

# Trinity Certificates in ESOL Skills for Life

# Entry 3 Syllabus

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# Introduction

## Welcome to the Trinity ESOL Skills for Life examination suite

The Trinity ESOL Skills for Life information pack is designed to provide details of all aspects of the examination provision, and is divided into separate booklets for each level plus a general introduction to the whole examination suite.

This syllabus is a working document which can be widely used in the classroom as well as in the examination. It is a very important document for teachers and learners.

Guidance is provided which is designed to assist teachers in preparing candidates for the examination and describes how it will be conducted mode by mode.

Additional supporting material is also included in the form of the Trinity ESOL Skills for Life video which provides a useful visual aid showing actual examples of the Speaking and Listening examinations at every level.

Thank you for your interest in Trinity examinations and we wish all those who enter them a positive and rewarding experience and, of course, every success.

### About this booklet

This booklet contains precise details as to the format and procedures of the examination at Entry 3. It also provides candidates and those preparing candidates with comprehensive coverage of the language requirements for this level and details as to how each task relates to the *Adult ESOL Core Curriculum* descriptors and individual component skills, knowledge and understanding.

The booklet is organised per mode as follows:

**Candidate profile**—describes what the candidate is expected to be able to do at the level. These profiles are taken from the *Adult ESOL Core Curriculum*.

Format—gives the content of the examination and gives details of examination phases and timings where applicable.

Procedure—describes the way in which the examination is conducted.

**Assessment**—gives general information on assessment and provides the Task-specific mark schemes which are used by the examiner to assess the candidate.

**Guidance**—offers advice on preparation for the examination including samples of tasks, key language items and communicative functions for this level, and gives actual examples of the kind of language which might be used by the candidate and the examiner.

#### 1. Candidate profile

In order to demonstrate ability at this level, candidates are expected to:

- speak to communicate information, feelings and opinions on familiar topics, using appropriate formality
- listen and respond to spoken language, including straightforward information and narratives, and follow straightforward explanations and instructions
- engage in discussion with one or more people in a familiar situation, making relevant points and responding to what others say to reach a shared understanding about familiar topics.

#### 2. Format

The examination consists of two components:

- an 8-minute one-to-one interview with a Trinity examiner
- a 10-minute discussion with 4 candidates, with a teacher acting as facilitator, observed by a Trinity examiner.

Component 1 consists of three tasks:

- exchange of information comparing people and places
- a narration of a simple story (factual or fictional)
- a role-play—giving personal information in a formal context.

Component 2 consists of one task:

• planning a social event.

#### 3. Procedure

The descriptions below explain how the Speaking and Listening examination is conducted task by task.

#### **Component 1**

#### Task 1—up to 3 minutes

The examiner and candidate exchange greetings.

The examiner introduces himself or herself and asks the candidate to describe and give opinions about a known person or place. Candidates can talk about family members, classmates, work colleagues or about places they have lived in, worked in or visited. The candidate needs to offer comparisons between people or places. The candidate then has to find out some information from the examiner concerning places they have spent time in or about people they know or have known. The examiner responds quite briefly but on one topic produces an extended turn. The candidate is expected to comment on the content of the examiner's responses.

The examiner brings the interaction to a close and introduces the second task.

#### Task 2—up to 2 minutes

The examiner asks the candidate to narrate a simple story. This can be a true story or one that the candidate has invented or a traditional or folk story. The examiner for most of the account listens and gives non-verbal encouragement. The main emphasis for assessment purposes is on the candidate's ability to speak clearly and to express statements of fact and descriptions clearly. The examiner should not interrupt but may need to offer support at times if the candidate is unable to sustain the narrative.

The examiner thanks the candidate and introduces the third task.

