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CHARTER FOR FRENCH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Below you will find descriptions of the different language levels established by CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) as well as links to activities and tests corresponding to each level.

Using these materials, you can assess your own level. Note: If you have attained the level A1, you must register in level A2; if you have attained level A2, you must register in B1, etc.

LEVEL A1

Level to be attained in one or two semesters, depending on your progress: A1. Number of hours of study required according to the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages): 60 to 80 hours.

Prerequisites: I have never had occasion to study French and have no real experience in a francophone environment.

Skill levels according to the CEFR

Spoken expression

- I can use simple expressions and phrases to describe where I live and people I know.
- I can communicate in a simple way, provided that the other person is prepared to repeat or rephrase at a slower rate and help me express what I am trying to say.
- I can ask and answer simple questions about familiar subjects or the satisfaction of immediate needs.

Links to activities for self-assessment: <http://www.bosvick.com/didapages/DidaEvalA1/> (pages 18 to 23).

Written expression

- I can write short, simple postcards, for example sending holiday greetings.
- I can fill out forms with personal details, for example my name, nationality and address on a hotel registration form.

Links to activities for self-assessment: <http://www.bosvick.com/didapages/DidaEvalA1/> (pages 16-17) (in approximately 40 words and not 25 to 35 as indicated).

Listening comprehension

- I can understand familiar words and very common expressions concerning myself, my family and immediate concrete surroundings, when people speak slowly and clearly.

Links to activities for self-assessment: <http://www.bosvick.com/didapages/DidaEvalA1/> (pages 3 to 8) and <http://www.ciel.fr/apprendre-francais/preparation-examen/comprehension-orale-a1-2.html>

Reading comprehension

- I can understand familiar names, words and very simple sentences, for example on notices and posters or in catalogues.

Links to activities for self-assessment: <http://www.bosvick.com/didapages/DidaEvalA1/> (pages 9 to 12 between A1 and A2) and <http://www.ciel.fr/apprendre-francais/preparation-examen/comprehension-ecrit-a1.html>

Modes of evaluation

Evaluation is done on an ongoing basis throughout the semester, counting for 70% of the final grade. This means that students are required to work steadily and this is controlled through assignments done in class and at home. A test in week 10 (in Paris) or 11 (in Reims) completes the evaluation and allows for a determination of the skills acquired by the student, counting for 30% of the final grade.

Spoken expression

Oral expression is evaluated through various in-class activities. Students receive a grade out of 20.

The graded activities include a combination of individual oral presentations (in-class oral expression) and interactive oral expression (dialogues, debates).

Written expression

Students are required to complete **a minimum of 3 written assignments** to be done **outside of class**. These assignments are spread out over the whole semester and combine for an average grade out of 20.

Listening comprehension

Evaluation is based on various exercises (audio, video), of which there must be at least 3, and is graded out of 20.

Reading comprehension

Reading comprehension is evaluated through a range of exercises completed in class and at home, for a grade out of 20.

This evaluation includes exercises designed to verify acquisition of the elements of grammar and vocabulary covered.

There is a final exam for all classes (in week 10 in Paris and week 11 in Reims), which provides confirmation of skills acquired and determines possible advancement to a higher level. The skills of level A1, as well as those of level A2, can be acquired in a semester or two, depending on the starting level of the student.

The grade on this test counts for 30% of the final grade for the semester. Student attendance for this test is thus mandatory.

Mid-term assessment and final evaluation

Support and tutoring

The ongoing evaluation makes it possible to provide a mid-term assessment for students experiencing difficulty and to help them with a remedial course of study.

Tutoring at the language laboratory provides valuable support in such cases. Students will be given certain elements they need to work on by their teachers. These recommendations are also sent **to the FLE coordinator (email: veronique.addario@sciencespo.fr in Paris and annelaure.rigeade@sciencespo.fr in Reims).**

Grades and conditions for advancing to a higher level (in one or two semesters)

Students are considered to have successfully completed a language class and are awarded the credits corresponding to the class upon receiving a **minimum final grade of 10/20**. If a student receives a lower final grade, he or she is not considered to have completed the class and will not be awarded the corresponding credits.

