



French



Introduction

Welcome to the French department. We hope that this *pack* will help you find your way successfully through your AS level in French.

You will find that studying a foreign language at AS level is very different to what you have been used to at GCSE level but we think that you will find it much more enjoyable, relevant, thought provoking, exciting and challenging. What more could you ask for!

Your French teachers will support and guide you through the course but there are lots of ways in which you can help yourself.

- You can start by becoming familiar with the demands of the course. (see the link below & click on 'specification')
http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/French/2016/Specification%20and%20sample%20assessments/Specification_GCE_A_level_L3_in_French.pdf
- Keep up to date with what is going on around you in the world and in particular France and La Francophonie.
- Read articles and stories in French.
- You should listen to as much French as possible. This could be listening to the radio, watching TV, listening to music, podcasts or watching French language films.
- Write down new vocabulary as you meet it. Don't wait to be reminded to write it down!
- Keep to deadlines for all your work. It is better for you and your teachers and ensures constant feedback on your progress.
- You will need your own dictionary at home.
- Weekly/ Fortnightly attendance with the French Language Assistant in preparation for the Speaking examination.

What do you need to know or be able to do before taking this course?

Most students should normally have achieved at least the equivalent of a grade B at GCSE French before taking the course. You will need to feel confident at this level in the four skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing. You must also have some knowledge and understanding of the culture and way of life of French speaking countries. You need to be interested in developing this understanding and in exploring in much more depth the topic areas that you will have covered at GCSE.

What will you learn on this course?

The course will help you develop your general study skills, but most of all you will learn to communicate at a higher level in French. You will also learn much more about a range of aspects of the societies in which French is spoken.

- **Reading**

You will be able to read, understand and extract information from written passages in French taken from authentic sources.

- **Listening**

You will be able to listen to, and understand contemporary spoken language and answer questions on what you have heard. The passages that you will listen to are taken from a range of sources.

- **Speaking and writing**

You will learn how to write essays or longer pieces and hold conversations and discussions in French. You will learn all the appropriate grammar, words and phrases that will help you present information in French, organise your arguments, provide opinions and analyse your ideas.

What kind of student is this course suitable for?

If you are interested in languages and communication, and you enjoy learning about other cultures and ways of life, then this course could be suitable for you. Similarly, if you are interested in the business world, in travel and tourism, in literature or in journalism and the media, then you are also likely to find the course appropriate. There are a number of options in the course where you can choose your topic or question to suit your interests. Whether you want to use French for work, for further study, training or for leisure, this course will help equip you with the necessary skills and knowledge.

What are the topic areas?

- **AS**

Theme 1: Les changements dans la société française

Theme 1 is set in the context of France only. This theme covers social issues and trends.

- **Les changements dans les structures familiales**

Les changements dans les attitudes envers le mariage, les couples et la famille.

- **L'éducation**

Le système éducatif et les questions estudiantines.

- **Le monde du travail**

La vie active en France et les attitudes envers le travail; le droit à la grève; l'égalité des sexes.

Theme 2: La culture politique et artistique dans les pays francophones

Theme 2 is set in the context of francophone countries and communities. This theme covers artistic culture (through music, and festivals and traditions) and political and artistic culture (through media).

- **La musique**

Les changements et les développements; l'impact de la musique sur la culture populaire.

- **Les médias**

La liberté d'expression; la presse écrite et en ligne; l'impact sur la société et la politique.

- **Les festivals et les traditions**

Les festivals, fêtes, coutumes et traditions.

- **A2**

Theme 3: L'immigration et la société multiculturelle française

Theme 3 is set in the context of France only. This theme covers social issues and trends.

- **L'impact positif de l'immigration sur la société française**

Les contributions des immigrés à l'économie et à la culture.

- **Répondre aux défis de l'immigration et l'intégration en France**

Les activités des communautés; la marginalisation et l'aliénation du point de vue des immigrés.

- **L'extrême droite**

La montée du Front National; les leaders du Front National; l'opinion publique.

Theme 4: L'Occupation et la Résistance

Theme 4 is set in the context of France only. This theme covers political culture.

- **La France occupée**

La collaboration; l'antisémitisme.

- **Le régime de Vichy**

Maréchal Pétain et la Révolution nationale.

- **La Résistance**

Jean Moulin, Charles de Gaulle et les femmes de la Résistance; la résistance des français.

What are the aims of the course?

The A level course aims to encourage students to:

- Develop an interest in, and enthusiasm for, language learning
- Develop understanding of the language in a variety of contexts and genres
- Communicate confidently, clearly and effectively in the language for a range of purposes
- Develop awareness and understanding of the contemporary society, cultural background and heritage of countries or communities where French is spoken
- Consider their study of the language in a broader context

The A level course enables students to:

- Derive enjoyment and benefit from language learning
- Acquire knowledge, skills and understanding for practical use, further study and/or employment
- Communicate with speakers of French.
- Take their place in a multicultural global society

What could you go on to do at the end of the course?

