaux
- Comment on peut améliorer ces événements

STRETCH

Choose one of the topics and pretend you are either writing a persuasive letter or an interesting article, giving an opinion, a paragraph in the past tense, a paragraph in the future tense and a paragraph about why the topic is important.

Include: Present, Perfect Past, Imperfect Past, Conditional, Near Future, Simple Future, Subjunctive

Repeat for all topics!

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 21

WRITING Q3 (HIGHER) or Q4 (FOUNDATION): Translation into French

INTRODUCTION

The final question of the Foundation and Higher writing paper is about translation. For Foundation you translate five sentences into French and for Higher you translate a short paragraph from English into French.

This is question 3 in the Higher writing paper, and 4 in the Foundation, and is worth 12 marks.

KEY WORDS

Here are some words and phrases that have previously come up on translation questions:

Un bureau	An office
J'habite mon village depuis des années	I have lived in my town for years
Il aime beaucoup	He really likes
Il est libre	He is free (not busy)
Je m'inquiète	I'm worried
Les oiseaux	birds
J'ai aimé voir	I liked seeing
Là-bas	there
Après avoir discuté	After discussing
Ils ont besoin de	They need
J'ai besoin de	I need
L'endroit	The place
L'endroit où ils habitaient	The place where they used to live
Je suis allé / on est allé	I went / we went
Ils viennent de déménager	They just moved house
Il pluait	It rained
Nous sommes rentrés	We went back
La météo	The weather forecast

FURTHER LINKS

BBC Bitesize and the Target books have lots of practise questions.

EXAM TIPS:

Remember, the examiner is going to give 2 marks per sentence:

0 marks = you have written nothing

1 mark = you have written some words that are correct

2 marks = you give the same message as the original

1. Start by writing down the words you know:

E.g. My father is not very lazy.

Answer = Mon père est _____

2. If you are really stuck, think about other ways that you could reword that sentence in English – my father is very active (he is not lazy)

E.g. My father is not very lazy.

Answer = Mon père est très actif.

3. If you absolutely have to make a guess, try to make an English word sound French using these tips:

- É = ed ---- visité, expliqué, crié
- Ment = ly ---- normalement, généralement
- lcal = ique ---- typique, magique
- Ist = iste ---- touriste, cycliste
- lsm = isme ---- tourisme
- Ary = aire ---- anniversaire
- Tion words are normally the same in French and English ---- imagination, création, nation

Always check for tenses in the translation – which tense is used in English and which will you need in French?

KEY FACTS TO MEMORISE

Avoid translating word for word, try to express the overall meaning of the phrase.

Don't leave the translation to the very end of the exam. Start it, then go back and check your other answers. You can then return to your translation with fresh eyes and make changes.

Read your translation and imagine: if I said this to a French person, what image would they see in their head? How much of the original sentence would they understand?

EXAM QUESTIONS (Foundation Style)

Translate the following into FRENCH:

1. The weather in France is good.
2. It often snows in winter
3. There is usually a lot of snow in the mountains
4. I do not like cycling in bad weather
5. Yesterday I had to take the bus because it was raining.

Translate the following into FRENCH:

1. Our school is fair
2. There are not many school rules
3. I would like to use my mobile phone sometimes
4. I think it is good that smoking is forbidden
5. Last week the teacher was angry because we had chewing gum in class.

STRETCH (Higher Style)

Translate the following into FRENCH:

The new hotel is situated in the Champagne region not far from Reims. Visitors like to relax in the comfortable rooms. It has not only a large swimming pool but also an excellent restaurant where you can try local specialities. Last year many foreign tourists came to enjoy the local food and drink.

Translate the following into FRENCH:

I think French people are pretty environmentally friendly. When I travel into town at the weekend, I usually go by public transport. At home I always switch off the lights in order to save electricity. Last month our school won a prize because we had the most environmentally friendly school in the area.

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 22**READING skills: Section A****INTRODUCTION: Reading paper is 1 hour (Higher) or 45 minutes (Foundation)**

There are three Sections in the Reading exam:

- Section A = questions in English (28 marks)
- Section B = questions in French (15 marks)
- Section C = translation into English (7 marks)

Section A contains multiple choice and written questions from a range of texts: articles, blog posts, literary extracts and adverts

KEY WORDS

Un bureau	An office
J'habite mon village depuis des années	I have lived in my town for years
Il aime beaucoup	He really likes
Il est libre	He is free (not busy)
Je m'inquiète	I'm worried
Les oiseaux	birds
J'ai aimé voir	I liked seeing
Là-bas	there
Après avoir discuté	After discussing
Ils ont besoin de	They need
J'ai besoin de	I need
L'endroit	The place
L'endroit où ils habitaient	The place where they used to live
Je suis allé / on est allé	I went / we went
Ils viennent de déménager	They just moved house
Il pluait	It rained

FURTHER LINKS

Improve reading technique by going to the Edexcel GCSE French (2016) website and practising past assessments. There are also practice questions on BBC Bitesize and in the Target revision guides.

