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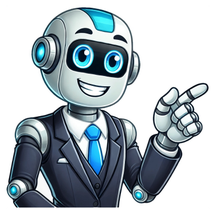

Students are assessed on their productive skills (Paper 1 Writing), receptive skills (Paper 2 Listening and Reading) and interactive skills (Interactive Oral - Speaking). All assessments are based on the study of the five prescribed main themes : Identities, Experiences, Human Ingenuity, Social Organization, and Sharing the Planet.Paper 1 French B SL counts for 25% towards the final grade. In this external assessment, students have to write a text of 250 to 400 words from a choice of three tasks. Students have to use complex language and demonstrate conceptual understanding.Paper 2 French B SL counts for 50% towards the final grade and consists of two separate sections : Paper 2 Reading and Paper 2 Listening.Paper 2 Reading counts for 25% towards the final grade. In this external assessment, students have to answer a series of comprehension questions based on three texts with increasing difficulty, the last one (Text C) being the first text of French B HL. This assessment is worth 40 marks and must be completed in one hour.Paper 2 Listening counts for 25% towards the final grade. In this external assessment, students have to answer a series of comprehension questions with increasing difficulty based on three audio texts such as conversations, interviews, podcasts etc. Just like Paper 2 Reading, the last audio recording is the first one of French B HL. Students will listen twice to each audio text. This assessment is worth 25 marks.The Individual Oral counts for 25% towards the final grade. This assessment is conducted at school but externally moderated by IB. This assessment is divided into three parts. Students first present the visual stimulus that they have chosen during their preparation time, relating it to the relevant theme and establishing cultural links, then answer questions related to it and finally engage in a general conversation based on at least one additional theme of the five prescribed themes. This assessment is worth 30 marks. Skip to main content Reddit and its partners use cookies and similar technologies to provide you with a better experience. By accepting all cookies, you agree to our use of cookies to deliver and maintain our services and site, improve the quality of Reddit, personalize Reddit content and advertising, and measure the effectiveness of advertising. By rejecting non-essential cookies, Reddit may still use certain cookies to ensure the proper functionality of our platform. For more information, please see our Cookie Notice and our Privacy Policy. 100%(1)100% found this document useful (1 vote)903 views9 pagesThis document provides a syllabus for an IB French SL and HL course. It outlines the course description, objectives, topics that will be covered including the core and options, resources tha…SaveSave IB French SL - HL Sylabus For Later100%100% found this document useful, undefined100%(1)100% found this document useful (1 vote)903 views9 pagesThis document provides a syllabus for an IB French SL and HL course. It outlines the course description, objectives, topics that will be covered including the core and options, resources that will be used, assessments including internal and external IB assessments, attendance policies, student conduct policies, and the teacher's responsibilities. The course is designed to develop students' language skills in French and their intercultural understanding through exploring the cultures connected to the French language.100%(1)100% found this document useful (1 vote)903 views9 pagesThis document provides a syllabus for an IB French SL and HL course. It outlines the course description, objectives, topics that will be covered including the core and options, resources tha… Welcome to our IB French B page! Here you can access a copy of the course guide and learning journeys along with practice exam questions and links to a variety of quality revision/study sources designed to support your learning.Language B Guide.pdfFrench B Learning Journey.xlsxClick on the icons to find out more about how to use each of these learning strategies1 - Experience.pdf2 -Human Ingenuity.pdf3 - Identity.pdf4 - Sharing the Planet.pdf5 - Social Organisation.pdf Students are assessed on their productive skills (Paper 1 Writing), receptive skills (Paper 2 Listening and Reading) and interactive skills (Interactive Oral - Speaking). All assessments are based on the study of the five prescribed main themes : Identities, Experiences, Human Ingenuity, Social Organization, and Sharing the Planet.Paper 1 French B SL counts for 25% towards the final grade. 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Students will listen twice to each audio text. This assessment is worth 25 marks.The Individual Oral counts for 25% towards the final grade. This assessment is conducted at school but externally moderated by IB. This assessment is divided into three parts. Students first present the visual stimulus that they have chosen during their preparation time, relating it to the relevant theme and establishing cultural links, then answer questions related to it and finally engage in a general conversation based on at least one additional theme of the five prescribed themes. This assessment is worth 30 marks. Thinking about studying French B as a part of your IBDP? This article provides a comprehensive guide to the course, which delves into all aspects of curriculum, from the syllabus to preparing for exams and exploring potential career opportunities. Whether you're a novice in French or