

# FRENCH DEPARTMENT

# TOP TIPS

for becoming a successful Post 16 FRENCH student



1

Take notes during your lessons, in French, as you will be developing note-taking techniques and also you will accustom your ear to the native speaker.

2

Little and often is key: dedicate 5-10 minutes a day to listen to French radios, podcasts, music, interviews etc. Set aside a slot at the same time every day.

3

Immerse yourself in the language: watch soaps, films, documentaries in French.

4

Book a slot, at least once a week, with the French assistant to help you with pronunciation and intonation.

5

Manage your time effectively; research (45%), plan (5%), write (30%) and review your research (20%). Keep a record of deadlines and important dates; stick to your plan.

6

Read more challenging texts (in short bursts) and annotate, look up words, focus on the different tenses used and make note of any vocabulary you think you can use in the future.

7

Flashcard up key vocabulary, or drop it into a language-learning app on your phone, then self-test. Memrise.com has lots of lists already, and will pester you electronically to learn them.

8

Develop critical thinking skills by engaging with what you read. For a topic, make a filecard which answers the following questions: what's the key idea? How does it relate to what I already know? What's an alternate view?

9

Keep an eye out for what's on at the Institut Français and elsewhere. get out to something at least once a month.