



School Subjects and Classroom Objects in Foreign Languages

KS2 MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Ages 9-12 🕒 3 min read

Why Learn Subject and Classroom Words?

When you learn a foreign language, one of the first things you need to know is how to talk about school. Whether you're speaking **French**, **Spanish**, **German**, or another language, knowing the names of your **subjects** and the objects around your **classroom** is super useful. Imagine moving to a new country — you'd need to tell people what classes you take and ask for a pencil!

Learning these words helps you understand how languages describe the world around us. Each language groups ideas differently, and that's what makes learning languages fun and interesting.

Common School Subjects Around the World

In **French**, you might study **mathématiques** (maths), **anglais** (English), **sciences** (science), **histoire** (history), and **éducation physique** (PE). In **Spanish**, these become **matemáticas**, **inglés**, **ciencias**, **historia**, and **educación física**. **German** students learn **Mathematik**, **Englisch**, **Naturwissenschaften** (science), **Geschichte** (history), and **Sportunterricht** (PE).

Think of it like learning a new game — every country has the same subjects to teach, but they use different names, just like how chess is called **ajedrez** in Spanish and **Schach** in German.

Classroom Objects Have Different Names Too

Your **classroom** is full of objects with special names in each language. A **desk** is a **bureau** in French, a **escritorio** in Spanish, and a **Schreibtisch** in German. A **pencil** is a **crayon** in French (though that means something different in English!), a **lápiz** in Spanish, and a **Bleistift** in German.

Other important classroom words include: **book** (**livre**, **libro**, **Buch**), **pen** (**stylo**, **bolígrafo**, **Kugelschreiber**), **paper** (**papier**, **papel**, **Papier**), and **chair** (**chaise**,

silla, Stuhl).

Think of it like different families having different names for the same thing — your mum might call you by your full name, your dad might use a nickname, and your friends might call you something else. The object is the same; only the name changes.

Why Does This Matter?

Learning **subject names** and **classroom vocabulary** is the foundation of speaking any foreign language. When you can name the world around you, you feel more **confident** using that language. Plus, these are words you'll use every single day at school, so practising them makes real sense. Soon, you might even think about your lessons in another language!