have a background in the language, IB French B is tailored to accommodate your proficiency level. Let's dive in! The IB French B exams for the May 2025 session will take place over two days: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 - Afternoon:Paper 1: Standard Level (SL): 1 hour 15 minutesHigher Level (HL): 1 hour 30 minutesPaper 2 – Reading Comprehension: Wednesday, May 21, 2025 - Morning:Paper 2 – Listening Comprehension: Please note that exam start times may vary depending on your school's location and specific scheduling. It is essential to verify the exact timings with your IB coordinator. Check out IB Exam Schedule 2025 for more subjects!Choosing IB French B is more than just learning a language; it’s a chance to broaden your horizons, engage with diverse cultures, and gain a deeper appreciation of the rich and vibrant Francophone world. While the course might seem challenging at first, its rewards are far-reaching: Improves cognitive benefits: Research has shown as early as 2012 that bilingualism has been linked to improved problem-solving abilities and better focus, making it an asset in both academic and professional settings. Increases chance of successful university application: From an academic perspective, achieving top grades in IB French B demonstrates intellectual aptitude, which provides the entry ticket to top universities like Oxford and Cambridge. Improves career prospects: In 2025, French continues to be a global powerhouse, serving as an official language in 27 countries and ranking as one of the most geographically widespread languages. This demonstrates that mastering French not only strengthens critical thinking and cognitive skills but also enhances your career prospects. Make friends around the world: Studying IB French B not only offers both intellectual, cognitive, and practical benefits, but also opens the door to communicating with the large Francophone community around the world and making connections that lasts a lifetime. As Nelson Mandela once said:"If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart."If you're tempted by the above benefits to study IB French B, read on to understand what to expect! The difficulty of IB French B varies depending on your prior experience with the French language and your dedication to the course. However, most students find it manageable with consistent effort and effective strategies.IB French BDifficulty LevelModerateWorkloadModerateDifficulty LevelIB French B is generally rated as moderately challenging compared to other IB subjects. Students typically score it a 3 out of 5 in terms of difficulty (5 being the hardest). The course is thoughtfully designed for both beginners and intermediate speakers, blending language comprehension with a cultural understanding of French-speaking regions. While this holistic approach can seem daunting initially, it offers a rewarding and enriching experience.In May 2024, the mean grade for IB French B HL was 5.3, and for SL, it was 5.1. Moreover, 19.4% of HL students and 13.5% of SL students achieved the highest grade of 7. These figures highlight that while top scores are achievable, the course requires consistent effort to excel.IB French B SL & HL grade distributions in 2024WorkloadLike all IB subjects, French B requires balancing multiple components. From mastering vocabulary and grammar to preparing for assessments, effective time management is key. The workload is manageable with a structured approach and steady commitment. IB French B does come with challenges, but it is far from insurmountable. With dedication, time management, and the right study techniques, students can thrive in this immersive and enriching course. Need help deciding which IB subjects are the Hardest or Easiest? Check out our separate articles for a detailed comparison!The IB French B syllabus is a comprehensive curriculum designed to cultivate students' linguistic skills whilst also providing them with a deeper conceptual understanding of francophone cultures based on authentic materials such as articles, films, interviews, and literary works. The course is divided into separate sections with two main parts: Language skills and Themes.Language SkillsThe Language Skills component focusses on building four critical areas of language acquisition: Reading, Writing, Listening, and Speaking. Students are trained to read and comprehend texts of various genres, write effectively in different styles, listen to spoken French from various sources and articulate their ideas clearly in the French language.ThemesThe Themes component is where culture comes into play. The syllabus covers five key themes: Identities, Experiences, Human Ingenuity, Social Organisation, and Sharing the Planet. Each theme encourages students to explore various aspects of francophone societies and social interaction, understand different viewpoints and enhance their global-mindedness.In essence, the IB French B syllabus is comprehensive and multi-faceted, aiming to not just teach a language, but to also foster an appreciation of the rich tapestry of francophone cultures.Have a look at our comprehensive set of and IB Economics HL resources, developed by expert IB teachers and examiners: View IB Economics SL Practice Questions View IB Economics HL Practice Questions View IB Economics SL Study Notes View IB Economics HL Study Notes View IB Economics SL Past Papers View IB Economics HL Past PapersAs we move into 2025, language learning is evolving rapidly, and IB French B students are benefiting from innovative trends that enhance engagement and effectiveness. Key