

GCSE (9-1) and GCE Modern Languages:

Preparing for Summer 2023 Assessments

ALL Webinar

Sharon Czudak,
Senior Development Manager

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Agenda

- Looking back at Summer 2022
- Preparing for GCSE and GCE Speaking
- GCSE Paper 4 Writing 'optionality' amendment
- DfE/Ofqual 'non-core vocabulary' change
- Overview of the Pearson GCSE accessibility amendments
- Post-exam series support
- Introduction to our GCSE 2024 draft qualification and how you can find out more
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DE&I) resources for languages
- Introduction to our new Subject Advisor, Rebecca Waker



Looking back at Summer 2022

Previous training in October 2022:

GCSE MFL Examiner Feedback on Summer 2022

- Focussed summary of the Speaking and Writing paper examiner reports.

Paper 4, Writing Summer 2022 Exemplar Material, with commentaries:

- GCSE French
- GCSE German
- GCSE Spanish

Preparing for GCSE and GCE Speaking





GCSE and GCE Conducting the Speaking Exam Training

GCSE:

- German, 7th February, 4pm
- French, 22nd February, 4pm
- Spanish, TBC, 4pm (rearranging owing to teacher industrial action)
- All our GCSE Modern Languages (Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Greek, Gujarati, Italian, Japanese, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Turkish, Urdu), 2nd March, 4pm

A level:

- French, German, Spanish, Chinese, Italian, Russian, TBC, 4pm (rearranging owing to teacher industrial action)
- Recorded on demand French, German and Spanish – including language specific examples



Additional Support

Spotlight on (one stop doc providing advice and useful links to speaking support):

- [GCSE speaking](#)
- [A level Speaking](#)

Video walkthroughs on how to conduct the speaking exam:

- [GCSE](#)
- [A level](#)

NB: Caveat to info in videos (being updated): oral assessments are now uploaded via Learner Work Transfer (LWT) **not** CD or USB stick



Speaking Exam Window, GCSE and GCE

- **17 April – 19 May 2023**
- Refer to the Administrative Support Guides for additional details relating to:
 - Access to exam materials
 - Learner Work Transfer submission
 - Retention of students notes following oral exams
- [GCSE Administrative Support Guide](#)
- [GCE Administrative Support Guide](#)
- [GCSE Speaking Exam Crib sheet for Teacher-Examiners](#)

GCSE Paper 4, Writing 'Optionality' amendment





Paper 4 Writing 'Optionality' amendment

- Very popular 'Covid' amendment in Summer 2022.
- We submitted an amendment request to Ofqual to be able to keep the following features:
 - All question titles will now appear in English for both Foundation and Higher tier papers
 - An additional 5 minutes assessment time has been added to the Foundation tier papers
 - Increased optionality with the addition of Question 2(b) to the Foundation papers
- Applies to all 14 GCSE Modern Languages we offer
- All Specifications and Sample Assessment Materials have been updated to show the change.

DfE/Ofqual Non-core vocabulary change





DfE Vocabulary Amendment for Summer 2023

- Ofqual has removed the specific requirement for GCSE assessments to use vocabulary that is not on the vocabulary lists.

NB

- **The 2016 GCSEs' vocabulary lists were not required to be comprehensive and presumed prior knowledge from KS3 study. This is very different to GCSE 2024!**
- Our papers will only use words from the vocabulary list, plus words in the following categories: **(see next slide)**



DfE Vocabulary Amendment for Summer 2023

- **Derived forms** from the grammar list, according to the tier, eg conjugations of verbs in all the required tenses, all the different articles.
- **Cognates** which are genuine cognates in the target language (eg impression, invasion, Energie) and not ‘false friends’ (eg monnaie, constipado, eventuell).
- Words which are **assumed prior knowledge** from KS3 eg colours, numbers and other commonly used items
- Common, **easily recognisable place names** and **proper names** (Paris, Madrid, Berlin)



DfE Vocabulary Amendment for Summer 2023

- There may be a very small number of words not listed in the vocabulary lists and which are outside of the categories mentioned above, but whose inclusion is integral to the question.
- Any such words will be glossed and will not be targeted in the questions.

