

English for Speakers of Other Languages

Cambridge Skills for Life ESOL examinations
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You should do this course if ...

...you have recently arrived in this country, English is not your first language and you are studying one of the college courses full time.

This course is intended for second language speakers of English who need extra help with their English in order to get the most from their mainstream courses and to improve their chances of success at Woking College.

The course will prepare you for the Cambridge ESOL Skills for Life examinations. These are useful for people living and working in the UK and they are recognised by British employers and colleges. There are five levels: Entry 1, Entry 2, Entry 3, Level 1 and Level 2. These levels are part of the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) for education in the UK. The following table shows how Skills for Life fits into the NQF.

Skills you will develop on this course

You will practise the spoken English necessary to communicate with your English speaking class mates, with your teachers, and in order to give oral presentations in class and participate effectively in group work. You will have help improving your pronunciation so that other students and teachers will be able to understand you.

Since a large part of your time spent in your subject classes will involve listening to the teachers and other students your ESOL teacher will give you practise in developing your listening skills.

This will be the chance for you to practise and improve speaking and listening skills in the supportive environment of an ESOL class.

ESOL Skills for Life	National Qualifications Framework (UK)	Common European Framework
Level 2	National Vocational Qualification Level 2 (GCSE A* - C)	C1
Level 1	National Vocational Qualification Level 1 (GCSE D - E)	B2
Entry 3	Entry Level	B1
Entry 1-2		A1 - A2

ESOL

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How will you learn?

To develop your confidence, fluency and accuracy when speaking you will take part in class discussions, small group and pair work and from time to time you will have the opportunity to give class presentations. You will also play language games and activities.

You will read interesting and thought provoking news articles and other texts to stimulate discussion and improve your reading, with a variety of exercises designed to develop your reading skills.

To practise your writing, grammar, spelling and punctuation you will have written exercises and writing frames to help you. Regular weekly homework will be a very important part of the course. You will have the opportunity to borrow graded readers from the library and to use the internet, interactive and IT resources as appropriate.

Your teacher will tell you which text book you will need to buy.

Assessment and Exams

You can sit the Cambridge ESOL Skills for Life examinations separately. There are three 'modes': Reading, Writing, and Speaking and Listening. You can take different modes at different levels. For example, you could take Speaking and Listening at Level 2 but Writing at Level 1. You will receive a certificate for each mode you pass. When you pass three modes at one level you will receive an 'over-arching' certificate for that level. If you fail a mode you can re-take it. All Cambridge exams are assessed by external examiners.

Entry Requirements

When you enrol for a course at the college you will spend at least half an hour taking an ESOL assessment which will include speaking, reading and writing. You will then be placed in an ESOL group which best suits your level of spoken and written English