Teachers notify students, during one of the last two classes of the semester, of their final grade as well as whether or not they may advance to a higher level.

Teachers have the final say as to their students' level at the end of the class and it is not open to negotiation.

Participation may be taken into consideration for the purposes of rounding up a grade by a half point.

Teachers submit their grades online (ongoing evaluation and the week 10 test), as well as their qualitative assessments, between weeks 12 and 14 in Paris. These assessments will be as clear and precise as possible, in order to best reflect the student's investment in his or her progress throughout the language training.

The level attained (as per the CEFR criteria) will appear in the overall assessment.

Reference documents

- Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

LEVEL A2

Level to be attained in one or two semesters, depending on starting level: A2.

Number of hours of study required according to the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages): 100 to 180 hours.

Prerequisites: I have studied French at university for one or two semesters, or in secondary school for several years. I can understand frequently used expressions related to concrete aspects of everyday life (for example, simple personal and family information, shopping, local area, work) and I can handle simple and direct exchanges of information on familiar and routine subjects.

Skill levels according to the CEFR

Spoken expression

- I can use a series of phrases and expressions to describe in simple terms my family and other people, living conditions, my educational background and my current or most recent job.
- I can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar topics and activities.
- I can handle very short exchanges, even though I cannot usually understand enough to keep the conversation going.

Links to activities for self-assessment: <http://www.bosvick.com/didapages/DidaEvalA2/> (pages 22 to 26).

Written expression

- I can write short, simple notes and messages.
- I can write a very simple personal letter, for example thanking somebody for something.

Links to activities for self-assessment: <http://www.bosvick.com/didapages/DidaEvalA2/> (pages 15 to 21).

Listening comprehension

- I can understand phrases and frequently occurring vocabulary related to areas of immediate personal relevance (for example, myself, my family, shopping, local area, my job).
- I can grasp the main idea in simple notices and messages.

Links to activities for self-assessment: <http://www.bosvick.com/didapages/DidaEvalA2/> (pages 2 to 7) and <http://www.ciel.fr/apprendre-francais/preparation-examen/comprehension-a2.html>

Reading comprehension

- I can read very short simple texts.
- I can find specific, predictable information in everyday material such as advertisements, prospectuses, menus, and timetables.
- I can understand short, simple personal letters.

Links to activities for self-assessment: <http://www.bosvick.com/didapages/DidaEvalA2/> (pages 8 to 14).

Modes of evaluation

Evaluation is done on an ongoing basis throughout the semester, counting for 70% of the final grade. This means that students are required to work steadily and this is controlled through assignments done in class and at home. A test in week 10 (in Paris) or 11 (in Reims) completes the evaluation and allows for a determination of the skills acquired by the student, counting for 30% of the final grade.

Spoken expression

Oral expression is evaluated through various in-class activities. Students receive a grade out of 20.

The graded activities include a combination of individual oral presentations (in-class oral expression) and interactive oral expression (dialogues, debates).

Written expression

Students are required to complete **a minimum of 3 written assignments** to be done **outside of class**. These assignments are spread out over the whole semester and combine for an average grade out of 20.

Listening comprehension

Evaluation is based on various exercises (audio, video), of which there must be at least 3, and is graded out of 20.

Reading comprehension

Reading comprehension is evaluated through a range of exercises completed in class and at home, for a grade out of 20.

This evaluation includes exercises designed to verify acquisition of the elements of grammar and vocabulary covered.

There is a final exam for all classes (in week 10 in Paris and week 11 in Reims), which provides confirmation of skills acquired and determines possible advancement to a higher lever. The skills of level A1, as well as those of level A2, can be acquired in a semester or two, depending on the starting level of the student.

The grade on this test counts for 30% of the final grade for the semester. Student attendance for this test is thus mandatory.

Mid-term assessment and final evaluation

Support and tutoring

The ongoing evaluation makes it possible to provide a mid-term assessment for students experiencing difficulty and to help them with a remedial course of study.

Tutoring at the language laboratory provides valuable support in such cases. Students will be given certain elements they need to work on by their teachers. These recommendations are also sent **to the FLE coordinator** (email: veronique.addario@sciencespo.fr in Paris and annelaure.rigeade@sciencespo.fr in Reims).

