

## Homework Policy French 1 – 4

Homework is not simply something to be done or completed. The goal of homework is to help the student reinforce in-class learning, revise learning, and augment long-term acquisition of the target language. Homework is a process by which learning takes place. The majority of the homework is modeled upon the quizzes and tests given in this course. Using the homework as a learning tool vastly increases a student's chances of success. It is the major and best form of studying used in this course. It is designed to help the student learn. If done regularly and done well, the student should see an increase in tests scores and understanding of the target language. *Students are expected to do their own work on all assignments whether they be done with or without teacher supervision.* Students will sign an academic honesty pledge which states that they are aware of this expectation.

All homework is web-based. Web-based programs allow for immediate feedback on errors and permit students to correct them before the errors become habit. Four sites may be used for homework: Quia.com; VHLCentral.com; Quizlet.com; Yabla.com. Students are responsible for going to these websites, checking them frequently and doing the homework. They are also responsible for doing the homework by the due date and when necessary uploading the homework to Google classroom. Students will not be allowed to submit late assignments off-site for any reason (with the exception of VHL). These include computer problems, internet down time, choosing not to do the homework when on-line, or claiming ignorance of any kind. Students who wait until the last minute to do the homework and experience any problems will not be able to do the homework off-site. There will not be any extensions pass the open due date. This includes minor illness or absences. Students with a major illness requiring them to miss a week or more of school need to have a parent/guardian email the teacher explaining the circumstance of why the homework cannot be done or the student forfeits his/her right to receive full credit. Students who go on prolonged vacation without internet connections must provide proof of no internet connections and must see the teacher prior to the vacation if they wish to receive accommodations for the homework. This class is not recommended for students who know that they will miss more than 7 days of school per semester. Using on-line translation sites to complete the homework is forbidden and students may have their homework challenged by the teacher if they are suspected of cutting and pasting the answers.

### Quizlet.com: (French 1 – French 4)

Quizlet is an excellent tool for LEARNING. It assumes that the student has the desire to learn and will not short-cut the learning process. Because Quizlet is designed for students, it is easily manipulated by students to give perfect or near perfect scores without doing the work. There are “bugs” within the system that can circumvent the learning process; there are programs that can be purchased to complete the assignments for the student; there is also the answer key given in advance. Circumventing Quizlet has absolutely no learning value. Perfect scores are not necessary and not advised for Quizlet. In fact, too many perfect scores are naturally suspect -- especially when a student's in-class work and tests do not corroborate the perfection. The teacher has the sole discretion to give credit or not for Quizlet assignments. Students with perfect scores will have their work challenged. Students can help themselves receive credit by not writing out the answers before typing them in, not having the answers open in another window, not taking pictures with their cell phones of the answers while doing the work, and not discovering and using the “bugs” within the program.

Students who wisely use Quizlet show increase scores on tests and more enduring recall than students who don't use Quizlet. Students may receive incentive points for doing Quizlet. Because Quizlet is so easy to manipulate it cannot be used as the sole means of study nor can I give it the same grade value as the other programs. But students who use Quizlet as a learning tool should see their efforts rewarded with better summative grades. Quizlet assignments are worth 4 points each and students receive full credit for completion if the teacher believes that the student abided by the academic honesty policy and procedures were followed uploading to Google classroom. There are no late credits for Quizlet. If the assignment is not uploaded to Google Classroom by the due date, the student will not receive credit. There is an exception when Quizlet assignments are done in class. These assignments count toward the student's participation score for the week and are not entered into ASPEN as a single assignment. Absent students have two days to make-up the missed assignment or they forfeit the points earned for that day as per the absent policy.

## Homework Policy French 1 – 4

### Quia.com: (French 1 – French 4)

Students are required to do the Quia assignments. Students who miss more than ½ the assignments including receiving less than 50% on any one assignment, or whose total percentage for Quia falls below 50% will be assigned detentions for each outstanding assignment. Students may elect to attend KAP in lieu of the detention, but will receive the detention if KAP is not attended. Quia was designed for teachers rather than students and therefore is less subject to manipulation by students. Unlike Quizlet, it permits multiple answers and variations in punctuation and does not give the answer key in advance. All Quia assignments are entered into ASPEN as one percentage unit per quarter. But second quarter also includes first quarter attempts. Students can see individual scores on the Quia site. Students immediately know their grade upon submitting the assignment. Students may redo most assignments, though restrictions apply to this privilege. To redo the attempt off-site, it must be completed within the time-frame given for that particular assignment. If the student does not submit an attempt within the allowed time-frame, other attempts must be completed on-site under the supervision of the teacher after school. Being able to redo an assignment is a privilege, not a right. If I believe that a student is taking inappropriate advantage of this privilege, it will be suspended. Therefore, I can at any time during the semester no longer allow multiple submissions. Please understand under no circumstances will students be allowed to complete Quia assignments off-site once the initial closing date has been reached. This includes illnesses and absences. Students may make up assignments, but it must be done on-site under teacher supervision. Also understand that students are not allowed to use on-line translation sites to complete these homeworks. The teacher maintains the right to refuse credit for any assignment that is suspected of being completed with the aid of on-line translation programs.

### VHLCentral.com: (French 1 – French 4)

VHL is the publisher's website. It corresponds to the *D'Accord* series. The main features are the listening and viewing activities that it provides. VHL is a self-contained program. Individual grades for VHL activities are available on the website. The grades are entered into ASPEN as one percentage grade per quarter. But second quarter also includes first quarter attempts. Students will have a minimum of two days to complete these activities. VHL Central exposes students to different accents and different people speaking French. It is NOT holistic; it is tailored to beginning language learners. Students have an option to complete old VHL assignments for partial credit off-site as long as they are completed by the date posted by the teacher before the end of the quarter / semester. Students with too many outstanding activities may receive detentions or KAP.

### Yabla.com: (French 2 – French 4)

Beginning in French 2, students will be exposed to a holistic language video program called Yabla. Students pay a reduced access fee for this site. Normally \$100 per year, students will pay approximately \$15 - \$20. The exact amount varies year to year depending upon the number of students using the program. Yabla provides authentic speakers who speak native French in normal conversational situations. It is not tailored to a given program or language level. Speakers are rated in Yabla according to their speaking speed – not the grammar difficulty. All Yabla assignments are worth 10 points. Students who do not do the Vocabulary exercises prior to doing the video exercises will receive 7 points. The video game must be completed to the maximum score in order to receive credit. Partial scores do not count. There are no extensions for Yabla assignments. Students who do not complete the assignment by the due date will NOT receive credit. Students who seriously desire to communicate in French will do Yabla. It is one of the best sources to aid in aural comprehension. French 4 can also expect to have additional listening comprehensions with audio available on the ASPEN Class page and the worksheets on Quia.

### Writing/Reading Assignments:

If French 1/French 2 have reading/writing assignments time will be given in class to complete these. French 3 may have assignments that take the place of Yabla for that week. French 4 will have additional writing/reading assignments to complete beyond the French 3 curriculum. These are considered as pre-AP preparation.