EXAM TIPS:

1. Start by completing a few questions on Section A to get you into the swing of the exam. Then, skip onto the translation in Section C (SP Topic 24).
2. Don't worry about reading the whole text in French! Most of it is not useful – you need to locate the 5 words that are useful.
3. Look at the title – which topic is this question on? What are the key words and ideas from that topic?
4. Look at the question – what information are you being asked to find? An event? A person? A place? An opinion? What is the time frame – present? Past? Future? Are there any potential tricks in the question? Is it asking about a certain person's opinion? Does it have a negative?
5. Now look at the main text and skim through for the relevant bit of information. Don't just write down the first relevant word you find though – it might be a trap! Look at the sentence that contains that word – are there any negatives or 'meaning changers' – E.g. Mais = but, cependant = however, toutefois = however, avant / autrefois = before / in the past, sauf = except for, Presque = almost
6. If you are unsure of an answer, fold the corner of the page and move on. Then you can return to the folder corners.
7. For the written answers, be very specific!

KEY FACTS TO MEMORISE:

At the end of the Reading Paper ask yourself:

Have I answered every question? Re-read my translation? Checked for folder corners? If yes, then you are done!

NO ONE should have extra time at the end of GCSE French Reading, especially if there are still blank questions inside that paper. 45 minutes / 1 hour is not a lot of time and this is the paper that you can win a lot of extra marks on – the answers are staring you in the face, you just have to pick them out!

EXAM QUESTIONS

What information are you trying to find out? An event? A person? A place? An opinion? What is the time frame – present? Past? Future? Where do you need to be careful?

- a) Usually Sandrine enjoys...

	Seeing her friends
	Going to the cinema
	Helping others
	Swimming in the sea

- b) One day Benjamin hopes to be...

	A soldier
	A sailor
	A musician
	A tailor

- c) When Saïda hears this, she...

	Pulls a face
	laughs
	sighs
	screams

STRETCH

You will never know every single word that will appear on the Reading paper, but you can read widely in French at home, so that you feel confident with longer texts.

News websites:

1jour1actu, le monde, le figaro

Cooking website :

Marmiton

Reading books in English will also help because it will improve your overall literacy and introduce you to a wide range of vocabulary.

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 23

READING skills: Section B

INTRODUCTION

There are three Sections in the Reading exam:

- Section A = questions in English (28 marks)
- Section B = questions in French (15 marks)
- Section C = translation into English (7 marks)

Section B is in French, but there are only three questions and they are still multiple choice (apart from the Higher 'copy and paste' question)

KEY WORDS

Question phrases used in the French Section B:

Pourquoi?	Why?
Comment ?	How?
Donne deux détails	Give two details
Pourquoi Max n'a-t-il pas pu aller au stade ?	Why couldn't Max go to the stadium?
À part les blogs,	Apart from blogs,
Lis cette page Web	Read this web page
C'est qui?	Who is it?
Choisissez entre:	Choose from:
Peut être utilisé plusieurs fois	Can be used many times
Mets une croix	Put a cross
Plus jeune que lui	Younger than him
Plus grand que lui	Bigger than him
Du même âge que lui	The same age as him
Moins timide que lui	Not as shy as him

FURTHER LINKS

Improve reading technique by going to the Edexcel GCSE French (2016) website and practising past assessments. There are also practice questions on BBC Bitesize and in the Target revision guides.

EXAM TIPS:

- Remember, Section B looks difficult because it's all in French. However, they usually use really basic French in the questions, so 'decoding' the questions is the trick to finding the right answer
- First, look at the topics that you have been given in Section B (Identity and Culture, Holidays and Town, School, Jobs and Future Plans, Environment and World Festivals/events)
- FOUNDATION** - Section B, Question 1 is usually the same as Listening Q13 (see SP Topic 25), because you have a box of words and you need to fit them into a sentence. If you follow the tips on SP Topic page 25, this should be an easy question for you!
- HIGHER Q1 and FOUNDATION Q2** - for the next question, it's multiple choice. Start by 'decoding' the question – what information are you trying to find out? An event? A person? What is the time frame – present? Past? Future? Then only look for that specific bit of information in the main text. Look out for synonyms to help you to find the answer.
- HIGHER Q2 and FOUNDATION Q3** – this question is easier as you have a list of four possible answers (normally names) and you add them in a sentence: _____ adore manger
The trick is to look for the key word in the sentence and find the synonym or related word in text.
- HIGHER** - Section B, Question 3 - aka the 'copy and paste' question! This question looks intimidating because you must write answers in French. However, look for the key word in the question, match it to the text, then copy and paste your answer from the main text (you might have to change the grammar a tiny bit). Make sure you know your question words!