Grades and conditions for advancing to a higher level (in one or two semesters)

Students are considered to have successfully completed a language class and are awarded the credits corresponding to the class upon receiving a **minimum final grade of 10/20**. If a student receives a lower final grade, he or she is not considered to have completed the class and will not be awarded the corresponding credits.

Teachers notify students, during one of the last two classes of the semester, of their final grade as well as whether or not they may advance to a higher level.

Teachers have the final say as to their students' level at the end of the class and it is not open to negotiation.

Participation may be taken into consideration for the purposes of rounding up a grade by a half point.

Teachers submit their grades online (ongoing evaluation and the week 10 test), as well as their qualitative assessments, between weeks 12 and 14 in Paris. These assessments will be as clear and precise as possible, in order to best reflect the student's investment in his or her progress throughout the language training.

The level attained (as per the CEFR criteria) will appear in the overall assessment.

Reference documents

- Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

LEVEL B1

Level to be attained in one or several semesters, depending on starting level: B1.

Number of hours of study required according to the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages): 100 to 180 hours.

Prerequisites: I have studied French for at least four semesters at university as well as in secondary school. I have acquired basic skills in French that I wish to improve on and supplement. I am able to understand spoken French in most situations encountered while travelling in a francophone region or country but I am not confident enough in my ability to communicate.

To confirm your self assessment in the French language, take the test on the Delf Dalf Suisse website <https://www.delfdalf.ch/> (Candidates tab / online test).

Your score will be sent to your email address.

Skill levels according to the CEFR

Spoken expression

- I can express myself in a simple way in order to describe experiences and events, as well as my dreams, hopes and ambitions.
- I can briefly give reasons and explanations for my opinions and future plans.
- I can narrate a story or relate the plot of a book or film and describe my reactions.
- I can deal with most situations likely to arise while travelling in a place where French is spoken.
- I can take part in conversations without preparation on topics that are familiar or of personal interest or related to everyday life (for example, family, leisure, work, travel and current events).

Written expression

- I can write a simple and coherent text on topics that are familiar or of personal interest.
- I can write personal letters describing experiences and impressions.

Listening comprehension

- I can understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar topics concerning work, school, leisure, etc.
- I can understand the main point of many radio and television programs on current events or on topics of personal or professional interest when the language is spoken in a relatively slow and clear way.

Reading comprehension

- I can understand texts that for the most part use everyday or job-related language.
- I can understand the description of events and the expression of sentiments and best wishes in personal letters.

Modes of evaluation

Evaluation is done on an ongoing basis throughout the semester, counting for 70% of the final grade. This means that students are required to work steadily and this is controlled through assignments done in class and at home. A test in week 10 (in Paris) or 11 (in Reims) completes the evaluation and allows for a determination of the skills acquired by the student, counting for 30% of the final grade.

Spoken expression

Oral expression is evaluated through various in-class activities. Students receive a grade out of 20.

The graded activities include a combination of individual oral presentations (in-class oral expression) and interactive oral expression (dialogues, debates).

Written expression

Students are required to complete **a minimum of 3 written assignments** to be done **outside of class**. These assignments are spread out over the whole semester and combine for an average grade out of 20.

Listening comprehension

Evaluation is based on various exercises (audio, video), of which there must be at least 3, and is graded out of 20.

Reading comprehension

Reading comprehension is evaluated through a range of exercises completed in class and at home, for a grade out of 20.

This evaluation includes exercises designed to verify acquisition of the elements of grammar and vocabulary covered.

There is a final exam for all classes (in week 10 in Paris and week 11 in Reims), which provides confirmation of skills acquired and determines possible advancement to a higher level. Requisite skills may be acquired over several semesters.

The grade on this test counts for 30% of the final grade for the semester. Student attendance for this test is thus mandatory.

Mid-term assessment and final evaluation

Support and tutoring

The ongoing evaluation makes it possible to provide a mid-term assessment for students experiencing difficulty and to help them with a remedial course of study.

Tutoring at the language laboratory provides valuable support in such cases. Students will be given certain elements they need to work on by their teachers. These recommendations are also sent **to the FLE coordinator** (email: veronique.addario@sciencespo.fr in Paris and annelaure.rigeade@sciencespo.fr in Reims).

