



Subject Revision Sheet

Languages

Structure of Exam

Assessment details:

Listening exam: 25% (30 mins + 5 mins reading time Foundation, 40 mins + 5 mins reading time Higher)

Speaking exam: 25% (7-9 mins Foundation, 10-12 min Higher: role play, photo card, 1 minute presentation and follow-up questions, general conversation on one of the two themes not covered in the previous task)

Reading exam: 25% (45 mins Foundation, 1 hour Higher)

Writing exam: 25% (1 hour 10 mins Foundation, 1 hour 20 mins Higher)

Themes:

Identity and culture (describing yourself and others, hobbies, sport)

Local area and travel (holidays and describing places)

School

The future (work, plans and future studies)

Global issues (the environment, social issues, local issues)

Exam Paper Links:

All relevant Exam Materials provided on the VLE
<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcelgcse.html>

Useful Websites/Apps/Books:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/>
[wordreference.com](http://www.wordreference.com)
www.pearsonactivelearn.com
www.quizlet.com (search GCSE Viva/Studio and the name of the topic or module, as in your vocabulary book)

How to revise:

Tips to Answer Common/Extended Questions:

- Use Active Learn and your vocabulary book to work independently to practise key skills/questions. (Edexcel 9-1 for GCSE French/Spanish)
- Attend any extra sessions that your teacher is putting on.
- Make revision flashcards with core and key topic vocabulary on to aid recall and make revising fun!
- Have clear folders set up electronically or otherwise to store Role play phrases and phrases to help you describe a photograph.
- Revise your tenses regularly remembering to cover a range of both regular and irregular verbs: do, see, visit, go, eat, drink, work, play, have, be.
- Do as much independent work as you can, listening to French/Spanish films and music as well as any television or radio programmes. Change the audio on Netflix etc. and put on the subtitles in either English or the foreign language you are studying.
- Do as much reading as you can using authentic sources; the more you read, the more familiar you will become to recognising key words and phrases.
- Keep examples of modelled and corrected work clearly so you can use these to help produce accurate and fluent work at the right pathway standard for you.
- Practise incorporating CORNETTOS phrases into your written and spoken answers so as to routinely include three time frames, references to others and some stand-out language.
- Practise translation skills independently so that you are best prepared to deal with the challenges of the GCSE exam!

Listening & Reading skills:

- Watch out for cognates
- Pay attention to the use of negatives
- Identify key verbs/vocabulary/structures
- In the listening exam know when to expect short excerpts and when you will hear the whole passage without pauses.
- Use the reading time wisely at the start of the listening exam and make notes. Work from the back of the exam which is where the hardest questions are.
- Look at the question words and ANSWER the questions specifically.
- Take care not to give too little or too much information.
- Read all questions first before you start reading the text.
- Answer all questions and don't leave any gaps.
- Answers will generally be found chronologically so answer to question 1 will appear near the start of the text, etc.
- Apply sensible 'educational guesses' rather than 'knee-jerk' reactions to answer questions you are unsure of.