



January Newsletter 2023

GCSE and GCE French, German and Spanish

Happy New Year to everyone! We hope that you have been able to enjoy a restful Christmas break and had a chance to recharge the batteries for the Spring term. There are a lot of things going on so please take time to read through the newsletter as it contains useful and important information for the new term.

Malpractice in speaking exams - important feedback for teachers

Awarding Organisations (AQA, CCEA, OCR, Pearson and WJEC) are under a regulatory obligation to take all reasonable steps to prevent malpractice. The JCQ Malpractice Group was therefore tasked with reviewing the type of issues encountered during the summer 2022 series in order that preventative action could be taken by the appropriate JCQ group. Below are the findings of the group:

The majority of the issues identified are maladministration and are in the following proportions:

- Interlocutor prompting - 5%
- Maladministration with recording - 15%
- Mis-delivery of speaking assessment - 80%

Some examples of what these issues relate to are as follows:

Interlocutor prompting including:

- interlocutor whispering individual words/phases, often subconsciously
- interlocutor providing prompts

Maladministration with recording including:

- recording not continuous
- recording inaudible
- poor recording due to noise interference
- recording finished early

Mis-delivery of speaking assessment including:

- interlocutor failed to follow prescribed structure/script
- interlocutor failed to use randomisation grids/vary topics
- candidates permitted to choose topic (where not permitted)
- candidates given too much preparation time



- candidates permitted access to notes (where not permitted)
- interlocutor changed/paraphrased questions (meaning candidates could not access full marks available)

We understand at WJEC colleagues want to get things right and avoid falling foul of any regulations. Therefore, if you have any questions, doubts or worries regarding delivery of the speaking assessments, the languages team will be glad to help you. Please email languages@wjec.co.uk.

Examination in Summer 2023 (WJEC)

Several colleagues have contacted us to ask whether papers will continue to have adaptations as previously. The answer is no, it is business as usual and question paper formats will be as pre-pandemic. The GCE AS Unit 1 Speaking reverts to its usual format with both the Set A and Set B cards. Colleagues are reminded that GCSE French/German/Spanish Unit one Speaking will revert to its usual format to include the role play, photo card and conversations (as outlined in the relevant GCSE standard specifications). However, there will be some Advance Information available on the WJEC website in the New Year.

Speaking Window dates for 2023

The period of the speaking window for both GCE and GCSE will be 3rd April -12th May 2023. Please note that these dates will always include the Easter break.

Important Reminder: MFL Centre Forms and the Allocation of Set Lists

Please remember to complete all paperwork for upload to WJEC:

- for GCSE; the [MFL Centre Form](#) and the Allocation of Set List
- for GCE; the [MFL Centre Form](#)

The paperwork covers authentication of candidate's work, GDPR requirements, a record of any candidate extra-time (officially granted) and allows examiners to check to which examining materials were used for each candidate. This information is vital for the smooth running and marking of the speaking assessment.

Useful Speaking Guidance for Teachers

Here are the links to the documents providing speaking guidance for:

[Teacher guidance for Unit 1 GCSE speaking](#)

[Teacher conducted AS Unit 1](#)



The [A Level Unit 3 Instructions for Teacher Examiners](#) document is now available for download in the *Key Documents/Non-Exam Assessment* area of the subject pages of the WJEC website.

Suggestions on approaching questions for the IRP

We are putting together a recorded PowerPoint containing advice and suggestions for teacher examiners conducting the A level Unit 3 speaking assessment. This will be available in the Resources/NEA area of the website in the New Year. The recording of the [Unit 1/Unit 3 webinar](#) which took place in October will also be available in the Training/On Demand Webinars area of the GCE French/German/Spanish pages of the website.

CPD programme 2022/2023

Materials from the autumn/spring CPD programme for GCSE and A level are now available on the Secure Website.

Log on to the WJEC Secure Website. At the top of the screen click on the 'Resources' drop-down menu and select 'Subject-Specific Support Materials including CPD'. This will bring up an options box, please choose the following:

- Subject French / German / Spanish
- Brand Eduqas
- Level GCSE/A level
- Type of document CPD
- Year 2022/2023
- Language English

<https://www.wjecservices.co.uk/resourcessearch.asp>

Resources for Teaching and Learning

There are a range of digital resources available on the **Resources** tabs on the WJEC website subject pages for GCSE [French](#) / [German](#) / [Spanish](#) and GCE [French](#) / [German](#) / [Spanish](#).

[Exam Walk Throughs](#) (EWTs) are a free resource for both GCSE [French](#) / [German](#) / [Spanish](#) and GCE [French](#) / [German](#) / [Spanish](#). These comprise visual and audio PowerPoint guides to the exams, put together by our experts and designed with the learner in mind for independent use or as part of remote or blended learning.

[Teaching and Learning Guides](#) are free resources that are produced by our experts as a suggested approach for using our online resources for teachers of French, German or Spanish. The aim is to provide flexible comprehensive support for teachers.

[Exemplar candidate work](#) is available on the subject pages of the website in the 'Exemplar' tab along with the marks and examiner feedback, leading you through a review of the exam questions. They include guidance on how examiner marks and comments can be removed so that the materials can also be used as a teaching resource.

Analysing candidates' results

WJEC offers two services to help you understand your students' results and develop their exam skills: Exam Results Analysis and Online Exam Review.

Exam Results Analysis on the [secure website](#) allows you to compare your students' performance on each question with that of the candidature overall, letting you see where they have done well and where there might be room for improvement. To do this, under the 'Results' tab, click on 'View/Print Item Level Data' or 'View/Print Centre Performance' for comparable data.

As always, [Online Exam Review](#) provides marked candidate responses to key questions in an interactive format. Here you will find a collection of interactive units that bring together a number of elements including general data, exam questions, their marking schemes and examiner comments, which will lead you through a review of exam questions including candidate responses from the 2022 series.

These must be opened using Adobe Reader and should be downloaded from the website before opening.

Vocational Language Qualifications

Global Business Communication

The *new* revised qualification in Global Business Communication has been launched for first teaching in September 2022. This qualification offers an opportunity for students to learn languages in a relevant work context. Please see our website for full details including specification and sample assessment materials. [Global Business Communication Webpage](#)



GBC - Professional Learning

We are holding a free online event 'Next Steps – GBC' on 29th March from 4pm till 6pm. This will be an opportunity to revisit the content and assessment requirements of the specification, focusing on NEA Units 2, 3 and external unit 4. This is a **free event** for all centres.

Language Pathways

These qualifications offer learners the opportunity to get formal recognition for their language learning. Students produce evidence to demonstrate their language competence from a choice of three different themes which is internally assessed and externally moderated.

Available in a range of levels (Entry Level, Level 1 and Level 2) and languages:

- French
- German
- Spanish
- Italian
- Mandarin
- Japanese
- Cornish



For more information please see our webpage [Language Pathways](#) or contact languages@wjec.co.uk

Language Pathways Training and Support

We are running a training and support webinar on Tuesday 11th October from 4pm looking at task design, assessing and exemplar materials.

To book your place please go to the Language Pathways webpage. [Language Pathways Professional Learning - Booking](#)

Should you have any questions or wish to seek advice please contact the MFL Team on at WJEC / Eduqas on: languages@wjec.co.uk / languages@eduqas.co.uk

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