



**ALL Briefing No. 44**

**Date: July 2025**

**Theme: GCSE Languages - subject content - table of changes**

**Background:**

The Subject Content for GCSE French, German and Spanish in England was first published in 2022.

The table referenced here collates changes to that document in the interim period.

**Key messages:**

This table published in February 2025 combines changes to requirements from 2022 and 2025, and has been effective from September 2024. The changes are to the 2022 original document *French, German and Spanish GCSE subject content*:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gcse-french-german-and-spanish-subject-content>. They are sometimes textual corrections or clarifications and sometimes changes of emphasis; those listed here are purely illustrative; the full document (8 pages) is available here:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67b606759ae06ef4a71cf2e8/Table\\_of\\_changes\\_made\\_to\\_the\\_GCSE\\_subject\\_content\\_for\\_French\\_German\\_and\\_Spanish\\_Feb\\_2025.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67b606759ae06ef4a71cf2e8/Table_of_changes_made_to_the_GCSE_subject_content_for_French_German_and_Spanish_Feb_2025.pdf)

**Sample quotations:**

*Page numbers refer to the associated document : [French, German and Spanish GCSE subject content](#); there are also two annexes on the same webpage.*

*From May 2022 - 28 changes are listed: below are some examples only; please check for context against the associated document above.*

*(sic) indicates that the wording is copied accurately but may be unclear.*

P 7 para 19	Parameters from which vocabulary can be selected softened slightly. 85% of words <i>should</i> be selected from the 2,000 most frequently occurring words (previously <i>must</i> )
P 11	'Verbs used with plural reflexive pronouns, with reflexive and reciprocal meanings (e.g. <i>nous nous écrivons; vous vous parlez; ils se regardent</i> ' has been moved from higher tier to foundation tier as reflexive verbs are to follow the same rules as non-relexive (sic) verbs in terms of tenses and persons of the verb to be learnt.
P 13	'Agreement of past participles' added
P 23	Infinitive constructions ohne/statt ... zu, ...; um ... zu ...; verbs with zu ..., eg beginnen, hoffen, versuchen, has been added to inflectional morphology (moved from higher tier) (sic)
P 24	Wording regarding adjectival phrases softened to allow for the use of singular adjectives without adjectives in some cases. (sic)
P 32	'Reflexive use of plural forms of pronouns (including with reciprocal function) (eg <i>nos vemos, os entendéis, se besan</i> ) and 'Highly irregular specific verb forms will be listed in the Vocabulary List. No tenses should be used which are outside the current subject content and grammar annexes. <i>Reflexives should be bound by the same rules as all other verbs – only being used by the tenses specified in the subject content and grammar annexes</i> ' have been moved from higher tier to foundation tier.

*From January-May 2022 – 29 changes are listed; again these are examples only; please check for context against the associated document above.*

*(sic) indicates that the wording is copied accurately but may be unclear*

P 14	Use of contracted forms of <i>an, bei, in, von</i> and <i>zu</i> with the definite article, (i.e. <i>ans, am, beim, ins, um, zum, zur</i> , <u>will be listed in the Vocabulary list</u> ). – (words underlined added).
P 56; p 73; p 128; p 141	'Relative pronoun' removed from grammar feature column for French and German required words for foundation and higher.
P 60 / p 78 / ; P61 / p 79	'faisais; faisais de' and 'faisait; faisait de' added to Annex E French higher require word list
P 88	'Après (sic) avoir + infinitive' replaced by <i>Après (sic) avoir +pp</i> '
P 105; 123	'dites' added to French foundation and higher optional word list
P 168; p 180	<i>Juez; Jueza; president; presidenta</i> removed from Spanish required words foundation and higher

## References:

NB These are selected details only. Please consult the full document if required.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67b606759ae06ef4a71cf2e8/Table\\_of\\_changes\\_made\\_to\\_the\\_GCSE\\_subject\\_content\\_for\\_French\\_German\\_and\\_Spanish\\_Feb\\_2025.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67b606759ae06ef4a71cf2e8/Table_of_changes_made_to_the_GCSE_subject_content_for_French_German_and_Spanish_Feb_2025.pdf)

The changes are to the original document here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gcse-french-german-and-spanish-subject-content>

**Points for reflection / action:**

This Briefing is largely for updating of members.

This Briefing has been prepared by volunteers from the ALL Council and is for the benefit of ALL members.

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