

French Writing

The purpose of this booklet is to support your child prepare for their GCSE French Writing exam.

This booklet is a summary of all the content that your child needs to revise vocabulary and structures for, and also includes ways of practising their French writing skills and improving their confidence in this skill. Although the booklet is by no means a guarantee and only a starting point to help you and your child manage their revision for this exam, it will make a significant contribution to their success.

This booklet should be used as a checklist so that you can help your child plan their revision and practice. Ideally topics should be worked through at random and use a priority red, amber, green system to prioritise areas to work on.

I hope that you enjoy using this booklet to help check your child's understanding of the topics that they have completed. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at Irichardson@whickhamschool.org

Merci et bonne chance from the French department!

Exam structure:

		Foundation	Higher
Writing	25% of GCSE	1 hour / 50 marks	1 hour 15 minutes / 60 marks

Questions:

Foundation:

1. Write 4 sentences to describe a photo (8 marks)
2. 40 words (16 marks)
3. 5 sentences to translate into French (10 marks)
4. 90 words (choose 1 of 2 tasks) (16 marks)

Higher:

1. 90 words (choose 1 of 2 tasks) (16 marks)
2. 150 words (choose 1 of 2 tasks) (32 marks)
3. Short paragraph to translate into French. (12 marks)

In the writing paper, pupils will be tested on their ability to communicate ideas from the following topics and subtopics. They will also be assessed on their quality of language (range of vocabulary, grammatical structures and accuracy)

To help them prepare for their writing exams, you can test them on their own personal answers to these key questions that they have studied over the GCSE course. Encourage them to give at least 3 details per question to extend their answers.

Theme 1: Identity and culture

1. **Tu es comment?** Describe yourself
2. **Fais une description de ta famille.** Describe your family
3. **Tu as un meilleur ami / une meilleure amie?** Do you have a best friend?
4. **Tu aimes écouter de la musique?** Do you like listening to music?
5. **Qu'est-ce que tu aimes faire pendant ton temps libre?** What do you do in your free time?
6. **Pourquoi utilises-tu ton portable?** What do you use your phone for?
7. **Tu es fana des réseaux sociaux?** Are you a fan of social media?
8. **Qu'est-ce que tu as fait le weekend dernier avec ta famille?** What did you do last weekend with your family?
9. **Tu voudrais te marier et avoir des enfants?** Would you like to get married and have children?
10. **Qu'est-ce que tu feras le weekend prochain avec tes amis?** What will you do next weekend with your friends?

Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest

1. **Où habites-tu?** Where do you live?
2. **Décris ta maison/chambre** Describe your house/room
3. **Qu'est-ce qu'il y a dans ta ville ?** What is there in your town?
4. **Quels sont les plus grands problèmes environnementaux?** What are the biggest environmental problems?
5. **Qu'est-ce que tu fais pour aider l'environnement?** What do you do to help the environment?
6. **Que fais-tu pour rester en bonne santé ?** What do you do to stay healthy?

7. Qu'est-ce que tu as fait le week-end dernier dans ta ville? What did you do in your town last weekend?

8. Tu es allé où en vacances l'année dernière? Where did you go on holiday last year? (say who with, when, how, what you did)

9. Tu iras où l'année prochaine? Where will you go next year?

10. Tu voudrais habiter où à l'avenir? *Where would you like to live in the future?*

Extension

1. Quelles sont vos vacances idéales? what would your ideal holiday be like?

2. Qu'est-ce que tu as fait récemment pour aider l'environnement? what have you done recently to help the environment?

4. Quels sont les avantages et les inconvénients de la vie en ville ou à la campagne? what are the advantages/disadvantages of living in the town/country?

5. Quels sont les plus grands problèmes pour la société? Qu'est-ce qu'on doit faire? What are the biggest problems in society? what should we do about them?

Theme 3: Current and future study and employment

1. Quelle est ta matière préférée? What is your favourite subject?

Qu'est-ce que tu n'aimes pas ? What don't you like learning at school?

2. Comment trouves-tu les profs à Whickham? What do you think of the teachers?

3. Tu portes un uniforme scolaire? Qu'en penses-tu ? Do you wear a school uniform? what do you think of it?

4. Il y a beaucoup de règles dans votre école? Comment trouves-tu les règles de l'école? Are there lots of rules at school - what do you think of them?

5. Décris ton professeur préféré. Describe your favourite teacher

6. Quelles sont les différences entre les écoles d'Angleterre et de la France? What are the differences between French and English schools (where would you prefer to go to school?)

7. Qu'est-ce que tu as fait au collège hier? What did you do at school yesterday?

8. Que feras-tu après les examens? What will you do after the exams?

9. Qu'est-ce que tu voudrais faire après avoir quitté Whickham School? What will you do when you leave Whickham school?

10. Tu voudrais faire quel métier? Pourquoi ? Which job would you like and why?

11. Décris ton collège idéal Describe your ideal school

What should your child do to practise and improve their writing skills in French?

At home:

- Make a revision sheet per topic. Use your revision guide / resources given in class to help.
- Have a 'transferrable toolkit' – lots of phrases you can adapt for any topic.
- Master past, present and future tenses.
- Learn at least 3 impressive opinion phrases.
- Make sure you know the non negotiable vocabulary.

In the exam:

- Make notes on the bullet points
- Use a checklist and plan your work
- Make sure you cover all bullet points
- Check your work through carefully