

French, German, Spanish – Student Guide for Advanced Subsidiary/Advanced GCE Specifications

Study of Modern Languages will help you to understand the language in speech and writing and to communicate confidently, as well as inform you about the contemporary society and culture of the countries studied. Such study can provide a basis for degree level study as well as being satisfying in itself.

Other subjects which would go well with Languages are English, Geography, History, Business Studies.

With a qualification in Languages, you could go on to Higher Education or directly into employment.

There are 6 units of assessment.

To get a certificate for Advanced Subsidiary GCE, you will need to have studied for and been assessed on your performance on 3 AS units.

To get a certificate for Advanced GCE, you will need to have studied for and been assessed on your performance on 3 AS units, together with 3 A2 units.

Before you start this course

It would be helpful if you have studied a language at GCSE Higher Tier.

The assessment units for AS are:

Speaking

In this unit you will conduct a role-play with the examiner based on a short English stimulus, followed by a brief presentation and discussion of a topic of your choice.

Listening, Reading and Writing 1

In this unit you will carry out a number of non-verbal exercises based on short listening and reading texts. You will have individual control over the cassette. Some tasks will be set in a world of work context. The writing task will involve producing a short fax or letter.

Reading and Writing

3 reading texts will be set for comprehension. There will be a number of exercises, one of which will require you to summarise one text and provide a personal response to the issues raised. One exercise will ask you to choose the correct word to fill a gap and will test your knowledge of grammar.

These 3 assessment units form the Advanced Subsidiary GCE qualification.

There are 4 units available at A2 and you will study for 3 of them.

The assessment units for A2 are:

Speaking and Reading

In this unit you will talk about an article in the target language, which you will have studied during the 20-minute preparation time. Then you will talk about your background and interests and current issues.

Reading, Listening and Writing 2

This unit must be entered at the end of the course. Questions will be set, mainly in the target language, on one or two listening and one or two reading texts. Some exercises will be in English. You will also be asked to explain some English material in the foreign language and add your own opinions.

Culture and Society (Written Paper)

In this unit, you will answer two questions on a choice of literary texts, literary topics or non-literary topics. You will write 250-350 words for each question.

Unit 7 Culture and Society (Coursework)

You can choose to submit coursework instead of the Culture and Society (written paper). You will submit one long (1,200-1,400 words) piece or two short (600-700 words) pieces on topics or texts of your choice.

These 3 assessment units complete the Advanced GCE qualification.

The assessment structure for French, German and Spanish is:

<p>Unit 2651 (French) 2661 (German) 2671 (Spanish)</p> <p>Speaking</p> <p>Examination conducted by teacher/tutor, and either marked by teacher and moderated by OCR, or marked by OCR or, where there are more than 20 candidates, conducted and assessed by a Visiting OCR Examiner.</p> <p>Role-play, 5 minutes.</p> <p>Presentation and discussion of topic, 10 minutes.</p>	+	<p>Unit 2652 (French) 2662 (German) 2672 (Spanish)</p> <p>Listening, Reading and Writing 1</p> <p>Examination: short listening texts, non-verbal tests 200-300 word reading text, non-verbal tests.</p> <p>World of work section.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Listening Test • Gist translation of letter or memo into English. • Letter or fax in reply to listening or reading text. 	+	<p>Unit 2653 (French) 2663 (German) 2673 (Spanish)</p> <p>Reading and Writing</p> <p>Examination: 3 reading texts.</p> <p>Comprehension exercises.</p> <p>Summary and personal response.</p> <p>Short, multiple-choice grammar exercise.</p>	=	AS
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<p>Unit 2654 (French) 2664 (German) 2674 (Spanish)</p> <p>Speaking and Reading</p> <p>Examination conducted by teacher/tutor and marked by OCR or, where there are more than 20 candidates, conducted and assessed by a Visiting OCR Examiner.</p> <p>Discussion of newspaper/magazine article, 5-6 minutes.</p> <p>General conversation on background, interests, current issues, 10-12 minutes.</p>	+	<p>Unit 2655 (French) 2665 (German) 2675 (Spanish)</p> <p>Reading, Listening and Writing 2</p> <p>Examination: extended listening and reading texts.</p> <p>Comprehension of overall meaning and specific details.</p> <p>Verbal and non-verbal responses and answers in English.</p> <p>Summary of and response to English text.</p>	+	<p style="text-align: center;">┌────────── 1 of ─────────┐</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"> <p>Unit 2656 (French) 2666 (German) 2676 (Spanish)</p> <p>Culture and Society (Written Paper)</p> <p>Examination: set literary texts, literary topics, non-literary topics.</p> <p>2 questions to be answered from any section(s).</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"> <p>Unit 2657 (French) 2667 (German) 2677 (Spanish)</p> <p>Culture and Society (Coursework)</p> <p>One long essay (1,200 - 1,400 words) or two short essays (600-700) words on topic or text of own choice, marked by teacher/tutor, moderated by OCR.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Unit 2656 (French) 2666 (German) 2676 (Spanish)</p> <p>Culture and Society (Written Paper)</p> <p>Examination: set literary texts, literary topics, non-literary topics.</p> <p>2 questions to be answered from any section(s).</p>	<p>Unit 2657 (French) 2667 (German) 2677 (Spanish)</p> <p>Culture and Society (Coursework)</p> <p>One long essay (1,200 - 1,400 words) or two short essays (600-700) words on topic or text of own choice, marked by teacher/tutor, moderated by OCR.</p>	=	A2
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