Grades and conditions for advancing to a higher level

Students are considered to have successfully completed a language class and are awarded the credits corresponding to the class upon receiving a **minimum final grade of 10/20**. If a student receives a lower final grade, he or she is not considered to have completed the class and will not be awarded the corresponding credits.

Teachers notify students, during one of the last two classes of the semester, of their final grade as well as whether or not they may advance to a higher level. As a reminder, in Reims, students enrolled in B1, B2 or C1 remain at that level for the entire year (semesters 1 and 2).

Teachers have the final say as to their students' level at the end of the class and it is not open to negotiation.

Participation may be taken into consideration for the purposes of rounding up a grade by a half point.

Teachers submit their grades online (ongoing evaluation and the week 10 test), as well as their qualitative assessments, between weeks 12 and 14 in Paris. These assessments will be as clear and precise as possible, in order to best reflect the student's investment in his or her progress throughout the language training.

The level attained (as per the CEFR criteria) will appear in the overall assessment.

Reference documents

- Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

LEVEL B2

Level to be attained in one or several semesters, depending on starting level: B2.

Number of hours of study required according to the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages): 180 to 250 hours.

Prerequisites: I have studied French for six semesters at university and/or several years in secondary school. I can understand complex (even technical) articles and hold a fluid and spontaneous conversation with a native speaker on any topic, even abstract ones.

To confirm your self assessment in the French language, take the test on the Delf Dalf Suisse website

<https://www.delfdalf.ch/> (Candidates tab / online test).

Your score will be sent to your email address.

Skill levels according to the CEFR

Spoken expression

- I can express myself in a clear and detailed manner on a wide range of topics related to my areas of interest.
- I can express my point of view on a subject of current events and explain the pros and cons of various options.
- I can communicate with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes it possible to have a normal interaction with a native speaker.
- I can take an active part in a conversation in familiar settings, expressing and defending my opinions.

Written expression

- I can write clear and detailed texts on a wide range of topics related to my interests.
- I can write an essay or report, transmitting information or giving reasons for or against a given opinion.
- I can write letters emphasizing the personal significance for me of events and experiences.

Listening comprehension

- I can understand long presentations and lectures and even follow complex arguments, provided the topic is relatively familiar to me.
- I can understand most TV news and current affairs programs.
- I can understand most films in standard French.

Reading comprehension

- I can read articles and reports on contemporary issues in which the authors adopt a certain attitude or point of view.
- I can understand contemporary prose literature.

Modes of evaluation

Evaluation is done on an ongoing basis throughout the semester, counting for 70% of the final grade. This means that students are required to work steadily and this is controlled through assignments done in class and at home. A test in week 10 (in Paris) or 11 (in Reims) completes the evaluation and allows for a determination of the skills acquired by the student, counting for 30% of the final grade.

Spoken expression

Oral expression is evaluated through various in-class activities. Students receive a grade out of 20.

The graded activities include a combination of individual oral presentations (in-class oral expression) and interactive oral expression (dialogues, debates).

Written expression

Students are required to complete **a minimum of 3 written assignments** to be done **outside of class** and **1 graded assignment in class of 30-45 minutes**. These assignments are spread out over the whole semester and combine for an average grade out of 20.

Listening comprehension

Evaluation is based on various exercises (audio, video), of which there must be at least 3, and is graded out of 20.

Reading comprehension

Reading comprehension is evaluated through a range of exercises completed in class and at home, for a grade out of 20.

This evaluation includes exercises designed to verify acquisition of the elements of grammar and vocabulary covered.

There is a final exam for all classes (in week 10 in Paris and week 11 in Reims), which provides confirmation of skills acquired and determines possible advancement to a higher level. Requisite skills may be acquired over several semesters.

The grade on this test counts for 30% of the final grade for the semester. Student attendance for this test is thus mandatory.

Mid-term assessment and final evaluation

Support and tutoring

The ongoing evaluation makes it possible to provide a mid-term assessment for students experiencing difficulty and to help them with a remedial course of study.

