**Edexcel GCSE**

**LISTENING**

What's assessed

Understanding and responding to different types of spoken language

How it's assessed

* Written exam: 35 minutes (Foundation Tier), 45 minutes (Higher Tier)
* 40 marks (Foundation Tier), 50 marks (Higher Tier)
* 25% of GCSE

(Each exam includes 5 minutes’ reading time before the listening stimulus is played.)

Questions - Foundation Tier and Higher Tier

* Section A – questions in English, to be answered in English or non-verbally
* Section B – questions in French, to be answered in French or non-verbally

**SPEAKING**

What's assessed

Communicating and interacting effectively in speech for a variety of purposes

How it's assessed

* Non-exam assessment
* 7–9 minutes (Foundation Tier) + preparation time
* 10–12 minutes (Higher Tier) + preparation time
* 60 marks (for each of Foundation Tier and Higher Tier)
* 25% of GCSE

Questions - Foundation Tier and Higher Tier

The format is the same at Foundation Tier and Higher Tier, but with different stimulus questions for the Photo card and different stimulus materials for the Role-play. The timings are different too:

Role-play – 15 marks (2 minutes at Foundation Tier; 2 minutes at Higher Tier)

Photo card – 15 marks (2 minutes at Foundation Tier; 3 minutes at Higher Tier)

General conversation – 30 marks (3–5 minutes at Foundation Tier; 5–7 minutes at Higher Tier)

**READING**

What's assessed

Understanding and responding to different types of written language

How it's assessed

* Written exam: 45 minutes (Foundation Tier), 1 hour (Higher Tier)
* 60 marks (for each of Foundation Tier and Higher Tier)
* 25% of GCSE

Questions - Foundation Tier and Higher Tier

* Section A – questions in English, to be answered in English or non-verbally
* Section B – questions in French, to be answered in French or non-verbally
* Section C – translation from French into English (a minimum of 35 words at Foundation Tier and 50 words at Higher Tier)

**WRITING**

What's assessed

Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes

How it's assessed

* Written exam: 1 hour (Foundation Tier), 1 hour 15 minutes (Higher Tier)
* 50 marks at Foundation Tier and 60 marks at Higher Tier
* 25% of GCSE

Questions

Foundation Tier

* Question 1 – message (student produces four sentences in response to a photo) – 8 marks
* Question 2 – short passage (student writes a piece of continuous text in response to four brief bullet points, approximately 40 words in total) – 16 marks
* Question 3 – translation from English into French (minimum 35 words) – 10 marks
* Question 4 – structured writing task (student responds to four compulsory detailed bullet points, producing approximately 90 words in total) – there is a choice from two questions – 16 marks

Higher Tier

* Question 1 – structured writing task (student responds to four compulsory detailed bullet points, producing approximately 90 words in total) – there is a choice from two questions – 16 marks
* Question 2 – open-ended writing task (student responds to two compulsory detailed bullet points, producing approximately 150 words in total) – there is a choice from two questions – 32 marks
* Question 3 – translation from English into French (minimum 50 words) – 12 marks

**The Themes**

**Theme 1: Identity and culture**

covers the following four topics with related sub-topics shown as bullet points:

* Topic 1: Me, my family and friends
  + Relationships with family and friends
  + Marriage/partnership
* Topic 2: Technology in everyday life
  + Social media
  + Mobile technology
* Topic 3: Free-time activities
  + Music
  + Cinema and TV
  + Food and eating out
  + Sport
* Topic 4: Customs and festivals in Spanish-speaking countries/communities

**Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest**

covers the following four topics:

* Topic 1: Home, town, neighbourhood and region
* Topic 2: Social issues
  + Charity/voluntary work
  + Healthy/unhealthy living
* Topic 3: Global issues
  + The environment
  + Poverty/homelessness
* Topic 4: Travel and tourism

**Theme 3: Current and future study and employment**

covers the following four topics:

* Topic 1: My studies
* Topic 2: Life at school/college
* Topic 3: Education post-16
* Topic 4: Jobs, career choices and ambitions