

Y11 work over summer before joining AGS in Y12

A It is important that you join Y12 with a firm understanding of French grammar at GCSE.

We thoroughly recommend that you go on to www.languagesonline.org.uk. This is an excellent and widely-used site for learners of French.

Click on **Français** and then **Grammar** and work through the following sections so that you have a firm basis of how the language works. You don't have to do all of activities under each heading but it is important to consolidate your understanding. Perhaps focus on those particular grammar points that you have difficulty with at GCSE. Do whatever suits you!

- The Present Tense
- -ER Verbs for Beginners
- The Perfect Tense for Beginners
- The Perfect Tense
- The Perfect Tense 2
- The Imperfect Tense
- Using the Perfect and Imperfect
- Le Futur Proche - Aller + Infinitif
- The Future Tense
- The Conditional Tense
- Reflexive Verbs
- Using Negatives
- Adjectives
- Time Phrases and Verb Tenses
- Attention à l'accent!
- Verb Busters - Revising Verbs for Exams? Check this out!
- Various Tenses Practice
- Various Grammar Points

The following **Topic units** will help with the language.

- GCSE Reading Practice Questions New
- GCSE: Silly Mistakes from Essays - Practice Sentences
- Year 10 Spelling Improvement Programme (Part 1)
- Year 10 Spelling Improvement Programme (Part 2)

Remember you don't have to do them all and there will be some revision of pre-GCSE grammar but this will help you.

B It is important too that you get used to (and keep up the habit of) reading extensively in French so that you are prepared for the step-up to Year 12 French.

We suggest that you keep a log of your reading over the holiday. Just browse the French TV / press sites online and record what you have read. Sometimes it is helpful if you know the context / content of the article (e.g. a film you have seen or a familiar sporting /cultural /news event) and then see how it is explained on a French website.

Some useful websites to look at

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

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

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

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

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

<http://www.la-croix.com/>
<http://tf1.lci.fr/>
<http://info.france2.fr/>
<http://fr.news.yahoo.com/>

TV channels include

TF1, France 2, France 3, Canal +, M6

A pro-forma is attached for you to download and fill in. Perhaps an article or two each week will help – the articles don't have to be long.

Please get into the habit of logging your reading. We will be checking in September to see how your reading has gone.

C Listening to French is great. If you can get to France or a French-speaking country, great – but this is not always possible. Watching **French films** is one of the best ways to improve your listening and comprehension skills. Watch what interests you. Watch it once – and maybe a second time without sub-titles to see how much you understand.

Radio France is easily accessible to help you get used to hearing the language and there are hundreds of apps and podcasts you can download. Coffee time French is a good one to try. Please let us know about anything amazing!

When you start in September you will have access to kerboodle which has listening exercises for you to do at home. Transcripts are supplied but you will need to get used gradually to listening without support.

D Finally, writing. We want you to write an essay (300 words) – Title e.g. Les vacances

We expect to see the following:

- Varied GCSE / GCSE+ vocab
- Evidence of use of dictionary
- Variety of construction
- Plenty of opinions / reasons / justifications / anecdotes
- Changing of subject pronoun (e.g. je -> il / nous / ils)
- Complex grammar points – e.g. 2 verbs in a sentence
- Try not to rehash the same old GCSE topic

NO GOOGLE TRANSLATOR please – we will know if you've used it so just don't bother – this won't help you in your writing exam and we need to know what you can / can't do! Please use www.wordreference.com as an online dictionary if necessary.

Bonne chance et bonnes vacances!!