



Alsager School

An Achieving School - A Caring Community

How to support your child in Year 7,8 and 9 Modern Foreign Languages

General

There is no expectation that you have any knowledge of the language your child is learning but rather that you are able to help them. When supporting your child with their home learning, please refer to the notes that they will have made in lesson in their yellow exercise books, blue vocab books and white printed vocab lists. It is essential that they get used to using these reference tools to complete independent learning.

The yellow exercise book also contains a sheet of key vocab, including time phrases, question words, connectives, opinion phrases, negatives and intensifiers.

Please avoid using Google Translate or other translation websites as these may translate literally rather than accurately.

Vocabulary

Homework will include fortnightly vocabulary tests.

The class teacher will tell classes how many words to learn (usually between 10 – 15).

The test is usually English to target language.

Pupils are given a vocabulary list on paper at the start of term. They should keep this safe and bring it to lessons.

The list can be accessed in the relevant language and year section of Sharepoint

<https://alsager.sharepoint.com/Sites/Learning/SitePages/Home.aspx>

The vocabulary is also on Quizlet, which is a language learning platform, it can be accessed here:

www.quizlet.com

Pupils should create a Quizlet account and write their username and password in their organiser.

Suggested ways of learning vocab are:

Look, say, cover, write, check.

Create flashcards with the Target Language on one side and English on the other.

Test your child by saying the English and they write or spell the Target Language word.

Stick tricky words around the house in obvious places so you see them repeatedly.

Create a mnemonic e.g. Big Elephants Always Undertake Challenges On Unusual Platforms (Beaucoup)

Little and often is better for vocabulary learning.

Pupils should also revisit previous vocabulary regularly to build a firm foundation for learning. There is a powerpoint explaining how to logon to Quizlet in the language section of Sharepoint

<https://alsager.sharepoint.com/Sites/Learning/SitePages/Home.aspx>

Online Homework

ActiveLearn <https://www.pearsonactivelearn.com/app/Home> is a language learning platform linked to the text books used in class.

There is a powerpoint explaining how to log onto ActiveLearn in the language section of Sharepoint <https://alsager.sharepoint.com/Sites/Learning/SitePages/Home.aspx>

Teachers will set ActiveLearn homework regularly.

Pupils will have a log in and password (Alsagerschool1) which they will write in their organiser.

These exercises allow them to practice vocabulary, reading and listening.

Pupils may report problems logging in. If so, please check the following:

Are you on the right website <https://www.pearsonactivelearn.com/app/Home> ?

Are you using the correct username and password?

A quick Google search of “problems using Active Learn” may provide an answer.

Logging into Active Learn at home on the date the homework is set means that any problems can be addressed in time for the homework to be completed.

Useful links

Dictionaries:

<https://www.collinsdictionary.com/>

<https://www.wordreference.com/>

<https://www.leo.org/german-english/>

<https://www.linguee.com/>

<https://www.vocabulix.com/>

Grammar help:

<https://www.verbix.com/>

<https://studyspanish.com/>

<https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/index.html>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

Extending your learning:

Top tips

- Listen to some songs in TL
- Watch a film/show with subtitles in TL (Netflix has lots of choice)
- Watch Youtube videos with subtitles in TL
- Listen to the radio or a podcast in TL (Duolingo has podcasts)
- Talk to yourself in TL
- Study phonics of the language to improve pronunciation
- Find and practice tongue twisters in TL
- Turn your phone settings to TL
- Read a children’s book/short story/poem in TL
- Research the countries which speak the language you are learning.