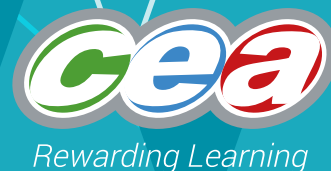


FACTFILE: GCSE FRENCH

CONTEXT 1: IDENTITY, LIFESTYLE AND CULTURE



Culture, customs, festival and celebrations

Learning Outcomes

You should be able to use French relating to this topic to:

- understand and respond to different types of spoken language (Listening);
- communicate and interact effectively in speech (Speaking);
- understand and respond to different types of written language (Reading); and
- communicate in writing (Writing).

These lists are neither prescriptive nor exhaustive.

Some aspects of this topic include:

- Knowledge of important cultural events both at home and in France
- Vocabulary associated with celebrations

You might also refer to the Factfile on Free time, leisure and daily routine as well as Social and Global issues – refer to the Health and lifestyle sections.

Preparation

Ensure that you have a very good knowledge of **vocabulary** and **grammar and structures** related to the topic of Culture, customs, festival and celebrations.

Vocabulary

All page numbers in this section refer to the Specification.

- See pages 63-64 for vocabulary of some important festivals and greetings.
- See page 64 for some useful verbs associated with this topic.
- See pages 60-62 for vocabulary of shopping (think in terms of buying gifts).
- See page 98 for vocabulary of time.

- See page 62 for vocabulary of meals.
- See pages 74-77 for vocabulary of food and drink (think in terms of celebratory meals).

Remember that this is the Core Minimum Vocabulary List – you should always learn other relevant vocabulary that you encounter as you study this topic.

Refer to the **Support** section of the CCEA GCSE French website. Then choose the **Activity** tab. There are two Activity Sheet folders which link to this topic. Each folder contains a PowerPoint presentation with key topic vocabulary and a worksheet to help you practise the key vocabulary.

They are:

- Culture and Customs Activity Sheet.
- Festival and Celebrations Activity Sheet.

Grammar and Structures

1. Revise -ir verbs (such as choisir, finir etc) for this topic. Start with the present tense but also revise the perfect, the imperfect, the future and the conditional tenses of these pattern verbs.
- Revise choisir in its different tenses:

Present	Perfect	Imperfect	Future	Conditional
Je choisis	J'ai choisi	Je choisissais	Je choisirai	Je choisirais
Tu choisis	Tu as choisi	Tu choisissais	Tu choisiras	Tu choisirais
Il choisit	Il a choisi	Il choisissait	Il choisira	Il choisirait
Nous choisissons	Nous avons choisi	Nous choisissions	Nous choisirons	Nous choisirions
Vous choisissez	Vous avez choisi	Vous choisissiez	Vous choisirez	Vous choisiriez
Ils choisissent	Ils ont choisi	Ils choisissaient	Ils choisiront	Ils choisiraient

(NB: choisir is a regular -ir verb so if you are confident in using choisir in its different tenses, you will be able to use accurately many other verbs which follow the same pattern.)

2. Revise how to form some irregular verbs in the perfect tense. These verbs use avoir in the perfect tense. Learn the past participles:

Infinitive	Past Participle	Infinitive	Past Participle
avoir	eu	faire	fait
savoir	su	prendre	pris
pouvoir	pu	mettre	mis
vouloir	voulu	dire	dit
devoir	dû	écrire	écrit
boire	bu	offrir	offert
lire	lu	ouvrir	ouvert
recevoir	reçu	être	été

'I received' translates as 'J'ai reçu'

'We drank' translates as 'Nous avons bu'

3. Revise how to write the **date** in French so that you can talk or write about different celebrations. (See vocabulary page 92 and page 94 of the Specification).

Revision

You can test yourself using some of the Specimen Assessment Materials (SAMs) and also some material from the Specification.

Questions:

Listening:

Foundation Listening – see SAMs page 6 question 3.

The recording for the Listening is available on the CCEA website. If you cannot access the recording, you will find the Transcript for the questions in the SAMs, pages 133-140 for Foundation Listening.

Speaking:

Role-play – see SAMs page 40 Situation D.

(The teacher script of this role-play can be found in the SAMs on page 161.)

Conversation – see the Specification pages 40-41 for sample questions for this topic.

Reading:

There are no reading questions on this topic in the SAMs; however, there is an additional reading question at the end of this section.

Writing:

There are no Foundation writing questions on this topic in the SAMs; however, there is an additional writing question at the end of this section.

Higher Writing – see SAMs page 112 question 3.

Answers:

You can check your answers to Listening questions which are included in the SAMs.

Foundation Listening mark scheme: pages 129-132.

You will need to ask your teacher or a French speaker to check your answers for the role-play, the speaking questions and any written work that you produce.

Additional Questions:**Reading:**

Foundation & Higher Reading:

Lis les textes.

A) Yanick

Le mois dernier, j'ai fêté mes dix-sept ans et je me suis très bien amusé. On m'a offert de l'argent, une chemise et un nouveau DVD. D'ailleurs mes parents m'ont acheté des leçons de conduite. Je vais faire des économies pour m'acheter une auto l'année prochaine.

B) Yasmina

À la fin de Ramadan, on fait la fête avec nos proches et les célébrations continuent pour quelques jours. Pour moi les traditions musulmanes sont importantes. L'année dernière, j'ai fêté avec ma famille, c'est-à-dire, mon père Khalil, ma mère Aïcha et mon frère Yanis.

C) Christophe

Le trente et un décembre, je fais toujours la fête avec mes amis. L'année dernière, par exemple, nous avons réveillé chez mon amie Mireille et il y avait une vingtaine de personnes. Nous avons écouté de la musique et nous avons dansé jusqu'au matin. À minuit tout le monde a crié 'Bonne Année !'

D) Marie

En Espagne, les vacances de printemps sont vraiment spéciales et dans certaines régions dans le sud de la France il y a aussi des festivals similaires aux célébrations de nos amis espagnols. À Perpignan, par exemple, il y a des défilés pour la semaine sainte.

E) Audrey

Je suis tellement triste. Ce février, je n'ai pas envie de fêter parce que je viens de séparer de mon petit copain. Les magasins me rendent folle. Il y a des cartes, des boîtes de chocolats et des roses partout. Ça m'énerve. Je déteste les ruptures et en plus il me manque beaucoup !

Écris la bonne lettre pour relier les textes et les phrases.

1. Mon partenaire n'est plus avec moi. Quelle tristesse ! _____
2. Ma religion est importante pour moi. _____
3. Il y a des similarités entre les traditions françaises et celles de nos voisins hispaniques. _____
4. Après mon anniversaire, j'ai l'intention d'acheter une nouvelle voiture. _____

(You will find the answers at the end of this Factfile.)

Writing:

Foundation Writing:

Your teacher has asked for some information about festivals and celebrations.

Write **one** sentence for each answer.

Write **in French**.

- a) When your birthday is
- b) What you do on your birthday
- c) What you eat for your birthday
- d) One present you like to receive
- e) Another festival you like

Answers:

Reading answers:

1E 2B 3D 4A

Writing:

You will need to ask your teacher or a French speaker to check your answers for any written work that you produce.

