

Bienvenue au département de français pour A level

Savoir, penser, rêver. Tout est là.

Victor Hugo



Ajoutez
deux
lettres
à Paris
et c'est
le paradis.

Jules Renard



Cela rend modeste de voyager. On voit quelle petite place on occupe dans le monde.

Gustave Flaubert



"A different language is a different vision of life."

Federico Fellini

*The conquest of learning
IS ACHIEVED THROUGH
THE KNOWLEDGE OF
languages.*

Roger Bacon

"He who knows no foreign languages knows nothing of his own."

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

*"With languages,
you are at home anywhere."*

Edmund De Waal

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Welcome to the A level French department at St Benedict's Sixth Form.

As you are aware, a foreign language needs to be maintained on a regular basis otherwise recall for vocabulary and grammar becomes a little tricky.

Therefore, we recommend that you take some time before starting the course in September in completing the work, you can find on these pages and explore some of the links we have selected for you.



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Fortunately, you have some time in which to prepare for your French A level. The leap from GCSE to A level is significant but is entirely achievable. The following links, most of which are available online and for free, will hold you in good stead for starting off and continuing on the right path. Lisez! Écoutez! Regardez! Régalez-vous!

www.tv5monde.com Online television network broadcasting French-language programming from all sectors.

www.euronews.net Online news site where you select French from the languages they have on offer. You can watch the news clips with the transcript below. You can also go directly to <http://fr.euronews.com/> and watch news clips in French and then watch it in English to see how much you have understood.

www.liberation.fr Online version of a national French newspaper.

<https://francaisfacile.rfi.fr> is a website full of podcasts and activities to learn French from current affairs stories. REALLY VERY GOOD!

www.radiofrance.fr offers different networks focusing on different programming, a little like how BBC radio works.

www.lesinrocks.com online version of the cultural magazine focusing primarily on music, film, television, art and theatre.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4AixfFTkMNQ&t=39s> How to take notes effectively - Cornell Notes

<https://quizlet.com/en-gb> and <https://www.memrise.com/> for vocabulary learning

You could also switch to French browsers such as www.google.fr or <http://fr.yahoo.com/> requiring you to read French every time you log on therefore becoming part of your everyday activity. Don't forget that streaming services have many French TV shows and films.

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There is plenty of grammar practice exercises you can find online.

www.languagesonline.org.uk allows you to select what grammar you want to revise.

You can practice as often as possible. A good tactic is to translate the examples and exercises into English to ensure you understand the meaning of each tense.

<http://conjuguemos.com/> is very good for practicing your verb conjugations.

www.texsfrenchgrammar.org has plenty to choose from and is favourite of Mrs Dalby!

<https://www.zut.org.uk/advanced/year12.html> is available for free from 4pm. Great to practice verbs, pronouns, translations and review other grammar points.

Reference books are useful to have too. We suggest the following -

- 'Mot à Mot' by Paul Humberstone. The vocab is divided up into topic areas.
- 'Bescherelle Complete Guide to Conjugating 12,000 French verbs (English version)' is very useful when writing essays.
- 'Elan Grammar Workbook' by Gill Maynard and Marian Jones

It is important to have access to a proper dictionary such as Collins, however if you are to use to your phone www.linguee.fr is great as a dictionary but also gives you words in different contexts.

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You will notice early on in your French A level that you are almost completing a Sociology course in French. You will be learning all about the history and culture of French societies from across the globe. Please think to look at the following websites when starting your research on any topic –



www.gouvernement.fr a French government run website.

www.institute-francais.org.uk promotes French culture in the UK and cross-cultural exchange. Language courses, film screenings, talks, concerts are sometimes offered.

<http://French.about.com/> is an English website but has good links.

<http://schoolonline.britishcouncil.org/> has plenty of information for students.

www.fr.wikipedia (but remember to validate your research as anyone can write information. Please do not quote from Wikipedia).

