

Tips and advice on IGCSE FLE

To write a well-structured essay for your FLE lesson can be challenging sometimes. But with these tips you can improve your writing.

1. **Improve your vocabulary.**

As we all know improving your vocabulary skills is necessary to write essays that can leave a lasting impression. You should try not to repeat words too much when you write, so having a range of words to choose from will help you with that. But using too many complex words can make your work feel overworked and it won't be easy to read.

2. **Structure of your sentences well.**

Structure of your writing can range from the structure of your sentences to the structure of your paragraphs. Your sentences shouldn't be short choppy sentences as they won't connect well with each other, but sentences that are too long will look visually intimidating for the reader and will be harder to understand. So you should mix up between longer and shorter sentences.

3. **Write your introduction and conclusion well.**

Your introductions are like hooks for your readers. A good introduction will convey a lot of information to your readers, such as your topic and its importance. To do that you need to provide background context and your opinion on it, and then write sentence to smoothly transition to the main points. Rhetoric questions are good for your introduction because later when you are writing your conclusion you can answer it.

Conclusions allow you to make a good impression and end your writing on a positive note. To write high quality conclusions you need to reinforce your opinions on the subject, wrap everything up by tying it together, and with the closing sentence you can leave your reader with something to think about.

4. **Read books**

Although you're tired of your teachers telling you this since the day you have started learning English I do need to repeat it once more: read books. They help you improve on all the above mentioned aspects. You can read your favourite books, although reading books with complex vocabulary is recommended. The important thing is to enjoy the experience, you can even listen to audiobooks if reading seems boring and tiring.

Even if you are good at writing FLE exams need a specific way of answering some questions. The exam consists of:

- Paper 1- Reading
Example: https://dynamicpapers.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/0500_s23_qp_13.pdf
- Paper 2- Directed writing and Composition
Example: https://dynamicpapers.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/0500_s23_qp_21.pdf

The paper tests the following assessment objectives:

- W1 articulate experience and express what is thought, felt and imagined
- W2 organise and structure ideas and opinions for deliberate effect
- W3 use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures appropriate to context

- W4 use register appropriate to context
- W5 make accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- R1 demonstrate understanding of explicit meanings
- R2 demonstrate understanding of implicit meanings and attitudes
- R3 analyse, evaluate and develop facts, ideas and opinions, using appropriate support from the text
- R4 demonstrate understanding of how writers achieve effects and influence readers.
- R5 select and use information for specific purposes.

Identifying and answering correctly to command words are important when giving your exam. These are the command words used in FLE:

- **Describe** state the points of a topic / give characteristics and main features
- **Explain** set out purposes or reasons / make the relationships between things evident / provide why and/or how and support with relevant evidence
- **Give** produce an answer from a given source or recall/memory
- **Identify** name/select/recognize

If you need a more detailed version on how your papers are assigned:

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/Images/635234-2024-2026-syllabus.pdf>

Revision for FLE exam:

<https://youtu.be/1F9W5M3iEyU?feature=shared>

If you need any help you can contact me at:

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