NEW REVISED SYLLABUS: F.Y.B.A FRENCH (BEGINNERS)

Introduction

This course is designed for students of First Year B.A. who have never studied the French language (total beginners) or who have studied it for a short while in school or in a language institute. Students who have appeared for the H.S.C./CBSE/ICSC level French examination in Std.XII will have to opt for the ADVANCED Course.

Objectives

The objective of this course is to impart preliminary knowledge about the French language and civilization and is therefore of an elementary level. At the end of the one year course, the student is expected to acquire the following skills:

1) **Elementary communication skills**, based on aural and written comprehension of common words and simple sentences in French.
2) **Simple oral and written expression**.

Thus, the student will be able to:

a) **Understand simple words and expressions** spoken slowly and distinctly in French and used in day-to-day situations related to the student's immediate environment.
b) **Read and understand common words and sentences** in French.
c) **Say a few words in French** in conversations related to simple day-to-day situations.
d) **Ask questions for obtaining basic information** in everyday situations.
e) **Speak in simple sentences in French** to describe herself/himself and her/his immediate environment.
f) **Write short answers, dialogue, short post card, fill up a questionnaire/form** in French.

These objectives are based on the common guidelines prepared by the Council of Europe for learning Modern European Languages (Cadre Européen Commun de Référence). More specifically, the objectives correspond to the objectives of level A1 in the DELF examination, even though the syllabus and the evaluation pattern may be slightly different.

SYLLABUS

1\textsuperscript{st} Term

A. **Grammar**

- French alphabets
- Indefinite and definite articles
• Present tense: -er verbs (regular)
  être, avoir (irregular verbs)
• Nouns (singular & plural)
• Adjectives
• Pronouns (subject)

B. Vocabulary

• Numbers (1-100)
• Days of the week
• Months of the year
• Nationalities
• Colours

C. Communication skills

• Greetings
• Presentation, introduction
• Interrogation relating to everyday situations
• Replying to simple questions.

D. Civilisation

• Day to day life, eg.
  - Classroom
  - Friends
  - Family
  - School
  - Vacations
• Introduction to France: Geography.

Evaluation

1st Term: Written = 50 marks, Oral = 10 marks. Total = 60 marks

Oral Examination: Dictation: paragraph / sentences based on vocabulary learnt
10 marks

Written exam.
Skills to be tested Weightage
A. Comprehension and Written expression 30%
B. Communication skills 20%
C. Grammar and Vocabulary 50%
Break up of questions

1. Written comprehension and expression : 15 marks
   a) General questions (5 out of 7) (10)
   b) Comprehension :Read the text/dialogue and answer the questions (5)

2. Communication skills 10 marks
   a) Match the columns (5)
   b) Give the equivalent / translate into English (5)

3. Grammar & Vocabulary 25 marks
   a) Change into plural / feminine (5)
   b) Fill in the blanks with the appropriate noun / adjective / pronoun subject / verb (5)
   c) Find the odd word / right word (5)
   d) Write the numbers in letters (5)
   e) Find the question to the given answer (5)

2nd Term

A. Grammar
   - Present tense : -ir, -re verbs
   - Irregular verbs
   - Agreement of adjectives
   - Negation
   - Interrogation
   - Contracted articles
   - Partitive articles
   - Prepositions
   - Possessive adjectives

B. Vocabulary
   - Parts of the body
   - Professions
   - Seasons
   - Cardinal and ordinal numbers
   - Home / town
   - Meals
   - Clothes
C. Communication skills
- Description: person / place / town / house.
- Ordering food
- Giving information about a person, profession, qualities / thing
- Describing a place / home / town
- Writing a letter
- Conversation on day to day situations.
- Inviting, Accepting / refusing
- Asking and giving suggestions
- Using expressions with ‘faire’

D. Civilisation
- Some facts about France and French-speaking countries
- The cafetaria
- Geography of France
- Administrative regions of France
- French gastronomy
- French authors and their works
- Important historical personalities

Evaluation

Written exam: 80 marks

Skills to be tested                  Weightage
A. Comprehension and Written expression   30%
B. Communication skills               20%
C. Grammar and Vocabulary             50%

Types of questions:

1. Written comprehension and expression: 24 marks
   a) General questions (3 out of 5) (6)
   b) Short essay OR dialogue OR letter (6)
   c) Comprehension: Read the text / dialogue and answer the questions (6)
   d) Translate into English (6)

2. Communication skills 16 marks
   a) Match the columns (8)
   b) What would you do /say in this
3. **Grammar & Vocabulary**  
   a) Change to plural / feminine / masculine  
   b) Fill in the blanks with the appropriate noun / adjective / pronoun subject / preposition  
   c) Find the odd word / right word  
   d) Write the numbers in letters (cardinal, ordinal)  
   e) Put the sentence in the interrogative form / Here is the answer, find the question  
   f) Give the opposite  
   g) Make the sentence negative or answer in the negative  
   h) Conjugate the verb in the correct form  
   i) Fill in the blanks with the partitive article  
   j) Fill in the blanks with ‘articles contractés’

**Textbook recommended:**  
**1st Term**  


**2nd Term**  


**Bibliography**  
2) **Mauger, G.** ‘Cours de langue et de civilisation françaises 1’, Hachette, 1956

**Reference**  
1) Dictionnaire bilingue (français-anglais, anglais-français) (Oxford / Hachette)  