#### Task 3—up to 3 minutes

The examiner briefly sets up the role-play. This involves the candidate in being asked to provide personal information in a formal context. The possible scenarios will all be familiar to candidates, such as attending an interview at the Job Centre, registering at the local library or doctor's surgery, or speaking to a council official about accommodation or social services. The examiner is responsible for asking and responding to questions but both the examiner and candidate are responsible for maintaining the interaction which may require the candidate to ask for clarification. The candidate is offered support by the examiner if necessary.

#### **Component 2**

#### Task 1—up to 10 minutes

Wherever possible, four candidates who have already completed the interview with the examiner are asked to meet together to take the second component. They are accompanied by a teacher who acts as a facilitator. The brief for the facilitator is to set up the task and then allow the candidates to begin and maintain the interaction. The facilitator should, if necessary, encourage participation from all candidates and prevent any one candidate from monopolising the discussion. He or she should not participate in the actual discussion but can direct comment or requests for opinions to candidates to ensure equality of opportunity for making contributions to the discussion.

The examiner does not play any part in the interaction. He or she provides the facilitator with the actual discussion prompt immediately prior to the time of the group discussion. The examiner then finds a place to sit which is suitable to allow him or her to observe candidate behaviour as well as to listen to the interaction. Active listening can be shown by body language as well as by verbal signalling and the examiner notes this.

At Entry 3, the discussion centres on the planning of a social event which the candidates could feasibly attend. An appropriate event is selected by the examiner after he or she has interviewed the individual candidates. The event is selected with the composition of the discussion group in mind.

Possible events could be:

- a visit to a shopping venue
- a cinema visit
- a musical concert
- end of course party
- a religious festival
- a sporting fixture.

At the end of the discussion, the examiner indicates to the facilitator that the time is up. The facilitator closes the discussion.

The examiner thanks the candidates and facilitator and ends the examination.

#### 4. Assessment

Examiners make their assessments with reference to the Generic performance descriptors, as stated in the Introductions booklet, in combination with the Task-specific mark scheme provided overleaf. This details the actual performance and competence required for each particular Speaking and Listening task at Entry 3. The performance and competences are set out as in the *Adult ESOL Core Curriculum* either as general level descriptors or individual component skills, knowledge and understanding, whichever is more relevant to the actual task.

Speaking
and Listening
Task-specific
mark scheme

Component 1: Task 1—	Exchange of information comparing people and places
1. Speak to	Speak clearly to be heard and understood using appropriate speed, clarity and phrasing
communicate	Make requests, ask questions to obtain information in the familiar context of
	comparing people and places
	Express clearly statements of facts and give short comparative descriptions
2. Listen and	Use strategies to clarify and confirm understanding
respond	Respond to a range of questions about the topic Listen to and respond appropriately to other points of view
3. Accuracy and	Word order in complex sentences with one subordinate clause There has/have been
range of the key language items	A wide range of wh- questions
	Defining relative clauses
N.B. When assessing a candidate's performance in this criterion,	Markers to indicate contrast
examiners are required to come	Comparative and superlative adjectives and comparative structures
to a judgement on the balance of competence in the items listed	
using the Generic descriptors for	
guidance.	
Component 1: Task 2—	Narration of simple story either factual or fiction
1. Speak to	Speak clearly to be heard and understood
communicate	Express clearly statements of fact and short accounts
	Narrate events in the past
2. Accuracy, range	Word order in complex sentences
and appropriacy	Range of verbs plus - <i>ing</i>
of the key	Verbs plus infinitive
language items	Past continuous
N.B. (see above)	Simple past tense of regular and common irregular verbs with time markers
	Clauses joined with <i>and/but/or</i> Markers to structure spoken discourse
	Markers to indicate addition and sequence
Component 1. Task 3_	Role-play—Giving personal information in a formal context
	Speak clearly to be understood using appropriate speed, clarity and phrasing
1. Speak to communicate	Use formal language and register
communicate	Make requests and ask questions to obtain information in an unfamiliar context
	Express clearly statements of fact, giving personal information
2. Listen and respond	Use strategies to clarify and confirm understanding
	Word order in complex sentences with one subordinate clause
3. Accuracy, range and appropriacy	Infinitive of purpose
of the key	Wh- questions
language items	Present perfect with time phrases
N.B. (see above)	Wide range of adverbials
	Range of tenses describing past, present and future events
Component 2: Group di	scussion—Planning a social event
1. Engage in	Make contributions to the discussion that are relevant to the subject
discussion	Follow and understand the main points of the discussion
	Make suggestions, arrangements and plans with other people
	Respect the turn-taking rights of others
	Listen for and follow the gist; listen for detail Listen for an identify relevant and new information
	Listen to and respond appropriately to other points of view
	Question tags with appropriate tenses
2. Accuracy, range and appropriacy	Verb plus infinitive
of the key	Future simple verb forms
language items	Modals to express possibility
N.B. (see above)	Probability and certainty in the future
······,	Common phrasal verbs, modals for suggestions and advice
	Use of vague language
	l'd rather

