

IGCSE First Language English

2018 - 2019

What is IGCSE?

- International General Certificate of Secondary Education
- **First Language English (0500) option CS**
- **Exam board: CIE (Cambridge International Education)**
- A one year course in 2nde only- formal preparation January-May 2019
- Summative assessment
- Graded from A* - G

Two compulsory units:

Reading (Paper 2) : 50% of overall grade, 2 hour exam, May 2019, assessed externally
Candidates answer 3 questions based on 2 passages

Writing (Paper 3) : 50% of overall grade, 2 hour exam, May 2019, assessed externally
Candidates answer one question on a passage(s) and one composition task from a choice of 4 titles

Optional unit:

Speaking and Listening Test (component 5): separate certificate that does not count in the overall mark, graded from 1 – 5, assessed internally in March – April 2019

Who will take IGCSE?

- French Section students in 2nde
- Native speaking / bilingual students only
- Recommendation of English teacher based on language skills

Is there a textbook for students?

- **Collins Cambridge IGCSE English Student Book** (Revised edition) edited by Julia Burchell ISBN: 978-0007517053
- **Cambridge IGCSE First Language English Workbook** (fourth edition) by Marian Cox ISBN: 978-1107695771

Important dates for 2019:

- Registration in January (payment due by 23rd) NB Pre registration December 14th 2018
- Mock written exams in January / February
- Orals in March / April
- Withdrawals deadline: Thursday April 4th 2019 (no refund)
- Exams: first two weeks of May
- Results in August

Recognition of IGCSE post – Lycée

- Students must declare their IGCSE grade on all UCAS application forms
- IGCSE English First Language is widely recognised by UK universities
- **HOWEVER**, it is strongly advised that students check the specific requirements for each course by contacting the admissions office and checking the CIE website
<http://recognition.cie.org.uk/SearchRecognitionsResults.aspx?cnt=226&prv=&insme=&ins=HFE&CIGCSE=4&CIAS=&PreU=&CID=&PDQ=&GPR=&WQ=->

More information:

<http://www.cambridgeinternational.org/Images/357850-2019-syllabus.pdf>

CIE learner guide <http://www.cambridgeinternational.org/Images/163028-learner-guide-for-cambridge-igcse-first-language-english-0500-for-examination-from-2016-.pdf>

READING LIST

Improving fluency

- **GCSE English Writing Skills for the grade 9-1 course**, published by CGP (ISBN 978 1 84762 890 9)
- **English Grammar in Use** by Raymond Murphy (ISBN 978-1107539334)
- **Advanced Grammar in Use** by Martin Hewings (ISBN 978-1107539303)
- **Recycling Advanced English** by Clare West (ISBN 978-0521140737)
- BBC GCSE Bitesize for English Language
- British Council website
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/>
- Rosetta Stone software
- Duolingo app

Fiction and non-fiction

- **All My Sons / Death of A Salesman / A View from the Bridge** by Arthur Miller
- **Animal Farm / 1984** by George Orwell
- **Anita and Me** by Meera Syal
- Any books by Bill Bryson
- **Jane Eyre** by Charlotte Bronte
- **Lord of the Flies** by William Golding
- **Never Let Me Go** by Kazuo Ishiguro
- **Northanger Abbey** by Jane Austen
- **Of Mice and Men** by John Steinbeck
- **The Catcher in the Rye** by J.D. Salinger
- **The Circle** by Dave Eggers
- **The Giver** by Lois Lowry
- **The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole** series by Sue Townsend
- **To Kill a Mockingbird** by Harper Lee
- **Tsotsi** by Athol Fugard