

# ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

## Exam Board: CIE

For students who are developing their English proficiency towards B2 Upper Intermediate level

- develop learners' ability to use English effectively for the purpose of practical communication
- form a solid foundation for the skills required for further study or employment using English as the medium
- develop learners' awareness of the nature of language and language-learning skills
- promote learners' personal development

## Assessment method

- 60% Examination: Reading and Writing
- 20% Examination: Listening
- 20%: Speaking

## Length of examination

- Reading and Writing: 2 hours
- Listening: 50 minutes
- Speaking: 10-15 minutes

## Breakdown of units

### Reading and Writing Examination

Six exercises testing a range of reading and writing skills

- identifying and selecting relevant information
- understanding ideas, opinions and attitudes
- showing understanding of the connections between ideas, opinions and attitudes
- understanding what is implied but not directly stated, e.g. gist, writer's purpose, intention and feelings
- communicating information/ideas/opinions clearly, accurately and effectively
- organising ideas into coherent paragraphs using a range of appropriate linking devices
- using a range of grammatical structures and vocabulary accurately and effectively
- showing control of punctuation and spelling
- using appropriate register and style/format for the given purpose and audience

### Listening

Candidates listen to several short extracts and longer texts, and complete a range of task types, including short-answer questions, gap filling, matching, multiple choice and note making.

- identifying and selecting relevant information
- understanding ideas, opinions and attitudes
- showing understanding of the connections between ideas, opinions and attitudes
- understanding what is implied but not directly stated, e.g. gist, speaker's purpose, intention and feeling

### Speaking

Following a 2–3 minute warm-up conversation, candidates engage in a 6–9 minute discussion with the examiner on a given topic.

- communicating ideas/opinions clearly, accurately and effectively
- developing responses and link ideas using a range of appropriate linking devices
- using a range of grammatical structures and vocabulary accurately and effectively
- showing control of pronunciation and intonation patterns
- engaging in a conversation and contribute effectively to help move the conversation forward

### Overlap with other subjects

This course will help students develop the essential language, communication and academic skills they need in order to progress, succeed and reach their full potential in other subjects taught through the English medium and to make the most of opportunities at the college and beyond.

### Teaching Staff

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