

French

Top Tips

**AIMING FOR GRADES
8 AND 9**

The skills and/or topics needed to achieve Grades 8 & 9 are . . .

Around 5 or 6 tenses with a main focus on: present tense (both regular, such as -er verbs jouer & écouter, and irregular verbs such faire, aller, avoir, être), 2 x past tenses (both le passé composé ie the perfect where you use j'ai mangé/écouté / je suis allé AND l'imparfait ie the imperfect stating what you used to do or were doing, so j'étais, je faisais etc), 2 x future tenses (the near future is je vais + infinitive verb ie je vais faire, and the simple future ie I will do... is je ferai, je mangerai), and the conditional (would... ie Je voudrais, je ferais, je mangerais)

Plus extended phrases of opinions and reasons, including both positive and negative, intensifiers (very, really, quite etc), opinion phrases such as 'je pense que' 'vu que' 'à mon avis'

Time phrases, frequency phrases and tense indicators such as at the weekend, normally, often, sometimes, last weekend, next year

Individual writing that is interesting and flow well, and never contradicts itself.

Along with the grammar and verbs, you need understanding and vocab from the 12 units under the three themes:

These are:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1. me, my family and friends | 7. global issues |
| 2. technology in everyday life | 8. Travel and tourism |
| 3. free time activities | 9. my studies |
| 4. customs and festivals | 10. life at school and college |
| 5. home, town, neighbourhood & region | 11. education post 16 |
| 6. social issues | 12. jobs, career choices and ambitions |

If aiming for Grades 8 & 9 you will need to particularly focus on this in your exam papers . . .

Accurate tenses, extended and developed sentences of opinions and varied verbs

You can find resources to support your preparation at . . .

BBC bitesize Duo lingo Language Gym (they have their own school log in)

When completing independent revision you should . . .

Test yourself, check your tenses are accurate, drill verbs & tenses, write a checklist and tick them off of:

accurate verbs, mixture of tenses, connectives, intensifiers, opinions, reasons, positive and negative

Grade boundary for a Grade 8 in 2019

Over four exams: 181 / 240

Grade boundary for a Grade 9 in 2019

Over four exams: 203 / 240

Top tips for aiming for Grades 8 & 9

See above. direction of data/current.