



FRENCH AB INITIO

French ab initio is an IB Group 2: Language Acquisition course for students who have little or no experience with the French language. Learning a language is more than simply acquiring vocabulary and understanding some grammatical rules. The French ab initio course is designed to be challenging, engaging and a positive educational experience for the student.

Summary

The French ab initio course aims to develop the receptive, productive and interactive skills to a high level of communicative competence. The French ab initio course provides a solid grammar and vocabulary framework and is organized into three themes made up of a series of twenty topics.

The three themes are:

- Individual and Society
- Leisure and Work
- Urban and Rural environment

Through the study of these themes, the students are able to practice grammatical structures and vocabulary and explore the language whilst developing an intercultural understanding. By developing the range of receptive, productive and interactive skills, the students become able to communicate and interact in a range of everyday situations. These skills equip the student with the necessary skills to achieve the assessment objectives of the French ab initio course.

Syllabus overview

The French ab initio online course focuses on developing language skills of the student through a wide range of activities. Work will be evaluated by an online teacher. Each student will utilise a number of technical and social solutions to maximise communicative speaking opportunities which encourages students to be actively productive in their use of French. Audio recordings are available as a web-based resource to introduce vocabulary, teach correct pronunciation and to enable the student to practice speech. The course provides students with opportunities for further understanding of both language and culture using authentic and contextual video and external web resources.

IB language ab initio courses are designed to integrate three main areas: language, texts and themes. These are interconnected and studied concurrently; they have intercultural understanding at their centre.

French ab initio students may be involved in many different forms of communication and exposed to a wide variety of texts. They will be encouraged to get involved in class discussions about written texts, informal conversations, everyday scenarios and emails. Students are expected to develop accuracy and fluency in expression and control over vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation and intonation.

Intercultural understanding is one of the central foundations of this course and students are expected to become familiar with aspects of everyday life and culture of the French speaking world using the study resources contained in the course. By studying particular features of French culture, students learn about a different way of life and as a result develop their language skills.

Prerequisites

No prior study of French is expected. The language ab initio courses are language learning courses for beginners, designed to be followed over two years by students who have no previous experience of learning the target language.

