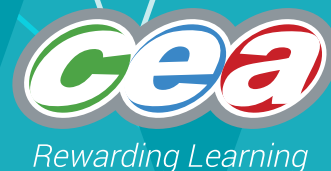


FACTFILE: GCSE FRENCH

Speaking 4

CONTEXT 1: IDENTITY, LIFESTYLE AND CULTURE



Culture, customs, festivals and celebrations



Introduction

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

Learning Outcomes

You should be able to:

- Communicate and interact effectively in speech for a variety of purposes;
- Take part in short conversations, asking and answering questions, exchanging opinions and producing extended sequences of speech;
- Speak spontaneously, responding to questions, points of view or situations and sustaining communication, as appropriate;
- Express information and narrate events coherently and confidently, using and adapting language for new purposes;
- Make appropriate and accurate use of a variety of vocabulary and grammatical structures;

- Make creative use of the language, as appropriate, to express and justify their own thoughts and points of view;
- Use accurate pronunciation and intonation that would be understood by a native speaker.

Skills

- Can you describe a party you attended?
- Can you give key dates about important celebrations?
- Can you use a variety of tenses to talk about a celebration?
- Can you express an opinion about a festival or celebration?

Preparation

Preparing for Speaking about 'Culture, customs, festivals and celebrations' can be made very easy by following a few simple steps:

- Make sure you can communicate simple information in present tense about
 - Your birthday and other celebrations
- In a variety of tenses, explain how you:
 - normally celebrate birthdays, Christmas and other festivals
 - what you received as gifts/what you would like to receive as gifts
 - what you did last year/ what you will do next year
- Make sure you can provide at least a date and one sentence about:
 - April 1st, Bastille Day or another French celebration studied in school

Practice

Can you communicate simple information clearly and concisely using a full sentence? Try this out.

Quelle est la date de ton anniversaire?

Say when your birthday is using a full sentence.

Qu'est-ce que tu as reçu comme cadeaux pour Pâques?

Say you received money and some chocolate.

Quelle est la tradition en France pour le 14 juillet?

Say it is Bastille Day. Say there are parades and fireworks.

Qu'est-ce que tu aimerais faire pour fêter Noël?

Say you would like to decorate the tree. Say you will eat a big dinner and offer presents to your family.

Record yourself saying the answers above and ask your French Assistant/Teacher to give you feedback on your pronunciation, intonation and accent.

Revision

Look at the sample answers to the questions below.

Parle-moi de ton dernier anniversaire.

Mon anniversaire c'est le 11 janvier et j'aurai bientôt quinze ans. Toutefois, l'année dernière mon anniversaire était super. Tout d'abord, je suis allé au cinéma avec mes amis pour regarder un film comique. Puis, nous sommes allés au restaurant ou j'ai mangé une pizza. Finalement, quand je suis rentré chez moi, ma mère m'a donné des cadeaux splendides et j'ai mangé une tranche de gâteau. J'ai pensé que c'était délicieux. Ça m'a beaucoup plu.

Qu'est-ce que tu fais normalement pour fêter Noël?

En général, je passe mes vacances de Noël avec ma famille. Normalement, on se lève tôt le matin pour ouvrir les cadeaux. Puis, on va à la messe parce que nous sommes assez religieuses et nous aimons aller à l'église. Après ça, on mange vers midi avec toute ma famille. Le soir, on va d'habitude à la maison de ma tante et je passe la soirée avec mes cousins. C'est excellent!

Helpful Hints

For question 1:

- Can you spot the accurate use of several tenses in question 1? Highlight them.
- Can you highlight linking words in another colour?
- Can you spot any opinions? Highlight them also in a different colour.

For question 2:

- Can you spot different synonyms for the word 'normally'? There are three.
- Can you spot a variation of verb structures being used?
- Can you spot any justifications?

As you prepare your own oral answers, use the above 'tick lists' to help you consider what makes a good answer.

