IGCSE FRENCH

Why should I choose French?

Well, simply because:

- It is spoken on 5 continents by 200 million people, and is therefore: the world second most-learned language, the ninth most widely-spoken, and the third most used language on the web (ahead of Spanish).
- You learn to communicate with other people and about different countries and cultures. It can also make travel and leisure much more interesting and exciting!
- Speaking another language will increase your marketability (universities and employers tend to prefer candidates who speak one or more foreign languages) and speaking French opens up study opportunities at renowned French universities and business schools, ranked among the top higher education institutions in Europe and the world.
- Some universities have a foreign language requirement: they could look at your IGCSE results and would like to see a foreign language as it shows that you are able to do a wide range of subjects.
- French is also an analytical language that structures thought and develops critical thinking, which is a valuable skill for discussions and negotiations.
- French is a good base for learning other languages, especially Romance languages (Spanish, Italian, Portuguese and Romanian) as well as English, since a good proportion of current English vocabulary is derived from French.
- Learning French is the pleasure of learning a beautiful, rich, melodic language, often called the language of love.
- You've already been studying it! So it will only be a matter of perfecting what you know already.

What will I be studying?

- Healthy Eating and Living
- Holiday and Tourism
- Home and Local Area
- The Environment
- School/College and Future Plans
- Personal Relationships
- Leisure
- Life in Other Countries and Communities

How will I learn?

Language classes are still fun and interactive and you cover things at a slightly quicker pace, but this is good as you'll easily notice the improvements that you make in your foreign language. There will also be plenty of exam practice so that you feel fully ready to your Exams.

In lessons, you will be encouraged to:

- Work in pairs or small groups to practise using the language orally and in writing.
- Use ICT to practise grammar, reading and listening, and to carry out research for presentations
- Work independently on assignments.
- Work individually or in small groups to do intensive speaking practice in preparation for oral exam.
- Assess your own work and that of others in your group to help you to understand how to improve.
- Be involved in target setting and the learning review process.
- Be active and participate in class.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment will be through the IGCSE Exam at the end of Year 11 and students will either be entered for Core or the Extended Examination. The Core and Extended will do Papers 1, 2 & 3, but only the Extended Students will do Paper 4.

- **Paper 1** is the Listening Paper which makes up 33% of the exam for Core students (25% for Extended Students.)
- **Paper 2** is the Reading and Directed Writing Paper which makes up 33% of the exam for Core students (25% for Extended Students).
- **Paper 3** is the Speaking Exam which makes up 33% of the exam for Core students (25% for Extended Students).
- **Paper 4** is the Continuous Writing Paper which is only for the Extended Students and makes up 25%.
What studies/jobs/careers would French be useful for?

- You’ll be surprised at the amount of careers that involve Modern foreign languages
- Industries as diverse as engineering, law, marketing, the media and IT need candidates with practical language skills,

Job Prospects:

- Computer programmer
- Credit controller
- Customer support adviser
- Cultural briefing consultant
- Interpreter
- Teacher
- Language trainer
- Translator
- Engineering
- Banking
- Civil service
- Travel and tourism
- Secretary/PA
- Marketing
- Public relations
- Medicine
- Journalism and media
- Transport and distribution
- Website localiser
- Diplomat

Post 16 Opportunities with languages:

- AS and A2 Languages
- GNVQ Language units
- Leisure and Tourism Industry
- Bilingual secretarial work
- Government
- Travel
- Hospitality and catering
- Journalism
- Industry and Commerce
- Law
- Insurance and Banking

This also applies to jobs where fewer qualifications are needed, for example, garage and factory work, construction, hospital services and retail work.

Knowing how to speak other languages will enable you to also try for jobs abroad which may pay more than in Malaysia.

Contact for further information

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