

## French: Content Knowledge (0173)

### Test at a Glance

Test Name	<b>French: Content Knowledge</b>			
Test Code	<b>0173</b>			
Time	<b>2 hours (total test): four sections</b>			
Pacing	<b>Suggested time: Section I—30 minutes; Section II—35 minutes; Section III—35 minutes; Section IV—20 minutes</b>			
Number of Questions	<b>120</b>			
Format	<b>Multiple-choice questions based on recorded and printed materials in French; some questions (on language analysis and cultural perspectives) in English</b>			
	Content Categories (Knowledge and Competencies Tested)	Approximate Number of Questions	Approximate Percentage of Examination	Time (in minutes)
	I. Interpretive Listening (in French)	32	27%	30 (approximate)
	II. Structure of the Language (Grammatical Accuracy) (in French and English)	34	28%	35 (suggested)
	III. Interpretive Reading (in French)	31	26%	35 (suggested)
	IV. Cultural Perspectives (in French)	23	19%	20 (suggested)

## Advice to Test Takers

Before taking the test, you should have acquired the knowledge and competencies described under “Knowledge and Competencies Tested.”

Below is additional advice specific to taking the French: Content Knowledge (0173) test.

### Recorded Portion: Section I and Section II, Part A

- The questions in Section I (Interpretive Listening) and Section II, Part A (Speech Analysis) are recorded on CD. The CD will be played **only** once. Some of the recorded material is **not** printed in the test book; pay special attention to whether the test material is presented on CD, printed in the test book, or both.

- The speech samples in Section I (Interpretive Listening) are recorded by native speakers of French at a normal rate of conversation. Therefore, before taking the test, you should practice by listening to recordings of native speakers.
- The questions in Section II, Part A (Speech Analysis) are based on speech samples recorded by students of French who are not native speakers; you will be asked to identify, correct, or describe errors and error patterns in the students' speech. Therefore, before taking the test, you should be familiar with the speech of nonnative speakers who are learning French.
- At the beginning of the recorded portion, the test supervisor will play an introductory statement to check the volume. Be sure to notify the supervisor if the volume needs to be adjusted or if there is any other problem with the CD.
- Take notes, where appropriate, to help you focus your listening and remember key details.
- Between questions, there will be a 12-second pause for you to select and mark your answer. Be prepared to answer within the time provided.

### Section II, Part B, to Section IV

- Be familiar with the following: the structure of the French language; terminology used to describe grammar, syntax, and phonology; a variety of print and nonprint sources, such as periodicals, literature, Internet resources, and advertisements; the cultures of France and French-speaking countries and regions.
- The questions in Section II, Part B (Writing Analysis), are based on writing samples produced by students of French who are not native speakers; you will be asked to identify, correct, or describe errors and error patterns in the students' writing. Therefore, before taking the test, you should be familiar with the writing of nonnative speakers who are learning French.
- Pace your activities. Although there is a suggested time for each section, you will be able to work at your own pace. If you finish the test before time is called, use any extra time to check your answers to any questions in Section II, Part B, through Section IV.

## Test Description

The French: Content Knowledge test is designed to assess the knowledge and competencies necessary for a beginning or entry-year teacher of French. The 120 multiple-choice questions measure the test takers' competence in various language skills and their knowledge of the cultures of France and French-speaking regions.

In the first, third, and fourth sections, all questions and answer choices are in French. All the questions in the Interpretive Listening section, as well as the first part of the Structure of the Language section, are based on recorded materials.

This test may contain some questions that will not count toward your score.

## Knowledge and Competencies Tested

Representative descriptions of the knowledge and competencies tested in each category are provided below.

### I. Interpretive Listening

- Test takers listen to: audio recordings of native French speakers that consist of short conversations, followed by one or more questions; short narrations, followed by one or more questions; and long narrations and dialogues, followed by several questions.
- From the four choices in the test book, the test taker selects the best response.
- Questions are designed to test phonemic discrimination, understanding of idiomatic expressions, familiarity with vocabulary and structures typical of conversational French, and comprehension of relevant cultural information contained in the spoken material.
- All spoken and written questions in this section are in French.

### II. Structure of the Language (Grammatical Accuracy)

- Focus is on the test takers' ability to recognize errors and error patterns in spoken and written French and to analyze the structural components of the language, including speech analysis, writing analysis, language analysis, and grammar analysis.
- Speech Analysis: Test takers will listen to recordings of spoken French and identify, correct, or describe the type of errors and error patterns they hear, such as basic grammatical errors, pronunciation errors, register, false cognates, and use of slang.
- Writing Analysis: Test takers identify, correct, or describe errors and error patterns in grammar, mechanics, including punctuation, spelling, and capitalization, word choice, and register in passages printed in the test book.
- Language Analysis: Test takers demonstrate knowledge of the structure of the French language, including morphology, word analysis, and vocabulary.
- Grammar Analysis: Test takers select the most appropriate completions for sentences and short paragraphs in which words or phrases have been omitted.

