Teaching guide: Grammar guide

For our new GCSE French specification (8652), students are required to use their knowledge of grammar as prescribed in the DFE Subject Content. This grammar list is also provided in our French specification.

Students are required to demonstrate both receptive and productive knowledge of the grammar (though the derivational morphology in the grammar list can only be included for Paper 3 Reading).

Students entering Higher tier assessments are required to apply all grammar listed for Foundation tier, in addition to the grammar listed for Higher tier.

This resource:
- supports you with preparing your students for the new exams
- focuses on the grammar requirements relating to verbs and the use of singular and plural forms at each tier
- summarises the requirements in relation to the different tenses at each tier.

We hope you find it useful.

Foundation tier

Tense	Present	Perfect	Near Future	Conditional 1, 2, 3 person singular	Imperfect 1, 2, 3 person singular	Imperative 2nd person singular and plural
ER verbs	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
IR verbs following the pattern of: *choisir, partir, venir, ouvrir*	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
RE verbs following the pattern of: *entendre, prendre, traduire*	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
High-frequency irregular: *boire, connaître, courir, croire, écrire, recevoir, rire, suivre, voir*	1,2,3 person singular only	1,2,3 person singular only	1,2,3 person singular only			2nd person singular only
High-frequency irregular: *avoir, être, aller, faire*	✓	✓	✓		✓	Not *avoir, être*
Modal: *devoir, pouvoir, savoir, vouloir*	✓			*Vouloir* only		
Reflexives	1,2,3 person singular only	1,2,3 person singular only	1,2,3 person singular only		✓	

Higher tier

Tense	Present	Perfect	Near Future	Conditional	Imperfect	Imperative	Future tense	Present participle
ER verbs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1st person plural, 2nd person singular and plural	✓	✓
IR verbs following the pattern of: *choisir, partir, venir, ouvrir*	✓	✓	✓		✓	1st person plural, 2nd person singular and plural		✓
RE verbs following the pattern of: *entendre, prendre, traduire*	✓	✓	✓		✓	1st person plural, 2nd person singular and plural		✓
Verbs following the pattern of: *connaître, écrire*	✓	✓	✓		1,2,3, person singular	2nd person singular and plural (but not reflexives)		✓
High-frequency irregular: *boire, courir, croire, recevoir, rire, suivre, voir*	1,2,3 person singular only	1,2,3 person singular only	1,2,3 person singular only			2nd person singular only		

Tense	Present	Perfect	Near Future	Conditional	Imperfect	Imperative	Future tense	Present participle
High-frequency irregular: *avoir, être, aller, faire*	✓	✓	✓	1,2,3, person singular	✓	2nd person singular and plural – *aller, être, faire* + 1st person plural – *aller* only	1,2,3 person singular	✓
Modal: *devoir, pouvoir, savoir, vouloir*	✓	✓		1,2,3 person singular - *vouloir* only				
Reflexives	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