



French Summer Work





Wider-reading log



For the new A-Level course you will actually be marked on your wider knowledge of the themes studied and how they relate to French speaking countries. You are expected to read around the themes on a weekly basis, and you should get yourself into this habit now.

Some sources from articles could come from:

- <http://www.lemonde.fr/>
- <http://lci.tf1.fr/>
- <http://www.liberation.fr/>
- <http://www.lefigaro.fr/>
- <http://www.20minutes.fr/actus>
- <http://1jour1actu.com/>
- <http://www.zut.org.uk/index.html>
- <http://www.allocine.fr>

Most of the sites listed above will also have a YouTube channel. Some newspapers and TV stations have apps that you can download.

A good radio station is <http://www.nrj.fr/> .

If you have Twitter, it may be a good idea to follow some French news sites. The following Twitter accounts may be useful:

- @beaumontmfl
- @beaumontfrench
- @libe
- @lobs
- @Le_Figaro
- @lemondefr
- @le_Parisien
- @20minutes
- @BuzzFeedFrance

Over the summer you are expected to access at least four articles or news items. At least one must be a video report. For each one, note down the date that you accessed the article, the website and title of the article, and a few brief comments (in French) about it eg. what it was about and your own opinion. Around 75 words should be enough. As far as possible they should relate to French-speaking countries.

Date:	Website + Title	Brief summary and thoughts



Entre les Murs



In year 12 you will be studying the film “Entre les Murs” (English title: The Class). Over the summer you must get hold of a copy of the film (fairly easily available on Amazon) and should watch the film in its entirety. Make sure that you buy a copy with English subtitles!

Answer the following questions about the film once you have watched it (or whilst watching it). It’s fine to answer in English.

Comprehension

1. Why does Khoumba refuse to read aloud a passage from “The Diary of Anne Frank”?

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2. Which French word does Monsieur Marin use to describe Esméralda and Louise that causes much upset and controversy?

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3. What is the subject of the essay Khoumba writes in the film?

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4. What happens to Wei’s mother and why?

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5. What phrase does Souleymane have tattooed on him which he uses to justify his silence during the class?

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Interpretation

1. Do you think Monsieur Marin goes too far in his criticism of Esméralda and Louise?

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2. What social and racial tensions are exposed in the film?

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3. Do you believe that this film belongs more to the genre of documentary or the genre of fiction?

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4. To what extent do you think Monsieur Marin is the “hero” of this film?

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5. What do you believe is the significance of the film’s French title (“Entre les Murs”)?

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Grammar



When you return in September **we will be giving you a grammar test based on the tenses listed below**. You can use the following website to read the grammar rule about how to form the tenses and to practise using them.

www.languagesonline.org.uk

Select: **français -> grammar**

- The Present Tense (Le présent)
- The Perfect Tense (Le passé composé)
- The Perfect Tense 2
- The Future Tense (le Futur)
- The Imperfect Tense (L'imparfait)
- The Conditional Tense (Le Conditionnel)

1. The present tense:

- regular –er, -ir, -re verb formation with all pronouns
- irregular verbs: aller / avoir / être / faire / pouvoir / vouloir / devoir / boire / écrire / lire / prendre (see table below)

<p>aller = to go je vais tu vas il/elle va nous allons vous allez ils / elles vont</p>	<p>avoir = to have j'ai tu as il/ elle a nous avons vous avez ils / elles ont</p>	<p>boire = to drink je bois tu bois il/elle boit nous buvons vous buvez ils / elles boivent</p>
<p>être = to be je suis tu es il/elle est nous sommes vous êtes ils / elles sont</p>	<p>faire = to do / make je fais tu fais il / elle fait nous faisons vous faites ils / elles font</p>	<p>pouvoir = to be able to je peux tu peux il peut nous pouvons vous pouvez ils / elles peuvent</p>
<p>vouloir = to want to je veux tu veux il veut nous voulons vous voulez ils / elles veulent</p>	<p>devoir = to have to je dois tu dois il doit nous devons vous devez ils / elles doivent</p>	<p>écrire = to write j'écris tu écris il écrit nous écrivons vous écrivez ils/ elles écrivent</p>
<p>lire = to read je lis tu lis il lit nous lisons vous lisez ils/ elles lisent</p>	<p>prendre = to take je prends tu prends il prend nous prenons vous prenez ils/ elles prennent</p>	<p>voir = to see je vois tu vois il voit nous voyons vous voyez ils / elles voient</p>

2. The past tense:

- regular –er / -ir / -re verbs which take the auxiliary verb ‘avoir’ and how to form past participles
- irregular past participles (see table below)
- verbs which take the auxiliary verb ‘être’(MRS VAN DE TRAMP) and how to make the past participles agree

avoir = eu	être = été	faire = fait
boire = bu	conduire = conduit	connaître = connu
courir = couru	croire = cru	devoir = dû
dire = dit	dormir = dormi	écrire = écrit
falloir = fallu	lire = lu	mettre = mis
ouvrir = ouvert	pleuvoir = plu	prendre = pris comprendre = compris apprendre = appris
pouvoir = pu	recevoir = reçu	rire = ri
savoir = su	tenir = tenu	vivre = vécu
voir = vu	vouloir = voulu	suivre = suivi

3. The future tense

- regular –er/ -ir / -re verbs and endings for all pronouns (ai, as, a, ons, ez, ont)
- irregular verb stems* (see table below)

4. The imperfect tense:

- regular formation (present tense nous form, remove –ons) and endings for all pronouns (ais, ais, ait, ions, iez, aient) *NB. être the only irregular verb in the imperfect
- être / avoir / faire / aller/ vouloir / pouvoir / devoir

5. The conditional tense

- regular –er/-ir/-re verbs and endings for all pronouns (ais, ais, ait, ions, iez, aient)
- irregular verb stems* (see table below)

*Irregular verb stems in the future and conditional tenses:

Infinitive	Future and conditional stem
acheter	achèter-
avoir	aur-
être	ser-
faire	fer-
devoir	devr-
envoyer	enverr-
pouvoir	pourr-
savoir	saur-
venir	viendr-
voir	verr-
vouloir	voudr-



Course Information

(for info. only)



Areas of Study

Aspects of French-Speaking Society	
Current Trends <ul style="list-style-type: none"> La famille en voie de changement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> La « cyber-société » Le rôle du bénévolat 	Current Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Les aspects positifs d'une société diverse Quelle vie pour les marginalisés ? Comment on traite les criminels
Political and Artistic Culture	
Artistic Culture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Une culture fière de son patrimoine La musique francophone contemporaine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cinéma : le septième art 	Political Life <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Les ados, le droit de vote et l'engagement politique manifestations, grèves – à qui le pouvoir ? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> La politique et l'immigration
Literary Texts and Films	
Entre les Murs It follows a year in the life of Doria, a 15-year-old girl of Moroccan background who lives in a low-income housing project on the outskirts of Paris.	TBC This will depend on the teacher that you have. It will most likely be either Kiffe Kiffe Demain or No et Moi.
Other	
Grammar and Translation	Independent Research Project You will choose a subject or a key question which is of interest to you, and relates to a country or countries where French is spoken. This will be presented and discussed in your speaking exam. The aim is to promote research techniques.

Exam Structure

