

Which tier should a student choose for French / German / Spanish?

Students can take their languages GCSE at either foundation or higher tier. Students who take foundation tier can achieve up to a grade 5. Those who take a languages GCSE at higher tier can achieve up to a grade 9. Students will have the option to choose which tier they would like to try in the mock exams in both November and February. The requirements for each tier are quite different so discussions will take place with students following both sets of mocks to decide upon the best tier for them.

| Exam board: AQA | Exam length Foundation Tier | Exam length Higher Tier |
|--|---|---|
| There are three themes in Languages: -Theme 1: Identity and culture -Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest -Theme 3: Current and future study and employment | <u>Listening:</u> 35 minutes | <u>Listening:</u> 45 minutes |
| | <u>Reading:</u> 45 minutes | <u>Reading:</u> 1 hour |
| | <u>Speaking:</u> No specific length but approx. 10 minutes | <u>Speaking:</u> No specific length but approx. 12 minutes |
| | <u>Writing:</u> 1 hour | <u>Writing:</u> 1 hour 15 minutes |

| Themes: | Topics in all three themes |
|---|---|
| Theme 1: Identity and culture | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Family and relationships - Future plans - Food and eating out - Customs and festivals - Sport - Music - Cinema and TV - technology |
| Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Charity and voluntary work - Poverty and homelessness - Healthy and unhealthy living - Home - Environment - Town - Travel and tourism |
| Theme 3: Current and future study and employment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School subjects - School uniform - School rules - Education post-16 - Jobs and ambitions |

Tips:

- Complete Independent Learning each week to help memorise the vocabulary
- Attend revision sessions every fortnight or watch the weekly recording of the session posted on Google Classroom
- Practise your language skills using [languagenut.com](http://www.languagenut.com)
- Make your own vocabulary tests and quizzes on [quizlet.com](http://www.quizlet.com)
- Practise topics using the revision guides
- Practise using [past papers](http://www.pastpapers.com)
- Use <http://www.acapela-group.com> to practise your pronunciation
- Memorise the RAINBOW template
- Watch foreign language films or watch a favourite film with the foreign subtitles turned on.

Revision guides:

Go to the CGP website to find various revision guides and workbooks in order to help you practise your four skills.

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/languages>



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