

Year 10 GCSE MFL Controlled Assessment & Exams

The purpose of this article is to provide you with information on MFL assessments and exams that your child will be sitting during the Key Stage 4 course at Bolingbroke Academy.

- How many pieces of Controlled Assessment and coursework there are on the MFL GCSE course
- What percentage of the final grade is awarded to Controlled Assessment
- When Controlled Assessments are due to be completed
- How many exams they will sit at the end of the GCSE course
- What percentage of the final grade is awarded to the exam(s)

Going forward, we will add all controlled assessment details to ShowMyHomework. You can login at www.showmyhomework.co.uk.

If you have any further questions on assessment, please Ms Sherman, Head of Languages via email at b.sherman@arkbolingbrokeacademy.org.

Controlled Assessment Overview

Subject	Number during the course	% of final grade	Details
French /German / Spanish	2 x Speaking 2x Writing (potential 5 th writing or speaking)	60%	2 x writing assessments and 2 x speaking assessments are submitted.

Exam Overview

Subject	Exam Board	Number of Exams	When	% of final grade
French /German / Spanish	Edexcel	2 (1 x Listening Exam, 1 x Reading Exam)	End of Year 11	20 % each (40% total)

The themes for both writing and speaking controlled assessments will be linked to one of the following:

1. Media and culture, 2. Sport and leisure, 3. Travel and tourism, 4. Business, work and employment

Speaking Controlled Assessments

What will candidates actually do?

Candidates need to complete two separate speaking assessments over the Key Stage, each of which should last between 4 and 6 minutes. These must involve any two of the following task types (selected by the MFL department):

- **Presentation followed by discussion** (This requires candidates to produce a short presentation (1 minute minimum/3 minutes maximum) in the target language. The candidate must then respond to a series of linked follow-up questions.

- **Picture-based free-flowing discussion:** This requires candidates to discuss a picture in the target language. Candidates may give a quick presentation to introduce their picture (1 minute maximum) before responding to a series of linked follow-up questions.
- **Open interaction:** The open interaction is essentially an unscripted role play in the target language. Candidates should be given a task stimulus and instructions to help them prepare for their assessment.

Candidates will be able to refer to up to 30 words of their own notes and, if desired, up to five small drawings that they prepare in advance of the assessment. These notes must be produced on a standard form (CA2) available from our website (please consult the controlled assessments area on the relevant GCSE language-specific homepage).

Writing Controlled Assessments

What will candidates actually do?

Candidates need to complete two separate writing assessments, each of which must be undertaken in controlled conditions in a single assessment session of no more than 1 hour (minimum 45 minutes).

Candidates must have access to the stimulus material (sheet with the task on it) and a bilingual dictionary. They will be able to refer to up to 30 words of their own notes and, if desired, up to five small drawings that they prepare in advance of the assessment. The words are allowed to be conjugated verbs/nouns/adjectives/sentence starters etc. These notes must be produced on a standard form (CA4) available from our website (please consult the controlled assessments area on the relevant GCSE language-specific homepage).

For a **Grade C** or higher, pupils are expected to write a **minimum of 200 words**. We would strongly recommend pupils do not exceed 300 words; the more pupils write, the more inaccuracies we would expect to see.

Time control

Tasks can be set at any time during the delivery of the GCSE course and up to a maximum of 6 contact hours over a maximum of 2 weeks before the formal assessment take place. Where appropriate, however, we will sometimes use some of the preparation time for further teaching and offer 3/4 hours of preparation.

Revision at Home

Although it is possible for candidates to do some background preparation/research at home, teachers must be able to confirm that the final assessed product is the candidate's own work and has been prepared individually, without assistance from anyone else.

Upcoming Speaking Controlled Assessment

Exam preparation phase: W/C 7th March 2016

Speaking exam: Friday 18th March 2016

The upcoming assessment is the picture-based free-flowing discussion. The unit of work is "healthy lifestyle". Each week they have been preparing answers for questions to cover drugs, smoking, alcohol, eating healthily, what they will do to stay healthy at university, previous habits.

What can you do to help?

<u>Speaking CA</u>	<u>Writing CA</u>
Each written homework is a paragraph that will be marked and that pupils will subsequently redraft. If these paragraphs are not completed, the preparation phase is much harder for them. Check pupils are doing their homework!	Each written homework is a paragraph that will be marked and that pupils will subsequently redraft. If these paragraphs are not completed, the preparation phase is much harder for them. Check pupils are doing their homework!
Practise makes perfect! Even if you do not speak the language, ask your child questions in English and get pupils to respond in the target language.	As pupils will take home a copy of their draft, test pupils sentence by sentence, paragraph by paragraph.
Use a recording device to record short paragraphs. Listen back to it and analyse it.	
Test their vocabulary each week! Pupils should be learning at least 10-15 words per week, both from lessons, and from their vocabulary booklets.	