

EASTERN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Course Descriptor and Evaluation - Interim September 2005(RevSep06)

**Subject Area:** Core French

**Course:** Core French (Intermediate)

**Level of Instruction:** Grades 8, 9

**Program Description / Guiding Principles**

The primary focus of the Core French program is communication. The five strands of curriculum outcomes are:

- 1) Communication
- 2) Acquiring information
- 3) Experiencing creative works
- 4) Understanding cultural influences
- 5) Using language learning strategies

The program provides the setting for authentic communication tasks which centre around day to day experience in French class. The program also incorporates events affecting school life. The onus is on the teacher to utilize the French language in all aspects of organizing and teaching, thereby conveying a strong message to students about the real reasons for learning the language.

At the intermediate level, the Core French program builds on the sequential development of the French language which was begun in the elementary grades. This is accomplished through 60% of the course being oral comprehension and production and 40% being written comprehension and production. The themes are broad in nature, however, and reflect interests and experiences common among adolescents, including:

**The Family and Home**

names, ages, physical and personality descriptions, daily routines, family activities

**School**

subjects, homework, schedules, teachers, school events, organization of school day

**Leisure**

hobbies and interests, personal spending, friends, TV, radio, meals, shopping, social events

**Holidays and Travel**

holiday plans, special days, travel, weather, holiday activities, food and drink

Through the development of the above themes several specific language functions are included:

<b>Socializing</b> meeting and greeting people, introducing oneself and others, complimenting people, attracting attention to oneself, talking about the weather	<b>Showing emotion</b> expressing gratitude, pleasure, displeasure, likes, dislikes, surprise, wonder, shock, desire, disappointment, want, anger, fear, intention	<b>Judging</b> apologizing, expressing indifference, appreciation, rightness or wrongness and whether one is obliged to do something	<b>Getting things done</b> persuading, suggesting a course of action, warning someone, granting forgiveness, blaming, forbidding	<b>Getting the facts</b> identifying, asking, reporting, describing, narrating, explaining, requesting someone to perform a service	<b>Responding to facts</b> seeking and giving permission, making comparisons, accepting or declining an offer, expressing capability, offering to do something
---	---	---	---	--	---

Culture is also an important component of the program, and teachers should choose a variety of resources such as French newspapers, magazines, tourist brochures, TV schedules, government documents, etc. as they work with this element.

#### **Weighting of Evaluation Components:**

The evaluation plan for Grade 8 and 9 Core French is consistent with the outcomes and methodology of the intermediate Core French program. It provides for systematic and continuous monitoring of student progress throughout the year. Various procedures are used in the assessment and evaluation process, including regular observation by the teacher, self-evaluation, oral tests, written tests, rubrics, dictations, quizzes, etc. Teachers must also evaluate the development of student understanding of cultural influences.

Oral comprehension, oral production, written comprehension and written production are all significant components of the intermediate Core French program and must be integrated into the evaluation plan. As such, 60% of the course is oral comprehension and production and 40% is written comprehension and production. Viewing and representing are integral parts of the program delivery and assessment practices.

Following is the evaluation plan for a full academic year:

#### **Term - 80%**

Oral Comprehension -	30%
Oral Production -	20%
Written comprehension -	15%
Written Production -	15%
<b>(Total: 80%)</b>	

#### **Exam - 20%**

Oral Production/ Comprehension -	12%
Written Comprehension -	4%
Written Production -	4%

**There will be one formal examination which will be in June.**