

Oxford Revise | AQA German Foundation | Update

Since publication of the *Oxford Revise AQA GCSE German Foundation* revision guide, the examination board AQA have made some changes to the GCSE French exam specification. The following chart gives you guidance to support you in your 2026 exams in light of these updates.

What has AQA changed	Oxford Revise Page(s)	What you need to know
<p>You now need to know that some verbs are used with <i>zu</i> + infinitive.</p> <p><i>(Spec ref: 3.2.1.2 Grammar)</i></p>	28, 42, 56, 153	<p>Some verbs are used with <i>zu</i>+ the infinitive of another verb at the end of the clause.</p> <p>For example, <i>versuchen</i> (to try to) <i>hoffen</i> (to hope to) and <i>beginnen</i> (to begin, start to).</p> <p><i>Ich versuche auch, keine Cola zu trinken.</i> I also try not to drink cola.</p> <p><i>Ich hoffe auch, tauchen zu lernen.</i> I also hope to learn to dive.</p> <p><i>Ich beginne jetzt, an meine Zukunft zu denken.</i> I'm now beginning to think about my future.</p>
<p>The infinitive constructions <i>um...zu...</i> (in order to), <i>ohne...zu...</i> (without doing) and <i>statt...zu...</i> (instead of doing) have been added the Foundation specification.</p>	29, 33, 153	<p>The expressions <i>um...zu...</i> (in order to), <i>ohne...zu...</i> (without doing), and <i>statt...zu...</i> (instead of doing) are used with an infinitive at the end of the clause. A comma is used before <i>um/ohne/statt</i> unless the infinitive clause starts the sentence.</p>

<p>(Spec ref: 3.2.1.2 Grammar)</p>		<p>um...zu... <i>Jetzt gehe ich laufen, um gesünder zu sein.</i> Now I go running in order to be healthier.</p> <p>ohne...zu... <i>Ich musste ins Bett gehen, ohne etwas zu essen.</i> I had to go to bed without eating anything.</p> <p>statt...zu... <i>Ich trinke mehr Wasser, statt Cola zu kaufen.</i> I drink more water instead of buying cola.</p>
<p>The formation of dative plural nouns is now required.</p> <p>(Spec ref: 3.2.1.1 Grammar)</p>	<p>124</p>	<p>You now need to be aware that, when a noun is used in the dative plural form, an 'n' is added to the end of the noun, if it does not already end in 'n'.</p> <p>For example: <i>Ich werde mit meinen Freunden Tennis spielen.</i> I will play tennis with my friends. <i>Sie bekommt schöne Geschenke von ihren Freundinnen.</i> She gets lovely presents from her friends.</p>
<p><i>Geboren</i> (born), previously included as an adjective, is now included for use with an auxiliary verb.</p> <p>(Spec ref: Appendix 2 Vocabulary)</p>	<p>20, 22, 23,27</p>	<p>Make sure that you know <i>geboren</i> (born). You now need to know how to use the perfect tense structure <i>Ich bin ... geboren</i>/ I was born, and to recognise and use it in other forms.</p>

		<p>For example: <i>Wo bist du geboren?</i> Where were you born? <i>Ich bin in Berlin geboren.</i> I was born in Berlin. <i>Ich bin in der Schweiz geboren.</i> I was born in Switzerland.</p>
<p>The reflexive verb <i>sich fühlen</i> (to feel) has been added to AQA's set vocabulary list. <i>(Spec ref: Appendix 2 Vocabulary)</i></p>	25, 26, 27, 140	<p>You need to know the reflexive verb <i>sich fühlen</i> (to feel). It follows the pattern of the other reflexive verbs. Here are some examples: <i>Man fühlt sich nie allein.</i> You/We never feel alone <i>Ich fühle mich krank.</i> I sometimes feel alone.</p>
<p><i>Verboten</i> (forbidden, banned), previously included as an adjective, is now included for use with an auxiliary verb. <i>(Spec ref: Appendix 2 Vocabulary)</i></p>	38, 41, 145	<p>Make sure that you know that <i>verboten</i> ('forbidden / banned') can be used not only as an adjective, but also it may be used as the past participle of the verb <i>verbieten</i> – to forbid/ban. Use <i>verboten</i> in this way to say that someone has forbidden/banned something. For example: <i>Die Direktorin hat das Rauchen verboten.</i> The headteacher has banned smoking.</p>
<p><i>Geöffnet</i> (open) and <i>geschlossen</i> (closed) are now included as adjectives as well as past participles. <i>(Spec ref: Appendix 2 Vocabulary)</i></p>	57, 61, 109	<p>You need to know that <i>geöffnet</i> – open and <i>geschlossen</i> – closed/shut can be used as adjectives as well as in the form of the past participles of <i>öffnen</i> – to open and <i>schließen</i> – to close/shut. For example: <i>Das Kunstmuseum war letzte Woche geschlossen, aber wird am Samstag geöffnet sein.</i> The art gallery was closed last week but will be open on Saturday.</p>

<p><i>Gebrochen</i> (broken) is now included as an adjective as well as a past participle. (Spec ref: Appendix 2 Vocabulary)</p>	<p>92, 94, 95</p>	<p>You need to be aware that <i>gebrochen</i> (broken) can be used as an adjective as well as in the form of the past participle of the verb <i>brechen</i> (to break).</p> <p>For example: <i>Mein Handy ist gebrochen.</i> My mobile is broken. <i>Die Kamera ist gebrochen.</i> The camera is broken.</p>
<p><i>Verloren</i> (lost) is now listed as an adjective as well as a past participle. (Spec ref: Appendix 2 Vocabulary)</p>	<p>100, 102</p>	<p>You need to be aware that <i>verloren</i> (lost) can be used as an adjective as well as in the form of the past participle of the verb <i>verlieren</i> (to lose).</p> <p>For example: <i>Viele Tierarten sind jetzt verloren.</i> Many animal species are now lost.</p> <p><i>In allen Zeitungen liest man viel über verlorene Tierarten.</i> In every paper you read a lot about lost animal species.</p>
<p>Words which have more than one meaning or which function as more than one part of speech will not be separately listed where their meaning is obvious. (Spec ref: 3.3.1 Vocabulary)</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>Make sure that you know that some words on the vocabulary list can be used in more than one way. Such words will not be separately listed when their meaning remains clear.</p> <p>For example: The verb <i>lesen</i> to read and the noun <i>das Lesen</i> reading.</p>

<p>Students need to understand how the meaning of core words on the prescribed vocabulary list can be changed, often by the addition of certain prefixes and suffixes.</p> <p>Previously, these word formation rules only applied to the Reading paper. Now, they can be used in other papers as long as the original base word is clearly recognisable in the new word formed.</p> <p>Some words have been removed from the set vocabulary list and the base forms added instead. This is because the derived forms can be tested using the word formation rules.</p> <p><i>(Spec ref: 3.2 Grammar; 3.2.1.6 Derivational morphology)</i></p>	<p>155</p>	<p>You need to be aware that in any part of the exam, not just in the Reading papers, you may encounter or use words which do not appear on the vocabulary list.</p> <p>Such words are derived from a basic word form which is on the vocabulary list. Meanings are often, but not exclusively, changed by the addition of a prefix or suffix.</p> <p>For example:</p> <p>With prefixes <i>ungeduldig</i> impatient <i>Mein Lieblingessen</i> my favourite meal</p> <p>With suffixes <i>zweite</i> second <i>zwanzigste</i> twentieth</p>
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