

FR113 Oral Exam (Deux Mondes, 6th edition)

When?

- There are 3 days devoted entirely to the oral exam towards the end of the quarter (see syllabus for exact dates). Each student will be given the day and time s/he must come to class. During the 3-day exam period, you need only come on your assigned day and time. You do not need to come on the other days of that period.
- Every effort will be made to fit everyone in during normal class time. However, depending on the size of the class, the instructor might have to make appointments with individual students outside the normal class time/room.
- Once a day and time have been given to you, you are required to come on that day at that time.

Lateness: Students who arrive late will be penalized 5 points.

Absences: If you are absent for an oral exam and your documentation for your absence satisfies your instructor, you will be granted a make-up. If your documentation does not satisfy the instructor, you will still be allowed the make-up but your score will be reduced by 15 points.

Where?

In the normal classroom unless otherwise specified.

How long?

The oral exam will last 5-7 minutes.

How much is it worth?

The oral exam is worth 10% of your grade in FR113. You will be graded on a variety of criteria depending on the parts but for each part you will be graded not on what a native French speaker would produce but on what a FR113 student is supposed to be able to produce.

How to succeed?

1. Class time is your practice time: be very attentive and volunteer often.
2. It is highly recommended that you practice the oral exam with a partner. Not only will it help you study better, but it will also make it more enjoyable.
3. Listen to the audio parts many times!
4. Start working on this EARLY in the quarter!!

Important:

- The oral exam will be conducted entirely in French. Once the exam begins, it is in your best interest to use only French.
- No notes are allowed.
- Your instructor might record your oral exam with a tape recorder/microphone.
- Chewing gum while taking an oral exam is a bad idea.

The speaking exam will consist of four small parts.

Part I (10%):

- You will be asked to conjugate one verb in the present subjunctive.
- Your instructor will have cards with verbs and will pick 1 card at random for you. The card will ONLY show the infinitive. You will have to recite the verb from memory.
- You will be graded on correctness of conjugation and pronunciation (*liaisons* do count!): typically - 1 point for EACH mistake.
- Here is a list of all the verbs that you need to be able to conjugate in the present subjunctive: *parler, finir, vendre, écrire, faire, aller, boire, prendre, avoir, être, pouvoir, savoir, venir*
- All these verbs are conjugated online at this address: <http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~moretti/FR113-verbs.html>

Sample card:

Conjuguez au subjonctif présent:

venir

Part II (10%):

- You will be asked to read the text below. All students will read that same text given below (this is not a sample -- this is the real text you will read, exactly as you will see it in the oral exam).

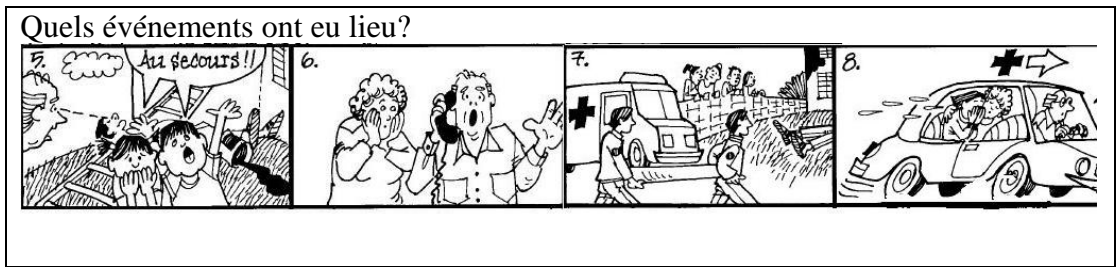
Un roi et une reine qui avaient des problèmes pour avoir des enfants sont vraiment heureux quand, finalement, la petite Aurore est née. Ils ont invité tout le monde au château pour honorer cette naissance. Une vieille sorcière, qu'on avait oublié d'inviter, est venue à la fête. Elle a annoncé que la princesse se piquera le doigt à un fuseau et en mourra.

- You will be graded on pronunciation (*liaisons* do count!): typically - 1 point for EACH mistake.
- To practice this part, go to this site: <http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~moretti/FR113-text.mp3>

Part III (20%):

- On the day of the exam, your instructor will have 6 cards each having one cartoon strip of 4 frames (all cartoons come from your textbook: see below for complete list).
- Your instructor will pick 1 card at random.
- You will have to describe each frame with one complete sentence, paying attention to the question (and tense) you are asked.
- Here is a list of all the questions/stories that you need to prepare in your textbook:
 1. *Racontez le voyage de Julien. Qu'est-ce qu'il a fait?* ("Julien n'a pas de chance" page 324)
 2. *Quels événements ont eu lieu?* ("Une mauvaise expérience" page 387)
- You will be graded on the correctness and richness of your French, and your pronunciation.

Sample strip:



Part IV (60%):

- You will be asked to answer questions about the material covered in class.
- You will be graded on your understanding of the questions asked, the fluency and accuracy of your answers, the correctness and richness of your French and your pronunciation.

Possible topics of discussion:

1. The environment. The problems/solutions. What you do/do not do to help protect it, etc.
2. Jobs you had. Your future career. Your future life after college.
3. Travels you have taken.
4. Your car.
5. Technology and you. Television, films, computers.
6. The news. Commercials on TV. Movies vs. DVDs, etc.
7. Your health.
8. etc.