

Bonjour, et bienvenue à SWCHS !

Welcome to French at SWCHS! By the time you start your French lessons here in September, it will have been some time since you had formal lessons; language skills get a little rusty unless you keep using them.

It will be very helpful if you complete the following work over the next couple of weeks, little by little, to keep up your language skills, explore your course and give you confidence when you start.

This work should take you approximately **4 hours** in total (including the watching of a film!).

Section A) Quelques questions

Section B) Grammaire

Section C) Une critique de film

Section D) Organisation

If you have any questions or any problems, you can email Mr Sleightholm (Head of French) jsleightholm@swchs.net.



Section A) Quelques questions

Answer the following questions in French in a few sentences to help your teacher and classmates get to know you!



1. Comment t'appelles-tu ?

2. Tu viens de quelle école ?

3. Tu étudieras quelles matières à SWCHS ?

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4. Qu'est-ce que tu aimes faire dans ton temps libre ?

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5. Tu as un petit boulot ?

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6. Décris ta famille.

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7. Où habites-tu ? C'est comment ?

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8. Qu'est-ce que tu as fait pendant les vacances ?

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9. Quels sont tes projets pour l'avenir ?

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10. Tu as choisi d'étudier le français pour quelles raisons ?

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11. Tu as déjà visité la France ou fait un échange ? Donne des détails

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12. Quelles sont tes impressions de la France ?

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SECTION B) Grammar

Translate the following sentences into French.



These sentences are based upon topics you will have studied at GCSE.

Use www.wordreference.com to search for any individual words you are unsure of and review your Year 10/11 class notes if there is any grammar you are struggling with.

This is not an exam - you won't be in trouble for making mistakes! Completing this activity without online help of translators (e.g. Google Translate or ChatGPT) will give your teachers an accurate picture in September of your grammar knowledge so they can help you close any gaps before embarking on the A Level course.

1. My sister is called Sophie.
2. She is 15 years old.
3. Anna likes going to the cinema and eating chocolate!
4. Yesterday Sophie went to town with me.
5. When she was 5 years old she lived in Cambridge.

6. Next year Sophie will study German at university.
7. France is the largest country in Europe.
8. In the south of France the weather is always hot.
9. I went to The Alps last year with my family.
10. Every day we played volleyball on the beach and swam in the sea.

11. We're going to go to Portugal next summer.
12. If I won the lottery, I'd go to Australia!
13. I hate going to school because it's boring.
14. Wearing a uniform annoys me.
15. Yesterday the pupils were hungry.

16. It's important to study languages.
17. After my exams, I'd like to go to university.
18. Before going, I will have to earn a lot of money!
19. On Saturdays I always go to the park.
20. There used to be a small youth hostel in Saffron Walden.

21. Now there is a modern hotel opposite the car park.
22. There is too much pollution in my area.
23. We should use public transport more.
24. Where can you recycle in your area?
25. It's important that we help to save the planet.

SECTION C) Une critique de film

Watch a French language film and then write a review of it in French.
You may want to talk about:

- **Les personnages principaux** (the main characters)
- **L'intrigue** (the plot)
- **Les acteurs / Les actrices** (the actors)
- **Le cadre** (the setting)
- **Ton opinion du film** (what did you think?)

Please write approx. 250 words independently. There is no need to exceed this. You do not have to stick to the bullet points above – they are just ideas. There is no need to worry using A level expressions – write what you can and don't worry about the level. The purpose of this work is to see what you can do, not judge you before the course has started!

It is far better to use a dictionary (e.g. www.wordreference.com) rather than Google translate, which won't help your language skills. Please concentrate on getting your sentence structure right and don't worry about being too complex – for a lot of you, you will not have done any taught French for a while, so do not panic about making work over-complicated.

Popular streaming sites (Netflix, Amazon Prime) have a lot of French films included. You can often find French films to stream for free on BBC iPlayer or Youtube. If you're unsure of where to start, you may want to watch one of the following :

- Les Choristes
- La Vie en Rose
- Jean de Florette/Manon de sources
- Intouchables
- La fille du puisatier
- Au revoir les enfants
- Le Fabuleux Destin d'Amélie Poulain
- A bout du souffle
- Les 400 coups
- L'auberge espagnole
- Bienvenue chez les Ch'tis



Section D) Organisation

You are expected to take notes in class, as well as organise them and keep them for revisions. You will need to be proactive!

You will therefore need to bring the following to every lesson, including the first day:

- ✓ Lined paper, black and coloured pens, and highlighters for lessons.
- ✓ One small A4 ring binder to keep current French notes in (this could be a 'day folder' for all subjects) – always take this to class.
- ✓ One large ring binder, which will stay at home. In this ring binder, you will keep the notes and documents for topics that we have completed.
- ✓ 2 sets of file dividers for each ring binder to keep track of your notes. We will tell you how to label them on your first lesson.
- ✓ **Optional** – a personal set of headphones that can be used with a device (phone/laptop) when completing listening activities in class.

We will let you know in September the titles of any revision/textbooks we suggest you purchase for the course.

Please bring all your work (Section A, B and C printed or handwritten) and your equipment for your first French lesson/

