



# FRENCH STUDIES A LEVEL – SUMMER ASSIGNMENT



## **Bienvenue!**

As you will have experienced a long period without any French lessons followed by a summer break, we would like you to do a few things to keep your French going before coming to college.

1. Complete the following two tasks IN FRENCH. You should write a minimum of 100 words on each part

### **TASKS 1**

Why have you decided to study French at A Level and why is learning a language important?

### **TASKS 2**

Research one aspect of France or French/ Francophone culture that interests you (e.g. an artist, a musician, food customs, a sport, a festival or a tradition, a place), and explain in simple French why you think it is important to know about it.

Be prepared in the first lesson to discuss your ideas with your classmates. Suggested structures to use:

A. ✓ J'aime le Français parce que....

✓ J'ai décidé/choisi d'étudier le français parce que....

✓ Il est important d'apprendre une langue étrangère parce que / pour (it's important to learn a language because / in order to ...)

✓ Etudier le français me permettre de....(....will allow me to...)

B. ✓ Ce qui m'intéresse en particulier en France/ Algérie/au Sénégal etc (what interests me particularly is...)

✓ Une des choses qui m'intéresse en France ... (one of the things that interests me about France is...)

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2. Make sure you are able to conjugate the present tense of the following common irregular verbs with confidence:

	Je	Tu	Il/elle/on	Nous	vous	Ils/elles
<b>être</b> (to be)	suis	es	est	sommes	êtes	sont
<b>avoir</b> (to have)	ai	as	a	avons	avez	ont
<b>faire</b> (to do/make)	fais	fais	fait	faisons	faites	font
<b>aller</b> (to go)	vais	vas	va	allons	allez	vont
<b>devoir</b> (to have to, must)	dois	dois	doit	devons	devez	doivent
<b>pouvoir</b> (to be able to, can)	peux	peux	peut	pouvons	pouvez	peuvent
<b>vouloir</b> (to want to)	veux	veux	veut	voulons	voulez	veulent
<b>prendre</b> (to take)	prends	prends	prend	prenons	prenez	prennent

Here is a useful website for learning French tenses :

<https://conjugemos.com/activities/french/verb/1>

Here is a BBC site you might find useful for revising grammar :

<https://www.bbc.com/education/topics/zvf42hv>

It would be a good idea to revise as much of the French grammar that you learnt for GCSE as possible before the start of term.

3. During the course you will need to take a broad interest in what is happening in France and Francophone countries in order to enhance your language skills and your knowledge of French culture. Get into the habit now by exploring what is available. In your first week be prepared to share with the class an activity connected to France or a Francophone country that you have done in your holidays . For example, you could:

- Watch a French film (with English subtitles), e.g. La Haine, Amélie, Girlhood, Les Choristes or a TV series e.g. Engrenages (Spirale)

- Read an online French newspaper or magazine (l'Equipe (sport), Marie Claire, le Monde, le Figaro, l'Express, Elle) and see what you can understand or look at one of the following web-sites [www.savoirs.rfi.fr](http://www.savoirs.rfi.fr) (French language learning news web-site), [www.TV5.fr](http://www.TV5.fr) ; [www.M6.fr](http://www.M6.fr) ; [www.lemonde.fr](http://www.lemonde.fr) ; [www.lefigaro.fr](http://www.lefigaro.fr) ; [www.lesclesjunior.com](http://www.lesclesjunior.com); [www.france24.com](http://www.france24.com) (breaking news available in French with option of switching language to English); [www.pluzz.fr](http://www.pluzz.fr) French TV and news catch-up [www.lemouv.fr](http://www.lemouv.fr) – French radio - just to have on in the background

- Listen to a French CD: e.g. “Mini World” Indila (2014), “Recto Verso” Zaz (2012) “Racine Carré” Stromae (2013)

- Sign up and find a French pen pal

[www.mylanguageexchange.com](http://www.mylanguageexchange.com) to find a French pen pal

The Mixer (on Skype): <https://www.language-exchanges.org/>