

GCSE (9-1) French (1FR1)

Sample Assessment Materials

Paper 3, Reading
and understanding
Foundation

First teaching September 2024
First certification from 2026

(Updated July 2025)

GCSE (9-1) French

Sample Assessment Materials

Paper 3, Reading and understanding

Foundation

- Question papers
- Mark schemes

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname					Other names				
Centre Number					Candidate Number				

Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1)

Sample assessment material for first teaching September 2024

Time 45 minutes	Paper reference	1FR1/3F
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French

PAPER 3: Reading and understanding in French

Foundation Tier

You do not need any other materials.	Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer **all** questions in Sections A and B.
- All questions in Section A (Reading comprehension) are set in English and must be answered in English.
- The question in Section B is a translation task set in French and must be answered in English.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
– *there may be more space than you need.*
- You must **not** use a dictionary.

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*
– *you should spend approximately 10 minutes on the translation question.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Try to answer every question.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ►

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Answer ALL questions. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

Some questions must be answered with a cross in a box ☒. If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box ☒ and then mark your new answer with a cross ☒.

SECTION A

Reading comprehension

Weekend activities

1 Read these comments from an internet forum.

Alex : Le week-end, je joue au hockey dans une équipe. Après, je fais mes devoirs.

Enzo : Moi, je vais en ville avec mon frère ou je sors avec mes amis. Je travaille aussi dans un magasin.

Clara : J'aide mon grand-père dans le jardin. Ensuite, je prends un café chaud avec ma mère.

Who says what? Choose the correct answers.

Put a cross ☒ in the correct column for each question.

	Who ...	Alex	Enzo	Clara	
(a)	... works in a shop?	☐	☐	☐	(1)
(b)	... does sport?	☐	☐	☐	(1)
(c)	... has a hot coffee?	☐	☐	☐	(1)
(d)	... goes to town?	☐	☐	☐	(1)
(e)	... helps their grandfather?	☐	☐	☐	(1)
(f)	... does their homework?	☐	☐	☐	(1)

(Total for Question 1 = 6 marks)



A hotel

2 Read the advertisement.

Grand hôtel au centre-ville, près de la gare. Cent soixante-dix chambres, piscine et salle de sport.

Restaurant ouvert pour le repas du soir seulement. Pas de petit-déjeuner ou de déjeuner.

Activités pour enfants. Idéal pour les familles.

Animaux non acceptés.

Put a cross ☒ in each one of the **three** correct boxes.

The hotel ...

☐	A is very small.
☐	B is near the station.
☐	C has a restaurant.
☐	D offers breakfast.
☐	E organises children's activities.
☐	F welcomes pets.

(Total for Question 2 = 3 marks)



A French town

3 Read the extract from a tourist brochure.

La ville est vieille et très belle. Nous avons un parc naturel et tout le monde adore le château historique.

Il n'y a pas de supermarché mais il y a une petite **épicerie**. C'est pratique pour faire les courses.

(a) Complete the sentences below.

Put a cross ☐ in the correct box for each question.

(i) The town is ...

(1)

☐	A new.
☐	B beautiful.
☐	C busy.

(ii) Everyone loves the ...

(1)

☐	A park.
☐	B supermarket.
☐	C castle.

(b) Which of these is the best translation for the word **épicerie**?

Put a cross ☐ in the correct box.

(1)

☐	A art gallery
☐	B grocery shop
☐	C gymnasium

(Total for Question 3 = 3 marks)



Healthy living

4 Read these comments from Emma and Yanis on an internet forum.

Complete the following tables **in English**. You do not need to write in full sentences.

Emma: Je préfère la **nourriture*** saine comme le poisson et les fruits. Je n'aime pas les sports d'équipe comme le basketball alors je fais du judo dans un club et je joue au tennis.

**nourriture* – food

(a) Emma

One thing she likes to eat		(1)
One sport she takes part in		(1)

Yanis: Dans ma famille, nous n'aimons pas la viande. Nous sommes végétariens. On mange beaucoup de légumes. Au collège, je joue au football mais je déteste ça. Mon sport préféré, c'est le handball et j'ai une passion pour la natation.

(b) Yanis

One reason why he eats vegetables		(1)
One sport he particularly likes		(1)

(Total for Question 4 = 4 marks)



French festival in Brighton*

5 Read the article from a French newspaper.



Venez à la fête française de **Brighton*** !

Voici le programme :

Vendredi soir, 6 juillet

Fête de la musique : le chanteur français, Luca, va donner un concert au stade.

Samedi, 7 juillet

Marché français : vous allez pouvoir acheter des fromages traditionnels et des pâtisseries.

Dimanche, 8 juillet

Sport : nous allons organiser des matchs de volleyball sur la plage entre des équipes internationales.

**Brighton* – seaside town in the south of England.

Put a cross ☒ in each one of the **three** correct boxes.

The festival will ...