### 5. Guidance

In order to ensure that candidates are fully prepared to take the examination, those responsible for teaching and preparing learners should ensure that they are fully conversant with the requirements of the examination, in terms of task requirements and the relevant skills and knowledge and the language of the level. Details of these are set out in this section and in the subsequent table.

The particular requirements are summarised below.

#### **Component 1**

#### Task 1—Exchange of information comparing people and places

The aim of this task is to replicate as closely as possible, within the constraints of the candidate's language competence, an authentic conversation of the type that might occur between two people on a first meeting. It is not therefore intended to be a question/answer interrogation but an exchange and as such involves the candidate in responding naturally to the examiner. This might take the form of verbal and non-verbal signals to show that he or she is listening with understanding. Normal patterns of turn-taking come into play and candidates need to be familiar with these, including such strategies as pausing, use of intonation and pitch, body language and so on.

In particular, candidates should be able to:

- exchange greetings
- introduce themselves
- make requests
- ask questions to obtain information about people and places
- make comparisons.

This is also an opportunity for candidates to demonstrate command of the relevant language of the level which here includes:

- comparative and superlative adjectives
- comparative structures
- *wh* questions.

Practice is also needed in listening to a variety of speakers producing extended turns.

#### Task 2—Narration of simple story either factual or fictional

This task provides the candidate with the opportunity to initiate and maintain a long turn. Before the examination, the candidate needs to prepare to narrate a story which can be fact or fiction for no more than two minutes. Timing is important and the candidate needs to consider how much material is required for a talk of this length and not over- or under-prepare. It should, however, be as spontaneous a delivery as possible and not a recital. The candidate may bring brief notes, of key words, into the examination room but he or she should not produce a full written text. This is also an opportunity for the candidate to demonstrate command of the relevant language of the level.

In particular, candidates should be able to:

- use a variety of past tense verbs, including past continuous
- structure the discourse with markers of sequence and addition.

#### Task 3—Role-play—Giving personal information in a formal context

The role-play allows for the introduction of a scenario which gives rise to a different range of language and functions. The candidate is expected to deal with slightly unfamiliar situations but not to act a part and the task is therefore part role-play, part simulation. It is the examiner who temporarily takes on a role, of a librarian or an interviewer etc., whilst the candidate needs to adapt the language used to the given situation. The candidate should practise similar activities and as well as initiating the questioning also respond to the information received from the examiner.

The candidate is expected to:

- take part in a role-play in a less familiar context
- make requests and ask questions to obtain information
- give personal information in a formal context
- make comments and give feedback.

#### Component 2—Planning a social event

In a small group discussion, as well as functional and linguistic competence, there are many other aspects of note. How are contributions initiated? How do the participants interrelate with each other? What effect does body language have on the discussion? How do participants take and give up turns? Learners need to practise such small group-work in which the teacher takes a back seat and allows learners to build up confidence in relating to each other without always going through the teacher as mediator.

