

SUMMER WORK FOR FRENCH A-LEVEL STUDENTS

1. You must buy the accompanying textbook:

Edexcel A level French

https://www.amazon.co.uk/d/Books/Edexcel-level-French-Karine-Harrington/1471858162/ref=pd_lpo_sbs_14_t_1?encoding=UTF8&psc=1&refRID=NWCGGCX7MCW6G2XQ8EHR

2. Grammar

Purchase this A-level grammar book: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Edexcel-Level-French-Grammar-Practice/dp/0435396099>

You will be expected to know how to conjugate regular er/ir/re verbs in the following tenses:

- Present
- Imperfect
- Perfect
- Future
- Conditional

You will also be expected to understand which verbs take 'etre' not 'avoir' in the perfect tense and how they agree.

You will be expected to be able to conjugate the following irregular verbs:

- Pouvoir
- Vouloir
- devoir
- Avoir
- Être
- Aller
- Faire

Please use the following website to help you:

<https://www.language-gym.com/#!/>

www.languagesonline.org.uk

To further understand and refine your grammar, we strongly recommend that you buy a copy of:

French Grammar Drills by Eliane Kurbegov

3. Cultural Awareness

Ensure that you get into the habit of reading an article from a French newspaper each day and watching the French news online.

The best websites are:

Download the app <http://www.20minutes.fr/> or visit the website to keep up to date with French news and current affairs. Of course other apps and websites are possible but some do charge.

- <https://www.tf1.fr/>
- <https://www.6play.fr/m6>
- <https://www.lemonde.fr>
- <http://www.lefigaro.fr/>

Vocabulary acquisition is a very important part of the course so please keep a list of higher level vocabulary that you have used.

Create an account for Memrise and start learning vocabulary from this course:

<https://www.memrise.com/course/438797/french-a-level-useful-phrases-vocab/> Your class teacher will start a class group for you at the start of the year.

4. **Music**

Part of the course is listening to different types of French music and understanding folk traditions and French rap. We recommend listening to:

- Christine and the Queens
- Stromae
- Zaz
- Black M

You should research the following festivals:

- Les Eurockéennes
- Rock En Seine
- Les Vieilles Charrues
- Nuits Sonores

Students should choose different biographies to read of key figures or ordinary citizens who wrote their autobiographies.

5. **L'Etranger**

- The Absurd
- Existentialism
- The Life of Camus
- Jean-Paul Sartre/Simone de Beauvoir
- Buy 'L'Etranger' – Folio edition (first one that comes up on Amazon)
- Read it in English first

6. **La Haine**

Watch the film

Read about social history in Paris in the 1980s and 90s

7. **Occupation and Resistance**

You will be learning about what happened in France during WW2, read around the subject. Here are some ideas:

- Read about the Occupation – how did it happen etc. – there are lots of great documentaries about this on YouTube
- We recommend you read: 'Les Parisiennes' and 'Un Village Français'
- We recommend you watch: Channel 4: Walter Presents 'La Resistance'.
- Read about Maréchal Pétain
- Read about Charles De Gaulle
- Biographies/autobiographies of survivors of WW2 – French Jews and members of the Resistance