

Table of Specifications

French 3200

EXAMINATION FORMAT

The French 3200 public examination will be in two parts, entailing two separate evaluation exercises, as follows:

PART I (25%)

Part I will consist of an oral interview of each student, to be conducted and graded by the teacher in accordance with the guidelines provided by the Department of Education. Specific requirements for the administration, grading, and reporting of the interviews are as follows:

1. School principals are to prepare an interview schedule to include all students in the French 3200 course.
2. Interviews are to be a minimum of fifteen minutes in length and are to be conducted during the year-end evaluation period. Where it is deemed necessary however, teachers may begin their interviews in advance of the final examination period to allow for more flexibility in scheduling their interviews.
3. Each interview is to be graded immediately upon completion. Scores out of 25 are to be recorded on the **French 3200 Interview Monitoring Form** and submitted to the Department. **Half marks cannot be awarded.**
4. A digital voice recorder and an **Interview Monitoring Form** will be provided by the Department of Education. Each student shall be identified orally on the recorder by **Exam Number** immediately preceding the session - the teacher will record: **“French 3200 Interview of exam number 12345.”**
5. On the Oral Production Monitoring Form, teachers are asked to indicate the Folder (e.g., A) where each interview is located. There should be ample space in Folder A for all of the interviews. If not, simply continue with Folder B. For each interview, the teacher shall indicate as well the student’s public exam number and the track number as it appears on the recorder (e.g., 1, 2, 3, etc.).
6. The digital voice recorder accompanied by a completed Oral Production Monitoring Form summarizing the results for the whole class, are to be forwarded to the Program Specialist, Evaluation and Research at the Department of Education by the last day of school in June.

PART II (75%)

Part II will consist of two sections, the first involving the use of a compact disc and the second to be completed in the usual written manner. Candidates will be required to do a series of items which test their achievement of the curriculum outcomes for French 3200. Item content should reflect the outcomes and content/themes of the course as outlined in *Senior High Core French: A Curriculum Guide* (1998).

For the audio component, one compact disc for each 25 candidates writing the examination will be provided. This section of the examination should be administered to groups of not more than 25 at a time. All items and instructions for the audio component are presented on the compact disc, which will be played only once. The compact disc should not be stopped during the examination. A number of different French voices will be used.

The remainder of the examination will be presented in the usual manner on the test paper. Multiple choice items will be completed on the score sheet. All instructions will be in French. Specifications for the sections follow.

Section A (25%)

Candidates will be required to respond to items presented on a compact disc. Items include visual association and providing answers to written prompts based on an oral text such as a report, conversation, interview or monologue.

Section B (50%)

Items will include the use of language learning strategies to work with vocabulary, a modified cloze test, comprehension and opinion questions based on a cultural passage, writing in response to a visual or headline, and writing in response to an item.

DETAILED SPECIFICATIONS PART II

SECTION A (25%)

Tâche 01

Value 5

Students hear a series of descriptions of people, items, or events and they associate a person, item, or event with each description. This involves a series of four images for each item part.

There are six item parts. The first item part is answered for students. Value 5 points.

Naturalistic contexts for this item include:

- advertisements
- events
- news highlights
- travel
- contests
- entertainment
- weather
- sports
- school announcements
- messages

Each item part is presented twice. Before the item begins, students have one minute to study the five series of images. The directions for the item are in French and are presented on both the compact disc and the exam paper.

Directions for student paper

Vous allez entendre deux fois une série d'annonces. Examinez les séries d'images ci-dessous, puis, écoutez bien. Choisissez l'image de chaque série qui convient le mieux à la description donnée. Indiquez la lettre correspondante sur votre feuille de réponse. Pour vous aider, la première réponse est donnée.

Performance criteria: Right or wrong

Layout on paper: This item should be on facing pages.

Tâche 02 Value 10

Students hear an interview, report or similar oral text of approximately two and one half minutes in length involving one to three people. The title of the selection is written on the student answer sheet.

There are four multiple choice item parts. Three item parts require sentence - length responses or completions at 2 points each. No example provided.

Contexts for this item include:

- school life
- challenges of the future
- francophone culture
- family and home
- leisure activities
- holidays and travel

Potential sources include actual interviews, excerpts from audio sources such as radio, and recorded adaptations of written texts. Texts are approximately 250 words in length and address a personality, issue, or event related to the main themes of the course.

Speakers may include, but are not limited to:

- reporters
- French monitors
- teachers
- parents
- students
- musicians
- athletes
- local francophones
- scientists

Item parts focus on the main points of the text and range in difficulty from relatively easy to more challenging. They require a variety of response types from factual recall to inferencing.