The candidate is expected to:

- take part in a group discussion, respecting the conventions of turn-taking
- follow and understand the main points of the discussion
- offer appropriate contributions and respond to the contributions of others
- make suggestions, arrangements and plans with other people.

In addition to this booklet, there are various other resources available. See the *Adult ESOL Core Curriculum* Speaking and Listening section on pages 176–217. Another valuable resource is the DfES ESOL Skills for Life Teacher Reference File. For Entry 3, there are 8 units and an accompanying CD-Rom of relevant practice activities. The Trinity ESOL Skills for Life video supplied to every registered centre gives an example of a genuine examination at each level and will prove invaluable to centres in helping teachers to prepare candidates fully and appropriately.

#### Example of possible exchanges between examiner and candidate

The sample exchanges opposite show some ways in which examiners and candidates might express themselves during the different tasks. These are only examples, not models to be learned.

The samples are extracts which have been adapted from the Trinity ESOL Skills for Life video and reflect a secure pass performance.

mponent 1	Examiner	Candidate
		I live in Croydon. Croydon is a good town. There are lots of shops and lots of restaurants. You can buy everything there. I like Croydon
	Is Croydon the same as your town in Turkey?	No, it's different. Croydon is cleaner than Turkey and the people are more friendly. Transport in England is very good. What do you think about transport?
	Which college do you think has better facilities? Which environment do you like, Brighton or London?	I think this college has better facilities because they are providing a separate computer room, a free self-access room for students where they can do whatever they want and there's a common room here where you can join in and play pool and so on. Good question I like both
		I'm going to tell a story about a father and his son. Once upon a time, a father and his son were going on a donkey to some other place. This is a story of Pakistan where I am from. They were going from one city to another and both were sitting on the donkey and people saw them and said how cruel these two people are, they both are sitting on one donkey. The son said to the father the people are saying this. Why don't I get off and walk?

order to find out what kind of job you'd like. First of all, what kind of job are you looking for?

I'm looking for a job in administration ... this type of work ...

Candidate 1	Candidate 2	Candidate 3	Candidate 4	Component 2
What do you think? We should go out for a day tomorrow or next week.				Four candidates plan a day ou togethe
	Oh yeah, that's going to be cool. But where?			
But near the sea is not very		We can go to Brighton if the weather's nice. We must first of all check the weather.		
good because it's breezy and if the tide comes in, it's dangerous.				
5		l think it's not dangerous. There are some people who are responsible, who look after the people if there's any		
		problem with the water.		
			I think that's another reason to go to Brighton because the weather's nice.	
		Shall we go?	weather's flice.	
<i>I was thinking of going to a park or something like that.</i>				
	How can we go? By car, by train?			
Discussion continues.				

## Speaking and Listening table

The following table describes what the candidate is expected to do for Entry 3. It is linked specifically to the examination tasks. The notation used is the same as that used in the *Adult ESOL Core Curriculum*.

