



# What does revision look like in Languages?



**Revision should start as early as possible, but it is not too late to start now.**

In each subject in school, it will be different but here are some suggestions as to what you should do in order to practise all the skills and vocabulary needed to achieve the highest grade in MFL.

**IMPORTANT: revision is HARD.** It needs to be challenging to be effective. It is easy to run away from this or put it off, but if you know it is going to be hard, then it is easier to swallow when it actually is. Doing the hard bit is getting started!

Strategies that have VERY low effectiveness	Strategies which are proven to be more effective
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading, highlighting and rereading</li> <li>• Last minute cramming</li> <li>• Revising in silence and on your own</li> <li>• Randomly choosing things to revise with no plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading, testing, checking answers and re-test</li> <li>• Self (or to others) explaining ideas or phrases</li> <li>• Dual coding</li> <li>• Self-evaluation – which topics/areas need more work – work on these first and more often</li> </ul>

Exam Board: AQA <https://www.aqa.org.uk/find-past-papers-and-mark-schemes>

Topics to be revised:

- Relationship and choices: Description of people and relationships, plans for the future, etc.
- Technology: new technologies, opinions and uses, social media, etc.
- Free Time activities: Hobbies, sports, music, cinema, TV, etc.
- Holidays: Describing places, accommodation, activities, festivals of Spanish/French speaking countries, etc.
- Home, Town and Local Area: Describing their house and area, talking about their future house, etc.
- Social Issues: Charity work, poverty, homelessness, racial issues, etc.
- Healthy Living: Describing their eating habits and their routine, making resolutions for the future, etc.
- Environment: Study problems and their causes as well as coming up with solutions.
- School: Describing subjects and teachers, describing primary and secondary schools, problems like bullying, school rules, etc.
- Careers: Post 16 education, applying for jobs, qualities for different jobs, etc.

Essential grammar to know:

- How to form the present, past and future tense
- How to talk about other people and their lives (using correct verb forms)
- A variety of ways of giving opinions with reasons



**All students have created their own personal learning checklist in lesson time. They identified their areas for development and were given specific links to sites that will help them to work on their targets.**

**Listening**

Purchase the revision guide and workbook and work through the topics focusing on those where you feel least confident. Do this in bursts of 15-20 minutes. Mark your work and then if you get it wrong, use a dictionary or online tool to look up new vocabulary and note it down. Test yourself on it later.

Complete any revision work that your teacher has set on the Google Classroom and ask for feedback – they will be happy to give this.

Go through your past KO's to revise vocabulary. This can be done as lists with different colours, mind maps, on post it notes around your house. Do this regularly. Highlight sections in green once you know you have nailed them.

Access past papers on the exam board website and complete past papers (you can also use other exam boards for more as the papers are not dissimilar). Once finished and marked, download the transcript and work through any areas that you struggled with – noting down new vocabulary. Test yourself on it later.

Use apps like GCSE Bitesize or Seneca.com which have lots of listening resources available.

Watch or listen to series/films/podcasts in the language you are studying, even if you don't understand a lot, you will take in the pronunciation and some of the language without knowing it. Try having the language and subtitles in the language you are studying so that you can connect the sound to the written form.

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Use apps like GCSE Bitesize or Seneca.com which have lots of reading resources available. Use eRevision.co.uk which is aligned to AQA so has topics and grammar that are very suitable. (Note: these are not easy but very useful)

Try visiting news websites for children in the language you are studying (like Newsround here) as the language will be simpler but the topics will be up to date.

## Speaking

Complete your speaking questions booklet with a good level of detail, thinking about the kinds of language that an examiner would want to see (opinions, tenses, higher level phrases). Split the questions into separate sections e.g. on revision cards or small pieces of paper. Write the English on one side in bullet points and the target language on the other. Try to say the answers just using the English prompts.



Visit the exam board website to find past papers. Look for the role plays cards/photo cards that are not the same theme as your chosen topic. Spend 4 minutes preparing the role play cards and 8 minutes preparing the photo cards. Do several of each at a time to get into a rhythm. **(Role play cards are full sentences but short answers. Photo cards need lots of detail and opinions)**

Ask your teacher for the recording of your previous speaking tests. Listen to them and make notes about what you will well and what you need to improve (e.g. pronunciation, more opinions, longer and more detailed answers)

Record yourself saying your answers. Saying them out loud helps to build your confidence and aids your pronunciation. It also helps you to remember your answers as you are using more of your senses.

## Writing

Complete the sections of your speaking booklet that are not your chosen theme. This is good practice as it gives you chunks of writing for each topic that you could remember and use later.



Visit the exam board website to find past papers. Spend 5 mins planning your answers to 40/90/150 word tasks. Do this 3 or 4 times in a row (just the planning) then take 20 mins to write one of them as a real piece. Do this regularly so that you can plan quickly.

Take the translation section of the paper and use highlighters to mark specific parts e.g. different tenses, different pronouns, elements that might change word order then try to complete the translation. Afterwards, look up any vocabulary you did not know and note down. Test yourself on it later.

Go back to previous writing papers and look at the feedback that was given and try to improve on those areas by re-writing the texts with your new knowledge. Your teacher will be happy to mark anything you hand in.

Ask your teacher about the most common topics that come up and then prepare example texts and try to learn sections that you could use in the real exam.

**You know the topics – it is what your teacher has taught you. Find your exercise books and redo activities again to practise – your teacher chose these activities for a reason!**