



Consolidation and beyond...

Required starting level

Approximately to GCE/GCSE level.

This course is designed for students with a rusty knowledge of French or who want to build on their GCSE level French. Come and join this friendly and relaxed class which focuses on speaking and listening practices and developing grammar as well as a wider range of vocabulary and idiomatic structures. There will also be some reading and writing activities.

Aims

The aim of the course is to consolidate your previous knowledge of French and encourage fluency through the progressive and reinforcing activities organised in the class. This course offers you the opportunity to increase your exposure to spoken French and will enable you to be more confident in engaging conversation with French-speaking people.

Working methods/types of activities

- Emphasis is on the progressive development of listening and speaking skills. New vocabulary and grammar points will be introduced and reinforced, using audio and video material, quizzes and role-plays.
- Most weeks, notes with practice exercises are given to help revise grammatical points or vocabulary and expressions used in class.
- Time is set aside for conversation practice and students are encouraged to ask questions and discuss any points for clarification.

Textbooks

There is no manual to buy. Hand-outs, internet links and PowerPoint presentations will be available to help you recap the contents of the lessons. Advice will be given to students who would rather buy a manual to support their learning.

Homework

Ideally, students should spend a couple of hours a week (in several sittings) going over the notes given in class, doing the grammar exercises or other set homework, learning vocabulary, etc.

What to bring to class

A willingness to participate fully with a sense of adventure. Pen and paper/notebook with a couple of highlighters would also be useful.

Topic areas

Throughout the year, emphasis will be on accurate pronunciation and good grammar practice of tenses whilst developing vocabulary and idiomatic expressions through role plays and everyday conversations and situations. Here are some of the topics that will be covered:

- talking about the weather,
- shopping and asking what you want
- finding your way round town or places
- Describing people's physical appearances and feelings, personality and behaviour as well as places and towns
- leisure and sport activities.



Improvers' French



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- preferences, likes and dislikes: household tasks, outings, holidays etc.
 - using public transport: buying tickets and booking flights
 - booking accommodation, checking in at reception
 - how to express your opinions and make a complaint
 - making appointments and arranging meetings (accepting or declining an invitation)
 - health - medical emergencies, conditions, medication
 - Seasonal topics, harvests, traditions around All Saints and Christmas, bank holidays.
 - French cultural differences: regions and their foods/wines.
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- Revision of the present and perfect tenses
 - Practice of the immediate future structure (making plans and expressing your intentions) and the immediate past
 - Learning how to form and when to use the future, conditional and imperfect tenses

This is not a comprehensive list. On occasions, we will be looking at French media and online short articles or blog posts for elements of French culture and topical current affairs issues.

Next Steps

The course runs for a school year with classes taking places over three terms.

On completion of the course, you may feel inspired to continue studying French and join the Intermediate course the following year.