

iPSLE

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

For Examination from 2018

PURPOSE

The purpose of the English Language Examination is to assess the candidates' competence in the English Language.

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

Candidates should be able to:

In Paper 1 (Writing)

- write effectively in internationally acceptable English to communicate ideas
- write legibly, coherently and cohesively
- select relevant ideas, and an appropriate focus and format to write the target text
- demonstrate the correct use of grammar, spelling and punctuation, and the appropriate use of vocabulary

In Paper 2 (Language Use and Comprehension)

- demonstrate the ability to read and understand a range of texts and use language accurately
- demonstrate the correct use of grammar, spelling and punctuation, and the appropriate use of vocabulary in given contexts
- construct meaning, make predictions, infer and draw conclusions using text and language features, and contextual clues
- follow the development of ideas in a text
- give reasons to support an opinion based on a given text

In Paper 3 (Listening Comprehension)

- listen to a variety of spoken texts and demonstrate understanding of the content at the literal and inferential levels
- identify main ideas and recall details
- infer and draw conclusions

In Paper 4 (Oral Communication)

- read a passage with good pronunciation and clear articulation
- use appropriate rhythm and stress to achieve a well-paced, fluent reading of a passage
- read with appropriate variation of pitch and tone in order to convey the information, ideas and feelings in a passage
- use a range of appropriate vocabulary and structures
- give a personal response
- express oneself clearly and interact with the examiner

EXAMINATION FORMAT

Candidates will be assessed in the following areas:

PAPER		ITEM TYPE	NO. OF ITEMS	WEIGHTING	DURATION
1	Writing	OE	1	23.5 %	50 min
2	Language Use and Comprehension	OE / MCQ	80	55.9%	1 h 50 min
3	Listening Comprehension	MCQ	15	8.8%	about 25 min
4	Oral Communication	OE	2	11.8%	about 8 min (3 min preparation time; about 5 min examination time)
Total			98	100%	

Paper 1 (Writing)

Candidates will be required to write a composition of at least 150 words on one of two given topics: a piece of narrative writing based on a pictorial stimulus or an account of a given situation.

Paper 2 (Language Use and Comprehension)

Candidates will be assessed on their ability to use language correctly and to comprehend textual information.

Paper 3 (Listening Comprehension)

Candidates will be assessed on their ability to understand spoken English. The texts may be in the form of news items, announcements, advertisements, instructions, conversations, telephone conversations, speeches and stories.

Paper 4 (Oral Communication)

Reading Aloud: Candidates will be assessed on their ability to pronounce and articulate words clearly, as well as their ability to read fluently with appropriate expression and rhythm.

Conversation: Candidates will be assessed on their ability to converse with the examiner on a given topic.