developments include:Technology Integration: Tools like Duolingo, AI chatbots, and VR experiences allow students to practise French interactively and in real-world contexts.Cultural Immersion: Greater emphasis is placed on exploring Francophone films, music, and literature to deepen cultural understanding.Personalised Learning: Adaptive platforms customise study plans, helping students target specific weaknesses, such as grammar or oral skills.Project-Based Learning: Creative tasks like making podcasts or role-playing scenarios encourage real-world language application.Global Collaboration: Virtual exchanges with native French speakers enable authentic conversations and fluency-building.These trends align with the IB’s focus on global engagement, equipping students with the skills to excel in both academic and real-world French usage. Embracing these innovations is key to success in IB French B. Comparing the IB French B with the A-Level French reveals distinctive aspects of both, enabling students to choose what aligns best with their learning preferences and goals. Here is a summary of the key differences: AspectIB French BA-Level FrenchFocus AreasLanguage acquisition skillsLanguageCultural explorationCultureGlobal themes (unique to IB, promoting international-mindedness)Society of France and French-speaking countriesLiterature and film studyApproach Holistic approach combining language, culture, and global themesMore narrowly focused on language and culture, making it manageable for some studentsProficiency LevelsOffers flexibility with Standard Level (SL) and Higher Level (HL)Single levelA-Level French The A-Level French course, as outlined by AQA, primarily focuses on the following elements:languageculturesociety of France and French-speaking countriesliterature and film studyCompared to IB, A-Level French is more narrowly focused on language and culture, which offers its own benefit since some students might it more manageable. IB French BOn the other hand, IB French B adopts a more holistic approach, incorporating the following elements:language acquisition skillscultural explorationglobal themes. Global themes is a unique aspect of IB, promoting international-mindedness, in addition to flexibility in terms of proficiency levels, which caters to different student abilities. Both A-Level and IB French B are highly regarded qualifications, and both can open doors to university studies and future careers. The choice between them should depend on the individual's learning style, objectives, and the rest of their academic profile. Choosing between Standard Level (SL) or Higher Level (HL) for your IB French B course depends on your language proficiency, interest in French, and desired outcome from the course. To help you in making this decision, here is a summary of the key differences between the two levels: SLHLStudent ProfileStudents who have some background in French but may not feel entirely confident in their fluencyStudents who already have a significant level of proficiency in FrenchCoverageCovers fundamental language skills and themesCovers a broader range of language nuances, literature, and themesLearning OutcomesTo provide foundation for future language learningTo develop a higher level of oral and written expressionTeaching Hours150 hours 240 hoursUniversity RequirementsProvides less advantage compared to HLProvides an advantage if studying French at university or a course that requires strong language skillsAs of May 2024, the mean grades of HL and SL are slightly above 5 and very close to each other. This indicates that the performance of students at these two levels are very similar. Students should carefully consider their proficiency level before deciding which course is more suitable for them. Bar Chart Showing Mean Grades of IB French B SL & HL in 2024Choosing the right level should involve an evaluation of your language abilities, aspirations, and overall IB subject combination. Discuss with your teachers and guidance counsellors to make an informed decision. Remember, the goal is to challenge yourself, but also to enjoy the learning journey.The IB French B grading system operates on a scale from 1 to 7, with 7 being the highest. A combination of both internal and external assessments are used to determine the final grade. Here's a quick glance of the assessment components:External assessments (EA)Internal assessments (IA)Percentage of final score70-75%25-30%Skills assessed Receptive skills (understanding of written and spoken French)Productive skills (speaking and writing)Assessment elementsHL: a reading comprehension paper (25%), listening comprehension paper (25%), and a written assignment based on the themes studied (20%)HL: an individual oral based on a literary extract (20%) and an interactive oral activity (10%)SL: a reading comprehension paper (25%), listening comprehension paper (25%), and a written assignment based on the themes studied (25%)SL: an individual oral based on a visual stimulus (30%) Understanding the grading system is critical for focusing your revision efforts and achieving the desired outcomes. Don't forget that, in addition to your IB French score, a maximum of three points can be added to your final grade based on your Extended Essay (EE) and Theory of Knowledge (TOK) performance. For a Complete Guide on TOK and 250+ Ideas and Guide on EE, check out these articles! The IB French B exam is designed to evaluate your command of the French language across various skills and contexts. It comprises of different papers for SL and HL students, each carefully