Before the item starts, students have 90 seconds to read the item parts. The broadcast is presented three times. Students hear the item in its entirety followed by a pause of one minute during which they may begin to respond to the items. The broadcast is presented a second time with a two minute pause allowing time for students to complete their responses. A final presentation of the broadcast will be followed by a one minute pause during which students verify their responses.

The directions for the item are in French and are presented on both the compact disc and the exam paper. The instructions may change slightly to reflect the type of text being used, i.e., report, interview.

Directions for student paper

Vous allez entendre trois fois une entrevue. Écoutez l'entrevue puis répondez aux questions durant les pauses. D'abord, prenez une minute et lisez les questions. Choisissez les réponses correctes et indiquez vos réponses sur la feuille de réponse.

Performance criteria

For item parts 10 to 12, a response similar in length to a sentence is expected. Students are not penalized for errors unless they interfere with understanding.

Item parts 6 to 9

Right or wrong.

Items parts 10 to 12

Two points: Student provides the main idea, in its entirety, to complete the sentence or answer the question.

One point: Student provides a response relating some appropriate information

Zero: Student response is inappropriate, unrelated to what is required, or not given in French.

Layout on paper

This item should be presented in its entirety on one page or on facing pages. Students respond to items 6-9 on the answer sheet; 2 lines are provided for each of the items 10 to 12.

Tâche 03 Value 10

Students hear a monologue of approximately three and one half minutes in length. The title of the selection is written on the student answer sheet.

There are four multiple choice item parts. Three item parts require sentence - length responses or completions at 2 points each. No example provided.

Contexts for this item include:

- school life
- challenges of the future
- francophone culture
- family and home
- leisure activities
- holidays and travel

Potential sources include actual monologues, excerpts from audio sources such as radio, and recorded adaptations of written texts. Texts are approximately 300 words in length and address a personality, issue, or event related to the main themes of the course.

Speakers may include, but are not limited to:

- a reporter
- a French monitor
- a teacher
- a parent
- a student
- a musician
- an athlete
- a local francophone
- a scientist

Item parts focus on the main points of the text and range in difficulty from relatively easy to more challenging. They require a variety of response types from factual recall to inferencing.

Before the item starts, students have 90 seconds to read the item parts. The monologue is presented three times. Students hear the item in its entirety followed by a pause of one minute during which they may begin to respond to the items. The monologue is presented a second time with a two minute pause allowing time for students to complete their responses. A third and final presentation of the monologue is presented during which students verify their responses.

The directions for the item are in French and are presented on both the compact disc and the exam paper. The instructions may change slightly to reflect the type of text being used.

Directions for student paper

Vous allez entendre trois fois un monologue. Écoutez le monologue puis répondez aux questions durant les pauses. D'abord, prenez 90 secondes pour lire les questions.

Choisissez les réponses correctes et indiquez vos réponses sur la feuille de réponse.

Performance Criteria

For item parts 17 to 19, a response similar in length to a sentence is expected. Students are not penalized for errors unless they interfere with understanding.

Item parts 13 to 16

Right or wrong.

Items parts 17 to 19

Two points: Student provides the main idea, in its entirety, to complete the sentence or answer the question.

One point: Student provides a response relating some appropriate information

Zero: Student response is inappropriate, unrelated to what is required, or not given in French.

Layout on paper

This item should be presented in its entirety on one page or on facing pages. Students respond to items 13-16 on the answer sheet; 3 lines are provided for each of the items 17 to 19.

SECTION B (50%)

Students complete the items in this section on their examination paper.

Tâche 04 Value 21

Students read an authentic text (may be adapted) of approximately 400 words on a topic related to an aspect of culture and the themes of the course. Selections for this item are similar to those students would read in actual magazines or newspapers. Excerpts are chosen for their educational value and are worthy of being read for their own merit. The language of the selection must reflect that studied in the course, with the exception of words which may be understood from the context, or words which do not interfere with global comprehension.

Question parts range from knowledge to analysis. There will be 4 multiple choice parts; 3 parts that require answers of approximately 2 sentences; 1 part that requires a paragraph linked to both the general topic of the passage and the course outcomes for culture and communicating, and 5 parts that match vocabulary and definitions. The paragraph item requires students to present an opinion on a given cultural topic or statement.

Item parts are important, meaning-bearing words such as nouns, verbs (infinitives) and adjectives. They are all found, in bold, in the reading text supplied for item 04. Item parts include:

- vocabulary known to all
- cognates
- similar but not known (word families)
- not known but able to determine from context (intelligent guessing)

Directions for student paper

Lisez attentivement l'article et répondez aux questions. Là où vous devez écrire les réponses, il faut répondre par des phrases complètes.

