

FACTFILE: GCSE FRENCH



Writing 1

CONTEXT 1: IDENTITY, LIFESTYLE AND CULTURE



Myself, my family, relationships and choices



Introduction

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

Learning Outcomes

You should be able to:

- communicate in writing for a variety of purposes;
- write short texts, using simple sentences and familiar language to convey meaning and exchange information;
- translate sentences from English into French to convey key messages accurately and to apply grammatical knowledge of language and structures in context;
- produce clear and coherent extended text to present facts and express ideas and opinions for different purposes and in different settings;

- make accurate use of a variety of vocabulary and grammatical structures;
- manipulate the language, using and adapting a variety of structures and vocabulary with accuracy and fluency for new purposes (including using appropriate style and register); and
- make independent and creative use of the language to identify key points, express and justify their thoughts and points of view.

These lists are neither prescriptive nor exhaustive.

Skills

- Communication.
- Using ICT.
- Self-management.
- Working with others.
- Problem solving.
- Managing information.
- Being creative.

Preparation

- Be aware of the specification requirements, mark schemes and with the assessment format of this component of the GCSE.
- Always read the questions carefully and at least twice and ensure you understand what you are expected to answer.
- Underline or highlight important words in the instructions (Why, Where, When, Explain, Analyse, etc.)
- For extended writing exercises, plan your work carefully in bullet points with the ideas and

vocabulary you want to include.

- Take punctuation into account, as it may change the meaning of a sentence.
- In extended writing exercises, organise your essay by developing each point in a different paragraph and avoid repetition. Also ensure there is a balance in the information you write for each bullet point.
- Answer the questions in the specified language. In the exam, marks will not be awarded for answers in the wrong language.
- Avoid writing irrelevant material. You will not get any extra points for it and will be more prone to make mistakes.
- Develop a good knowledge of vocabulary and structures related to the topic of Myself, my family, relationships and choices (family members/ physical descriptions/ personality/ personal details/ jobs and places of work/ hobbies, etc.) and focus on the spelling of these and the grammar you need to use.

Practice

- Write out answers to possible questions related to the topic of Myself, my family, relationships and choices. Key areas might be:
 - Talking about you (name/ age/ birthday/ occupation/ physical description/ personality/ hobbies, etc.)
 - Description of your family.
 - Physical description of your friend/ other members of your family.
 - Your relationship with your family.
 - Your pets.
 - The type of things you do/ did/ will do with your family or friends.
- Make lists of vocabulary related to the topic of Myself, my family, relationships and choices.
- Translation from English into French of sentences related to the topic of Myself, my family, relationships and choices.
- Written descriptions of photographs related to the topic of Myself, my family, relationships and choices.
- Questions in the writing section using SAMs from CCEA.

Revision

- Practise a variety of different topic based scenarios (gap filling exercises/ short sentences/ translations from English into French/ extended writing exercises).
- Be familiar with the spelling of topic based vocabulary and structures related to the topic of Myself, my family, relationships and choices.
- Revise key verbs related to the topic (Etre/ Travailler/ Etudier/Aimer/Porter, etc) and use them in different tenses.
- Try to include opinions, justifications and idiomatic language in your answers, where.
- Try to include opinions and justifications in your answers, where appropriate.
- Always take into account any feedback from your teacher to identify areas for improvement.

