



Rewarding Learning

# FRENCH STUDENT STUDY CARD 9

## LISTENING COMPREHENSION SKILLS

### Introduction

The listening section consists of questions and answers in French and questions and answers in English.

### Assessment

For both AS and A2, the listening element of the exam consists of **two** discrete audio passages.

- Recording 1: You respond in French to questions in French.
- Recording 2: You respond in English to questions in English.

### Assessment Objectives

You will be assessed according to the following criterion:

- A01: Understand and respond to spoken language.

Look at the mark scheme to familiarise yourself with the requirements of the criterion and guidance on how to achieve the top bands.

You should be able to:

- understand, infer meaning and draw conclusions from a variety of spoken sources covering different contexts, registers, styles and genres.





## Skills

Here are some guidelines to help you prepare for this skills area.

### Preparation

- Listen to authentic French sources. You can listen to the French radio online at [www.franceinter.fr](http://www.franceinter.fr) and [www.europe1.fr](http://www.europe1.fr)
- Listen to French songs.
- Watch films in French.

### On the day of the examination

- Always answer in the language of the question.
- Although the listening exercises are assessed according to the AO1 criterion only, your answers in French have to be expressed clearly. Weak use of French may lead to an incomprehensible answer which cannot be rewarded.
- Read the question carefully.
- Pay particular attention to the question word used.
- Pay attention to the subject in the question. It will be different in the recorded passage. For instance, you may need to change 'je' to 'il' or 'elle' in your answer. You may also need to make other changes, such as 'mon' to 'son', etc.
- Full sentences are not always needed. There is no need to give superfluous information.
- Check the number of marks allocated to each question.
- Responses may need a qualifier such as less 'than/over' to gain the mark.
- Remember that unfamiliar vocabulary may not be needed for the answer.
- Be careful when transcribing what you hear and pay attention to your spelling as it may affect the meaning. You may rephrase as long as the meaning is clear.
- Do not offer alternative answers.
- Keep an eye on the clock so that you don't run out of time.