

SECOND LANGUAGE ENGLISH (Core)

Examination Board: Cambridge International Examinations (CIE)

Assessment Pattern: Candidates who have followed the Core curriculum and take the relevant papers are eligible for the award of grades C to G only. Candidates who have followed the Extended curriculum are eligible for the award of grades A* to E only. In addition to an obligatory oral exam, the papers for assessment are as follows:

CORE	Paper 1: (1 1/2 hours) Reading and Writing (70%) Paper 3: (1/2 hour) Listening (15%) Paper 5: Speaking (15%)
EXTENDED	Paper 2: (2 hours) Reading and Writing (70%) Paper 4: (3/4 hour) Listening (15%) Paper 5: Speaking (15%)

Grades available	Core	C to G
	Extended	A* to E

Course Description: It is presumed that most candidates for English as a Second Language will be studying the language in order to promote their educational or employment prospects. The rationale for English as a Second Language is based on the widespread use of English throughout the world, as the medium of instruction within educational establishments and as the language of commerce and entertainment. The subject matter of the examination material will reflect this varied international perspective. However, it will strive to be “culture-fair” rather than “culture-free”, and will use authentic or “semi-authentic” material from a range of sources.

Candidates will be expected to understand a wider range of social registers and styles than they can produce. They will be expected to communicate appropriately within formal and semi-formal relationships.

The topics selected will relate to the interests and needs of the candidates in using English as a Second Language, e.g. education, the world of work, current affairs, health and welfare, travel and school affairs.

The kinds of settings to be used will be the ones that candidates are likely to encounter, e.g. in dealings with official and semi-official bodies, in studying for academic or occupational purposes, in places of work or in using public services.

For further information see: Mrs J Stone (HOD – ESL Department)