There are a range of opportunities open to you, where you can continue to use and further develop your language skills and knowledge of contemporary society. Some students choose to do degree courses in languages: others choose to pursue a higher education course in another subject, but choose a language option alongside it. Having a language at A level will improve your employability, in particular with companies which have international branches. Whether you are interested in continuing your studies or working at home or abroad, a language course at A level is an excellent step towards achieving your goals.

Remember!

- Your teachers are always willing to help you out, don't let problems develop. If in doubt or worried, just ask!
- Be aware of the requirements of the exam and work towards them.
- Remember, success at AS and A2 requires you to do as much outside of the classroom as in it!
- Your notes will be the main part of your revision so it is important to establish a system, early on, to keep your notes in order.

- You will encounter a lot of new vocabulary as you learn a language. It is vital to have a coherent system to note this down and learn it. Aim to learn / revise a few words each day. The most efficient way to learn vocabulary and phrases is to do a little but often.

You may find the following websites useful:

www.tv5monde.com
www.lexilogos.com/francais_langue_dictionnaires.htm
[www.lepointdufle.net/
dictionary.reverso.net/english-french/technology](http://www.lepointdufle.net/dictionary.reverso.net/english-french/technology)
www.languagesonline.org.uk/
www.francaisfacile.com
www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french
www.europe1.fr
www.france2.fr
www.lemonde.fr Le Monde newspaper
www.liberation.fr Libération newspaper; current
and past material
www.radiofrance.fr Radio France: current affairs



Below are a few tasks for you to complete and hand in to your teacher during your first lesson in September.



Stromae – Papaoutai

[Couplet 1]

Dites-moi d'où il vient
Enfin je saurais où _____¹
_____² dit que lorsqu'on
cherche bien
On finit toujours par trouver
Elle dit qu'il n'est _____³ très
loin
Qu'il part très souvent _____⁴
Maman dit "travailler c'est bien"
Bien mieux qu'être mal accompagné
Pas _____⁵ ?

[Pont]

Où est ton _____⁶ ?
Dis-moi où est ton papa ?
Sans même devoir lui _____⁷
_____⁸ ce qui ne va pas

Ah sacré papa
Dis-moi où es-tu _____⁹ ?
Ça doit, faire au moins mille fois que j'ai
Compté mes _____¹⁰

[Refrain x2]

Où t'es, papaoutai ? (x3)
Où t'es, où t'es où, papaoutai ?

[Couplet 2]

Quoi, qu'on y croit ou pas
Y aura bien _____¹¹ où on y
croira plus
Un jour ou l'autre on _____¹²
tous papa
Et d'un jour à l'autre on aura disparu
Serons-nous _____¹³ ?
Serons-nous _____¹⁴ ?
Des géniteurs ou des génies ?
Dites-nous qui donne naissance aux
_____¹⁵ ?

Ah dites-nous qui, tient
_____¹⁶ sait comment on fait
les bébés
Mais personne sait comment
_____¹⁷ des papas
_____¹⁸ Je-sais-tout en aurait
hérité, c'est ça
Faut l'sucer d'son pouce ou quoi ?
Dites-nous où c'est _____¹⁹, ça
doit
Faire au moins _____²⁰ qu'on a,
bouffé nos doigts

[Refrain x2]

[Pont x2]

[Refrain x2]

Tasks

1/ Youtube : Stromae papaoutai. Watch the video and fill in the gaps in the lyrics.

2/ Then look for the video in English.

3/ Answer the following questions in English. You will need to do some research.

1. What is the song about?
2. What does papaoutai stand for?
3. Explain how this song is partly about himself.
4. Where is the artist from?
5. What does Stromae stand for?

Papaoutai *Stromae*

Ecoutez de nouveau la chanson et répondez aux questions suivantes en utilisant vos propres mots si possible:

- 1- Quel est le thème principal de la chanson?
 - a. Les relations entre voisins.
 - b. Les pères absents.
 - c. L'environnement urbain.

- 2- Que se passera-t'il si on cherche bien? _____

- 3- De quel jeu célèbre fait-il mention où il faut se cacher et compter sur ses doigts? _____

- 4- Dans le troisième couplet, quels sont les adjectifs utilisés pour décrire les papas? _____

- 5- Qu'est-ce que personne ne sait faire? _____

Traduisez les phrases suivantes:

- 1- "Dites-moi d'où il vient, enfin je saurai où je vais."

- 2- "Sans même devoir lui parler, il sait ce qui ne va pas."

- 3- "Dites-nous qui donne naissance aux irresponsables."

- 4- "Ça doit, faire au moins mille fois que j'ai compté mes doigts."

- 5- "Un jour ou l'autre on sera tous papa et d'un jour à l'autre on aura disparu."
