

Bonjour, et bienvenue à Hills Road!

Welcome to French at Hills Road! 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 enormously 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.

Merci de compléter toutes les sections suivantes pour votre travail d'été – cela représente environ 4 heures de travail, à faire en petits morceaux.

Section A) Quelques questions – 1 heure

Section B) Grammaire – 1heure 30 minutes

Section C) Recherche – 1 heure

Section D) Organisation – 30 minutes

If you have any questions or any problems, you can email Mme Bowers abowers@hillsroad.ac.uk, on the understanding you may not receive an immediate answer.



We look forward to meeting you in September!

Bonnes vacances!

Amélie Bowers, Isabelle Depiot et Sara Macfarlane

Please bring all your work (Section A and C printed) and your equipment for your first French lesson

Section A) Quelques questions – 1 heure



1. Comment t'appelles-tu ?

2. Tu viens de quelle école ?

3. Tu étudieras quelles matières à Hills Road ?

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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. Décris un film français ou une série française que tu as regardé pendant les vacances. De quoi s'agit il ? C'était comment ?

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10. Quels sont tes projets pour l'avenir ?

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

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

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13. Quelles sont tes impressions de la France ?

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A bientôt !



Section B) Grammaire – 1 heure 30

Please learn or revise the following verbs in the present tense, as well as the adjective agreement rules that follow. They all need to be known perfectly. Ex "nous finissons" "vous allez" etc

1 Regular verbs

Three groups: verbs whose infinitives finish in

-ER

-IR

-RE

Infinitive	To speak	To finish	To answer
Subject	parler	finir	répondre
Je	parl e	fin is	répond s
Tu	parl es	fin is	répond s
Il / Elle / On	parl e	fin it	répond -
Nous	parl ons	fin issons	répond ons
Vous	parl ez	fin issez	répond ez
Ils / Elles	parl ent	fin issent	répond ent

2 Irregular verbs = the 2 auxiliary verbs, or helping verbs

Infinitive	To have	To be
Subject	avoir	être
J'/ Je	ai	suis
Tu	as	es
Il /Elle /On	a	est
Nous	avons	sommes
Vous	avez	êtes
Ils / Elles	ont	sont

3 Common irregular verbs

Infinitive	To do/ to make	To go	To be able to	To want	To have to
subject	faire	aller	pouvoir	vouloir	devoir
Je	fai s	vais	peux	veux	dois
Tu	fai s	vas	peux	veux	dois
Il/ Elle / On	fai t	va	peut	veut	doit
Nous	fai sons	all ons	pouv ons	voul ons	dev ons
Vous	fai tes	all ez	pouv ez	voul ez	dev ez
Ils / Elles	font	vont	peuvent	veulent	doivent

Section B: Adjectives

Adjectives describe a noun

eg. a big car



Position of adjectives – Most adjectives in French go after the noun

eg. un livre **intéressant**



BUT: A small group of common adjectives are exceptions to the normal position of adjectives in French and are placed before the noun.

eg. un grand gâteau

beau	bon	gentil	grand
jeune	joli	long	mauvais



In French, adjectives must agree with the noun ie. adjective must reflect gender and number.

eg. un homme important
une femme importan**e**
des hommes importan**t**s
des femmes importan**t**es

You have seen many (but not all) adjectives change their spelling in this way:

feminine	add e
masculine plural	add s
feminine plural	add es



However, it is important to learn how an adjective ends in its masculine form, as this is a clue to how it transforms in the feminine and plural.

Other adjective ending in - al, -el, -eil, -er, -eur, -f, -ien and -x will form their feminine and plural differently.

