

Diarmuid Brittain

CCEA | GCSE

FRENCH VOCABULARY BOOK 2

Local, National, International & Global Areas
of Interest



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This book has borrowed inspiration from hundreds of pupils over the years and it is dedicated to each and every language student and teacher that has graced the doors of Grosvenor Grammar School.

This book has been written to help students preparing for the GCSE French specification from CCEA. While Colourpoint Educational and the author have taken every care in its production, we are not able to guarantee that the book is completely error-free. Additionally, while the book has been written to closely match the CCEA specification, it is the responsibility of each candidate to satisfy themselves that they have fully met the requirements of the CCEA specification prior to sitting an exam set by that body. For this reason, and because specifications change with time, we strongly advise every candidate to avail of a qualified teacher and to check the contents of the most recent specification for themselves prior to the exam. Colourpoint Educational therefore cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions in this book or any consequences thereof.

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Introduction

This is one of four books that form a resource for English-speaking students of French and which seeks to promote **student-led vocabulary acquisition**. It is designed to **promote independent learning** and **free up teacher time**. While it is tailored for GCSE students, it is a powerful resource for all English-speaking students of French.

What do the books cover?

Various GCSE French syllabi (CCEA, WJEC, Edexcel, AQA, OCR) have common vocabulary lists. While this resource makes specific reference to the CCEA specification, it covers the vocabulary listed in all these syllabi and can be used with all of them.

The resource is divided into four books, the first three of which cover the three areas of core vocabulary as presented in the GCSE syllabi:

1. Identity, Lifestyle and Culture
2. Local, National, International and Global Areas of Interest (this book)
3. School Life, Studies and the World of Work

The resource is completed by a fourth book:

4. Verbs, Conjunctions and Other Useful Phrases, which includes an alphabetical list of the most common verbs in French, as well as a list of common connectors, *la Colle Française* (French glue).

Why these books?

- These books are designed to be used independently by students.
- Traditionally, students have been given lists of vocabulary to learn without pronunciation guides and without *aide-mémoires*. With these books, teachers can hand vocabulary learning over to their students, giving the teacher more time to focus on the challenging grammar that requires teacher-led pedagogy.
- Research shows that pupils prefer to learn from hard copies.
- Pupils can have a sense of ownership of this a resource because they can annotate it.
- The most recent GCSE CCEA specification (first examined in 2017) places more emphasis on Listening and Reading, demanding a higher level of vocabulary acquisition.
- This resource can be used independently by students from Year 8 onwards, building over five years to GCSE success. This is particularly useful for schools that need to use remote learning from time to time.

What is the structure of this book?

The vocabulary in the book is presented in the same order as it is presented in the CCEA GCSE syllabus, i.e. in alphabetical order by the English meaning.

Each word has a **pronunciation guide**. The benefits of this are the following:

- Learners can check their pronunciation of the word.
- Learners can test understanding from looking only at the pronunciation guide, thereby improving their listening skills.
- Learners can test themselves on how to write – in correct French – the phonetically described word, thereby improving the accuracy of their writing.
- Learners can work in pairs to test each other orally from English to French and/or French to English.

Most words also have an ***aide-mémoire***. *Aide-mémoire* is French for ‘memory aid’. People often struggle under the burden of learning vocabulary, and take little pleasure from the task.

It is the author’s belief that if a student can find links between their own language and a foreign one, it makes the process of vocabulary acquisition more of a journey of discovery than a drudgery, and importantly, it allows the learner to hook the foreign words onto words that have already been assimilated in their brain.

The author likes to work with the premise ‘words can make you laugh!’ There are a number of attempts to be humorous throughout the book, in an effort to link words to the mind of the student. Learners may describe these attempts as ‘dad jokes’ – but the author believes that learners secretly like them!

The book also includes sections entitled **Practise!** These allow students to practise what they have learned, embedding their learning. Teachers will also find these sections useful in order to set homework or cover work.

What are the tick boxes for?

Each word has three tick boxes. These are provided in order to give the student a way to track their progress and organise their learning. The author suggests the following approach, though you can use whatever method works for you:

- Tick the first box when you have learned the word for the first time. When you are organising your revision use this tick to indicate to yourself what you have covered.
- When you come back later to check that you have retained the word, you can tick the second box.
- By the time you go in to your GCSE exams, you should have been able to tick the third box, to show that you have embedded that word in your brain.

