



La course au succès !



GCSE FRENCH

Reading

Listening

Writing

Papers

boost

boost



Overall Golden tips for Listening and Reading exams:

- ✓ Make the very most of the 5 minutes reading paper time before completing the Listening and Reading exams.
- ✓ Remember the 4 steps:
 - Circle the task title which will focus your brain on the topic covered in that task.
 - Read the questions carefully, anticipating possible responses.
 - Then listen to audio/read the text
 - Then back to question
- ✓ Write clearly and don't give alternative choice of answers: examiners won't choose the right answer for you!
- ✓ Underline/circle key phrases to help you secure understanding
- ✓ Never leave a blank: even if you don't know, chance may be on your side that day!
- ✓ Use your common sense!

THE MOST COMMON FALSE FRIENDS

JOURNÉE = **DAY** - **not journey**

JE NE SUPPORTE PAS = **I can't STAND** – **not I don't support**

CAR = **COACH / BECAUSE** - **not car**

LARGE = **WIDE** - **not large**

PARTIE = **PART** - **not party**

LECTURE = **READING** - **not lecture**

TRAVAIL = **WORK** - **not travel**

ROMAN = **a NOVEL** - **not roman**

GENTIL = **NICE / FRIENDLY** - **not gentle**

SENSIBLE = **SENSITIVE** - **not sensible**

PIÈCE = **a ROOM / COIN** - **not piece**

MAGASIN = **a SHOP** – **not magazine**

HÔTEL DE VILLE = **TOWN HALL** - **not hotel**

LIBRAIRIE = **BOOK SHOP** - **not library**

RESTER = **TO STAY** - **not resting**





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Section A: Instructions and tasks in English

Section B: Instructions and tasks in French

Section C: Translation into from French
into English

So...:

Questions in English = Answers in English

Questions in French = Answers in French

Read the **INSTRUCTIONS** carefully.

Quel film recommandez-vous à ces personnes ?

A	Les trois frères
B	Kirikou 4
C	007 Spectre
D	Halloween – le retour

Ecrivez la bonne lettre dans chaque case. **Attention !** Vous pouvez utiliser la même lettre plus d'une fois.

>>> Here it states that you can use the same letter more than once.

Look out for BOLD words.

1 2 La santé

Lisez ces conseils dans le magazine 'Vive la forme'.

Après une longue journée au lycée ou au travail, vous avez sans doute envie de rentrer chez vous tout de suite et de vous détendre. Bien que cela semble être la solution idéale, n'y pensez pas ! Préférez plutôt une activité physique pendant au moins 30 minutes. Passez ensuite le reste de votre soirée comme vous le voulez - peut-être devant la télé ?

1 2 . 1 Qu'est-ce qu'on devrait faire **immédiatement** après le travail ou le lycée ?

Ecrivez la bonne lettre dans la case.

A	Se relaxer
B	Faire du sport
C	Regarder la télévision

[1 mark]

>>> Here it is giving you extra detail in the instructions.

True or False

If you get this type of question in SECTION B
(reading / listening)

READ THE INSTRUCTIONS

V – vrai / F – faux

>>> YOU WON'T GET THE MARK IF YOU
PUT 'T'

True, False or Not Mentioned

If you get this type of question make sure you remember there will be at least one of each.

V – vrai / F – faux / PM-?- pas mentionné

>>> YOU WON'T GET THE MARK IF YOU
PUT 'F' instead of 'PM' or '?'

Section B: Answers in French

Lisez l'email d'Ambre qui parle de ses projets scolaires.

From... ambre421@hotmail.fr

Reply Subject: Projets scolaires !

Salut,

sauf – apart from / rien – none / nothing

Voilà enfin les grandes vacances ! Tout le monde est content, sauf moi. Je pleure depuis 2 jours car je n'irai pas au lycée en septembre comme toutes mes amies. Pour la directrice, mes notes ne sont pas assez bonnes et les cours vont être trop durs à suivre. Elle dit que le mieux serait de faire un apprentissage mais ça ne m'intéresse pas. C'est ce que ma cousine a fait l'année dernière et elle n'a pas aimé. C'était monotone, ce qui ne lui a pas plu, et elle a trouvé qu'elle n'avait presque rien appris. Maintenant, elle fait du travail bénévole et, à la rentrée, elle va aller à l'université. Moi, j'ai donc décidé de rester une année au collège. Comme ça, je serai obligée de bien travailler. Et toi, comment était ta fin d'année ?

