

~ANAND'S TIPS + TRICKS~

[Link to video](#)

Intro

- Anand received a study score of 50 in French
- Received a Premier's Award for French
- Cultural ambassador for the Alliance Française
- Author Cambridge Checkpoints study guide for French

Oral Exam

Part 1: Your personal world and your interaction with the French-speaking world (language and cultures)

- Spontaneity is key
- Direct the conversation to those areas that you are most confident in discussing
- Build a mind-map
- Record and listen to your practice orals regularly
- Be open to feedback

Part 2: The French-speaking communities' or the prescribed theme 'The world around us'

- One image, no writing and no larger than A3 size
- Draw thoughtful syntheses and comparisons
- Learn the vocabulary specific to expressing points of view and making connections

Written Exam

- Strong focus on writing
- Fluency with grammar and vocabulary is the backbone of effective writing
- Keep practising these basic skills in the lead-up to the exam

SECTION 1 Parts A + B: Listening

- Two texts, one requiring answers in English and one requiring answers in French
- Important to take effective notes that were targeted to the content of the questions
- Stay focused
- French section: make sure to respond in full sentences
- Keep a positive attitude and don't worry if you miss something
- Practice dictation exercises in class on passages of increasing complexity

SECTION 2 Part A

- Combine and synthesise information from two texts (one spoken and one written)
- Read written text to gain a holistic view and associated context
- Some questions will be specific to a single text
- While others will require you to compare and contrast across the two texts
- If two texts, look through the notes you have written
- Which aspects support/negate the contention of the written piece?

SECTION 2 Part B

- Short written response ~150 words based on a written text
- Support or rebut an author's contention
- Effectively build on the ideas in the text and respond to them in a creative, original way
- Rework the material in the text in your own words
- Use linking words (connectives) to sequence your thoughts
- 'mini-essay' - respect text-type and stylistic conventions
- Look through the reading section of the exams from the old study design from 2016 to 2019

SECTION 3: Writing

- Read through all the prompts and carefully think about which one conforms to your strengths the most
- Plan your essay before starting to write
- Make sure that you have satisfied text-type requirements
- Leave spare time for proofreading
- Vary your vocabulary and grammatical structures over the course of your piece
- Don't force particular constructions
- Your goal is to create a cohesive and effective piece