

French



I am delighted that you are choosing to study French A Level next year at The Bishops' High School. Did you know that linguists are better communicators, writers and have a better understanding of their own language too? Students who study languages do better in tests and learning a language will improve the functionality of your brain and improve your memory skills. French is one of the most influential languages in the world and is spoken as a native language in more than two dozen countries on five continents. Depending on your sources, French is either the 11th or the 13th most common native language in the world, with 72 to 79 million native speakers and another 190 million secondary speakers. Studying A Level French will not only enable you to learn the French language but you will gain in-depth insight into the cultural, social, political and artistic aspects of the French speaking country/countries you will study.

To hit the ground running in September I suggest you use the long summer break to complete some of the activities mapped out in this document.

Bonne Chance!

Grammar check list

Grammar	Rate your knowledge and confidence level for each aspect of grammar. ↑ → ↓	Using a grammar book or the internet, research and do some work on the aspects of grammar you are not secure in. Make notes and explanations about each aspect of grammar.
Nouns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender • Singular and plural forms 		
Articles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definite and indefinite and partitive 		
Adjectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement • Position • Comparative and superlative • Use of adjectives as nouns (e.g. <i>le vieux, les Anglais</i>) • Demonstrative (e.g. <i>ce, cet, cette, ces</i>) • Indefinite (e.g. <i>autre, chaque, même, quelque</i>) • Possessive (<i>mon, ma, mes</i>) • Interrogative and exclamatory (<i>quel, quelle, quels, quelles</i>) 		
Numerals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardinal (e.g. <i>un, deux</i>) • Ordinal 1-10 (e.g. <i>premier, deuxième</i>) • Expression of time and date 		
Adverbs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation of adverbs in <i>-ment</i> • Comparative and superlative • Interrogative (including <i>combien (de), comment, où, pourquoi, quand</i>) 		
Quantifiers/intensifiers (including <i>assez, beaucoup, moins, plus, la plupart</i>)		
Pronouns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal: subject, including <i>on</i> • Object: direct and indirect • Disjunctive/emphatic personal, as subject and object: <i>moi/moi-même</i> • Reflexive • Position and order • Relative: (including <i>qui, que, dont</i>) • Demonstrative (e.g. <i>celui, celle, ceux</i>) • Indefinite (e.g. <i>quelqu'un, quelque chose</i>) • Possessive (e.g. <i>le mien</i>) • Interrogative (including <i>qui, que, quoi</i>) • Use of <i>y, en</i> 		

<p style="text-align: center;">Grammar</p>	<p>Rate your knowledge and confidence level for each aspect of grammar. ↑ → ↓</p>	<p>Using a grammar book or the internet, research and do some work on the aspects of grammar you are not secure in. Make notes and explanations about each aspect of grammar.</p>
<p>Verbs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conjugations of <i>-er</i>, <i>-ir</i> and <i>-re</i> verbs, modal verbs, principal irregular verbs, including reflexive verbs • Agreement of verb and subject • Use of <i>il y a</i> • Modes of address (<i>tu</i>, <i>vous</i>) • Impersonal verbs • Constructions with verbs <p>Verbs followed by an infinitive (with or without a preposition)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dependent infinitives (<i>faire réparer</i>) • Perfect infinitive • Negative forms • Interrogative forms • Use of tenses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Present - perfect (including agreement of past participle) - Imperfect - Future - Conditional - future perfect - conditional perfect - pluperfect - past historic • Use of the infinitive, present participle (e.g. <i>en arrivant</i>) and past participle • Verbal paraphrases and their uses (including <i>aller + infinitive</i>, <i>venir de + infinitive</i>) • Passive voice: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - present tense - other tenses • Dependent infinitives (<i>faire réparer</i>) • Passive voice: all tenses • Subjunctive mood: 		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - present (common uses, for example, after expressions of possibility, necessity, obligation and after conjunctions such as <i>bien que</i>) - perfect tense - imperfect tense 		
Prepositions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All prepositions, both simple (e.g. <i>sous</i>) and complex (e.g. <i>au-de là de</i>) 		
Conjunctions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinating conjunctions (e.g. <i>et, ou, mais</i>) • Subordinating conjunctions 		
Negation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of negative particles (e.g. <i>ne...pas, ne...personne, ne...que</i>) • Use of <i>ne</i> with negative subjects (e.g. <i>Personne n'est venu</i>) 		
Questions		
Commands		
Word order <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inversion after speech • Inversion after adverbs 		
Other constructions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time expressions with <i>depuis</i> and <i>il y a</i> • Comparative constructions • Indirect speech 		
Discourse markers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • e.g. <i>Au contraire, En fait</i> 		
Fillers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • e.g. <i>alors, bon</i> 		

Have a great summer & I will look forward to teaching you in September!

Mr Owen

Head of Modern Foreign Languages