

Supporting Your Learner

National 5 French

Course Outline	2
Exam Preparation	2
Useful Websites.....	4
Useful Textbooks	4
Revision Classes.....	6
SQA Past Papers.....	6
Understanding Standards	6



Course Outline

In National 5 French pupils study two main units:

1. Understanding language (listening and reading)
2. Using language (writing and talking)

These units are framed around three different themes:

1. Society
2. Learning and Employability
3. Culture

Pupils will complete 4 internal unit assessments as part of the course and each assessment focuses on one of the four significant language skills (Listening, Reading, Writing, Talking).

Candidates will undertake a final SQA exam which consists of four key elements:

1. Reading: 3 reading texts with comprehension questions to be answered in English (worth 30%).
2. Writing: A job application letter written in French (worth 20%).
3. Listening: A monologue and a conversation with comprehension questions to be answered in English (worth 20%).
4. Talking: A presentation of at least 1 minute 30 seconds and a conversation in French to last for a minimum of 5 minutes. Both talking assessments are held by the class teacher.

Exam Preparation

National 5 candidates should aim to carry out regular independent revision throughout the year in order to develop their knowledge of the language, their confidence in speaking, and their overall language skills. Achieving success in the National 5 course is contingent on hard work, ongoing effort, and determination. Pupils are strongly encouraged to complete past papers online as well as those provided by class teachers.

The following exam preparation techniques are recommended:

- Vocabulary Revision for Reading and Listening
 - Colour coding notes



- Creating mnemonics
 - Word association
 - Flash cards
 - Post-it notes
 - Look-Cover-Write-Check method
 - Ask family members to test you using your vocabulary lists
- Grammar
 - Revise infinitive verbs as you would vocabulary
 - Regularly practise verb conjugations
 - Group together the past, present, and future tenses of verbs
 - Revise grammar rules and examples
- Writing and Speaking
 - Break writing and speaking scripts into smaller, manageable chunks for easy revision
 - Practise writing your letter on paper
 - Learn one sentence at a time
 - Make flashcards with conversation questions and answers
 - Record speaking on your phone with your class teacher to focus on pronunciation
 - Use the voice repetition option on Google Translate to listen and repeat
 - Practise your presentation aloud alone and with others to build confidence
 - Ask family members to test you by...
 - Holding your script and reading the French while you write/say it in French
 - Holding your script and reading the English while you write/say it in French
 - Listening to your speaking with the script in hand and highlighting where you have missed words or made mistakes
- Developing Listening Skills and Pronunciation
 - Listen to or watch French radio (websites recommended below), music, films, and television
 - Complete practice listening exercises on Google Classroom



Useful Websites

National 5 Resources:

<http://www.brightredbooks.net/Account/logon> (create your own username and password)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z9b4q6f>

<https://classroom.google.com/> (to be set up by class teacher for resource sharing)

Vocabulary:

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

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

<http://www.wordreference.com/> (online bilingual dictionary)

<https://quizlet.com/> (for making online flash cards)

<http://www.atantot.co.uk/>

<http://www.french-games.net/>

Pronunciation:

<https://translate.google.com/> (only for pronunciation, not for translating)

<http://bonpatron.com/phonetics/1/>



Grammar:

<http://www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/Index.htm>

<http://bonpatron.com/> (French grammar and spell checker)

French Media:

<http://www.franceinfo.fr/>

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

<http://www.canalplus.fr/>

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

Useful Textbooks

The following websites sell revision and course notes as well as past papers. We have a sample copy in the department of most French textbooks and can offer individual advice on what the best option for each pupil may be.

- [Hodder Education](#)
- [Leckie and Leckie](#)
- [Bright Red Publishing](#)

For the final exam, pupils are expected to use a bilingual dictionary for the writing and reading components. Pupils are therefore strongly encouraged to purchase a bilingual dictionary as it will not be provided by the school for the exam.



Revision Classes

Revision classes will be offered Enhance Curriculum periods, lunch breaks and/or after school as allowed by the timetable and staffing. Please consult your class teacher for details of the revision sessions offered this year.

SQA Past Papers

The link below will allow you to access the most recent past examination papers as well as specimen papers produced by the SQA. There are also Marking Schemes on this page.

<http://www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.htm?subject=French>

Understanding Standards

The link below to the SQA website will allow you to see where markers have awarded marks to exemplar papers and read the markers' comments on the candidate's response. It is especially helpful in identifying where marks are awarded for analysis and for knowledge.

http://www.understandingstandards.org.uk/Subjects/Modern_Languages/French