### III. Interpretive Reading

- Reading selections are on a variety of topics at various levels of difficulty, from print and nonprint sources such as periodicals, the Internet, advertisements, and literature.
- Questions focus on content and organization, implied content, and use of language.
- Test takers answer questions in French based on what has been stated or implied in the selections.

### IV. Cultural Perspectives

- Questions focus on: history, contemporary issues, geography, literature and the arts, lifestyles and societies of the French-speaking world, and sociolinguistic elements of French.
- The Culture questions are in French.

## Sample Test Questions

*The sample questions that follow illustrate the kinds of questions in the test. They are not, however, representative of the entire scope of the test in either content or difficulty. Answers with explanations follow the questions.*

### I. Interpretive Listening

Approximate time—30 minutes

Section I is designed to measure how well you understand spoken French.

#### Part A—Short Conversations

**Directions:** In Part A, you will hear short conversations between two people. After each conversation, you will hear one or more questions. The conversations and questions are not printed in your test book.

During the pause after each question, read the four answer choices printed in your test book and choose the one most appropriate answer. Indicate your choice on your answer sheet.

(You will hear)

- (Man) Allô, Marie? C'est Robert. Tu sais, la météo prévoit une averse pour cet après-midi. Si nous faisons autre chose?
- (Woman) Je veux bien. D'ailleurs, j'ai pas mal à faire à la maison.
- (Narrator) De quoi s'agit-il?

(In your test book you will read)

- (A) De la construction d'un bâtiment.
- (B) D'une maladie subite.
- (C) D'une sortie remise.
- (D) D'une prédiction astrologique.

#### Part B—Short Narrations

**Directions:** In Part B, you will hear short narrations. The narrations are not printed in your test book. After each narration, you will hear one or more questions, which are printed in your test book.

During the pause after each question, read the four answer choices printed in your test book and choose the one most appropriate answer. Indicate your choice on your answer sheet.

You may take notes, but only in your test book.

(You will hear)

- (Narrator) Question Numéro 2 se rapporte à l'information suivante.
- (Woman) Après plusieurs semaines de préparatifs, trois alpinistes allemands se sont lancés à l'assaut de la face nord du Pic au Diable, un mur rocheux de plus de 800 mètres, barré d'énormes surplombs, dans les Alpes. L'ascension de cette paroi n'a jamais été réalisée en hiver.
- (Narrator) De quoi s'agit-il?

(In your test book you will read)

Question 2 se rapporte à l'information suivante.

- De quoi s'agit-il?
  - D'une semaine de camping.
  - D'une aventure hasardeuse.
  - D'une partie de ski.
  - D'une avalanche dans les Alpes.

Part C— Long Narrations and Dialogues

**Directions:** In Part C, you will hear conversations and narrations that are similar to but longer than those in Parts A and B. The narrations and dialogues are not printed in your test book. After each narration or dialogue, you will hear several questions, which are printed in your test book.

During the pause after each question, read the four answer choices printed in your test book and choose the one most appropriate answer. Indicate your choice on your answer sheet.

There is no sample question for this part.

**II. Structure of the Language (Grammatical Accuracy)**

Section II is designed to measure your knowledge of the structure of the French language.

Approximate Time—35 minutes

Part A (recorded portion)—5 minutes

Parts B, C, and D (suggested time is 30 minutes)

Part A—Speech Analysis

**Directions:** In Part A, you will hear selections spoken by students who are learning French and who make errors in their speech. The selections are not printed in your test book. After hearing a selection, you will hear one or more excerpts from the selection again. Each excerpt contains only one error. You will be asked to identify, correct, or describe the type of error in the excerpt. When answering each question, consider the error in the context of the entire selection. The questions are printed in your test book.

During the pause after each question, read the four answer choices printed in your test book and choose the one most appropriate answer. Indicate your choice on your answer sheet.

(You will hear)

(Narrator) Question 3 refers to the following selection about a student’s school and vacation.

(Male Student) Je suis étudiant. J’étudie à l’université.  
J’aime la musique et les sciences. Dans  
été, je voyage avec mes parents.

(Narrator) Question Number 3: Correct the error in the following excerpt.

(Then you will hear again)

(Male Student) Dans été, je voyage avec mes parents.

(In your test book you will read)

Question 3 refers to the following selection about a student’s school and vacation.

3. Correct the error in the following excerpt.

- (A) Change *Dans* to *En*.
- (B) Change *je* to *nous*.
- (C) Change *voyage* to *voyagé*.
- (D) Change *mes* to *ma*.

Part B—Writing Analysis

**Directions:** In Part B, you will read paragraphs written by students who are learning French. Each paragraph contains errors. You will be asked to identify, correct, or describe the type of error in some of the sentences from each paragraph; each of these sentences contains only one error. When answering each question, consider the error in the context of the entire paragraph.

For each question, choose the one most appropriate answer from the four answer choices printed in your test book. Indicate your choice on your answer sheet.

