

HIGHER FRENCH 2018-19

What do you have to do at school?

- ◆ You will work on Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking activities and grammar.
- ◆ Generally speaking, each period will be spent studying a specific skill.

What topics will be studied?

The four contexts of Society, Learning, Employability and Culture will focus on the following topics:

- family, friends, society
- role of the individual
- advantages and disadvantages of home area
- leisure
- healthy living and health issues
- school / college
- careers and job intentions
- employment issues
- holidays and travel
- tourism

You will also do **Examination Practice** and will work through a number of practice papers to prepare for the external assessments.

Homework

Each week you will have to:

1. finish off work started in class;
2. do a piece of written work (this may be a piece of Directed Writing), and/or a Reading comprehension exercise and/or prepare for a Speaking exercise;
3. complete grammar exercises.

What happens if you are off school?

There is not much time to complete the course. **If you are off, it is your responsibility to catch up on work missed.** The class will not be able to repeat lessons for the benefit of one or two people.

Unless a reasonable excuse is given, homework **must always** be handed in. **If you are off, it is your responsibility to find out what the homework has been and complete it.** The teacher may give you extra time to do this.

If you know in advance that you will have difficulty completing homework for the date given, the teacher should know beforehand. You should not simply turn up to class without homework on the day it is due.

What tests will you have to sit?

Unit assessments (UASPs) have been removed from the Higher French course with effect from 2018-19. However, there will be an 'Assignment – Writing' which will be conducted in class under controlled conditions and will count for 20 marks (scaled to 15). This will be sent to SQA to be marked externally.

To complete the course and get a Higher award, you have to sit and pass a series of external assessments. There are three papers:

Paper 1: 2 hours

Reading (30 marks: 20 for reading comprehension and 10 for translation) and Directed Writing (20 marks, scaled to 15). There is an 'overall purpose' question for the reading comprehension part.

Paper 2: 30 minutes

Listening (20 marks, scaled to 30). You will answer questions on a monologue and a dialogue.

Paper 3: approximately 10 minutes

Talking assessment (30 marks). There will be a discussion in French based on at least two of the following contexts: Society, Learning, Employability and Culture.

Grade Boundaries

A pass: 70% +

B pass: 60% - 69%

C pass: 50%- 59%

D pass: 45-49%

Course Overview

Paper	Component	Marks	Scaled Mark	Duration
1	Reading	30	N/A	2 hours
	Directed Writing	20	15	
2	Listening	20	30	Approximately 30 minutes
Assignment	Writing	20	15	No official time limit
3	Talking	30	N/A	Approximately 10 minutes

General Advice

As in all subjects, you are going to have more homework than in S4, which must be done if you are going to keep up with the class and finish the whole course. You must get into good habits now. Get organised! Get a homework diary and use it! Invest in a couple of ringbinders and keep all your work filed. You should divide your file up into the following sections: Reading; Listening; Grammar; Directed Writing; Past Papers, and Vocabulary notes. You will be given jotters for grammar, listening and reading exercises.

This is a hard year. Remember that your teachers are here to help - so don't be afraid to ask - but at the end of the day, your success will depend on how hard you work throughout the year (you can't leave it all to the week before the exams!), and that is up to you.

Study Information

1. You can use Leckie and Leckie Higher French Still course notes, which include a Listening CD and answer schemes. CfE Higher French course notes have also been published recently and can be purchased online.
2. Be sure to have a good quality dictionary at home.
3. Regular revision of vocabulary and grammar is essential if you are to make significant progress. You can revise notes or access resources online at linguscope.co.uk, www.zut.org.uk, www.frenchteacher.net (grammar exercises) or www.nelsonthornes.com (go to 'grammarnet').
4. You can access past papers and marking schemes at www.sqa.org.uk. Even though you are sitting the CfE Higher French exam, you can still use the old Higher past papers for practice.
5. Remember that your class teacher is available for study support by prior arrangement.
6. Revise your folio of 'perfect' writing drafts.

Modern Languages Passwords

Please see your class teacher to obtain an appropriate login and password for the relevant websites.

Further information about the Higher French course, including marking criteria for Talking and the Assignment, can be found at www.sqa.org.uk

