

Top Tips for GCSE French



1. Little and Often Beats Cramming

Short, regular revision sessions (15–30 minutes) are far more effective than last-minute panic. Try revising French **4–5 times a week**, even if it's just vocab or one grammar point.

2. Use SORTITACC to Level Up Your Writing & Speaking

SORTITACC is your bank of **essential high-impact words and phrases** that examiners love.

Learn these phrases so you can:

- Add **opinions, reasons, and justifications**
- Use **different time frames**
- Link ideas smoothly

Aim to memorise a few SORTITACC phrases for **every topic** and reuse them in both speaking and writing.

3. Practise the Four Skills (Not Just One)

GCSE French tests **listening, speaking, reading, and writing**, so make sure you practise all four:

- Listening: short audio clips or past exam questions
- Speaking: practise answers out loud (even on your own)
- Reading: spot key vocabulary and tenses
- Writing: plan answers using set phrases

4. Master a Few Key Grammar Points

You don't need *all* the grammar — focus on the most useful:

- Present, past, and future tenses
- Opinion phrases (*je pense que, à mon avis*)
- Connectives (*parce que, cependant, donc*) These instantly boost marks, especially in writing and speaking.

5. Use Exam-Style Questions Early

The sooner you practise **real GCSE questions**, the more confident you'll feel.

Use mark schemes to see what examiners reward — it's often **clear, confident communication**, not perfect French.