Performance criteria

Value

- 4 • 4 item parts that are multiple choice and valued at 1 point each; they are scored right or wrong.
- 6 • 3 item parts that require students to interpret information and are valued at 2 points each. One point is given for appropriate interpretation and one point for clarity (well expressed in response to the question, with only minor errors).
- 6 • 1 item part requires supported opinion as well as cultural knowledge in a paragraph of 60-75 words. This item part is valued at 6 points. Points are awarded as follows:

Cultural content (demonstrates knowledge of topic)	4	3	2	1
Communication (ability to express opinion; clarity)	2	1		

- 5 • 5 multiple choice items; right/wrong

Layout on paper

This item should be on facing pages. The organization on the examination paper for student responses is as follows:

- 20 - 23 multiple choice: students indicate their responses on the answer sheet
- 24 - 26 three lines for students to write their answers
- 27 60 to 75 words
- 28 - 32 multiple choice: students indicate their responses on the answer sheet

Tâche 05 Value 5

Students test their proficiency in French by completing a modified cloze passage. There are five spaces to complete in a passage. The first and last sentences of the passage remain intact. This is a multiple choice item with four choices for each of 5 item parts. The student chooses the correct answer. Specific elements tested should be high frequency, semantically based, testing meaning and not form. These may include:

- nouns;
- verbs;
- adjectives;
- conjunctions;
- prepositions.

Directions for student paper

Complétez le passage suivant. Pour chaque réponse il y a un choix de mots: A, B, C et D. Choisissez la lettre de la bonne réponse et indiquez votre choix sur la feuille de réponses.

Performance criteria

Right or wrong; 5 item parts at 1 point each.

Layout on paper

The directions and the spaces for answers are on the same page or facing pages of the student examination paper.

Tâche 06 Value 10

Students act as reporters for a school newspaper. The topic is presented by means of an image with a short caption. They write an account of this event in approximately 75 words.

Directions for student paper

Vous êtes journaliste pour un journal. Écrivez un reportage de 70 - 75 mots sur cet événement.

Performance criteria

Ideas/content (appropriate description of event)	4	3	2	1	(inappropriate description)
Vocabulary (range, appropriate to topic)		3	2	1	(simplistic, repetitive)
Clarity (Few minor errors)		3	2	1	(major errors, difficult to understand)

* Students who perform lower than 1 in content will receive 0.

Tâche 07**Value 14**

This item includes responses to penpal advertisements, essay contests or similar situations. Context requires students to communicate information about self, school, hobbies, interests, family.

Students write a piece of approximately 120 words in response to the task.

The item should provide suggestions to guide students in preparing a response as well as a checklist for editing / review.

Directions for student paper

Exprimez vos idées sur le sujet suivant dans un article d'approximativement 120 mots. Servez-vous de la liste de contrôle pour vérifier votre travail.

Liste de contrôle

- ☐ J'ai relu mon texte.
- ☐ J'ai employé un style approprié.
- ☐ J'ai utilisé un vocabulaire approprié et varié.
- ☐ J'ai vérifié mon texte et corrigé mes erreurs.
- ☐ J'ai utilisé des paragraphes.
- ☐ J'ai vérifié les temps de verbes.
- ☐ J'ai employé une organisation logique pour présenter mes idées.

Performance criteria (review and compare with suggestions in Senior High Curriculum Guide)

Organization (logically developed)		3	2	1	(disorganized)
Ideas/Content (appropriate to topic)	4	3	2	1	(inappropriate to topic)
Vocabulary (range, appropriate)		3	2	1	(simplistic, repetitive)
Clarity (few minor errors)	4	3	2	1	(major errors, difficult to follow)

* Students who perform lower than 1 in content will receive 0.

Table of Specifications

French 3200 Public Exam

Item and Value	General Curriculum Outcomes	Skills
Part 1 Oral Interview (25)	Communicating Language Learning Strategies	Speaking Listening
Part 2 1. Series of images (5) - multiple choice with audio	Acquiring Information Language Learning Strategies	Listening
2. Audio text and questions (10) (multiple choice and written prompts are provided for some items)	Acquiring Information Communicating Experiencing Creative Works Language Learning Strategies	Listening
3. Monologue	Acquiring Information Communicating Experiencing Creative Works Language Learning Strategies	Listening
4. Authentic passage and questions (21) - leveled questions with opinion writing piece at end; also to include language strategies for vocabulary	Communicating Acquiring Information Language Learning Strategies Experiencing Creative Works Understanding Cultural Influences	Reading Writing
5. Modified cloze (5) - multiple choice of 5 parts	Communicating Language Learning Strategies	Reading
6. Writing in response to a visual headline or short passage - 75 words (10) - description; narration of an event	Communicating Acquiring Information Language Learning Strategies	Writing
7. Writing piece (approx. 120 words) in response to authentic situations (14)	Communicating Language Learning Strategies	Writing