Overview of the Pearson GCSE accessibility amendments





Pearson Edexcel's accessibility amendments

- Pearson-specific and unrelated to Covid amendments.
- Summer 2022 was the first full series with these amendments.
- Designed to reduce cognitive load, level of demand and improve clarity.
- Full information, including a guide and video, is available [on our website](#).
- Very positive feedback from teachers and students!





Pearson Edexcel's accessibility amendments in brief

- **Shorter** extracts/texts in listening and reading.
- **More accessible** use of target language.
- Fewer and **less demanding inference** questions.
- Content **more relatable and within the experience** of GCSE students.
- Literary texts and authentic material (including cultural) **more rigorously adapted** to make them more accessible.
- Adapted design of listening papers to create **additional pause time**.
- **Simplified bullets in writing paper** and clearer rules for translation.
- Students now **prompted to ask a question in speaking**.



Continuing our accessibility amendment success

*We found that the students came out of the exams with **more confidence** than in previous years.*

*Students very happy. Reported that the exam was much **more accessible**. Appreciated slower speed of delivery and **more time to process** between questions.*

*Students at both foundation and higher tier were **much happier** with the exam this year. They definitely found that the removal of examples and shorter listening passages were a lot better.*

*Much more accessible to students. They like the multiple choice questions and find it better to have **less inference** questions.*

*There was a **more realistic amount** of cultural content than in previous years, and the level was **more appropriate**....*

*Students were delighted to receive a **fair paper** that wasn't trying to trick them...Students were able to show what they had learnt.*

Post-exam series support





Question papers, mark schemes and examiner reports

Spotlight on Exam Results:

One stop documents providing information and links to results days, ResultsPlus, Access to Scripts, Post-results services.

- [GCSE](#)
- [GCE](#)



Exam papers, mark schemes and examiner reports

- Question Papers available following completion of exam session.
- Mark schemes published by end of July/early August.
- Grade boundaries available **on Results Days**:
 - GCE 17th August
 - GCSE 24th August.
- Examiner reports published **Tuesday after Results Day***.

Course materials

FILTERS

Exam materials (112) SORT BY Exam Series

[EXPAND ALL](#)

CATEGORIES

- Specification and sample assessments (5)
- Exam materials (112)
- Forms and administration (15)
- Teaching and learning materials (105)

CONTENT TYPE ^

June 2022 **NEW**

	Question paper - Paper 1F - June 2022 Paper 1F - Listening (Foundation) PDF 439.4 KB 05 July 2022	NEW 🔒
	Question paper - Paper 1H - June 2022 Paper 1H - Listening (Higher) PDF 439.7 KB 05 July 2022	NEW 🔒



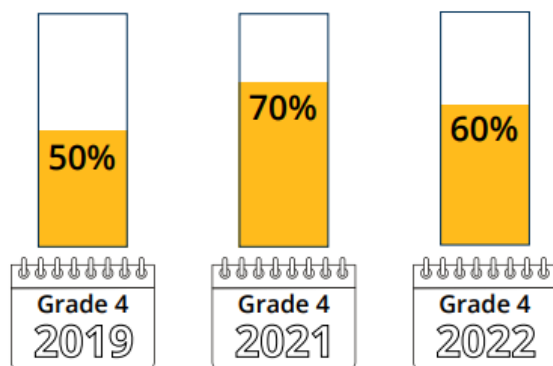
ResultsPlus

- Online analysis tool
 - Analyse your students' results question by question
 - See how they compare to national averages
 - Comparison possible at multi-academy trust level, to analyse across centres.
- *Access examiner reports on results day on ResultsPlus.



Summer 2022 Grading

- Proportion of students achieving grades was to be at a midpoint between 2019 and 2021 grading.



Grade boundaries in 2022 may be lower or higher than when summer exams were last sat in 2019, as in any other year. However, the proportion of learners achieving each grade for qualifications will be more generous than 2019 but lower than 2021.

- For GCSE French and German there was also a +2% point adjustment for grades 7 and 9, and +1% point for grade 4 to bring in line with Spanish.



Summer 2023 Grading

Ofqual statement, Dr Jo Saxton, September 2022:

- Students in the 2023 cohort have not experienced national school and college closures during their 2-year courses of study, **but we know they have experienced some disruption.**
- 2023 cohort will be protected in grading terms if their exam performance is a little lower than before the pandemic.
- We expect that overall results in 2023 will be much closer to pre-pandemic years than results since 2020. This decision means that results in 2023 will be lower than in 2022.