constructed to assess specific competencies. IB French B EA Format The External Assessment makes up the bulk (70-75%) of the final score for IB Frenh B, so understanding what you're assessed on and how you're assessed is crucial! Here's a quick summary table on the exam format for each of the EA components: SLHLPaper 1Four text-handling exercisesThree separate text-handling exercisesExam Duration1 hour 30 minutes1 hour 30 minutesPaper 2Involves writing one piece of text, choosing from five options. The options may include writing an article, a blog post, an interview, etc.Two writing tasks – one task chosen from five options, and a second task where students write a 250-word creative text based on a literary extract.Exam Duration1 hour 20 minutes1 hour 20 minutesIB French B IA Format The Internal Assessment, making up 20-25% of the final subject score, is based on oral components consisting of two parts: Individual Oral (IO) and the Interactive Oral Activity (IOA). Take a look at the table below on what they entail: Individual Oral (IO)Interactive Oral Activity (IOA)Format10-minute presentation and discussion with the teacherCan be in any format – a debate, interview, role play, or presentation.ContentSL: based on a visual stimulus linked to one of the themes of the syllabusInvolves a stimulus-based discussion on one of the five themesHL: based on an extract of a literary workAssessmentConducted by your IB teacher and sent to IBO for external moderationConducted by your IB teacher and sent to IBO for external moderationWe asked a successful IB student, Sophie Grange, who scored 7 in IB French B about how she prepared for the assessment:"In preparation for the IB French B Internal Assessment, what worked for me was continuous practice and immersion in the language. Don't just rely on your classroom lessons, explore French in everyday contexts. Watch French films, read French books, and converse in French as much as possible. For the specific assessment, start your preparation early, choose your themes carefully, and make sure to understand what the examiners are looking for. Constant practice, immersion and understanding the assessment objectives will guide your way to success.".Familiarity with the exam structure and question types is a key step in your revision process. Make sure to practise extensively with past papers and sample questions to ace the exam. Click here to get extra Guidance on Language B Higher Level IA or Standard Level IA. If you're wondering when the IB Exam Schedule 2025 is, check out this article. Whether an IB French B score is good is highly subjective and depends on your personal goals, university requirements, and overall performance in the IB Diploma. However, here are a few commonly used yardsticks:A score of 4 out of 7 is generally considered "satisfactory"A score of 5 or above often demonstrates strong language competency to universitiesA score of 7 out of 7 is deemed "excellent"The above standards are used as general rule-of-thumb, and you might want to aim higher or lower depending on your circumstances. If you want to improve your IB French B grades, read on for revision and study tips. Achieving top scores in IB French B requires effective revision strategies, regular practice, and a comprehensive understanding of the exam requirements. Here are some expert-recommended tips to guide you:Consistent Language Exposure: Many languages teachers and speakers emphasise the importance of frequent and consistent exposure to the target language. Regularly read French articles and news on reputable sources like Le Monde, watch French films, listen to French music, and engage with the language in your everyday life.Practice Past Papers: Familiarise yourself with the exam format by working through past papers. This not only improves your timing but also helps identify areas of weakness.Get help from a tutor: If you're struggling with a particular topic, it's a good idea to get help from an IB French B tutor. A tutor can provide one-on-one support and guidance, and help you to overcome any areas of difficulty.Use Online Tools: In addition to classic resources like Duolingo, consider using AI-powered apps like Babbel, or the newly launched FluentSpeak, which offer more personalized learning experiences based on your progress.Interactive Orals: These play a crucial role in your internal assessment. Regularly practice speaking French and aim for fluency and accuracy.Seek Feedback: Be proactive in getting feedback on your written and oral work from your teacher or French tutor. Many tutoring services like TutorChase specialise in IB tutors and offer personalised study plans and feedback, which is one of the most effective ways to improve learning.Revision Timetable: Create a structured revision plan. Regular, spaced out studying is more effective than cramming.Mastering a second language like French significantly broadens your career prospects. In our increasingly globalised world, bilingualism and multicultural understanding of other cultures are highly valued by employers across sectors: International Organisations: French is one of the official languages of the United Nations, European Union, and many other international organisations. Careers in international relations, diplomacy, or humanitarian work often require proficiency in multiple languages.Teaching and Academia: You could pursue research in French literature, history, or culture. An advanced understanding of French can open opportunities in teaching, either at secondary school or higher education levels and help you become any of the