

FACTFILE: GCSE FRENCH



Listening 8

CONTEXT 2: LOCAL, NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL AND GLOBAL AREAS OF INTEREST



Travel and tourism



Introduction

Here are some key points to help you study this topic.

Learning Outcomes

You should be able to:

- demonstrate understanding of different types of spoken language;
- follow and understand clear speech using familiar language;
- identify the overall message, key points, details and opinions in a variety of spoken passages;
- deduce meaning from a variety of spoken texts; and
- recognise and respond to key information, important themes and ideas in extended spoken text (including authentic sources, which may be adapted as appropriate) by being able to answer questions, extract information, evaluate and draw conclusions.

These lists are neither prescriptive nor exhaustive.

Skills

- Preparation is key – manage your time effectively – don't leave it till the last minute.
- Managing the information you gather on this subject is essential to success.
- Spend adequate amount of time to fully prepare this topic.
- Learn the key vocabulary for your chosen topic.
- Make sure you have enough vocabulary and grammatical structures learnt to fully – develop your answers.
- Listen to and practise authentic recordings.
- Try to anticipate likely questions.
- Always listen carefully to possible key words and expressions, for example use of negatives and words such as *mais*, *en revanche*, *cependant* which might introduce a less obvious answer.
- Use a variety of resources to gather information on the topic.
- Where possible select resources that have different styles and registers.
- Develop your language listening skills through regular practise reading aloud at home and in class to gain confidence and fluency.
- The first stage in acquiring confident listening skills involves good listening.
- Further develop your listening skills using authentic French material to take familiarise yourself with different regional intonations and pronunciations.
- Interact in role playing with classmates in pairs or small groups to gain confidence.
- Track your progress.

Preparation

- Choose an aspect of this topic that you have a particular interest in. For example, 'the use of social media by young people today'.
- Brainstorm some of the ideas or areas you are thinking of developing.
- Use spidergrams to help you develop some particularly interesting aspects of this topic.
- Read and find out as much as you can about your topic using a variety of sources, class resources, books and websites.
- This topic lends itself well to making comparisons.
- Try to enhance and develop your research by making comparisons.
- Add an interesting or unusual fact to create curiosity.
- Check with your teacher that your approach/ideas are suitable.
- Avoid using Wikipedia and free online translation apps/sites.
- Write notes to summarise the information you have gathered and selected and keep safely in organised folders.
- Organise your resources, findings and material and break them down into points.
- Ensure that your prepared material gives you the opportunity to be awarded a higher level grade.

Practice

- Listening is a skill which you should practise regularly in class and at home.
- Use every opportunity in class to improve your listening skills by listening regularly to authentic resources or classroom instructions/discussions with your classmates and teachers.
- Participate actively in aural exercises, discussion activities and spontaneous question and answer classroom opportunities.
- Take the opportunity to speak to the French Language Assistant in small class groups to become more confident when listening to authentic French resources.
- Learn the vocabulary for this topic thoroughly and regularly.
- Don't be tempted to leave practice to the last minute.

- Check your memory by covering one part and remembering the other.
- You should try to respond fully to a question.
- Pay attention to the tense used in the question and try to answer accordingly.
- Always read instructions and questions set carefully ensuring your answers are in the appropriate language.

Revision

- Use every opportunity in class to improve your listening skills by engaging in all role play activities and listening exercises with your classmates and teachers.
- Organise your prepared and revision work.
- Do not rely on the obvious answers but always listen for the key expressions or words for example the use of negatives and expressions which compare and contrast.
- Practise makes perfect, revise your listening skills by using past papers and recordings.
- When practising try to engage with your teacher or French Language Assistant.
- Use family and friends to help you revise in class and at home.
- Try out the websites and language games sites to help you revise for this topic.
- Always remember you will be assessed on your aural skills and linguistic competence.

