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MFL GCSE

A choice between French and Spanish

What is it all about?



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Why study a Modern Foreign Language?

Fluency in another language can help you get a job abroad.

Speaking a second language can give you an advantage in college/ university / job applications.

Studying another language helps to improve your communication skills in English.

Speaking another language can help you to earn a higher salary.

Learning other languages can help us to understand other cultures.

To compete in the global market, we need to speak more than one language.

When you go on holiday you can speak to local people and find your way about much more easily.

You get a buzz when you speak with someone from another country in their language.

Learning and using a second language is good for our brain and helps to protect us from the effects of ageing!



Some thoughts from celebrities about learning languages:

Baron Willis Ex Lib Dem MP: The lack of linguists in our society severely disadvantages us as a nation.

Arsène Wenger: I would like to take this opportunity to say how advantageous it can be...To have knowledge of foreign languages...I would have no hesitation in advising people of any age to learn another language.

Paula Radcliffe: Although I'm known first and foremost as an athlete, my foreign language skills have given another dimension to my career. I regularly use French and German when I travel to compete in Europe.

Alain Prost, Ex Formula One racing driver: It's always better to speak the language of the team. Not only for direct contact with everyone – sometimes it also helps you to understand the mentality of the people in the team a bit better.

Mexican author and cultural attaché to London, **Ignacio Padilla**, says of his parents: They taught me that every language you speak is an open door to an entire world.

Gary Lineker: I learnt Spanish and Japanese when I played at Barcelona and Nagoya. I spent hours and hours in tuition – yet I could have learnt either language at school. Modern languages prepare you for modern life.

As the world gets smaller, there's never been a better opportunity to get into languages. I've really enjoyed learning Spanish and Japanese. Getting to grips with a new language can be great fun, and you learn so much about other people and what makes them tick.



A course from the EDEXCEL exam board

What topics will you explore?

Five key themes are the basis for the four examined skills:

Identity and culture

Local area, holidays and travel

School

Future aspirations, study and work

The international and global dimension (moral issues and a world wide perspective)

What will you do?

You will develop your listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. You will also develop an awareness and understanding of the countries and communities where the foreign language is spoken.



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Practical information

Qualification type: GCSE

Exam board: EDEXCEL

Exams: Four externally marked examinations taken in Year 11. One examination in each of the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Each examination is worth 25% of the final GCSE grade.

Coursework: No, but the speaking exam is 25% of the marks and will be carried out by your languages teacher in school. This is sent away to be marked by the exam board.

Link to specification: <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/modern-languages-2016.html>

Content on GCSE Pod: Yes, lots! And it is specifically for our examination board, EDEXCEL GCSE

School contacts: French, Mrs Patrick, Head of MFL gpatrick@bestacademies.org.uk

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GCSE Latin

What is it all about?

You will study the Latin language as well as finding out about the influence and power of the Roman world.

You will find out what life was like in the Roman Empire.

You will study extracts of Roman literature which give an insight into the life and culture of the Roman world.



A course from the EDUQAS exam board

What topics will you explore?

You will study the Latin language through topics such as life in Pompeii in AD69 and Roman Britain. You will find out about life and culture in the Roman Empire through the topic of Roman entertainment and leisure. You will study the theme of a Day at the Races through set texts by Roman authors.

What will you do?

You will develop your reading, writing and grammatical skills as well as gaining a better understanding of the Roman world and its legacy.



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Practical information

Qualification type: GCSE

Exam board: EDUQAS

Exams: Three externally marked examinations taken in Year 11..

Coursework: None.

Link to specification: <http://eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/latin/>

School contact: Mrs Patrick, Head of MFL gpatrick@bestacademies.org.uk