following:IB French tutorA-Level French tutorIGCSE French tutorGCSE French tutorBusiness: Companies with a global presence or partnerships with French companies often seek employees with French language skills. This can lead to roles in management, marketing, sales, and more.Tourism and Hospitality: Hotels, airlines, and travel agencies often require French speakers to cater to the millions of Francophone tourists worldwide.Translation and Interpretation: These fields are obvious choices for language graduates, with demand in sectors like law, medicine, and entertainment.In conclusion, taking IB French B can be an enriching and rewarding experience. Beyond gaining a deep understanding of the French language and culture, the course equips you with vital skills that can open doors to exciting career opportunities. This guide serves as a comprehensive resource for any student considering this course, covering syllabus, study tips and more. Regardless of the challenge you face, consistency and genuine interest in the subject is the key. Bonne chance! AboutContactContact – FIMTCourses FeesFrench Accelerated LearningHomeLocation ReviewsTutors IB French Language B requires har work, time and dedication. This guide to IB French B gives you valuable tips on how to study the subject to meet your highest academic goals. It covers it all, from the structure of the course and exams (including the IB French oral) to suggestions for revision resources. It’s all hard work and there is no getting around that. But the result is well worth it. You will be able to freely express your thoughts and understand others, which opens up new exciting possibilities for university, future employment, and lifestyle choices. Chances are that you learned French in middle school and now want to develop it within the IB programme. If so, this post is for you. French Language B is a comprehensive two-year IBDP course that provides core communicational skills and intercultural comprehension. Its purpose is to enhance students’ abilities to understand French in written, spoken, and recorded forms. Along with this, it helps them freely express their own ideas or points of view in the linguistic and cultural environment. Unlike French Ab Initio, Language B builds upon existing language knowledge. In other words, most students enter with approximately 2-3 years of prior French study. It is an optimal solution for those who have a foundation in French but aren’t quite ready for the native-level demands of French A. As you may already know, you need to take 3-4 IBDP subjects at the Higher Level (HL) and the rest at the Standard Level (SL). With French Language B, both paths are available. While SL and HL share assessment methods, they differ significantly in the depth of curriculum content and the skill acquisition demands. The Standard Level consists of 150 recommended teaching hours over two years. Primarily, it focuses on everyday French communication. Students at this level work on mastering straightforward written, spoken, and recorded texts. At the same time, they get the valuable practice of communicating with a partner. Overall, the IB French B SL syllabus emphasises prescribed topics and familiar contexts to provide a solid foundation in the French language. Higher Level, in contrast, requires a minimum of 240 teaching hours over the same two-year period. Thanks to the greater depth of content, it allows for achieving significant progress in mastering the language. HL students engage with complex materials in various forms to develop the skill of communicating their ideas in more detail and depth. Apart from this, they will be able to express their arguments and justify them. One more thing that sets HL French B apart is the introduction to two literary works. Naturally, your task here is to understand their ideas expressed in a more complex language. Along with this, you should be able to analyse these texts and showcase your appreciation. Finally, HL French B goes beyond the SL topics prescribed in the curriculum. It prepares students to handle unexpected situations and contexts with more confidence. Thanks to this advanced path, they also get the skills and knowledge for further academic and professional use of French. “During the first IB year, teachers sometimes advise struggling students to move from HL to SL. If this happens to you, you will be able to maintain your grades while simultaneously increasing your chances of getting a higher final mark.” The course is built around three fundamental pillars, which help create proficient French speakers. First of all, it aims to develop solid communication skills. Thanks to regular work with a variety of audio-visual materials and authentic texts, students improve their reading comprehension, written expression, and oral communication. Second, the course focuses on cultural understanding. As an IB French B student, you will be able to explore diverse Francophone communities and gain a deep appreciation of French culture. This cultural immersion contributes to international-mindedness and understanding of how cultural context influences communication. Third, you will have a chance to use your language skills in practice. In particular, you will learn to create various types of texts, express your opinions, construct convincing arguments, and even try your hand at comparative analysis. “Besides these three pillars, the course is beneficial for other vital skills. For example, it is able to enhance problem-solving skills. As a result, you will be ready to find effective solutions in real-world situations