



Weaverham High School
Modern Foreign Languages Department.
French Department.



Year 9 – Preparing for GCSE.

In this ever-changing world languages are more important than ever. Languages open doors and learners knowing one or more foreign languages have more opportunities available to them. By the end of this 2 year course you will be able to communicate confidently and coherently with native speakers and prepare for further language study or future employment.

Welcome to your GCSE French preparation document. Over the next two school years you will study three themes, on which you will be tested at the end of year 11 in a listening, speaking, reading and writing examination. The exam board is AQA and the themes are:

- **Identity and culture**
- **Local, national, international and global areas of interest**
- **Current and future study and employment**

The above themes will be split into eight topic areas and these topics will have a particular grammar focus see below (you will already recognise some of the grammar as you covered it in year 9)

- 1: Relationships and marriage – present tense**
- 2: Home town and region – future tense**
- 3: My studies – opinions**
- 4: Free-time – present tense**
- 5: Health – modal verbs**
- 6: Holidays – perfect tense**
- 7: Work – subjunctive**
- 8: Environment, social issues – imperfect tense**

Below are some suggestions on how to get you prepared. None of these are compulsory, but they will very much help you in starting your course. They are mixtures of websites, and podcasts.



Websites for grammar and vocabulary learning

Weaverham High School have subscribed to a number of great language websites to support your language learning.

1. www.memrise.com (your personal login). This website is great to learn vocabulary for the topics and grammar listed above.
2. www.linguascope.com (username weaverham, password pommes). This website helps you to learn the sounds and spellings of the new vocabulary. The website is split into French, German and Spanish and the level which you require. Check out the great games available to help you learn the new vocabulary
3. www.atantot.co.uk (username mflweaverham, password 6068). This website is great for learning grammar such as the present, past and future tenses and how to use them accurately.

4. www.gcsebitesize.co.uk click onto the French section the website is broken down into the three themes and the eight topic areas. You can watch videos with native French speakers, learn the new vocabulary and test yourself on the new topics – well worth a visit!
5. <https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/index.html> click onto the French for vocabulary and grammar games.
6. <https://www.wordreference.com> to use a dictionary – do not use Google translate - it is not accurate!!



Films and documentaries

You can watch French TV series/films on Netflix with subtitles on to get used to the sound of French and also to learn about French culture (look under the genre INTERNATIONAL)



Podcasts

If you enjoy listening to podcasts there are a lot out there that will help you prepare for your GCSE topics. Below are some examples of the Podcasts you might like to listen to:

- GCSE Pod – Through school you have access to GCSE Pod where there are a number of pod casts related to your topics. There is also a Pod cast dedicated to preparing you for your French GCSE - <https://www.gcsepod.com>
- Check out “Getting ready for KS4 GCSE French” 9 BBC podcasts covering numerous grammar areas such as present tense, past tense, future tense, opinions etc – great revision to help you prepare for year 10.
- “Essential French” covering the basics such as the time, weather, daily greetings
- “Grammar” covering all the grammar you will need for the GCSE.