KEY FACTS TO MEMORISE

Be careful: little words such as *sauf* (except for), *Presque* (almost) can completely change the meaning of a sentence. Make sure you look for them in the questions as well.

EXAM QUESTIONS

Try 'decoding' these questions – what information are you trying to find out? An event? A person? A place? An opinion? What is the time frame – present? Past? Future?

d) Jacob a...

	Visité le musée
	Visité l'église
	Visité le bureau
	Mangé au parc

e) Il voulait assister à...

	Un concert
	Un défilé
	Un festival
	Un évènement

f) Presque tous ses amis vont...

	Trouver un stage
	Aller à la fac
	Gagner de l'argent
	voyager

STRETCH

HIGHER - Section B, Question 3 - aka the 'copy and paste' question! What information would you be looking for if these were the questions:

- Pourquoi les gens font-ils du bénévolé ?
- Comment les bénévoles encouragent-ils les gens à faire un don à une association caritative ?

Donne **deux** détails.

- Pourquoi Marc n'a-t-il pas pu assister à l'évènement ?
- A part des emails, comment est-ce qu'on annonce l'évènement au lycée ?

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 24**READING skills: Section C – Translation into English****INTRODUCTION**

This is the last question on the reading paper and is worth 7 marks. We suggest that you do a couple of questions on Section A and then have a go at the translation. Then you can return to it later with fresh eyes.

KEY WORDS

Here are some words and phrases that have previously come up on translation questions:

Depuis ma naissance	Since I was born
Une banlieue	A council estate / the outskirts
Ils viennent de me dire	They just told me
trouver	To find
Je préférerais	I would prefer
rester	To stay
ici	here
Même si	Even if / though
trop	too
Il n'y a qu'un	There is only one
On a besoin de	We need to
assez	quite
Un peu	A bit
sauf	Except for
donner	To give
prendre	To take
toujours	always
J'irai	I will go
dur	hard

FURTHER LINKS

BBC Bitesize and the Target books have lots of practise questions.

EXAM TIPS:

- When you do the reading paper, start with a few questions from Section A and then skip to Section C for the Translation into English
- Skim read the paragraph and decide which topic it is from.
- Use a highlighter or code to mark the tenses – look out for past and present.
- Start by writing down the words that you know – you can leave some gaps at the moment.
- When you have done as much as you can, go back to the reading questions and complete those.
- Go back to the translation when you have finished the reading questions and fill in the gaps. Imagine giving it to your English teacher – would they say that it made sense?

EXAMPLE: How would you complete the gaps in this unfinished translation:

For ten _____, I have live _____ small house, opposing a shopping centre. _____ Tuesday, I _____ chocolate for my grandma because she _____ not able to _____ house.

Once you have filled in the gaps, read it again and see if it sounds right in English.

- If your first translation is very messy now, rewrite it underneath and cross out your workings out.

At the end of the Reading Paper ask yourself:

Have I answered every question? Re-read my translation? Checked for folder corners? If yes, then you're done!

KEY FACTS TO MEMORISE

Remember that the present tense in French (je mange, j'habite, je joue, je visite) can be translated in four different ways in English, so pick the one that fits your translation:

I work
I am working
I have worked
I have been working

Je travaille

EXAM QUESTIONS**Local area, holidays and travel:****Translate this passage into English.**

Moi, en vacances, je me repose, c'est le plus important. Je me lève tard, je me prépare, je vais à la plage, je me bronze et je me baigne dans la mer. Je loge dans un gîte dans un petit village. C'est extra!

International and global dimension: good causes:**Translate this passage into English.**

Maintenant, tous les jours, on trie, on recycle et on réutilise. On éteint les ordinateurs quand n'en a pas besoin et on ferme les robinets le plus vite possible. De plus en plus d'élèves viennent au collège à pied.

Future aspirations, study and work:**Translate this passage into English.**

Il y a six mois, j'ai commencé à travailler dans un office de tourisme en Bretagne, tout en continuant mes études. Si je réussis à avoir mon diplôme, je voudrais travailler à plein temps dans le tourisme. Lorsque j'étais plus jeune, je rêvais d'être infirmière mais j'ai décidé de changer d'orientation à cause de ma passion pour la Bretagne.

