



## DRAYTON MANOR HIGH SCHOOL

### Success at Sixth Form – Subject Specific Tips

<b>Subject</b>	<b>French</b>
<b>Class and homework expectations</b>	

<p>100% attendance, including at the lessons with the French language assistant.</p> <p>File divided into the topic areas, notepaper, textbook (supplied by the French Department) and equipment.</p> <p>Homework to be completed for each lesson (5 per week).</p> <p>Independent work to address individual areas for improvement and extend understanding of French and francophone culture.</p> <p>Weekly note-taking using the Cornell system.</p>
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<b>Scheme of Work</b>	
<p><b>Year 12</b></p> <p>3 main topic areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends: changing family models; cyber-society; the role of voluntary work.</li><li>2) Artistic culture in the French-speaking world: a culture proud of its heritage; contemporary francophone music; cinema (the 7<sup>th</sup> art)</li><li>3) Study of a film (<i>La Haine</i> by Mathieu Kassovitz - students encouraged to buy own copy).</li></ol>	<p><b>Year 13</b></p> <p>4 main topic areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Aspects of French-speaking society – current issues: positive aspects of a diverse society; what life in France for marginalised people?; how are criminals treated?</li><li>2) Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world: adolescents – the right to vote &amp; political engagement; demonstrations and strikes – who has the power?; politics and immigration.</li><li>3) Year 12 themes/film dossier revisited and broadened. PLUS</li><li>4) Study of novel: <i>Un Sac de billes</i> by Joseph Joffo (students buy own copy to annotate). Additionally, students undertake an individual research project which forms part of their preparation for the speaking exam.</li></ol>

## Assessment Objectives

The exams will measure how students have achieved the following assessment objectives.

AO1: Understand and respond:

- in speech to spoken language including face-to-face interaction
- in writing to spoken language drawn from a variety of sources.

AO2: Understand and respond:

- in speech to written language drawn from a variety of sources
- in writing to written language drawn from a variety of sources.

AO3: Manipulate the language accurately, in spoken and written forms, using a range of lexis and structure.

AO4: Show knowledge and understanding of, and respond critically and analytically to, different aspects of the culture and society of countries/communities where the language is spoken.

Across assessment objectives AO1 and AO2, no more than 10% of the total marks for the qualification may be used for responses in English, including translation into English.

## Assessment

In addition to regular exam-style assessments throughout the course, students of both Y12 and Y13 French will have a full mock exam in January.

Public exams take place in May/June of Y13 and comprise:

**A level French:** Teacher-conducted oral exam in May (60 marks). Listening, Reading, Writing exam (100 marks) and a separate writing exam in late May (80 marks)

## How to do well in the subject at A Level

In addition to attending all lessons and French language assistant sessions, students who succeed well at French A level usually undertake most of the following:

- Extra reading to maintain awareness of the language and to extend repertoire of vocabulary and grammar.
- Volunteering as an assistant in classes lower down the school.
- Listening to and watching French online as often as possible.
- Making revision posters and using space at home to make living displays so that language is as visible as possible.
- Aiming to speak French 100% of the time in class.
- Having an enquiring mind and the willingness to research things which may be more challenging, such as grammar.
- Being organised with class and homework.
- Feeling unafraid of making mistakes.
- Seeking partners in France to exchange with (even if just by emailing each other) to gain further practice in the language.

## Support available

- Teachers and the French language assistant will give support and advice in each lesson.
- Starting after the mock exams, intervention lessons will be offered to ensure success at target grade as much as possible.
- Trips and visits both overseas and in London to conferences where experts provide further advice and resources (circumstances permitting).

## How parents can help support

- Encourage your son/daughter to teach you some French.
- Check they do their homework and that they are carrying out remedial work on homework to act on the teacher's advice and feedback.
- Encourage them to read, watch and listen to French using the internet, newspapers or French friends/family!
- Ensure they are organised with their filing of work.
- If possible, allow them to take part in any trip/visit being offered.

## Helpful websites or resources

[www.tf1.fr](http://www.tf1.fr)

[www.fr2.fr](http://www.fr2.fr)

[www.yahoo.fr](http://www.yahoo.fr)

[www.bfmtv.com](http://www.bfmtv.com)

[www.lefigaro.fr](http://www.lefigaro.fr)

[www.presseocean.fr](http://www.presseocean.fr)

[www.francaisfacile.com](http://www.francaisfacile.com)

The above are websites on which news and news clips can be accessed easily.

Additionally, many of these also have apps which can be downloaded and accessed via a smartphone.

Audio lingua – this is a website containing sound files which can be downloaded. These are recordings by young French people on topics relevant to French A Level.

[www.languagesonline.org.uk](http://www.languagesonline.org.uk) – a useful revision website to catch up on grammar with online activities to self-assess.

Additionally, access will be given to Kerboodle, the online support website for the course we follow and which contains all the listening tasks as well as extra online activities which can be used to further understanding and which give immediate feedback. They can be done repeatedly until you feel your confidence and knowledge have improved.