

Progression - French

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The Benefits of Learning French

Studying A Level French will not only enable you to learn the French language, but you will gain an in-depth insight into the cultural, social, political and artistic aspects of the French speaking country/countries you will study. You therefore need to be interested in social issues and French Culture (Cinema/Literature/ Traditions). You will be working in a small group and will be asked to interact with them on a regular basis through speaking activities, research etc.... We will also make frequent use of IT and various software such as Dynamic Learning. You will be told to learn really well a fair amount of vocabulary and grammar but we will also do more “fun” activities using quizzes, songs, cooking, trips- local and to France. There will also be an opportunity for you to go on a French exchange to the south of France.

At WSFC, in your first year of French, you will be studying:

Theme 1: Changes in French society

- Changes in French family structures
- The French Education system
- World of Work

Theme 2: French speaking Culture and Art

- French speaking music
- Medias
- Festivals and traditions in French speaking countries.

You will also study a French film : “Intouchables”.

Follow these links to find out some of the benefits of learning French!

https://ted.com/talks/john_mcwhorter_4_reasons_to_learn_a_new_language?utm_source=tedcomshare&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=tedsread

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MMmOLN5zBLY>

<http://www.thefrenchcorner.net/2014/09/30-reasons-to-learn-french.html>

<https://www.thoughtco.com/jobs-using-french-or-other-languages-1368771>

<https://www.fluentu.com/blog/french/jobs-that-require-french/>

http://faculty.kutztown.edu/dewey/why_french.htm

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationopinion/10126883/Why-learn-a-foreign-language-Benefits-of-bilingualism.html>

Demonstrate your learning

1. Go to the PiXL 'Rank IT' triangle and rank the benefits of learning French in order of importance for you. [Username - WC5908, Password - %harmony224ILP]
2. What is the most startling or surprising fact you have discovered from your research?
3. Prepare a five minute presentation promoting the benefits of learning French. Create a PowerPoint and be prepared to deliver it to your classmates or as an assembly when you return to school.

Further research

Find out some basic facts about the geography, history, politics and culture of France and one other French-speaking country.

1. Use the PiXL 'Quizzing' template to show what you have learned.
2. Use the PiXL 'Boxing Up' activity to show your knowledge.



Prepare for A Level

It's important to start preparing for A Level French as soon as you've made the decision to study it. Here are five tasks that will help you familiarise yourself with the course and what it entails.

1. At WSFC, you will be studying French with EDEXCEL.
2. Visit the exam board website and download the specification and look at the specimen assessment material. Don't panic; it will look daunting at first.

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/demo/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/french-2016.html#tab-1>

3. Having a good grasp of French grammar is essential to the A level course. Revise basic French grammar using the links on the following page.

WSFC



Task 1: A Level Language Essentials and grammar revision

It's important to start Year 12 equipped with the essentials. Below are six tasks which aim to develop your knowledge of key verbs and more sophisticated language structures.

High Frequency Verbs

avoir **pouvoir**
être **devoir**
aller **vouloir**
faire **savoir**

Create a wall chart displaying these verbs in all their forms and in the following tenses:

- present tense
- perfect tense
- imperfect tense
- simple future tense
- conditional tense

Memorise these verbs thoroughly and test yourself regularly.

Sentence Starters

Ce qui me frappe le plus... What strikes me the most is...
Ce que je ne peux pas supporter... What I cannot bear is...
Je m'inquiète beaucoup car... I worry very much because...
Ce qui est bien c'est qu'on peut... What's good is that you can...
L'avantage c'est qu'il y a... The advantage is that there is...

Write 3 sentences using each of these sentence starters. Give your opinion on:

- Immigration and multicultural society
- Changes in society
- French culture

In Paper 2 of the A Level French exam you will need to

Complex Connectives

Ce que je trouve étonnant... - What I find astonishing...
Comme je n'aime pas le conflit... - As I don't like confrontation...
Puisque ce sera difficile... - Since this will be difficult...
Grâce à... - Thanks to...
À cause de... - Because of...
Dès ce moment, j'ai décidé de... - From that moment, I decided to...
Pendant que j'étais là - While I was there.
Malgré - despite
À la suite de - As a result of/following

Write 3 sentences using each of these connectives.

Research other connectives online and create a list.

Learn about other linking words from this website:[no website given?]

<https://www.frenchtoday.com/blog/french-vocabulary/linking-words>

Subjunctive mood (Optional as more of an A Level topic!)

Autant que je sache..
As far as I know...
Il est important que je sois clair...
It's important that I am clear...
Il est nécessaire qu'on fasse ce qui est important dans la vie.
It is necessary that we do what's important in life.
Afin qu'on puisse... **In order that you can...**
Il faut que je sois honnête... **I must be honest**
Bien que je sache que ce n'est pas évident...

Write 3 sentences using each of these subjunctive mood sentence starters.

Follow the link to this website and complete some research on subjunctive mood.

<https://www.frenchtoday.com/blog/french-verb-conjugation/understanding-french-subjunctive>



Task 1 Part 2 (Grammar revision)



The following websites will also help you with some of the work above.

Knowing your grammar will give you a huge advantage next year!

Task: Learn the explanation first then do the Quiz

The Present tense:

https://www.lepointdufle.net/ressources_fle/conjugaison_present.htm

Quiz:

http://www.appuifle.net/present_verbes_irregu_1_new.htm

<https://learningapps.org/watch?v=purmwg17k>

The Perfect tense

https://www.lepointdufle.net/ressources_fle/etre_avoir_passe_compose_regle_generale.htm

Quiz :

https://bescherelle.com/jeux/jeux_college/ex_basket.php?ex=8

The Imperfect

<https://www.languageguide.org/french/grammar/conjugations/imperfect.html>

Quiz :

<http://www.appuifle.net/textimp3.htm>

The Future tense

<https://www.laits.utexas.edu/tex/gr/taf1.html>

https://fr.tsedryk.ca/grammaire/futur/FUTUR_SIMPLE.htm

Quiz :

<https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/French/Grammar/Future/index.htm>



Task 2: Film Study “Intouchables”



Do the tasks below during the summer, before you start the course.

