
ILLINOIS CERTIFICATION TESTING SYSTEM

FIELD 127 FOREIGN LANGUAGE: FRENCH TEST FRAMEWORK

November 2003

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Listening Comprehension
Reading and Vocabulary
Language Structures and Acquisition
Cultural Knowledge
Written Expression
Oral Expression

SUBAREA I—LISTENING COMPREHENSION

0001 Demonstrate an understanding of oral communication in French.

For example:

- Demonstrate comprehension of oral and audio presentations unsupported by visual aids.
- Demonstrate an understanding of questions or comments likely to be encountered in daily life.
- Demonstrate an understanding of requests for information.

0002 Derive essential information from oral messages in real-life situations.

For example:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the main idea or details in a spoken passage (e.g., dialogue, short narrative, telephone message, or public-address announcement).
- Demonstrate an understanding of a sequence of steps described in a set of oral directions.
- Demonstrate an understanding of a stated cause or effect of a situation described in an oral message.

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0003 Infer meaning from oral communications.

For example:

- Identify the tone, mood, or point of view of one or more speakers.
- Identify the cause-and-effect relationship implied but not stated in an oral communication.
- Identify the context (e.g., setting) of a spoken exchange or the relationship (e.g., formal, informal) between speakers.

SUBAREA II—READING AND VOCABULARY

0004 Demonstrate an understanding of written passages in French from a variety of print and electronic sources.

For example:

- Demonstrate comprehension of key vocabulary in context.
- Demonstrate knowledge of reading strategies to obtain information.

0005 Demonstrate an understanding of the literal content of a variety of authentic materials.

For example:

- Identify the stated main idea or an accurate summary of a passage.
- Analyze a passage to determine details regarding character, setting, or events.
- Analyze a passage to determine the sequence of events.

0006 Apply skills of inference and interpretation to a variety of authentic materials.

For example:

- Infer setting or character development from information provided in a passage.
- Determine implied cause-and-effect relationships in a passage.
- Infer an author's assumptions, purpose, or point of view in a passage.

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SUBAREA III—LANGUAGE STRUCTURES AND ACQUISITION

0007 Transform sentences or passages in context according to given instructions.

For example:

- Transform a positive statement, question, or command to a negative one or vice versa.
- Transform the tense or mood of a sentence or passage.
- Transform a sentence or passage from direct to indirect discourse or vice versa.
- Combine two or more sentences into one sentence that preserves the meaning of the original sentences.

0008 Analyze sentences to determine grammatically correct words or phrases to complete them.

For example:

- Recognize the correct noun, pronoun, or article for a given context.
- Recognize verb forms or phrases as appropriate for a given context.
- Recognize the appropriate modifying word or phrase to complete a sentence.
- Recognize the appropriate subordinate clause to complete a sentence.

0009 Demonstrate the ability to organize, analyze, and explain to students the structure of the French language.

For example:

- Select revisions to correct inappropriate use of tenses, forms, or constructions.
- Organize parts of speech into grammatically and syntactically correct sentences.
- Demonstrate the ability to analyze linguistic structures of the French language and present them in a way that is understandable to students.

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0010 Understand processes involved in second-language acquisition.

For example:

- Demonstrate knowledge of instructional strategies for developing students' communicative skills in a second language (i.e., listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills) and ways to adjust instruction to facilitate optimal learning for all students.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of various classroom activities for developing students' communicative skills in a second language.
- Demonstrate knowledge of major theories of second-language acquisition and the approaches, methodologies, and strategies that promote second-language acquisition.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the ways students' native language, prior knowledge, and educational background influence second-language acquisition.

SUBAREA IV—CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE

0011 Demonstrate an understanding of manners, customs, and ranges of cultural expression of French-speaking societies.

For example:

- Identify culturally appropriate behaviors in a variety of contexts.
- Recognize salient cultural practices and social issues among countries where French is spoken.
- Demonstrate a familiarity with games, dances, and sports of French-speaking cultures.
- Identify health issues and characteristics of diet in areas where French is spoken.

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0012 Demonstrate an understanding of the arts (e.g., music, dance, folk art, visual art, drama, architecture), literature, and media of French-speaking societies.

For example:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the cultural and historical significance of characteristic art forms of French-speaking societies.
- Identify characteristics, origins, and representatives of various artistic styles and movements using French vocabulary.
- Compare and analyze, in French, literary themes, styles, and perspectives across authors, time periods, and genres.
- Identify the influence of historical context on form, style, and point of view in a variety of French literary works.
- Identify media resources (e.g., television, radio, CD-ROM, software, films, online resources, Web sites, periodicals) in areas where French is spoken.

0013 Demonstrate an understanding of the history and geography of areas where French is spoken.

For example:

- Identify key historical events and diverse historical figures (e.g., scientists, mathematicians, inventors, political or business leaders) associated with areas where French is spoken and explain their influence.
- Compare and contrast the influences of historical events and diverse historical figures and their impact on the development of their countries.
- Use maps, charts, digital images, graphs, or other geographical representations to obtain information about areas where French is spoken.
- Demonstrate knowledge of geographical aspects (e.g., population distribution, natural resources, and main economic activities) of areas where French is spoken.
- Analyze how migration, settlement, and colonization have affected the culture, economy, and environment of areas in which French is spoken.
- Demonstrate knowledge of currencies, products, economic systems, and systems of trade and exchange of areas where French is spoken.

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SUBAREA V—WRITTEN EXPRESSION

0014 Use French to present in writing information, concepts, and ideas for a variety of purposes to different audiences in response to a written prompt.

For example:

- Write expository pieces that include description, definition, and analysis for a variety of situations.
- Write an account describing to a teacher or other acquaintance the reasoning behind a significant personal decision.
- Write a letter that is appropriate in style for a given audience, purpose, and occasion.

SUBAREA VI—ORAL EXPRESSION

0015 In response to a prompt, produce connected oral discourse in French that communicates a message effectively and that demonstrates command of a range of vocabulary, idiomatic expressions, and simple and complex language structures.

For example:

- Describe events and/or narrate actions in tenses appropriate to the task.
- Discuss advantages and disadvantages of an idea or proposed course of action.
- Respond to a hypothetical situation (e.g., purchasing airline tickets) by explaining events, describing events, or requesting assistance.