ors,	Basic s descrip	kills standards otor	Component skills	Knowledge and understanding	Indicative language and/or behaviour
	Sc/E3.1	Speak clearly to be heard and	1a use stress, intonation and pronunciation to be	<ul> <li>recognise unstressed vowels and be able to produce the schwa sound</li> </ul>	fath <u>er</u> , th <u>a</u> n
ing		understood using appropriate clarity, speed and	understood and make meaning clear	<ul> <li>show awareness of where stress falls in multi-syllable words, and place stress appropriately</li> </ul>	com <u>par</u> ison
phrasing		<ul> <li>be aware of the role of intonation in indicating feeling and attitude and in helping to make meaning clear</li> </ul>			
				<ul> <li>be aware of the need to pause between sense groups</li> </ul>	
			1b articulate the sounds of English to make meaning clear	<ul> <li>distinguish between phonemes to avoid ambiguity</li> </ul>	better, bitter
	Sc/E3.3	Make requests and ask questions	3a make requests	<ul> <li>use a range of modal verbs and other forms, suitable for asking for something</li> </ul>	Could you tell me?
		to obtain information in		<ul> <li>use a range of question words</li> </ul>	
		familiar and unfamiliar contexts	3b ask questions to obtain personal or factual information	<ul> <li>form both open and closed questions in a range of tenses, e.g. present perfect, present continuous, with appropriate intonation</li> </ul>	Have you been there? What are they doing there?
				<ul> <li>form alternative questions, including comparative questions, with awareness of the tendency for intonation to rise on the first alternative and fall on the second</li> </ul>	Which is better, the city or the countryside?
			3d ask for descriptions of people, places and things	<ul> <li>be able to request descriptions through direct questioning and more open ways of asking</li> </ul>	Is it possible for you to tell me about?
	Sc/E3.4	Express clearly statements of fact and give	4a express clearly statements of fact	<ul> <li>be able to form simple compound and complex sentences with appropriate word order</li> </ul>	
		short explanations, accounts and descriptions		<ul> <li>use with some accuracy suitable verb forms (particularly contracted forms) to make clear the time together with appropriate time markers</li> </ul>	They built many new buildings there last year.
				<ul> <li>use with some accuracy other grammatical forms suitable for the level</li> </ul>	
				<ul> <li>know that intonation normally falls on a statement</li> </ul>	

Compo	onent 1: Task 1 (co	ontinued)		
Basic s descrij	skills standards ptor	Component skills	Knowledge and understanding	Indicative language and/or behaviour
Sc/E3.4	(continued)	4b give personal information	<ul> <li>recognise direct and indirect requests for personal information, and understand the type and amount of detail required</li> </ul>	
			<ul> <li>be able to give specific information about time and place using prepositional phrases and subordinate clauses</li> </ul>	There are people living there these days who can't get a job.
			<ul> <li>be able to respond to a question and follow up the response with further relevant information or comment or with a reciprocal question</li> </ul>	l think she was very good. Did you?
		4f give a short description and make comparisons	<ul> <li>be able to use a number of adjectives, together with the comparative and superlative form</li> </ul>	It's the biggest city in the country.
			<ul> <li>be able to express similarity and contrast through the use of marker such as <i>but</i>, <i>however</i>, comparative structures such as <i>as as</i></li> </ul>	She's as tall as her mother
Lr/E3.4	Use strategies to clarify and confirm	4a clarify and confirm understanding through verbal and non-verbal	<ul> <li>use strategies to interrupt at appropriate points to ask for clarification</li> </ul>	Sorry, can I ask?
	understanding	means	<ul> <li>know non-linguistic ways of confirming understanding</li> </ul>	Nods, smiles
Lr/E3.5	Respond to a range of questions about familiar topics	5b respond to requests for information	<ul> <li>recognise a number of question types and understand the type and amount of detail required</li> </ul>	
Lr/E3.6	Listen to and respond appropriately to other points of view	6b listen to and respond appropriately to other points of view	<ul> <li>be able to pick out the main points made by another speaker and recognise his or her opinion</li> </ul>	
Compo	onent 1: Task 2—I	Narration of a simple sto	ry either factual or fictional	
Sc/E3.4	Express clearly statements of fact and give short explanations,	4a express clearly statements of fact	<ul> <li>use with some accuracy suitable verb forms (particularly contracted forms) to make clear the time together with appropriate time markers</li> </ul>	
	accounts and descriptions	4c narrate events in the past	<ul> <li>use a range of verb forms suitable for the level, particularly those which refer to past time, together with appropriate time markers</li> </ul>	
			<ul> <li>show understanding of the way a narrative is normally structured, with introduction development and conclusion and be able to indicate sequence of events</li> </ul>	

