

Mapping the AQA Specification to the Pearson Edexcel GCSE in **Modern Languages**

Pearson Edexcel	AQA
Paper 1: Foundation Listening Paper <i>(35 minutes including 5 minutes reading preparation)</i> 25% of GCSE	Paper 1: Foundation Listening Paper <i>(35 minutes including 5 minutes reading preparation)</i> 25% of GCSE
Total Marks: 50	Total Marks: 40
Section A: Q & A in English/multiple-response and short-answer response. 40 Marks	Section A: Q & A in English/multiple-response. 32 Marks
Section B: Q & A in target language of multiple-response type. 10 Marks	Section B: Q & A in target language/non-verbal. 8 Marks
Paper 1: Higher Listening Paper <i>(45 minutes including 5 minutes reading preparation)</i> 25% of GCSE	Paper 1: Higher Listening Paper <i>(45 minutes including 5 minutes reading preparation)</i> 25% of GCSE
Total Marks: 50	Total Marks: 50
Section A: 2 questions – multiple response. Q & A in target language. 10 Marks	Section A: Q & A in English/non-verbal. 40 Marks
Section B: 12 questions – multiple response and short-response. Q & A in English. 40 Marks	Section B: Q and A in target language/non-verbal. 10 Marks
Benefits of Pearson Edexcel specification:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mix of male and female voices used in authentic situations • Level of difficulty gradually increases to give allow students to gain confidence through the exam • Common question rubrics published so candidates can be familiar with them in advance of assessment 	
Paper 2: Foundation Speaking Paper <i>(7–9 minutes plus 12 minutes preparation)</i> 25% of GCSE	Paper 2: Foundation Speaking Paper <i>(7–9 minutes plus 12 minutes preparation)</i> 25% of GCSE
Total Marks: 70	Total Marks: 60
Role-play: (1–1.5 minutes) 10 Marks	Role-play: (2 minutes) 15 Marks
Picture-based card: (2.5–3 minutes) 24 Marks	Picture-based card: (2 minutes) 15 Marks
Conversation: (3.5–4.5 minutes) 36 Marks	Conversation: (3–5 minutes) 30 Marks



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Paper 2: Higher Speaking Paper (10–12 minutes plus 12 minutes preparation) 25% of GCSE	Paper 2: Higher Speaking Paper (10–12 minutes plus 12 minutes preparation) 25% of GCSE
Total Marks: 70	Total Marks: 60
Role-play: (2–2.5 minutes) 10 Marks	Role-play: (2 minutes) 15 Marks
Picture-based card: (3–3.5 minutes) 24 Marks	Picture-based card: (3 minutes) 15 Marks
Conversation: (5–6 minutes) 36 Marks	Conversation: (5–7 minutes) 30 Marks
Benefits of Pearson Edexcel specification:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coloured pictures for extra description opportunity • Role-play assessed on communication only • Clear ‘How-to’ delivery support for teacher/examiners • Assessment that encourages spontaneity and interaction 	

Paper 3: Foundation Reading and Understanding (45 minutes) 25% of GCSE	Paper 3: Foundation Reading and Understanding (45 minutes) 25% of GCSE
Total Marks: 50	Total Marks: 60
Section A: 6 questions, multiple-response and short-answer open response in English. 28 Marks	Section A: Question and answers in English or non-verbal. 33 Marks
Section B: 3 questions, multiple-response in target language. 15 Marks	Section B: Questions and answers in target language or non-verbal. 18 Marks
Section C: One translation passage from French to English. Instruction in English. 7 Marks	Section C: Translation into English. 9 Marks
Paper 3: Higher Reading and Understanding (60 minutes) 25% of GCSE	Paper 3: Higher Reading and Understanding (60 minutes) 25% of GCSE
Total Marks: 50	Total Marks: 60
Section A: 6 questions, multiple-response and short-answer open response in English. 28 Marks	Section A: Question and answers in English or non-verbal. 33 Marks
Section B: 3 questions, 2 multiple-response and 1 short-answer in target language. 15 Marks	Section B: Questions and answers in target language or non-verbal. 18 Marks
Section C: One translation passage from French to English. Instruction in English. 7 Marks	Section C: Translation into English. 9 Marks

Benefits of Pearson Edexcel specification:

- Range of authentic stimuli: advertisements, emails, letters, articles and literary texts

<p>Paper 4: Foundation Writing (1 hour 10 minutes) 25% of GCSE</p>	<p>Paper 4: Foundation Writing (1 hour) 25% of GCSE</p>
<p>Total Marks: 60</p>	<p>Total Marks: 50</p>
<p>Question 1: Write a description of 20-30 words and express an opinion on a photo. 12 Marks</p>	<p>Question 1: Write 4 sentences to describe a photo. 8 Marks</p>
<p>Question 2: Write 40-50 words in response to 4 compulsory bullet points. 16 Marks</p>	<p>Question 2: Write 40 words approx. in response to four short compulsory bullet points. 16 Marks</p>
<p>Question 3: Write between 80-90 words in response to 4 compulsory bullet points with a choice of 2 questions. 20 Marks</p>	<p>Question 3: Translation of sentences of 35 words approx. into target language. 10 Marks</p>
<p>Question 4: Translation of 5 sentences of increasing difficulty into target language. 12 Marks</p>	<p>Question 4: Write 90 words approx. in response to 4 compulsory bullet points with a choice of two questions. 16 Marks</p>
<p>Paper 4: Higher Writing (1 hour 20 minutes) 25% of GCSE</p>	<p>Paper 4: Higher Writing (1 hour 15 minutes) 25% of GCSE</p>
<p>Total Marks: 60</p>	<p>Total Marks: 60</p>
<p>Question 1: Write between 80-90 words in response to 4 compulsory bullet points with a choice of 2 questions. 20 Marks</p>	<p>Question 1: Write 90 words approx. in response to 4 compulsory bullet points with a choice of two questions. 16 Marks</p>
<p>Question 2: Write between 130 -150 words in response to 4 compulsory bullet points with a choice of 2 questions. 28 Marks</p>	<p>Question 2: Write 150 words approx. in response to two compulsory bullet points with a choice of two questions. 32 Marks</p>
<p>Question 3: Translation of short passage of 50 words approx. into target language. 12 Marks</p>	<p>Question 3: Translation of short passage of 50 words approx. into target language. 12 Marks</p>

Benefits of Pearson Edexcel specification:

- Level of difficulty gradually increases therefore giving all students their best chance to answer as many questions as possible
- Choice of question at higher and crossover task
- 4 bullet points to provide clear guidance for students
- Word count guidance provided but all work marked – no automatic cut-off or penalty

