

Additional translation practice: French (Paper 4 – Writing)

This resource supports GCSE French (8658). Two full sets of sample assessment materials for the new specification are available to teachers (one via the AQA website in the Assessment resources for each language, the other via the secure eAQA area of the site, in the Secure Key Materials section). Practising teachers have written these additional translations to support teachers and students with work on translation. There are two additional translations per tier (English-French).

Foundation Tier questions

0	1
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Translate the following sentences into **French**.

My house is small and modern.

On TV I like films and comedies.

There are lots of children in my family.

I go to town on the bus on Saturdays.

Recently I bought a blue t-shirt.

[10 marks]

0	2
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Translate the following sentences into **French**.

My school is big.

I have a computer in my bedroom.

There is a big sports centre in town.

I watch TV every day.

Last weekend I went to the cinema with my friends.

[10 marks]

Foundation Tier mark scheme

The translation is assessed for Conveying key messages (5 marks) and Application of grammatical knowledge of language and structures (5 marks), as specified in the criteria below. The maximum mark is 10. When awarding the marks, the student's response across all five sentences should be considered as a whole.

[10 marks]

Conveying key messages

Level	Marks	Response
5	5	All key messages are conveyed.
4	4	Nearly all key messages are conveyed.
3	3	Most key messages are conveyed.
2	2	Some key messages are conveyed.
1	1	Few key messages are conveyed.
0	0	No key messages are conveyed.

Application of grammatical knowledge of language and structures

Level	Marks	Response
5	5	Very good knowledge of vocabulary and structures; highly accurate.
4	4	Good knowledge of vocabulary and structures; generally accurate.
3	3	Reasonable knowledge of vocabulary and structures; more accurate than inaccurate.
2	2	Limited knowledge of vocabulary and structures; generally inaccurate.
1	1	Very limited knowledge of vocabulary and structures; highly inaccurate.
0	0	The language produced does not meet the standard required for Level 1 at this tier.

Notes

A mark of zero for Conveying key messages automatically results in a mark of zero for Application of grammatical knowledge of language and structures, but apart from that, the Conveying key messages mark does not limit the mark for Application of grammatical knowledge of language and structures.

Indicative content

The following indicative content is an example of a response which would be awarded full marks.

Translation 1

Indicative content

My house is small and modern.	Ma maison est petite et moderne.
On TV I like films and comedies.	A/Sur la télé(vision)/TV j'aime/j'adore/les films et les comédies.
There are lots of children in my family.	Il y a/on trouve beaucoup d'enfants dans ma famille.
I go to town on the bus on Saturdays.	Je vais en ville/au centre-ville/à ma ville/je visite la ville/le centre-ville/ma ville en autobus/bus/car le samedi.
Recently I bought a blue t-shirt.	Récemment j'ai acheté un t-shirt/tee-shirt bleu.

Translation 2

Indicative content

My school is big.	Mon collège/école est grand/grande.
I have a computer in my bedroom.	J'ai un ordinateur/une tablette dans ma chambre.
There is a big sports centre in town.	Il y a un grand centre de sports/sportif/de loisirs dans ma ville/en ville/au centre-ville.
I watch TV every day.	Je regarde la télé(vision)/TV tous les jours/chaque jour.
Last weekend I went to the cinema with my friends.	Le week-end dernier je suis allé(e) au/j'ai visité le cinéma avec mes amis/amies/copains/copines/camarades.

Higher Tier mark scheme

The translation is assessed for Conveying key messages (6 marks) and Application of grammatical knowledge of language and structures (6 marks) as specified in the criteria below. The maximum mark is 12. When awarding the marks the student's response across the passage should be considered as a whole.

[12 marks]

Conveying key messages

Level	Marks	Response
6	6	All key messages are conveyed.
5	5	Nearly all key messages are conveyed.
4	4	Most key messages are conveyed.
3	3	Some key messages are conveyed.
2	2	Few key messages are conveyed.
1	1	Very few key messages are conveyed.
0	0	The content does not meet the standard required for Level 1 at this tier.

Application of grammatical knowledge of language and structures

Level	Marks	Response
6	6	Excellent knowledge of vocabulary and structures; virtually faultless.
5	5	Very good knowledge of vocabulary and structures; highly accurate.
4	4	Good knowledge of vocabulary and structures; generally accurate.
3	3	Reasonable knowledge of vocabulary and structures; more accurate than inaccurate.
2	2	Limited knowledge of vocabulary and structures; generally inaccurate.
1	1	Very limited knowledge of vocabulary and structures; highly inaccurate.
0	0	The language produced does not meet the standard required for Level 1 at this tier.

Notes

A mark of zero for Conveying key messages automatically results in a mark of zero for Application of grammatical knowledge of language and structures, but apart from that, the Conveying key messages mark does not limit the mark for Application of grammatical knowledge of language and structures.

Translation 1

Recently I went into town in order to do some shopping. I also saw a lot of graffiti and litter. I think that it is awful because the environment is very important. There were also a lot of homeless people in the streets. Next year I will find a job and I would like to give some money to charity.

Indicative content

The following indicative content is an example of a response which would be awarded full marks.

Récemment je suis allé(e) en ville faire du shopping/faire les courses/faire les magasins/faire des achats/acheter des provisions/j'ai visité la ville pour/afin de faire du shopping/faire les courses/faire les magasins/faire des achats/acheter des provisions. J'ai aussi vu beaucoup/plein de graffiti et d'ordures/de déchets/de papiers. Je pense/trouve/crois que c'est affreux/horrible parce que/car l'environnement est très important. Il y avait/on trouvait/on voyait aussi beaucoup de sans-abris dans les rues. L'année prochaine/l'an prochain je trouverai un emploi/travail/job et je voudrais/j'aimerais donner de l'argent à une charité.

Translation 2

I have not had a lot of free time recently because I must revise for my exams. However, I like to exercise to improve my health. At home, when I am not working, I use my computer in order to download music and chat to my friends. I am happy because next week I will buy a new mobile phone.

Indicative content

The following indicative content is an example of a response which would be awarded full marks.

Je n'ai pas eu/je n'avais pas beaucoup de temps libre récemment parce que je dois/il me faut réviser pour mes examens. Cependant/pourtant/par contre, j'aime m'exercer/faire/prendre de l'exercice pour améliorer ma santé. A la maison/chez moi, quand je ne travaille pas, j'utilise mon ordinateur pour télécharger de la musique et chatter/tchater/tchatter/bavarder/parler à/avec mes amis/amies/copains/copines/camarades. Je suis heureux(se)/content(e) parce que la semaine prochaine j'achèterai un nouveau portable.