involving the French language. Also, as you work on various projects and assignments, you’ll get to see an improvement in your self-management and research capabilities.” Finally, due to the interactive nature of language learning, it is possible to naturally boost your social interaction skills and cultural sensitivity. Now let us discuss the core elements of the HL and SL courses, from their syllabus to assessment methods. Regardless of the level, the French Language B syllabus introduces five core themes: Identities. This theme explores the nature of self and what it means to be human. In particular, it focuses on personal attributes, beliefs, values, and other aspects that shape who we are. Along with this, it helps understand how language itself affects identity. Experiences. Thanks to this theme, students discuss various events and activities. For example, they explore topics including leisure activities, holidays and travel, life stories, as well as cultural traditions in French-speaking countries. At the same time, students are encouraged to share their own experiences. Human Ingenuity. This theme is about celebrating human creativity, innovation, and artistic expression. Specifically, it helps understand how creative thinking shapes our world through entertainment, media, technology, art, and scientific breakthroughs. Social Organisation. The focus here is on societal structures and interactions across social groups. Specific topics may include education systems, public services, transportation, workplace environments, as well as social issues in Francophone countries. Sharing the Planet. The final theme addresses global challenges and how different communities respond to them. You will have a chance to discuss environmental concerns, access to resources, peace and conflict resolution, and equality issues. Naturally, HL students learn these themes in greater detail than their SL counterparts. Additionally, they read two literary works, the content of which aligns with the syllabus. Overall, the course is extensive and packed with things to learn. Although French is not too hard to master if you already speak English, it may become a stumbling block with a lack of comprehension or diligence. If at some point you find yourself stranded and do not tackle it quickly, it’ll be a challenge to catch up. Therefore, if you struggle to make friends with le français, it may be a good idea to seek a qualified French tutor. TutorsPlus boasts a strong team of experienced tutors who, as IB teachers and examiners, have helped hundreds of students achieve their goals. You, too, can rely on our expertise in IB French curriculum and examination to boost your grades. The maximum grade you can get with French Language B is 7, just like in other IB subjects. Your final score depends on the marks you acquire in your exams. Although grade boundaries change every year, it is normally enough to gather more than 86% of the maximum marks (108/125) to get a 7. Overall, the exam has External (75% of the total grade) and Internal (25%) components. The External assessment includes two papers. Paper 1 is a written exam assessing productive skills. Students have to answer one question from the choice of three. While Paper 1 is identical in its structure at both levels, HL students must use more complex language and demonstrate high-order thinking skills. Besides, their responses involve a higher word count. Therefore, this section of the exam lasts longer at HL – 1 hour and 30 minutes vs. 1 hour and 15 minutes at SL. Usually, the responses are within the range of 450-600 words. To make it in time, we recommend preparing some facts and ideas on the themes of the syllabus. Overall, Paper 1 awards 30 marks. Paper 2 tests receptive skills such as listening and reading. Both sections must be completed within 1 hour and 45 minutes at SL and 2 hours at HL. Students need to listen to three audio passages and answer follow-up questions. This component carries 25 marks. The reading section provides various short and longer texts as well as questions that test understanding of their content. Again, HL students should expect longer and more complex audio and written passages than their SL peers. The maximum number of available marks is 40. The questions themselves typically require shorter answers. In particular, these are multiple-choice questions, true and fast statements, filling the gaps, etc. When it comes to Internal Assessment, it takes the form of an Individual oral exam. Basically, Internal Assessment is a 12-15-minute oral presentation based on the chosen stimulus. With 30 marks, it is accountable for 25% of the final grade for both levels. Having said that, there are some notable differences between SL and HL assessments. Specifically, SL students receive two visual stimuli (a picture related to the syllabus content) and prepare their presentation based on one of them. They will have 15 minutes to jot down the key points of their speech. After that, they will have 3-4 minutes to report their ideas about the picture (its setting, people, their activities, etc.). Next, is a 4-5 discussion with an examiner involving Q&A about your presentation. They may, for example, ask you to explain some of your points in greater detail, share your opinions on the situation you’ve seen in a picture, or ask about your experience. The final stage of the Individual oral is a general discussion. Within 5-6 minutes, you will need to talk about other themes you’ve learned in your IB French B lessons. At HL, the stimulus is a text excerpt from one of the two