

## GET READY FOR A LEVEL FRENCH!



Here is a suggested list of resources and activities that could help prepare you for starting your A-level French studies in September.

## Increase your French vocabulary!



There is a wide range of activities available on BBC Bitesize that are useful for revisiting all the GCSE topics.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zc7xpv4>



Log on to Active Learn and complete the interactive listening, reading, vocabulary and grammar activities that have been assigned to you.

[www.pearsonactivelearn.com](http://www.pearsonactivelearn.com)



Here you will find access to a wide range of activities designed to help you improve your French; including, courses, audio, video and games, vocabulary, pronunciation, grammar activities and tests.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french/>



Two useful websites/apps to practise speaking, reading, listening, and writing to build your vocabulary and grammar skills.

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

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

**CHANGING THE LANGUAGE SETTINGS ON YOUR MOBILE PHONE, TABLET, COMPUTER, EMAIL AND SOCIAL MEDIA TO FRENCH WILL HELP BROADEN YOUR VOCABULARY!**

**WATCH A FRENCH TV SERIES OR FILM**



You may not understand much of it, but it will help you get used to how the language sounds and, with the help of the visuals, you'll pick up odd words and phrases. **Make sure you choose an age appropriate film/show! You can also turn on subtitles in French to help you!**

**LISTEN TO FRENCH MUSIC**

**Listening to French music can help improve your listening skills and pronunciation. Look up the lyrics and see if you can translate them.**

**LISTEN TO PODCASTS IN FRENCH**

<http://www.frenchpod101.com>

<https://podcast.duolingo.com/french>

# Know your French tenses and grammar!

## FRENCHTEACHER.NET

This website provides lots of free materials for all levels. There are lots of interesting videos with a variety of listening, reading and grammar activities.

[www.frenchteacher.net](http://www.frenchteacher.net)

## LE CONJUGUEUR

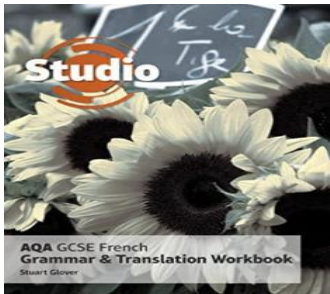


This website has several sections to improve your use of verbs. It has a verb conjugator and lots of exercises to practise different tenses. You can also download the app to practise your skills whenever you want.

[www.leconjugueur.com](http://www.leconjugueur.com)

## STUDIO AQA GCSE GRAMMAR AND TRANSLATION WORKBOOK

Use your Grammar and Translation workbook to strengthen your understanding of French grammar and tenses.



This French website includes:

- Podcasts
- Videos
- Articles

[www.1jour1actu.com](http://www.1jour1actu.com)

## ONLINE FRENCH DICTIONARIES

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

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/french-english/>

These are much more reliable than Google translate as you can see all the different meanings of words and select the one that best suits your purpose.

Spend some time making yourself flashcards for all the French tenses that you have studied so far. You can use the Grammar section at the back of your textbook to help you. Remember to include the rules on how to form the tense and the main irregular verbs. This is a great way to revise the tenses and they will prove incredibly useful next year.

1. Set language-learning goals.
2. Learn about the culture.
3. Have fun. Talk to yourself in French!
4. Test yourself.

## LANGUAGES ONLINE

<https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/frenchindex.html>

A useful website with lots of interactive activities.

## Be informed about current affairs!

### READ THE NEWS IN FRENCH

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french/tv/online/news.shtml>

Read all the latest News in French, watch video clips and reports too.

### FRENCH NEWSPAPERS (either online or download the app)

Le Monde – [www.lemonde.fr](http://www.lemonde.fr)

Le Figaro – [www.lefigaro.fr](http://www.lefigaro.fr)

L'Équipe – [www.lequipe.fr](http://www.lequipe.fr)

Le Monde pour les ados - <https://lemondedesados.fr/>

### READ AND WATCH THE NEWS IN ENGLISH

As an A level French student, you will cover a wide range of topics and whilst you will study them in the context of France and other French speaking countries many are relevant here in England too. Reading up on these topics in English will broaden your vocabulary and give you a deeper appreciation of key current affairs; which, in turn, will help you make stronger arguments in French and access reading and listening activities more easily.



At A level students are required to read authentic articles from French newspapers and have a strong knowledge and understanding about the culture and society where French is spoken.

Here are some tips to get the most out of online newspapers:

- Start by scanning the headlines only.
- Look at the pictures and subheadings to help you work out the main points of the article.
- Skim the whole article to get the gist – do not look up every new word as it will slow you down and you will lose interest.
- Select a paragraph and try to translate it into English.
- Select articles covering topics that interest you or are familiar to you in English as it will help you to work out the meaning of unknown words.

### FRENCH MAGAZINES

<https://www.public.fr/> - A French celebrity gossip magazine.

[www.lequipe.fr](http://www.lequipe.fr) - A newspaper website about sports.

### WATCH THE NEWS IN FRENCH

To watch a 4 minute version of the news go to:

<http://www.tv5monde.com/>

# Increase your knowledge of France and the French-speaking world!

## GEOGRAPHY

- Study a map of France – Where is it? Which countries border France? Which seas/oceans border France?
- Find out the names of all the French islands.
- Learn the names of all the French overseas territories.
- Find out which countries have French as their official language and where they are.
- Look up the population of France.
- Find out what the demographics of France are.

## LANGUAGE

- Find out how many languages are spoken in France.
- Find out where the French language came from.
- Find out about regional dialects spoken in France and other languages spoken in French-speaking countries.

Choose one French speaking country and research its history, music, culture, food, famous people etc.

## FAMOUS FRENCH/FRENCH-SPEAKING FIGURES

- Do some research on these famous French speaking people:
- Charles de Gaulle
- Emmanuel Macron
- Napoleon Bonaparte
- Jean Moulin
- Louis Vuitton
- Coco Chanel
- Albert Camus
- Joan of Arc
- Claude Monet

## COMPLETE ALL THE AQA GCSE PAST PAPERS

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/find-past-papers-and-mark-schemes>

## HISTORY and POLITICS

- Find out some important events in France's history.
- Do some background reading in English on the French Revolution.
- Discover how France got its name.
- Find out the history behind the French flag.
- Find out about France's government.
- Learn about France as a Republic.
- Listen to the French national anthem. What is it about?

## FOOD

- Do some research on food in French.
- Find out which products are popular in France.
- Cook a French dish.
- Find a French recipe and translate it into English.

## FRENCH TOURISM WEBSITE

A great website to learn more about France.

<http://ee.france.fr/>

## FESTIVALS

Find out about these important festivals:

- Cannes Film Festival
- Bastille Day
- Nice Carnival
- La Fête de la Musique
- Festival of Lights - Lyon

## USEFUL RESEARCH WEBSITES

<https://www.britannica.com/place/France>

<https://www.history.com/topics/france>

# A level French topics - Edexcel

## **Theme 1: *Les changements dans la société française***

(Theme 1 is set in the context of France only)

- ***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.)

- ***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 en ligne; l'impact sur la société et la politique.*
- ***Les festivals et les traditions***  
*Les festivals, fêtes, coutumes et traditions.*

## **Theme 3: *L'immigration et la société multiculturelle française***

(Theme 3 is set in the context of France only.)

- ***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 de 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.)

- ***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; l'implication des Français dans la Résistance.*