



CITY OF LONDON ACADEMY  
**ISLINGTON**

WHERE STUDENTS SUCCEED

# French

## A Level French:

### Why choose this subject?

If you have achieved a Grade 7 or above in French at GCSE and have an appreciation of the language, literature, film and culture of the French-speaking world then French A-Level is for you. A-Level French will enable you to develop an advanced level knowledge and understanding of the French language, the culture of France and other French-speaking countries, as well as practical and valuable language and transferable study skills. It will also prepare you for higher education and enhance your employability profile.

### What Will I Be Studying?

The qualification has a straightforward structure with four engaging themes:

1. Les changements dans la société française
2. La culture politique et artistique dans les pays francophones
3. L'immigration et la société multiculturelle française
4. L'Occupation et la Résistance.

The four Themes are studied alongside two works (either two literary texts or one literary text and one film) assessed through two externally-examined papers and one Non-exam assessment (speaking).

### Entry Criteria

Five GCSEs at grades 5-9, plus a minimum of a 7 grade in French GCSE.

### How will I be assessed?

#### **Paper 1: Listening, reading and translation (\*Paper code: 9FR0/01)**

*Written examination: 2 hours 40% of the qualification 80 marks*

#### **Content overview**

This paper draws on vocabulary and structures across all four themes.

#### **Assessment overview**

Students are not permitted access to a dictionary during the examination.

The examination is made up of:

#### **Section A: Listening (30 marks)**

A listening assessment based on a recording, featuring male and female French speakers. Students will respond to comprehension questions based on a variety of contexts and sources.

#### **Section B: Reading (30 marks)**

A reading assessment based on a variety of text types and genres where students will have to respond to comprehension questions.

#### **Section C: Translation into English (20 marks)**

An unseen passage to be translated from French to English.

## **Paper 2: Written response to works and translation (\*Paper code: 9FR0/02)**

*Written examination: 2 hours and 40 minutes 30% of the qualification 120 marks*

### **Content overview**

This paper draws on the study of two discrete French works: either two literary texts, or one literary text and one film. The literary texts listed include a range of novels, plays and a series of short stories. All of the films are feature length.

### **Assessment overview**

This paper includes a translation exercise and two essays on either two literary texts, **or** one literary text and one film (students must **not** answer questions on two films).

Students are not permitted access to a dictionary or any documentation relating to the works during the examination.

### **Section A: Translation (20 marks)**

Students translate an unseen passage from English into French.

### **Section B: Written response to works (literary texts) (50 marks)**

Students must write an extended response on either one **or** two of the literary texts.

Students select one question from a choice of two for each of their chosen literary text(s). If a student answers questions on two literary texts then they **do not** complete Section C.

### **Section C: Written response to works (films) (50 marks)**

Students who answer only one question from a literary text in Section B must now write an extended response on **one** of the films. Students select one question from a choice of two for their chosen film.

## **Paper 3: Speaking (\*Paper code: 9FR0/03)**

*Internally conducted and externally assessed*

*Total assessment time: between 21 and 23 minutes, which includes a single period of 5 minutes' formal preparation time 30% of the qualification 72 marks*

### **Content overview**

Task 1 draws on vocabulary and structures across all four themes.

Task 2 is based on independent research selected and carried out by the student. The research may be based on one of the themes or on the student's own subject of interest related to the society and culture of the language studied. Students will be assessed on their ability to use a range of language accurately, communicate and interact effectively, summarise and analyse findings from written sources relating to their research subject, and show knowledge and understanding about the culture and society where the language is spoken.

### **Assessment overview**

Students complete two tasks. Task 1 is worth 30 marks and Task 2 is worth 42 marks.

### **Task 1 (discussion on a Theme)**

Students discuss one Theme from the specification based on a stimulus containing two different statements.

### **Task 2, Part 1 (independent research presentation)**

Students present a summary of at least two of the written sources they have used for their research and give a personal response to what they have read.

### **Task 2, Part 2 (discussion on independent research)**

Students answer questions on their presentation and then have a wider discussion on their research.