- 1- Watch the trailer.

Note down any French word you hear/ recognise: what do they mean?

Note down some of the characters’ names

Write down in a few sentences, in French, what you think this film will be about.

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=intouchables+trailer&&view=detail&mid=993115B3D26BDDF82AFA993115B3D26BDDF82AFA&&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Dintouchables%2520trailer%26qs%3Dn%26form%3DQBVR%26sp%3D1%26ghc%3D1%26pg%3Dintouchables%2520trailer%26sc%3D4-20%26sk%3D%26cvid%3DD5569802B630485EA833F3D5F2940879>

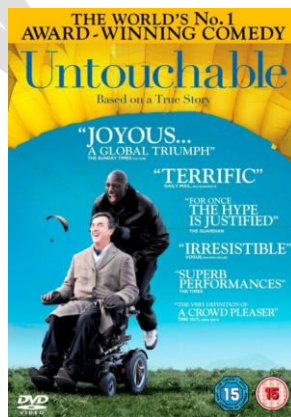
- 2- Watch the film “ Intouchables” as many times as you can. You may want to buy the DVD. You may need to switch on the subtitles in English .

If you cannot get hold of a DVD, the following links will help you complete the work below:

https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intouchables_%28film%29

file:///C:/Users/44754/AppData/Local/Packages/Microsoft.MicrosoftEdge_8wekyb3d8bbwe/TempState/Downloads/Teaching_French_Film_and_Literature_AS_A2_resources_UoL2016%20(1).pdf

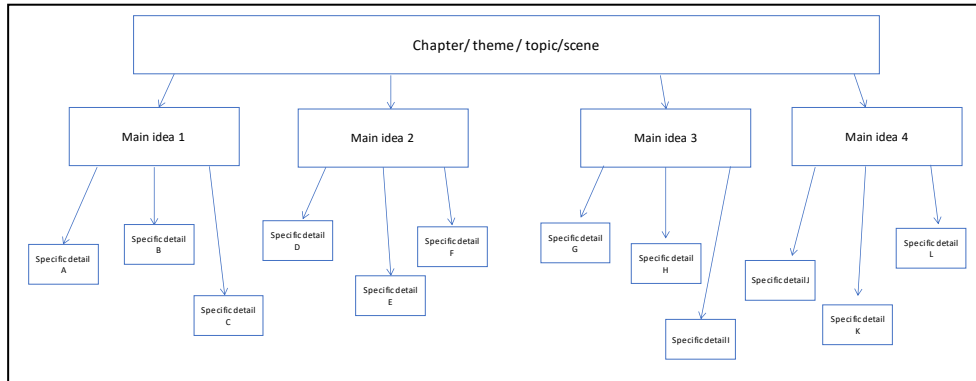
Scroll down to the end for the last link.



3- Write down the main characters' names and a brief description of their personalities or major characteristics (in English and French).

4. Use the organisation chart below to deconstruct the film. Start with the main themes, then characters, events, scenes, and finally cinematic devices (optional).

7.
of
that
the



Make a
timeline
the
major
events
occur in
the film,

especially if the chronology is complicated or confusing. Keep multiple timelines if the story jumps back and forth between different plotlines.

5. Complete the ranking and prioritise activities below. Try in French if you can, or do this in English . It will be useful information to keep for next year.

- Choose the three most important scenes in the film. Explain why you have chosen them.
- Rank the main themes of the film in order of importance.
- Choose the five most influential characters in the film and give reasons why.
- Pick out three of the most powerful quotations in the scenes in the film which depict the main themes.



Task 3 : Getting ready with vocabulary



At your own pace, play this card game to familiarise yourself with some key words to use next year, in particular in relation with the topics we will study.

You will need to register for free to access this resource.

<https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/g/revision-tests/french-a-level-vocabulary>

You may wish to build a set a pretty cue cards using some of this vocabulary (the most relevant to AS topics/ the most useful/ the most difficult?)



More useful Websites

Look at these websites. They will be invaluable during your A Level French course. Visit each one and make notes on their usefulness and purpose.

General help

<https://www.thoughtco.com/french-4133079>

Grammar/ songs/ vocabulary revision

https://www.lepointdufle.net/p/apprendre_le_francais.htm

Verb practice

<http://www.verb2verbe.com/TestInit.aspx>

Thesaurus

<http://www.crisco.unicaen.fr/des/>

Translator in context

<https://www.linguee.com/>

Translator in context

http://www.reverso.net/text_translation.aspx?lang=EN

French Pronunciation (Excellent preparation for speaking tests)

<http://www.acapela-group.com/text-to-speech-interactive-demo.html>

French AS and A2 Level Vocabulary

http://www.realfrench.net/vocab/index3.php?function=choose_list_cat&level=3&Submit=Choose+a+category+of+vocab+to+list

French AS and A2 Level Vocabulary

<http://www.frenchteacher.net/alevel/lexique.htm>

News on current events in France /World (in French)

<http://www.20minutes.fr/>

News on current events in France /World (in French and quite advanced)

<http://www.curiosphere.tv/>

News on current events in France /World (in French) (about AS level)

<http://www.monjtquotidien.com/>

Fantastic listening exercises to do online

<http://www.lafrancebis.com/>

French AS / A2 Level Help

<http://www.scool.co.uk/alevel/french.html>

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