

Eduqas  
GCSE Modern Foreign Languages  
FAQs

**Component 1 (speaking):**

**Role Play**

1. Is a candidate required to answer all questions as set, not just the unknown one?

*The candidate is required to respond to the role play prompts provided on the task card. Candidates must be aware that this is a role play task and not a conversation. For the unknown question, the candidate is required to respond appropriately to what they hear from the Teacher Examiner. In all cases, all valid responses will be rewarded.*

**Photo Card Discussion**

1. In the photo card discussion task must candidates use past, present and future in the higher tier even though the questions might not elicit that information?

*The specification states on page 13 that the teacher will lead the discussion by asking the two questions followed by the two unseen questions. The required tenses will be indicated in the question and no additional tenses are required to access the full range of marks. The descriptor for Communication and interaction in the marking grid is interpreted as e.g. HT Band 5 'References to past, present and future events [as appropriate to the task] are successful'.*

**Component 4 (writing):**

1. How much of the word allocation should candidates devote to the 2 bullet points given in Question 2 (higher tier)?
2. Do candidates need to include past, present and future tenses as these tenses are not included in the 2 bullet points?

For example, if the question comprised the following:

- Expliquer l'importance des vacances
- Décrire les vacances de tes rêves

how much should a candidate say about a past holiday or a future one?

*The tenses required will be stated in the bullet points in the question and no additional tenses are required. Candidates can cover additional tenses if they wish to, but they must ensure that they cover the requirements of the bullet point. Recommendations for improvement are often made by the Principal Examiner and can be found in the Examiners' Report for each series.*

*Suggestions include the following recommendations (as stated in the Principal Examiners' report for GCSE French 2018):*

*Re Question 1*

- As the rubric states, additional information may be given in response to the bullet points, but the information requested in the bullet point **must** be provided to satisfy the requirements of the question under Content.*
- Each bullet point must be studied to identify and recognise **the tense required**. Time phrases can be helpful, **but** it is the surrounding context that makes clear the tense that is required.*
- Again, it is important to take note of the recommended word count. As mentioned above, additional material is acceptable but **not at the expense of the specified content**.*

*Note:*

*Candidates who write answers beyond the approximate word count are not disadvantaged by this alone, however they might self-penalise due to additional errors and the lack of focus creeping into the longer answer. This will usually have a detrimental effect upon the overall mark.*

*Re Question 2*

*Candidates should:*

- Read the rubric carefully and identify the tense required in each bullet point.*
- Pay attention to the word count: it is there to help focus on the answer and maintain relevance.*
- Remember to **justify** ideas and points of view.*

*Note:*

*We do not advise the number of words for each bullet point, as this could be limiting for candidates.*

3. What happens if a candidate writes more than the approximate number of words stated? Does the examiner stop marking?

*Please see the General Advice section of the Component 4 Mark Scheme: For questions at Foundation and Higher Tier where an approximate word count is advised, the whole task must be marked, and no marks are to be deducted for exceeding the word limit. However, candidates must bear in mind the advice above regarding greatly exceeding the word count.*