



Grammatical concepts are re-visited on a regular basis with more complex concepts covered more frequently.

We teach **Edexcel A Level** French and there are six topic units:

Theme 1: Les changements dans la société française

Theme 1 is set in the context of France only. This theme covers social issues and trends.

- Les changements dans les structures familiales
Les changements dans les attitudes envers le mariage, les couples et la famille.
- L'éducation
Le système éducatif et les questions estudiantines.
- Le monde du travail
La vie active en France et les attitudes envers le travail; le droit à la grève; l'égalité des sexes.

Theme 2: La culture politique et artistique dans les pays francophones

Theme 2 is set in the context of Francophone countries and communities. This theme covers artistic culture (through music and festivals and traditions) and political and artistic culture (through media).

- La musique
Les changements et les développements; l'impact de la musique sur la culture populaire.
- Les médias
La liberté d'expression; la presse écrite et en ligne; l'impact sur la société et la politique.
- Les festivals et les traditions
Les festivals, fêtes, coutumes et traditions.

And they are taught in this order:

	Teacher A	Teacher B
Autumn 1	Change in Family Structure	Music
Autumn 2	Education	Festivals and Traditions
Spring 1	World of Work	Media
Spring 2	Introduction to IRP	Les intouchables (Film)
Summer 1	Topic Revision and IRP	Topic Revision and Les intouchables
Summer 2	Revision, assessment, feedback Introduction to the Independent Research Project	



Topic name	Knowledge and skills developed	Prior learning	Next link in curriculum
Introduction to A Level Course Teachers A & B	Grammatical reinforcement • Present tense • Irregular verbs Thematic understanding • La Francophonie • Statistics and demographic data Strategic skills • Cultural awareness • Interpretation of data • Translation skills	GCSE: countries, the world and numbers Y7–11: present tense verbs	Grammar and vocabulary recur throughout the course Y13 oral preparation

Topic name	Knowledge and skills developed	Prior learning	Next link in curriculum
Les changements dans les structures familiales Teacher A	Grammatical reinforcement: Present tense and gender and agreement, including consolidation of regular and common irregular verbs, accurate subject-verb agreement, and secure use of masculine/feminine and singular/plural forms. Grammatical skills: Nouns and adjectives, including formation and agreement of adjectives, position of adjectives, and use of a wider range of descriptive language to develop more precise and complex descriptions. Thematic understanding: Family structures in France, including traditional and modern families, marriage and partnerships (including PACS), and family relationships. Exploration of how family life is changing in contemporary French society and how relationships are represented.	Y7–11: Family and identity topics, including describing family members, relationships and basic opinions. Development of present tense and adjective agreement, and introduction to expressing justified opinions at GCSE.	links to the world of work and wider themes of social change in Y12. Supports development of discussion and opinion-based speaking required for Y13 oral preparation. Provides a foundation for analysing social trends and relationships in more depth in Y13.



	Strategic skills: Translation (developing accuracy and understanding of key vocabulary and structures), short written responses (building from simple sentences to more extended answers), and discussion skills (expressing and justifying opinions, responding to others and developing spoken interaction).		
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Topic name	Knowledge and skills developed	Prior learning	Next link in curriculum
L'éducation Teacher A	Grammatical skills: Future tense (near and simple future), conditional tense for expressing opinions and hypotheses, and a range of question forms including inversion. Development of more complex sentence structures using a variety of connectives. Thematic understanding: The French education system, including its structure and comparison with other systems, alongside student stress, access to higher education, and pathways to employment. Exploration of how education shapes opportunities and social mobility. Strategic skills: Debate techniques, constructing and responding to arguments, effective use of dictionary skills, and development of extended speaking. Students also practise repair strategies such as paraphrasing and self-correction to improve fluency.	KS3: School subjects, opinions about school and simple comparisons KS4: Detailed discussion of school life, introduction to future plans, use of perfect and future tenses	Direct link to "Le monde du travail" (education to employment pathway) Supports ability to discuss social issues in Y13 Develops argumentation skills required for oral and written exam tasks

Topic name	Knowledge and skills developed	Prior learning	Next link in curriculum
Le monde du travail Teacher A	Grammatical skills: Introduction to the subjunctive with common triggers, use of direct, indirect and relative pronouns, and development of more complex structures to express opinions and arguments. Thematic understanding: Work-life balance and changing attitudes to work, the role of strikes in France within a social and historical context,	KS3: Jobs and basic career vocabulary KS4: Work experience, future career plans, use of future and conditional tenses	Links directly to Y13 social issues and political themes Supports development of essay-writing and debate skills Provides thematic



	and issues of equality in the workplace including gender and discrimination. Strategic skills: Translation into English with a focus on accuracy and nuance, critical discussion and evaluation of viewpoints, development of summary skills, and construction of clear and logical arguments.		foundation for IRP and oral exam discussion
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Topic name	Knowledge and skills developed	Prior learning	Next link in curriculum
La musique Teacher B	Grammatical reinforcement: Past tenses, including consolidation of the perfect, imperfect and pluperfect with attention to accuracy, agreement and common irregular forms. Grammatical skills: The passé composé (with irregular past participles and agreement rules), recognition and understanding of the passé simple for reading authentic texts, and the use of reflexive verbs in present and past contexts. Development of time expressions, word order and negatives to describe trends and events clearly. Thematic understanding: Francophone music, including key artists, genres and regional variation. Exploration of musical trends over time, youth culture and globalisation, and the influence of music on society, including identity, protest and cultural expression. Strategic skills: Listening for detail, including identifying opinions and attitudes in authentic audio, alongside research skills using a range of	KS3: Introduction to music and free-time activities, expressing simple opinions KS4: Development of opinions on music and media, use of present and past tenses, introduction to more complex justifications	Builds towards discussion of cultural identity and traditions in Y12 (festivals and traditions unit) Supports development of extended speaking for Y13 oral examination Provides foundation for independent cultural analysis in IRP