☐	A hold a concert in the evening.
☐	B feature an English band.
☐	C include a food market.
☐	D sell traditional bread.
☐	E organise water sports.
☐	F hold sporting events.

(Total for Question 5 = 3 marks)



School life

6 Read the email that Hugo wrote to his French friend.

Salut !

Au collège, je porte un uniforme. Il n'est pas moderne mais il est confortable. Mes parents disent qu'il est pratique.

Avant, je n'aimais pas les voyages scolaires mais maintenant, j'adore ça. L'année dernière, nous avons visité le musée et c'était ennuyeux mais hier, ma classe est allée au théâtre et c'était génial.

Bientôt, nous allons à Paris pour visiter le stade mais pas la tour Eiffel, malheureusement.

Tu fais des activités avec ta classe ?

Hugo

Complete the gap in each sentence using a word or phrase from the box below. There are more words/phrases than gaps.

comfortable

modern

practical

museum

Eiffel tower

stadium

theatre

(a) Hugo thinks his uniform is

(1)

(b) He didn't enjoy visiting the last year.

(1)

(c) Yesterday his class went to the

(1)

(Total for Question 6 = 3 marks)



S 7 8 2 7 6 A 0 7 1 6

Helping people

7 Read Maxime's blog about her future career plans.

Je m'appelle Maxime et bientôt, je vais avoir quinze ans. À treize ans, j'ai commencé à m'intéresser aux questions de société.

On a déjà trouvé quelques solutions contre le sexisme et le racisme mais la sécurité est encore un problème. Dans mon quartier, il y a de la violence. Les jeunes qui n'ont pas de travail ont peu d'argent mais beaucoup de rêves !

Mon ambition est de lutter pour l'égalité. Je voudrais étudier les droits de l'enfant à l'université et un jour, devenir **avocate**.

B / U | | | | | | | | |

(a) Complete the sentences below.

Put a cross ☒ in the correct box for each question.

(i) Maxime will soon be ...

(1)

☐	A thirteen.
☐	B fourteen.
☐	C fifteen.

(ii) She is concerned there are still issues with ...

(1)

☐	A racism.
☐	B safety.
☐	C sexism.

(iii) In her neighbourhood, young people have a lot of ...

(1)

☐	A work.
☐	B money.
☐	C dreams.



(iv) In the future, Maxime hopes to ...

(1)

☐	A fight for equality.
☐	B raise money for children.
☐	C work for a charity.

(b) Which of these is the best translation for the word **avocate**?

Put a cross ☒ in the correct box.

(1)

☐	A banker
☐	B professor
☐	C lawyer

(Total for Question 7 = 5 marks)



Busy days

8 Marie writes in her diary.

Ma grand-mère est malade donc je suis allée en ville lui acheter des médicaments.
Comme c'était mon anniversaire, j'ai regardé les magasins de vêtements tendances.
J'ai vu deux belles jupes et deux pulls rouges mais je n'avais pas assez d'argent alors
j'ai acheté un pantalon blanc qui était moins cher.

presents

clothes

medicine

red

beautiful

white

fashionable

(a) Complete the gap in each sentence using a word from the box below. There are more words than gaps.

(i) Marie bought some for her grandmother. (1)

(ii) She saw some skirts. (1)

(iii) She eventually bought some trousers. (1)



The diary continues.

Demain, je vais faire les magasins avec ma sœur au centre commercial. Le soir, je vais organiser une fête chez ma mère et mon père va venir : il va faire un gâteau. Tous mes amis vont être là ! J'espère avoir des baskets et une robe comme cadeau.

(b) Complete the sentences below.

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Put a cross ☒ in the correct box for each question.

(i) Marie is going shopping with her ...

(1)

☐	A father.
☐	B sister.
☐	C friend.

(ii) Marie's party is at her ... house.

(1)

☐	A father's
☐	B friends'
☐	C mother's

(c) Answer the following questions **in English**. You do not need to write in full sentences.

(i) What will her father make?

(1)

(ii) Name **one item** Marie is hoping to get as a present.

(1)

(Total for Question 8 = 7 marks)



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Future education plans

9 Read these comments from an internet forum.

Fatima : Je sais exactement ce que je vais faire après le collège. Si c'est possible, je voudrais étudier dans un lycée en Angleterre pour améliorer mon anglais.

Thomas : Moi, j'ai déjà décidé. Je vais quitter l'école à seize ans pour faire une formation. Je veux travailler dans une banque comme mon oncle parce que le salaire est très bon.

Sacha : L'année prochaine, si je réussis mes examens, je voudrais continuer mes études. J'espère aller à l'université à Paris parce que je voudrais être professeur de maths dans un lycée.

Complete the following tables **in English**. You do not need to write in full sentences.

(a) Fatima

Her future education plans		(1)
Reason why		(1)

(b) Thomas

His future education plans		(1)
Reason why		(1)



(c) Sacha

His future education plans		(1)
Reason why		(1)

(Total for Question 9 = 6 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 40 MARKS



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SECTION B

Translation

TV and film

10 Translate the following sentences **into English**.

(10)

(a) J'aime les comédies à la télévision.

