

CAMBRIDGE IGCSE

French 0520

Syllabus Overview

Examinations 2028, 2029 and 2030

Understanding the whole syllabus

Language learning combines understanding messages with expressing your own meaning. Vocabulary and grammar support communication in the situations described by the syllabus. The skills need regular contact with meaningful language; memorising isolated word lists alone does not develop comprehension or a clear response.

For French 0520, the content map below follows the approved subject briefing and the official syllabus. Labels group related areas for orientation; the detailed syllabus remains the authority for individual learning requirements.

Content map

Syllabus area or component	What the area covers
Four communication skills	You will develop four equally important skills: listening, reading, speaking and writing.
A-E: Language contexts	Language is learned through five broad topic areas: everyday activities; personal and social life; the world around us; education and the world of work; and the international world.
Understanding meaning and attitudes	Within these areas, you will learn to understand factual information, opinions and attitudes; identify important details; and work out the meaning of occasional unfamiliar language from context.
Producing accurate language	You will also build the vocabulary and grammar needed to manage everyday situations, describe experiences, discuss plans and ambitions, express opinions and maintain conversations. The course aims for practical communication at approximately A2 level, with some elements of B1 proficiency.

These areas should be read as a connected course. Begin with the foundational knowledge identified in the first part of the map, then build towards the applications and explanations that depend on it. Short, regular contact with the language is more useful than occasional cramming. Link new vocabulary to a meaningful sentence, and use feedback to improve recurring grammar and comprehension difficulties. Where a row describes a choice of topics or components, study the selection required by your agreed route rather than treating all alternatives as compulsory.

Qualification and component choices

All candidates follow the component structure shown in the Assessment Overview. There is no separate Core/Extended route in this syllabus.

The assessed skills

Assessment objectives describe the abilities Cambridge looks for across the qualification. The following explanations paraphrase the syllabus objectives; they are not additional topics or separate orientation tasks.

Assessment objective	Meaning for the learner
AO1 Listening	Identify main points, relevant detail and attitudes in the spoken material specified for this syllabus.
AO2 Reading	Understand the main message and select or interpret relevant information from the prescribed kinds of text.
AO3 Speaking	Communicate clearly, develop relevant responses and maintain interaction with suitable vocabulary and pronunciation.
AO4 Writing	Produce clear, organised language suited to the task, with the required vocabulary and grammatical control.

These abilities work together in an answer. Accurate knowledge supports application, while a clear explanation shows how the evidence or method leads to a conclusion. The balance varies by component, so the next lesson connects these abilities with the actual assessment formats.

Key pointers: Follow the stated examination-year syllabus, cover the required areas for your route and develop skills alongside knowledge. **Next:** Open **Assessment Overview**.