1 3 . **4** Que va faire Ambre l'année prochaine ? Donnez **deux** détails.

1 Elle va.... (check for clues in the question for which TENSE you need)

2 _____

[2 marks]

>>> Simple sentences & use the verb in the question!

Section C: Translation from French into English

Section C

Translation into English

1 5

Your sister's French friend has shared the following post on Facebook. Your sister asks you to translate it into **English** for her.

Il y a un centre commercial dans ma ville. Le samedi j'aime faire les magasins avec ma copine. Récemment j'ai acheté un nouveau portable. C'était trop cher. Je ne sais pas si on va sortir la semaine prochaine.

>>> Don't try to translate word by word

>>> Break it into chunks

>>> Does it make sense in English? If it doesn't, it can't be right.



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Section A: Instructions and tasks in English

Section B: Instructions and tasks in French

So, same as for the Reading exam...:

Questions in English = Answers in English

Questions in French = Answers in French

The key message for the Listening exam is...

**DON'T
PANIC**



General Listening Tips

- Listen the first time for **gist** (general meaning).
- Listen the second time for **detail**.
- Check for **distractors**: negatives, tenses, numbers, dates in particular.
- By all means write the answer down after the first time if you are sure, but **USE THE SECOND TIME** anyway to check your answer.
- Where there is a conversation, it will usually be between a male and a female so that you can tell who is who.
- Listen carefully to **tone** of voice to help decide on the **mood** of the speaker (can change within one question)

DO NOT LEAVE ANY BLANKS!

- Remember to look at **how** the questions are **split up** – Check the question numbers – if the question has 2 parts the text will play all the way through.
- Remember to try to **predict** any ‘traps’ the examiner will have set.
- When listening, **narrow down** your options as far as you can. If necessary, have an **educated guess**.

DO NOT LEAVE ANY BLANKS!!!!!!

Or the Blank Police
will come and get
you!



P / N / P+N

- Listen out for key **contrast** connectives: ‘mais’, ‘cependant’, ‘tandis que’, ‘néanmoins’ or ‘bien que’ which may indicate that the answer is ‘P+N’.
- You should generally expect to **use each option once**. This isn’t always the case, but if you’ve used the same option for every answer, you’ve definitely gone wrong!

Multiple Choice

- The rule of three:
 - one will be very wrong
 - one will be right
 - one will be very close to right
- Try to eliminate the wrong one on the first listening
- Use the second listening to determine which of the remaining two options is the correct answer.

And finally...

Concentrate and stick with it!

The listening exam can feel slow, tedious and boring at times. The beeps between questions can be irritating but... do not switch off!

You cannot afford to drop marks unnecessarily.



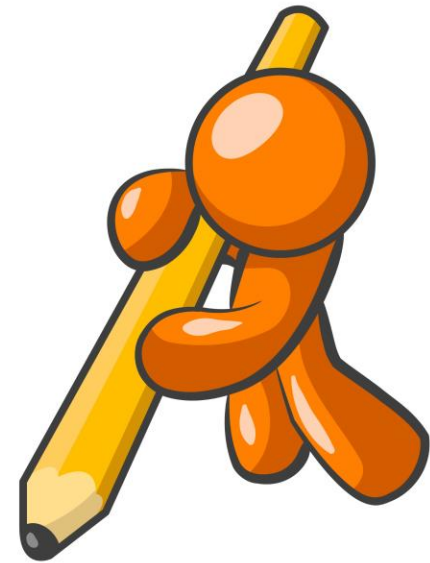
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Take your time...

- Read the instructions carefully.
- Take each bullet point at a time.
- 40 words: all 4 points in present tense
- 90 words: present (1-2), past (3), future (4)
- 150 words: complexity, contrast, justified opinions, connectives, time frames...

> YOU MUST ANSWER EVERY BULLET POINT