**New GCSE (2024)
development
(French, German,
Spanish)**



GCSE 2024: key features and changes

BASICS:

- Year 8 will be first cohort
- Tiering continues
- Speaking: 25% non-examined assessment

NEW:

- New focus on phonics via sound symbol correspondences (SSCs)
- Different approach in assessment objectives

DIFFERENT:

- Smaller vocabulary lists: 1200 FT, 1700 HT
- Less inference and only in reading
- Rubrics in English

Key change: Assessment Objectives (AOs)

LISTENING

SPEAKING

READ ALOUD CONVERSATION

READING

WRITING

AO1	Understand and respond to spoken language in speaking and in writing	35%
AO2	Understand and respond to written language in speaking and in writing	45%
AO3	Demonstrate knowledge and accurate application of the grammar and vocabulary prescribed in the specification	20%

READ ALOUD

DICTIONATION

SPEAKING

WRITING

- Explore the details in our [Assessment Objective overview](#)

Our qualification at a glance

CLEAR
FAMILIAR
STRAIGHTFORWARD

01

Speaking (NEA*)
50 marks, 25%

15 minutes prep time

FT: 7-9 mins
HT: 10-12 mins

- Read aloud
- Role play
- Picture task and conversation

02

Listening
50 marks, 25%

FT: 45 mins
HT: 60 mins

5 mins reading time included

- Listening
- Dictation
- 3 listens

03

Reading
50 marks, 25%

FT: 45 mins
HT: 60 mins

- Reading
- Translation into English

04

Writing
50 marks, 25%

FT: 1 hour 15 mins
HT: 1 hour 20 mins

- Picture task (FT)
- Two writing responses (FT and HT)
- Translation into French

*NEA = Non-exam assessment

Join us at our nationwide launch events!



Language is more
than words.

Permission to Speak: Amplifying Marginalised Voices Through Languages

Pearson's
Diversity, Equity
and Inclusion
collection for
languages





Permission to Speak Series

CULTURE IN AL-ANDALUS

Flamenco

Spain's most well-known type of music, flamenco, was influenced by the musical forms that Islamic North Africans brought to Al-Andalus. Some modern flamenco has lyrics in both Spanish and Arabic and the *kamanjeh* (Moroccan violin) is commonly found alongside the guitar.



- Series of resources focused on diversifying the MFL curriculum
- Written by thought leaders and educators, through support of Lisa Panford, Co-Chair of the **ALL Decolonising the Secondary MFL Curriculum Special Interest Group**.
- Background information, discussion points and student activities
- Access the resources [here](#).



Resources available

- Black History Month
- Culture Beyond Europe
- LGBT+ History Month
- Talking About Race
- The Influence of Islam on Language and Culture
- Historical figures
- European Day of Languages
- Environmental Justice

More coming soon...

GENDER-NEUTRAL LANGUAGE IN THE FRENCH-, GERMAN-, AND SPANISH-SPEAKING WORLDS

Evolving languages

Languages evolve as society changes – think of all the new words that have been created to enable us to talk about digital technology, for example. In the early 21st century, the rapid social changes around gender identity are now reflected in how we use language. In English, for example, people often use ‘they/theirs/their/them’ as singular pronouns instead of ‘she/hers/her’ or ‘he/his/him’ to refer to a person who does not identify as either male or female.

Ask yourself: What pronouns do you, your friends and your family prefer to use?



Keep in touch





Contact us

Your MFL Subject Advisor: Rebecca Waker

Telephone: 0333 0164092

Twitter: [@PearsonMFLquals](https://twitter.com/PearsonMFLquals)

[Email](#)

[Book a video appointment](#)

You can sign up for Rebecca's e-updates by completing this [online form](#).

We also have an online [community](#) especially for language teachers.





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Find out more

For more courses see the section for Modern Languages on [Pearson Professional Development Academy](#).



The banner features a stylized mountain range on the left with a yellow sun and white clouds. To the right of the mountains is a vertical line, followed by the text 'Professional Development Academy' in a large, dark blue font. Further to the right, the tagline 'Transforming training for everyone.' is written in a smaller, dark blue font.



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