

English Language

Singapore-Cambridge General Certificate of Education Normal (Technical) Level (2020)

(Syllabus 1195)

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AIMS OF TEACHING SYLLABUS

By the end of their Secondary education, pupils will be able to achieve functional fluency in English as a result of their development in the following areas:

1. **Listen, read and view** critically and with accuracy and understanding a wide range of literary and informational/functional texts from print and non-print sources.
2. **Speak, write and represent** in internationally acceptable English (Standard English) that is grammatical, fluent, mutually intelligible and appropriate for different purposes, audiences, contexts and cultures.
3. **Understand and use internationally acceptable English (Standard English) grammar and vocabulary** accurately and appropriately as well as understand how speakers/writers put words together and use language to communicate meaning.

These aims, taken from *English Language Syllabus 2010: Primary (Foundation) & Secondary (Normal [Technical])*, p.10, form the broad basis of a course of study; they may not all be translated into Assessment Objectives for formal examination.

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

In this English Language examination, candidates will be assessed on their ability to:

- speak and write in internationally acceptable English
- speak and write clearly, relevantly and coherently with an awareness of purpose, audience and context
- use correct grammar, punctuation and spelling
- speak and write using appropriate and varied vocabulary
- show understanding of a variety of written, spoken and visual texts at different levels of comprehension
- use contextual clues to fill in missing words or information in a given text
- edit language errors in a given text
- organise and present ideas and information using accurate language
- read aloud a given text with accurate pronunciation, clear articulation and appropriate voice qualities, i.e. pace, volume, tone and stress.

SCHEME OF ASSESSMENT

Paper	Description	Marks	Weighting (%)	Duration
1	<p>Writing</p> <p><u>Section A: Functional Tasks</u></p> <p>Part 1: Form Filling Candidates fill in a form based on given information. (10)</p> <p>Part 2: Functional Writing Candidates write about 80 words based on the context provided in Part 1. (20)</p> <p><u>Section B: Guided Writing</u> Candidates write a text of at least 180 words. A stimulus text, which may include visuals, will be provided. (30)</p>	60	30.0	1 hour 15 minutes
2	<p>Language Use and Comprehension</p> <p><u>Section A: Language Use</u></p> <p>Part 1: Editing Candidates edit grammatical errors in a given text. (10)</p> <p>Part 2: Language in Spoken Context Candidates complete a transcript of a spoken text. (10)</p> <p>Part 3: Modified Cloze I Candidates complete a cloze passage testing vocabulary. (10)</p> <p>Part 4: Modified Cloze II Candidates complete a cloze passage testing grammar. (10)</p> <p><u>Section B: Reading Comprehension</u></p> <p>Part 5: Comprehension I Candidates answer questions on an informational text. (10)</p> <p>Part 6: Comprehension II Candidates answer questions on a text with visuals. (30)</p>	80	40.0	1 hour 20 minutes
3	<p>Listening Candidates complete a variety of listening tasks.</p>	20	10.0	About 45 minutes
4	<p>Oral Communication The two parts in this paper are thematically linked.</p> <p><u>Part 1: Reading Aloud</u> Candidates read aloud a short text, presented on a computer screen. (15)</p> <p><u>Part 2: Spoken Interaction</u> Candidates engage in a discussion with the Examiners on a topic based on a visual stimulus, in the form of a video clip. (25)</p>	40	20.0	About 20 minutes (including 10 minutes of preparation time)
Total		200	100.0	

PAPER DESCRIPTION

Candidates are required to sit all four papers.

Paper 1: Writing [60 marks]

Duration of Paper 1: 1 hour 15 minutes

This paper comprises two sections.

Section A: Functional Tasks [30 marks]

Part 1: Form Filling (10 marks)

Candidates complete a form based on a given context. In addition to the context, candidates are to make use of the information provided in an informational text, e.g. a brochure, an advertisement or a notice, to complete the task.

Part 2: Functional Writing (20 marks)

Candidates write a functional piece of about 80 words, e.g. a letter of application, a note of excuse or an eye-witness account, in response to the context provided in Part 1.

Section B: Guided Writing [30 marks]

Candidates write a text of at least 180 words based on a given context which involves viewing a stimulus text. Candidates are required to write the text, e.g. a journal entry, a personal letter or an explanation, to suit the purpose, audience and context. Candidates will be guided to complete the task.

Paper 2: Language Use and Comprehension [80 marks]

Duration of Paper 2: 1 hour 20 minutes

This paper comprises two sections.

Section A: Language Use [40 marks]

Part 1: Editing (10 marks)

Candidates indicate whether each of the underlined words is incorrect or redundant in a text of about 150 words. For incorrect words, candidates provide the correct ones in the spaces provided. Spelling and punctuation will not be tested in this part.

Part 2: Language in Spoken Context (10 marks)

Candidates select their responses from given options to fill in the gaps in a transcript of a conversation.

Part 3: Modified Cloze I (10 marks)

Candidates complete a modified cloze passage testing vocabulary. Candidates select their responses from a list of 15 words to fill in the blanks.

Part 4: Modified Cloze II (10 marks)

Candidates complete a modified cloze passage testing grammar. Candidates are to use their own words to fill in the blanks.

Section B: Reading Comprehension [40 marks]

Part 5: Comprehension I (10 marks)

Candidates answer different types of questions, e.g. fill-in-the-blank, true-false and open-ended questions, on an informational text. The text may include visuals, such as charts, maps, tables and graphs.

Part 6: Comprehension II (30 marks)

Candidates read a text of about 600 words and answer a variety of questions. The text will be accompanied by visuals. Candidates also select from given options the meaning of five words as used in the text.

Paper 3: Listening [20 marks]

Approximate duration of Paper 3: 45 minutes

Listening (20 marks)

Candidates listen to a variety of spoken texts and complete a set of listening tasks comprising multiple-choice questions, matching and ordering. Spoken texts, such as conversations, speeches, announcements, reports and presentations of informational texts, may be included.

Paper 4: Oral Communication [40 marks]

Approximate duration of Paper 4: 20 minutes per candidate (including 10 minutes of preparation time)

This paper comprises two parts which are thematically linked.

Part 1: Reading Aloud (15 marks)

Candidates read aloud a text presented on a computer screen to demonstrate accurate pronunciation, clear articulation, and their ability to use voice qualities appropriate to the text's purpose, audience and context.

Part 2: Spoken Interaction (25 marks)

Candidates view a visual stimulus in the form of a video clip, which is thematically linked to the text in Part 1, in order to engage in a discussion with the Examiners.

The Oral Communication examination will be delivered via computer. During preparation, candidates may study the text and watch the video clip any number of times within the given ten minutes. During the examination, candidates will watch the video clip one more time before the discussion with the Examiners.