Tutoring at the language laboratory provides valuable support in such cases. Students will be given certain elements they need to work on by their teachers. These recommendations are also sent **to the FLE coordinator** (email: veronique.addario@sciencespo.fr in Paris and annelaure.rigeade@sciencespo.fr in Reims).

Grades and conditions for advancing to a higher level

Students are considered to have successfully completed a language class and are awarded the credits corresponding to the class upon receiving a **minimum final grade of 10/20**. If a student receives a lower final grade, he or she is not considered to have completed the class and will not be awarded the corresponding credits.

Teachers notify students, during one of the last two classes of the semester, of their final grade as well as whether or not they may advance to a higher level. As a reminder, in Reims, students enrolled in B1, B2 or C1 remain at that level for the entire year (semesters 1 and 2).

Teachers have the final say as to their students' level at the end of the class and it is not open to negotiation.

Participation may be taken into consideration for the purposes of rounding up a grade by a half point.

Teachers submit their grades online (ongoing evaluation and the week 10 test), as well as their qualitative assessments, between weeks 12 and 14 in Paris. These assessments will be as clear and precise as possible, in order to best reflect the student's investment in his or her progress throughout the language training.

The level attained (as per the CEFR criteria) will appear in the overall assessment.

Reference documents

- Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

LEVEL C1

Level to be attained in one or several semesters, depending on starting level: C1. Number of hours of study required according to the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages): 200 to 250 hours.

Prerequisites: I have studied French for at least eight semesters. I have also had experience in a francophone environment (company internship, course in history, literature or other discipline taught in French) such that I have no difficulty communicating orally or in writing.

To confirm your self assessment in the French language, take the test on the Delf Dalf Suisse website <https://www.delfdalf.ch/> (Candidates tab / online test).

Your score will be sent to your email address.

Skill levels according to the CEFR

Spoken expression

- I can provide clear, detailed descriptions on complex subjects, integrating related themes, developing particular points, and concluding in an appropriate manner.
- I can express myself fluently and spontaneously without searching for my words.
- I can use language flexibly and effectively for social and professional purposes.
- I can express my ideas and opinions with precision and relate my statements to those of my interlocutors.

Written expression

- I can express myself in clear and well-structured text and present my own point of view.
- I can write about complex subjects in a letter, essay or report, highlighting what I consider to be the important points.
- I can adopt a style appropriate to the intended reader.

Listening comprehension

- I can understand a long speech even if it is not clearly structured and the connections are only implicit.
- I can understand TV programs and films with minimal effort.

Reading comprehension

- I can understand long and complex texts, both factual and literary, appreciating differences of style.
- I can understand specialized articles and long technical instructions even when not related to my field.

Modes of evaluation

Evaluation is done on an ongoing basis throughout the semester, counting for 70% of the final grade. This means that students are required to work steadily and this is controlled through assignments done in class and at home. A test in week 10 (in Paris) or 11 (in Reims) completes the evaluation and allows for a determination of the skills acquired by the student, counting for 30% of the final grade.

Spoken expression

Oral expression is evaluated through various in-class activities. Students receive a grade out of 20.

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Written expression

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Listening comprehension

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Reading comprehension

Reading comprehension is evaluated through a range of exercises completed in class and at home, for a grade out of 20.

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Grades and conditions for advancing to a higher level

Students are considered to have successfully completed a language class and are awarded the credits corresponding to the class upon receiving a **minimum final grade of 10/20**. If a student receives a lower final grade, he or she is not considered to have completed the class and will not be awarded the corresponding credits.

Teachers notify students, during one of the last two classes of the semester, of their final grade as well as whether or not they may advance to a higher level. As a reminder, in Reims, students enrolled in B1, B2 or C1 remain at that level for the entire year (semesters 1 and 2).

Teachers have the final say as to their students' level at the end of the class and it is not open to negotiation.

Participation may be taken into consideration for the purposes of rounding up a grade by a half point.

Teachers submit their grades online (ongoing evaluation and the week 10 test), as well as their qualitative assessments, between weeks 12 and 14 in Paris. These assessments will be as clear and precise as possible, in order to best reflect the student's investment in his or her progress throughout the language training.

The level attained (as per the CEFR criteria) will appear in the overall assessment.

Reference documents

- Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.