STRETCH

You can find the French version of a website by putting .fr on the end instead of .co.uk or .com

If you go on the French version of websites, you can choose a random paragraph to translate.

For news websites in French use:

1jour1actu – news for children
Le monde / le Figaro

FRENCH SP – TOPIC 25

LISTENING SKILLS: 5 minutes reading time

INTRODUCTION :

Before you start your Listening exam, you have 5 minutes of reading time and you can use it to prepare for the gap-fill grammar question (This is Question 1 if you do Higher and Question 13 if you do Foundation).

KEY WORDS - Synonyms and Antonyms

The Listening exam uses a lot of synonyms and antonyms to really test your understanding of a spoken paragraph.

French word	Synonym	Antonym
Inéressant	captivant	Barbant / ennuyeux
facile	accessible	Difficile / impossible
utile	pratique	Inutile
pratique	I travel by coach	'La voiture' is a car
Généreux	Riche Donne de l'argent	Égoïste
sympa	gentil	Méchant
cher	Coûteux	Gratuit, bon marché
La monnaie	Loose change	If someone doesn't have it, they are not totally poor, they are just short on change!
jeune	Cadet, petit, enfant	Vieux / vieille Ancient Antique
toujours	Chaque jour	Jamais

Look out for phrases that always go with 'de'
Moins de = less (of) and plus de = more (of)
Beaucoup de = lots of
J'en ai marre de = I've had enough of

FURTHER LINKS

Improve listening technique by going to the Edexcel GCSE French (2016) website and practising past assessments with the scripts. Or search for 'Pearson MFL audio files' to find all of the practice questions from the revision guides and their scripts. There are also practice questions on BBC Bitesize and in the purple revision guides.

EXAM TIPS:

Don't waste these five minutes! Use them to get ahead in the exam by prepping Question 1 (Higher) / Question 13 (Foundation).

How to prep Question 1 (Higher) / Question 13 (Foundation).

- Look at the words in the box – are they adjectives, nouns, adverbs?
- Do you know the meaning of any?
- Now look at the sentences in the question – what type of word belongs in the gap?

Here is what this would look like if it was in English:

His mum nice to the park
Expensive his Dad always grumpy
To the cinema cheap France never

- His Mum is often....
- Last Saturday they went...
- Next summer they are going to go to...
- He thinks that the cinema is very...

So for a) the answer can only be either **nice** or **grumpy**.
For c) the answer CANNOT be 'to the park' because then it would say 'they are going to go **to to** the park'

If you work out the possible answers, you put yourself in a really good position to start the exam!

If you still have time after that, go to Question 2 (Higher) / Question 14 (Foundation) and write down synonyms/ antonyms.

KEY FACTS TO MEMORISE

It can help to look for grammar clues, such as whether a word is masculine, feminine, or plural:

Masculine words	Feminine words	Plural words
Le = the	La = the	Les = the
Un = a / one	Une = a / one	Des = some
Au = at / to the	À la = at / to the, changes to en for countries	Aux = at / to the

Masculine words = often words that look the same in English, e.g. le foot

Feminine words = often end in e, but sometimes don't!

Plural words = often end in s or x

EXAM QUESTIONS

Look at the box of words and decide whether they are: adjectives, nouns, verbs, adverbs

Group them – find the opposites, find the places

sa mère strict cinéma l'Algérie
souvent généreux son frère restaurant
son père la France jeune rarement

Now decide which ones could be the right answers for the statements below:

- Dans sa famille il se disputent...
- Son frère est le plus...
- Maxime s'entend le mieux avec...
- Son père est...
- Le dimanche la famille va au....

Now do the same for this one:

du commerce équitable amusant petites boutiques
ennuyeux chers centres commerciaux intéressant
recyclés pratique marchés sites internet originaux

- Il va souvent aux...
- Il aime aussi les...
- Sa mère achète des produits...
- Pour Frédéric, le shopping en ligne est...
- Il pense qu'à l'avenir, il y aura moins de....

STRETCH

List 10 possible words can you think of that could follow each of these words and still make grammatical sense:

- | | |
|-------|---------------|
| - Aux | - sont |
| - En | - plus de |
| - Les | - beaucoup de |
| - Est | - avec |

READING AND LISTENING: Don't get caught out!