literary works studied in class. You need to choose just one of them for your presentation. To prepare for it, you will have approximately 20 minutes. Don’t try to write in detail everything you’d like to say. Instead, use around 10 bullet points to outline the main ideas. Similarly to SL, the Individual Oral starts with a presentation, which summarises the chosen excerpt. At the same time, you should also try to provide some information about the full literary work such as its characters, plot, themes, etc. You are welcome to share your views and opinions about the text as well. Overall, the presentation itself lasts 3-4 minutes. After you’ve made your final point, you will have a 4-5-minute discussion with the examiner. They will encourage you to share more information on your ideas, clarify some points, discuss your experiences, and show an appreciation of the francophone culture. Lastly, you will have a discussion that goes beyond the literary work. Still, it will concern the themes of the course. You might need to explain how they impact your life or identity, which personal experiences matter the most to you, which cultural aspects you find the most fascinating, etc. The duration of the general discussion is 5-6 minutes. The topics you will meet at your exam align with the syllabus and its five prescribed themes. They will come in both written and audio forms. In terms of text types, they usually belong to the following three categories: Personal informal communication (short text messages, emails, diary entries, personal blog entries, phone calls, and so on); Professional formal communication (business emails and letters, instructions, proposals, presentations, etc.); Mass media (podcasts, public speeches, advertisements, newspaper articles, news reports, web pages, and others). If you’ve chosen French for your IB language option, you know how important the results are. Unfortunately, you won’t be able to achieve your goals if you only study sporadically. The key to success is consistent effort throughout the two-year program. Rather than rushing through topics, you should take time to fully understand each concept before moving forward. In other words, you need to stick to a more methodical and structured approach. Essentially, it means working through each topic thoroughly to make sure you truly understand their key concepts. Along with this, it is important to keep track of new vocabulary and grammar points. But don’t just write them down and turn the page. Instead, try to find ways to regularly use them in various contexts. “It is always a good idea to combine your studies with exposure to French media and culture. This way, you can naturally develop language fluency as well as find out more about the culture of the francophone world. So, set aside at least 30 minutes each day to watch news or video blogs, listen to podcasts, and read French content.” Last but not least, you should practice with past papers and mock exams as much as possible. They are useful not only to give you a better idea of the exam format and its requirements. They also provide valuable experience across the essential skills – reading, writing, and hearing. When it comes to speaking, you can try to give speeches in front of the mirror or, even better, get a study buddy. This way, both of you can gain more confidence before you head to your final assessment. Finally, we’d like to suggest some useful materials and resources you can (and should!) use to become a better French speaker. The IB French B Course Companion offers structured learning aligned with the IB curriculum; Duolingo is an excellent app for daily practice and vocabulary accumulation; Memrise is helpful for memorising phrases and cultural expressions; Quizlet is an online resource you can use to create flashcards; Linguee will come in handy to understand words in context and find authentic usage examples; France.tv will allow you to stream French programs related to course themes. It is ideal for improving listening comprehension; RFI Français Facile is a topic-specific podcast aligned with the IB French B syllabus. Besides, it provides interactive exercises for comprehension practice; “Learn French with Alexa” is a YouTube channel known for clear explanations of grammar and pronunciation; “Français Authentique” is one more YouTube resource featuring natural French conversation and cultural insights. Hopefully, our Guide to IB French B has answered all your key questions and it became a bit clearer how to revise for your exam. Do you have other questions? Or maybe you require help with exam practice and preparing for your French B oral? Then don’t hesitate to get in touch. At Tutors Plus, we stick to an individual approach to tutoring. Our goal is to reveal your weaknesses and strong points to eliminate the former and improve the latter. Do you think your perception of spoken French could be better? Or maybe your ability to get your point across leaves much to be desired? It is in our power to help you get better at the areas you’re lagging behind. Let us prove it to you. Our tutors have immense experience in teaching French, and they’d be happy to assist you in mastering it. Let us be your helping hand throughout your challenging educational journey. Call us at 022 731 8148 or send your message via to learn how we can be of service. By Sara Lloyd Sara has been an education consultant for TutorsPlus for 15 years, and is an expert on international IB education. She is also a parent of two lively children. Find a Tutor

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