



ABINGDON

From MFL Coordinator: Alexandra Cardinal von Widdern

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To 5th year parents / guardians

Re: Supporting your son in his language mock orals

As you will have noticed from the school's coursework and exam dates, your son's Modern Languages mock oral exam will take place in the week commencing Monday 27 November for French and in the week commencing Monday 4 December for Spanish and German.

Students have regular weekly slots with the assistant to practise and many lessons are also devoted to speaking.

Many boys have used their half term holidays and recent homeworks to revise for their orals but others are very far behind. **You do not need to be a linguist to support your son.**

The exam consists of three parts: two role plays (unseen), their presentation and follow-up questions (same as the summer exam) and topic questions on each of the units the students have covered.

You can help your son by listening to his presentation and highlighting on a paper copy where he hesitates or omits language. You can then ask him the follow up questions (ideally you will mix up the order) and give him feedback on the fluency and quantity of his responses, which should be extended to include descriptive detail, opinions and justifications. Furthermore, all languages have a catalogue of topic questions for which boys have plenty of help (depending on the subject, for example, recordings of questions and model answers, booklets with useful vocab and sentences starters etc). Again, you can ask these questions and give your son feedback on the quantity and fluency of his extended responses.

Should gaps in comprehension and knowledge of responses appear, it would be helpful if you could help your son identify regular slots in which to catch up and revise at home.

Please do not hesitate to contact your son's teacher should you have any questions regarding the oral exam that your son cannot answer.

Yours sincerely

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