.....

.....

(b) Mon frère est acteur dans une série.

.....

.....

(c) Je déteste les tragédies, je préfère les films d'action.

.....

.....

(d) Hier, j'ai regardé les informations.

.....

.....

(e) Si j'ai le temps, je vais au cinéma.

.....

.....

(Total for Question 10 = 10 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 10 MARKS

TOTAL FOR PAPER = 50 MARKS

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GCSE French Reading Foundation tier

Paper 3 Mark scheme

SECTION A: READING COMPREHENSION

Question number	Answer	Mark
1(a)	Enzo	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
1(b)	Alex	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
1(c)	Clara	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
1(d)	Enzo	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
1(e)	Clara	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
1(f)	Alex	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
2	B, C, E	(3)

Question number	Answer	Mark
3(a)(i)	B	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
3(a)(ii)	C	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
3(b)	B	(1)

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
4(a)	One thing she likes to eat: EITHER fish OR fruits OR healthy food	Any other food.	(1)
	One sport she takes part in: EITHER judo OR tennis	Basketball/team sport. Any other sports.	(1)

Question number	Answer	Reject	Mark
4(b)	One reason why he eats vegetables: EITHER (He) doesn't like meat. OR (He is) vegetarian.	He/They love(s) pizza.	(1)
	One sport he particularly likes: EITHER handball OR swimming	Football/sport at school. Any other sports.	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
5	A, C, F	(3)

Question number	Answer	Mark
6(a)	comfortable	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
6(b)	museum	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
6(c)	theatre	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
7(a)(i)	C	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
7(a)(ii)	B	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
9(b)	His future education plans: EITHER to leave school OR to do (a) training (course)/an apprenticeship Reason why: EITHER to work in a bank OR to do the same job as his uncle OR to get a good salary/wage	(1) (1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
9(c)	His future education plans: EITHER to continue his studies OR to go to university (in Paris) Reason why: to be a (maths) teacher	(1) (1)

SECTION B: TRANSLATION INTO ENGLISH

Question 10

Mark	AO2: Response to stimulus
9–10	The meaning of the original language is appropriately transferred. Any errors do not detract from the overall clarity of the message.
6–8	The meaning of the original language is mostly transferred appropriately. Occasional errors affect the clarity of the message, e.g. incorrect words, omitted words, inexact syntax.
3–5	The meaning of parts of the original language is appropriately transferred. Some errors prevent the message being conveyed, e.g. some use of incorrect words, omitted phrases, incorrect tenses.
1–2	Only isolated words or phrases are appropriately transferred. There are frequent errors and omissions that prevent the message being conveyed, e.g. frequent use of incorrect words, omitted phrases, incorrect tenses.
0	No rewardable communication.

The following example response gives an appropriate transference of meaning. Any alternative, appropriate wording will also be rewarded.

Question number	Model response
10(a)	I like comedies on television.
10(b)	My brother is an actor in a series.
10(c)	I hate dramas, I prefer action films.
10(d)	Yesterday, I watched the news.
10(e)	If I have time, I go to the cinema.

Exemplification of the mark scheme: Translation example responses

Example Response 1

- (a) *I like watching funny TV.*
- (b) *My brother is an actor in a series.*
- (c) *I hate drama, I prefer action films.*
- (d) *Yesterday, I watched the news.*
- (e) *If I have time, I go to the cinema.*

Total marks: 9 marks

The meaning of the original language is appropriately transferred. There are no errors which detract from the overall clarity of the message. Instead of “comedies” the candidate uses “*funny TV*”. Because of this deviation the response sits at the bottom end of the 9-10 mark band instead of achieving full marks.

Example Response 2

- (a) *I like watching comedies.*
- (b) *My brother is serious actor.*
- (c) *I hate sad films, I prefer films with action.*
- (d) *Yesterday, I watched documentaries.*
- (e) *.... I go to the cinema.*

Total marks: 5 marks

Overall, the meaning of parts of the original language is appropriately transferred, such as (a), and parts of the other sentences. Some errors prevent the message being conveyed, (e.g., “*serious*”, “*sad films*”, “*documentaries*”), and sentence (e) is incomplete. The response best sits at the upper end of the 3-5 mark band.

Example Response 3

- (a) *I like comedy shows on TV.*
- (b) *My brother is acting serious.*
- (c) *I hate tragedies, I prefer....*
- (d) *Tomorrow, I had information.*
- (e) *It's hot, cinema.*

Total marks: 3 marks

Only isolated words or phrases (e.g., “*My brother*”, “*I prefer*”), are appropriately transferred except for (a), which is appropriately transferred. There are several omissions and frequently incorrect words. For this reason, the best fit mark would be in the lower end of the 3-5 mark band.

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