You may take notes, but only in your test book.

Question 4 refers to the following selection about a birthday.

(1) *Mon anniversaire est samedi prochain; c’est le premier de juin.* (2) *J’espère recevoir beaucoup de cadeaux.*

4. Correct the error in sentence 1.

- (A) Change *Mon* to *Ma*.
- (B) Change *prochain* to *prochaine*.
- (C) Change *le premier* to *la première*.
- (D) Change *de juin* to *juin*.

Part C—Language Analysis

**Directions:** In Part C, you will read questions about the structure of the French language. For each question, choose the one most appropriate answer from the four answer choices printed in your test book. Indicate your choice on your answer sheet.

You may take notes, but only in your test book.

5. To modify the noun phrase “un arbre,” which of the following forms of the adjective is appropriate?
- (A) Belle
  - (B) Bel
  - (C) Beau
  - (D) Beaux

Part D—Grammar Analysis

**Directions:** In Part D, you will read sentences or paragraphs from which words or phrases have been omitted. Each sentence is followed by four possibilities for completing the sentence. For each blank, choose the one answer that results in the best sentence or paragraph in written French. When choosing your answer, consider it in the context of the entire sentence or paragraph. Indicate your choice on your answer sheet.

6. Je me souviens de cette histoire avec \_\_\_\_\_ précision que je pourrais vous la raconter en détail.
- (A) tant
  - (B) tant de
  - (C) tant que
  - (D) autant que

**III. Interpretive Reading**

(Suggested time—35 minutes)

Section III is designed to measure how well you can understand written French.

**Directions:** In Section III, you will read several selections or passages in French. Each selection or passage is followed by questions. For each question, choose the one most appropriate answer from the four answer choices printed in your test book. Indicate your choice on your answer sheet.

When answering the questions, consider them in the context of the entire selection or passage. Base each answer only on what is stated or implied in the selection or passage.

You may take notes, but only in your test book.

**Question 7 se rapporte à l'extrait suivant, écrit par un dramaturge en réponse à la critique d'une de ses pièces de théâtre.**

Puis-je vous affirmer, Madame, qu'on ne gagne aucun argent au théâtre en attaquant la religion et que si le but de ma vie était de gagner de l'argent, je crois que j'aurais depuis longtemps changé de métier ? Vous faites erreur sur ma personne et sur mes intentions.

7. On peut déduire que la dame à qui ces remarques sont adressées
- (A) connaît bien le théâtre
  - (B) est antireligieuse
  - (C) a accusé le dramaturge de matérialisme
  - (D) a compris les intentions du dramaturge

**IV. Cultural Perspectives**

(Suggested time—20 minutes)

Section IV is designed to measure your knowledge of the cultures of France and Francophone countries and regions.

**Directions:** For each question in Section IV, choose the one most appropriate answer from the four answer choices printed in your test book. Indicate your choice on your answer sheet.

8. À quelle heure les gens ont-ils le plus de chance de dîner en France ?
- (A) 15h30
  - (B) 16h30
  - (C) 20h00
  - (D) 23h00

## Answers

1. Choice C is the correct answer. The question asks, “What is it (the dialogue) about?” and C is the only choice that conveys the main subject of the dialogue (a postponed date/outing).
2. Choice B is the correct answer. The narration is a news story about a dangerous attempt to climb the rock face *Pic au Diable*. The question asks, “What is it (the news story) about?” and B is the only answer choice that conveys the main idea of the narration (a dangerous adventure).
3. Choice A is the correct answer. The question asks the examinee to correct the error in the sentence “Dans été, je voyage avec mes parents” (In the summer, I travel with my parents). Dans is the wrong preposition for the phrase “in the summer”; the correct phrase is “en été”.
4. Choice D is the correct answer. The question asks the examinee to correct the error in the sentence “*Mon anniversaire est samedi prochain; c’est le premier de juin*” (My birthday is next Saturday; it’s June first). The correct way of saying “June first” is “*le premier juin*”; therefore “*de juin*” must be changed to “*juin*”.
5. Choice B is the correct answer. “Bel” precedes a singular masculine noun beginning with a vowel sound.
6. Choice B is the correct answer; it is the only choice that fits grammatically in the sentence. The phrase “*tant de*”, when it is followed by a noun and “*que*”, means “so much . . . that . . .”.
7. Choice C is the correct answer. The question asks the examinee to make an inference about the woman whom the playwright is addressing. The playwright’s words in Lines 1–4 (Madame, one does not make any money attacking religion, and, if the goal of my life were to earn money, I’d have changed jobs . . .) imply that he has been accused of materialism. Choice C states that the woman has accused the playwright of materialism. The other statements about the woman (in A, B, and D) are not supported by the passage.
8. Choice C is the correct answer. “*Le dîner*” (dinner) generally takes place around “*20 heures*” (8 o’clock in the evening). The other choices (3:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 11:00 p.m.) are not likely times for French people to have dinner.



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