Masculine		Feminine	
singular	plural	singular	plural
national	nationaux	nationale	nationales
naturel	naturels	naturelle	naturelles
pareil	pareils	pareille	pareilles
premier	premiers	première	premières
travailleur	travailleurs	travailleuse	travailleuses
actif	actifs	active	actives
italien	italiens	italienne	italiennes
heureux	heureux	heureuse	heureuses

Some common adjectives have an irregular feminine

bon → bonne

faux → fausse

fraîche → fraîche

doux → douce

gentil → gentille

inquiet → inquiète

long → longue

public → publique

sec → sèche

Very irregular adjectives

masc. sing.	fem. sing.	masc. plu.	fem . plu
beau/ bel*	belle	beaux	belles
nouveau/ nouvel*	nouvelle	nouveaux	nouvelles
vieux/ vieil*	vieille	vieux	vieilles
ce/cet*	cette	ces	ces

*** This is an alternative masculine form in front of nouns that start with a vowel or an h**

Grammar Revisions

Revise your basic GCSE grammar, especially verb tenses. We have included links below to practise, which may be helpful.

<https://zut.languageskills.co.uk/topic/year-10-11-grammar>

<https://zut.languageskills.co.uk/topic/year-12-grammar>

<https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/frenchindex.html#Grammar>

- Articles
- Adjectives
- Comparatives
- Superlatives
- Negatives
- Present tense (regular and irregular verbs)
- Perfect tense (regular verbs and avoir, être, aller, faire)
- Imperfect tense (regular verbs and avoir, être, aller, faire)
- Future tense (regular verbs and avoir, être, aller, faire)

You should also know a range of expressions to express your opinion and points of view

Section C) Recherche – 1 heure

Research on French-speaking countries and culture

The whole French A-Level syllabus is based on discovering more about French culture and society, but also about other French speaking countries.

Partie 1 - La francophonie et deux pays francophones

Please create a hand-made or computer-made poster that shows the results of your research **in your own words, including visuals and maps**.

You should aim to write about 300 words in French for this part. The questions below give you the details you need to include. You will find some useful websites below but remember to use your own words and to avoid repetitions.

C'est quoi la Francophonie?

- Combien de gens parlent français couramment dans le monde?
- Combien de pays ont le français comme langue officielle?
- La position de la langue française comparée aux autres langues.
- Comment expliquez-vous ces chiffres, historiquement?
- Brièvement, qu'est-ce que L'Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie"?



Choisissez **deux** pays différents et donne les faits importants sur chaque pays:

- sa situation géographique, sa capitale, la date de son indépendance,
- sa population, sa ou ses langue(s) officielles, sa ou ses religion(s) principales,
- un ou deux secteurs économiques importants, une ou deux raisons pour lesquelles ce pays est célèbre,
- pourquoi vous aimeriez visiter ce pays.

Pour vous aider: exemples de sites en français

- <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/politique-etrangere-de-la-france/francophonie-et-langue-francaise/la-langue-francaise-en-chiffres/>
- <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/politique-etrangere-de-la-france/francophonie-et-langue-francaise/>

- <https://www.gouvernement.fr/action/la-francophonie>
- <http://www.culture.gouv.fr/Thematiques/Langue-francaise-et-langues-de-France/Politiques-de-la-langue/Multilinguisme/Francophonie>

Partie 2 - Un aspect culturel francophone

Research a French-speaking cultural area which interests you. You will need to use French websites to find out information.

You will be presenting **in French** what you have discovered, for a maximum of 3 minutes to two other students.

You should have your presentation ready on a couple of slides of Powerpoint, but without too much text. You should be using your own words. Make sure you include lots of visuals and that you explain why you chose this aspect.

Here are some ideas of French-speaking cultural areas, but feel free to choose your own:

- French cinema
- French or francophone cuisine
- La chanson française ou le zouk
- A region of France
- A French painter, singer or musician
- A French politician or activist

Section D) Organisation – 30 minutes

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

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

- Your device fully charged
- Lined paper or a note book
- Black and coloured pens, and highlighters
- One small A4 ring binder or a card wallet to keep current French notes in – always take this to class. It should only include French for ease of reference.
- 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. If you use a notebook your referencing will need to be rigorous and consistent.
- you will need to purchase some grammar and vocabulary workbooks, but you will have digital access to the course and grammar textbooks. Details will be given in September.



Whilst college exchanges are not compulsory, we strongly recommend that you spend some time in a French speaking country during your A level course. We offer an exchange with Paris; you will get detailed information about this at the start of term.

In a typical year, they visit us in Cambridge early in November and we visit them in January. We will confirm the dates in September.