Abbreviations

The book uses the following abbreviations:

(m)	masculine	e.g. <i>Un garçon</i> , a boy
(f)	feminine	e.g. <i>Une fille</i> , a girl
(m/f)	masculine or feminine	e.g. <i>Un/une professeur</i> , a teacher
(mpl)	masculine plural	e.g. <i>Des garçons</i> , (some) boys
(fpl)	feminine plural	e.g. <i>Des filles</i> , (some) girls

1. Les pièces dans la maison

[Rooms in the house]

Word or phrase	Pronunciation guide	Aide-mémoire	English meaning	Check
Appartement (m)	ah-paahr-teuh-maw		Apartment/flat	
Grenier (m)	greuh-nee-ay	Grainary, a higher part of the house is where grain was stored away from rats	Attic	
Chez moi	shay-mwah	Chez moi, chez toi, Chez McDo: At my place, at your place, at McDonald's.	At my place (home)	
Balcon (m)	bahl-kaw		Balcony	
Sous-sol (m)	souh-sawl	Sous – sub – under, sol – soil, ground	Basement	
Salle de bains (f)	sahl-deuh-bah	Salle, linked to salon, a room, a saloon. Bains – baths, bathe, salon of baths.	Bathroom	
Chambre (f)	shawm-breuh	'Chamber' is an old word for bedroom, 'in my lady's chamber'	Bedroom	
Chambre (f) de mon frère	shawm-breuh deuh maw frair	Chamber is bedroom ('in my lady's chamber'), Friar Tuck, Brother Tuck	Bedroom (brother's)	
Chambre (f) de mon père	shawm-breuh deuh maw pair	Chamber is bedroom ('in my lady's chamber'), paternal, pop, père	Bedroom (father's)	
Chambre (f) de ma grand-mère	shawm-breuh deuh ma graw-mair	Chamber is bedroom ('in my lady's chamber'), grand-mare, mère	Bedroom (grand-mother's)	
Chambre (f) de ma mère	shawm-breuh deuh ma mair	Chamber is bedroom ('in my lady's chamber'), Mother horse, mare, mère	Bedroom (mother's)	
Chambre (f) de mes parents	shawm-breuh deuh may pah-raw	Chamber is bedroom ('in my lady's chamber'), parents	Bedroom (parents')	
Chambre (f) de ma sœur	shawm-breuh deuh mah sir	Chamber is bedroom ('in my lady's chamber'). Sorority, sisterhood, soeur.	Bedroom (sister's)	
Cave (f)	kahv	Cavern, cave, a cool place for storage, maybe	Cellar	
Véranda (f)	vay-rawn-dah	A veranda is an open-air porch in English, close enough to a conservatory	Conservatory	
En bas	awhe-bah	A bass note is a low note	Downstairs	
Entrée (f)	awn-tray	Entry point to the house	Entrance hall	
Étage (m)	ay-tah-zheuh	There are often 3 stages (floors) to a house. Remember: 'é' at start replaces 's'.	Floor	
Premier étage (m)	prem-ee-air ay-tah-zheuh	Premier league is the first league. We know étage, stage, floor.	Floor (1st floor)	
Garage (m)	gaa-ra-zheuh		Garage	
Jardin (m)	daw leuh zhaarh-dah	Garden and jardin	Garden	
Rez-de-chaussée (m)	ray-deuh-show-say	Chaussée is linked to causeway, pathway, ground level	Ground floor	
Maison (f)	may-zaw	Mansion	House	

Word or phrase	Pronunciation guide	Aide-mémoire	English meaning	Check
Cuisine (f)	kwee-zeen	Cuisine also means cookery, linked to 'culinary' (to do with cooking)	Kitchen	
Salon (m)	sahl-law	Saloon	Living room	
Salle (f) de séjour	sahl-deuh-say-zhouhr	Saloon. To sojourn somewhere is to holiday, relax somewhere.	Living room	
Bureau (m)	booh-roh	'Un bureau de change' is a money changing office	Office	
Terrasse (f)	tair-ass	A terrace is a patio	Patio	
Pièce (f)	lay pee-yes	A piece of a house is a room	Room	
Cabane (f)	kah-bahn	Cabin, log cabin	Shed	
Escalier (m)	ess-kah-lee-ay	An escalator is a moving flight of stairs that you climb or scale	Stairs	
Les WC (mpl)	lay vay-say	Water closet	Toilet	
En haut	awhe-oh	H for high . A haughty person holds themselves above others.	Upstairs	
Buanderie (f)	booh-awn-deuh-ree	Launderie (laundry) done in the buanderie	Utility room	
Salle d'eau (f)	sahl-doh	Salon of aqua – room of water	Wet room/ shower room	