	sources such as interviews and reviews. Development of presentation skills through structured extended speaking.		
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Les médias Teacher B	Grammatical skills: Use of present and past participles in more complex sentence structures, as well as negatives and structures used for emphasis. Thematic understanding: Freedom of speech and its limitations, printed media and its role in society, new technologies and digital communication, and the influence of the media on public opinion and politics. Strategic skills: Evaluating viewpoints by identifying bias and perspective, adapting texts for different audiences and purposes, and developing presentation and independent research skills.	KS3: Reading and discussing media and technology KS4: Expressing opinions on technology and media, developing justification and argument	Direct progression to Y13 topics on politics and media influence Supports IRP through development of research and evaluation skills Builds critical thinking required for exam tasks

Topic name	Knowledge and skills developed	Prior learning	Next link in curriculum
Les festivals et les traditions Teacher B	Grammatical skills: Use of adverbs, formation and use of imperatives, and sequencing language to describe events and traditions clearly. Thematic understanding: Francophone celebrations and festivals, their origins and cultural significance, and customs and traditions in France and across the francophone world, with a focus on cultural diversity and comparison. Strategic skills: Research and independent exploration of cultural topics, reading for understanding including identifying key information and inference, and developing cultural comparison skills.	KS3: Introduction to French festivals and cultural traditions KS4: Ability to describe events and traditions using different time frames and opinions	Supports cultural understanding across all Y12 and Y13 topics Provides content and ideas for IRP topics Develops comparison skills needed for higher-level analysis



Topic name	Knowledge and skills developed	Prior learning	Next link in curriculum
Film Study: Intouchables Teacher B	Grammatical reinforcement: Application of previously studied grammar, including a range of tenses and more complex sentence structures, in extended speaking and writing about the film. Thematic understanding: Study of key themes and characters, relationships and social issues, and the wider social context of the film, including class, disability and representation in French society. Exploration of directorial techniques such as camera work, music and narrative structure. Strategic skills: Introduction to essay writing, including structuring analytical responses, developing critical analysis and selecting relevant evidence from the film. Development of confidence in oral discussion and expressing interpretations.	KS3: Introduction to film analysis and simple reviews. KS4: Description of characters, expression of opinions on films, and development of basic analytical responses.	Preparation for Y13 film study. Development of analytical essay-writing skills for Paper 2. Supports ability to discuss cultural works in the speaking exam.

Topic name	Knowledge and skills developed	Prior learning	Next link in curriculum
Independent Research Project	Grammatical skills: Application of previously studied grammar in speaking and writing, including accurate use of a range of tenses, complex sentence structures and opinion phrases in extended responses. Thematic understanding: Exploration of a topic related to French-speaking society or culture, allowing students to develop in-depth knowledge and understanding of an area of personal interest. Students consider different perspectives and begin to form independent viewpoints.	KS3: Simple presentations and expressing opinions on familiar topics. KS4: GCSE speaking exam preparation, including photo card, role play and general conversation, with increasing confidence	Preparation for A-level speaking examination, including discussion and presentation of the IRP topic. Full development and refinement of the Independent Research Project in Y13. Supports spontaneous



	Strategic skills: Development of independent research, including selecting and refining a topic, identifying and using a range of sources, summarising key information and presenting ideas clearly. Students develop the ability to express and justify opinions, handle questions, and engage in spontaneous discussion, building towards independent analysis and evaluation.	in expressing and justifying opinions.	interaction, critical thinking and independent learning skills required for the oral exam. Ongoing throughout the course.
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Topic name	Knowledge and skills developed	Prior learning	Next link in curriculum
L'Étranger	Grammatical skills: Application of previously studied grammar, including present, perfect and imperfect tenses, to describe events, characters and ideas. Development of more complex sentence structures and opinion phrases to begin expressing interpretation. Thematic understanding: Introduction to the novel, including plot overview, key events and main characters. Exploration of central themes such as identity, society, morality and the individual, with an initial understanding of the context of the novel and its significance in French literature. Strategic skills: Introduction to literary analysis, including how to describe and analyse characters and themes, and how to support ideas with evidence from the text. Development of essay-writing skills, including structuring a response, forming arguments and writing analytically. Building confidence in discussion, expressing interpretations and responding to questions.	KS3: Reading and responding to short texts, describing characters and giving simple opinions. KS4: Experience of longer texts and translation, developing use of different tenses and expressing justified opinions in speaking and writing.	Preparation for more detailed study of <i>L'Étranger</i> or other literary works in Y13. Development of analytical essay-writing skills required for Paper 2. Supports ability to interpret and evaluate texts and express independent viewpoints in speaking and writing.