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What should I know by now? A common question asked by students embarking on their A level. Check that you are familiar and confident with the following –

TOPIC	CONTENT
Recognise and use a range of tenses with regular verbs.	Regular –RE, -ER, -IR verbs: Tenses: Present Passé Composé Imperfect Near Future (form of aller + infinitive) Future (eg. Sera) Conditional (eg. serait)
Recognise and use a range of tenses with irregular verbs.	Common irregular verbs: être, avoir, aller, pouvoir, vouloir Tenses: Present Passé Composé Imperfect Near Future (form of aller + inf.) Future (eg. Sera) Conditional (eg. serait)
Give opinions with reasons	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A range of opinion expressions• Positive and negative reasons for opinions• To be able to agree and disagree

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Work to complete over the summer –

Choose one of the following to bring in with you in September:

- A piece of French writing (200 words) that uses as many of the tenses found on slide 4 explaining all about you, where you have been, what you have done, what you are up to now and what you would like to do in the future. You can include photos and present it as a visual display.
- A piece of original storytelling in French (200 words). This could be in the shape of a short story, graphic novel (for any of you who enjoy art too!), prose poem, etc.
- Watch a French film and prepare a 3-5min oral presentation in French with accompanying PowerPoint explaining the premise of the movie, your opinions & reasons and background information about the writer/director and main actors.
- Read a short work of French fiction and do the same as for the French film.

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Work to complete over the summer –

PR	IM	PER		Con	P	Con	F	F
Present	Perfect	fect (le passé composé)		ditional	ast	ditional	uture	uture PERFect
NEAR Future	Past Historic	(present) Subjunctive	PLU	perfect	PR	PART	IMPER	
						iciple	ative	

Can you identify the tense (or mood)? Use the highlighted abbreviations & then translate in to English

1. J'**ai dû** y aller hier
2. Je **voudrais** aller au Maroc
3. Elle **a** de la chance
4. Elles **avaient eu** des problèmes avec la voiture
5. Il **arriva** chez lui à dix-huit heures
6. Il faut que je **fasse** un effort
7. Il **arrivera** en retard comme toujours
8. Il est parti en **courrant**
9. Allez-y!

10. Il **aura fini** son travail demain
11. J'**aurais voulu** voir ce film
12. Je **jouais** au foot quand j'**étais** jeune
13. Il **va regarder** la télé ce soir

_____	_____
_____	_____
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Work to complete over the summer –

PResent **IM**perfect **PER**fect (le passé composé) **C**onditional **P**ast **C**onditional **F**uture **F**uture **PER**fect
NEAR Future **P**ast **H**istoric (present) **S**ubjunctive **PLU**perfect **PR**esent **PART**iciple **IMPER**ative

Fill in the grid with both the je (first person) and il/elle/on (third person singular) forms

Infinitiv e	Present	Imperfect	Perfect	Future	conditional	Subjunctive
aller	_____	_____	suis allé_____	_____	_____	_____
	va				irait	
être	_____	étais_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
avoir	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
faire	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
pouvoir	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
savoir	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
devoir	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
prendre	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
				prendra		
venir	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	vienne_____

Les sacs surpris!

1. Trouvez les noms des objets dans vos sacs
2. Après, dites a haute voix les noms des objets
3. Travaillez dans votre groupe pour inventer un personnage en utilisant les objets comme inspiration –
 - Nom du personnage
 - Age du personnage
 - Le genre de maison où ils vivent
 - Leur personnalité et intérêts
 - Où ils vont aller pour leurs vacances d'été et pourquoi

« Deux mensonges et une vérité »

Il s'agit d'une activité brise-glace classique, qui peut être adaptée à un cours en ligne.

Instructions :

- Demandez à un participant d'écrire trois affirmations sur lui-même : 2 mensonges une vérité.
- Demandez aux autres participants de voter pour les affirmations qui sont vraies et pour celles qui sont fausses.
- Une fois que la première personne a partagé ses affirmations et que le groupe a décidé quelle déclaration est fausse, la personne concernée doit révéler ses deux vérités et son mensonge.
- Continuez jusqu'à ce que chaque personne du groupe ait partagé ses affirmations.

La personne qui parvient à deviner correctement la vérité gagne.