INTRODUCTION :

As if reading, writing, listening and speaking in a different language was not difficult enough, we know that GCSE language exams often contain a few tricks. Here are some common ones that have featured on past papers:

KEY WORDS – Common False Friends

A 'false friend' is a word that looks similar to an English word but means something completely different. Here are some common ones:

French word	English Meaning	Why could it catch you out?
Travailler / le travail	to work / work	Often confused with travel.
la journée	The day	Confused with journey
la librairie	The book shop	Looks like 'library'
Je voyage en car	I travel by coach	'La voiture' is a car
en train de	In the middle of	Un train does mean 'a train' but if it has 'en train de', watch out!
Il y a + time Il y a 2 ans	...ago 2 years ago	You are used to using 'il y a' to say 'there is', but if there is a number with it, it means ago
blessé	injured	Looks like 'blessed' Also é normally means 'ed'
La monnaie	Loose change	If someone doesn't have it, they are not totally poor, they are just short on change!
Un coin	A corner	Not a coin!
j'ai envie de	I'd like	Not about being jealous
passer un examen	To TAKE an exam	Not about passing Réussir = to succeed/ pass
Je joue de la batterie	I play drums	Une pile = a battery that you would find in a TV remote

FURTHER LINKS

To improve your cultural knowledge before the exam, look up:

Events : Bastille Day, La Fête de la Musique, L'Épiphanie

Organisations : Médecins Sans Frontières, Restos du cœur

People : Stromae, Héloïse Adelaide Letissier, Yannick Noah, Waly Dia, Nicole Abar, Zinedine Zidane, Marie Curie, Kylian Mbappé, Omar Sy, Jamel Debbouze, Gad Elmaleh, Charles Aznavour

EXAM TIPS:

Something as simple as reading the question thoroughly can be the difference between a disappoint grade and an outstanding result.

It's a good idea to take a highlighter into your exam and look for:

- **Who** is the question about?
- **What** time phrases are used (is it asking you about a past event?)
- What extra little details are hidden in the question (comparatives / superlatives)?
- Is a 'meaning changer' used? E.g. **Mais** = but, **cependant** = however, **toutefois** = however, **avant** / **autrefois** = before / in the past, **sauf** = except for

KEY FACTS TO MEMORISE

A really common way that pupils get caught out in both the Reading and Listening exam is by not understanding how **negative sentences** work. When you see or hear 'ne' you need to think 'negative structure':

Negative Form	English version
Ne...plus	Not anymore, no longer
Ne...rien	Nothing, not anything
Ne...jamais	Never
Ne...personne	Nobody, not anybody
Ne...que	Only
Ne...ni...ni	Neither... nor

The really problematic ones are:

Ne... personne

e.g. *je ne connais personne à Londres*

You see this and think it's about a person in London, but it's actually saying "I don't know anyone in London"

Ne... que

e.g. *je ne regarde que les films d'horreur*

You see the 'ne' and think they DON'T watch horror films, when in fact they ONLY watch horror films.

Comparatives (more than / less than) and **Superlatives** (the most / the least) can also catch you out:

Comparative	English version
Plus....(que)....	More....(than)....
Moins....(que)....	Less....(than)....
Aussi....(que)....	Just as....(as)....
Mieux que	Better than
Pire que	Worse than
Superlative	English version
Le plus	The most
Le moins	The least
Le meilleur	The best
Le pire	The worst

EXAM QUESTIONS

Which words would you highlight in these questions?

1. Name one use of technology that Luc mentions
2. How does his sister feel about the day?
3. What does she most want to do?
4. When will the festival be held this year?
5. What does Lucie's Dad use his phone for?

Spot the 'meaning changers' in these answers:

- a. Autrefois, il y avait beaucoup de circulation et de bruit, mais l'année dernière on a construit une zone piétonne.
- b. C'était la saison des pluies mais il a fait chaud et un temps ensoleillé presque tous les jours, sauf le dernier jour, quand il y a eu une pluie torrentielle.
- c. Un jour, nous avons visité le volcan de la Soufrière dans la forêt tropicale. Cependant, mon meilleur souvenir est notre excursion en bateau pour voir le parc national avec ses cascades.

STRETCH

Which words would you highlight in these questions in French (from Higher reading paper question 9)?

1. Qu'est-ce qu'il va faire le weekend prochain ?
2. Quel est l'avantage principal de son Smartphone ?
3. Quelle est la durée moyenne de séjour dans les camps de réfugiés ?
4. À part les livres, qu'est-ce que les bénévoles reçoivent de l'organisation ?
5. Qu'est-ce qu'on livre premièrement en cas de crise ?

Y11 GCSE Exam Dates

Y11 Mock(s):

Y11 PPE(s):

Final GCSE(s):

Success Programme Sessions:

Revision Guide (if applicable):

Notes