Compo	onent 1: Task 3—R	ole-play—Giving persor	nal information in a formal context	
Basic s descri	ikills standards ptor	Component skills	Knowledge and understanding	Indicative language and/or behaviour
Sc/E3.1	Speak clearly to be heard and understood using appropriate	1a use stress, intonation and pronunciation to be understood and make meaning clear	<ul> <li>be able to select appropriate words to carry stress and be able to utter the sentence, making the stress clear</li> </ul>	And did <u>you</u> see it?
	clarity, speed and phrasing	1b articulate the sounds of English to make meaning clear	<ul> <li>distinguish between phonemes to avoid ambiguity</li> </ul>	
Sc/E3.2	Use formal language and register when appropriate	2a use formal language and register when appropriate	<ul> <li>be aware of the need to adapt register according formality and use appropriate forms of address when greeting and leave-taking</li> </ul>	Good morning, sir. Please forgive me but I have to leave.
			<ul> <li>be aware of the need to adapt register according to speaker relationship</li> </ul>	
			<ul> <li>be aware of the need to adapt register to the seriousness of the situation</li> </ul>	l really can't understand how that happened.
Sc/E3.3	Make requests and ask questions to obtain	3a make requests	<ul> <li>understand the way register can vary according to the formality, speaker relationship or type of request</li> </ul>	May I add?
	information in familiar and unfamiliar contexts		<ul> <li>understand that it is often important for a pre-request to precede a request</li> </ul>	You said it before but could you repeat?
Sc/E3.4	Express clearly statements of fact	4a express clearly statements of fact		
	and give short accounts, explanations and descriptions	4b give personal information		
Lr/E3.3	Listen for and identify relevant information and new information	3b listen for relevant and new information in face-to-face situations	<ul> <li>know some of the linguistic devices that speakers can use to draw attention to their main point</li> </ul>	The main thing is
			<ul> <li>ask for clarification where necessary and confirm understanding</li> </ul>	May I just check?
Lr/E3.4	Use strategies to clarify and confirm understanding	4a clarify and confirm understanding through verbal and non-verbal means	<ul> <li>be aware of the need to summarise key points in certain circumstances in order to confirm understanding</li> </ul>	Right, so you said

Basic skills standards descriptor	Component skills	Knowledge and understanding	Indicative language and/or behaviour
Sd/E3.1 Make contributions to discussions that are relevant to	1a take part in social interaction	<ul> <li>be able to vary ways of greeting, leave-taking, offering, inviting etc. according to the relationship between speakers</li> </ul>	
the subject	1c express feelings, likes and dislikes	<ul> <li>use the -ing form as object of verbs expressing liking</li> </ul>	I love eating in restaurants.
		<ul> <li>use a range of adjectives and intensifiers for expressing feelings, with appropriate intonation</li> </ul>	I really like that place
		<ul> <li>be able to follow up a statement of liking or disliking, with reasons or explanation</li> </ul>	
	1d express views and opinions	<ul> <li>be able to use some phrases for introducing an opinion and know that it is not always necessary to use an introductory phrase</li> </ul>	In my view, A restaurant's a good idea
		<ul> <li>be able to use modal verbs and other forms to express future possibility</li> </ul>	We might go there later.
	1e make suggestions/ give advice	<ul> <li>use suitable phrases for making suggestions, giving advice, asking for advice and suggestions, accepting and rejecting advice and suggestions</li> </ul>	<i>Let's meet in the city centre. Shall we meet there?</i>
		<ul> <li>be aware of the importance of polite intonation with the above</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>be aware that, in rejecting advice and suggestions, it is often necessary to give a reason</li> </ul>	l don't think so—it will be to crowded.
	1f make arrangements/ make plans with other people	<ul> <li>be able to ask for and make suggestions, to accept or reject suggestions and to make offers</li> </ul>	I'll cook the main course.
		<ul> <li>understand and be able to follow a usual structure for this type of discourse, e.g. make a suggestion, reject with a reason, make an alternative suggestion, reach agreement, conclude</li> </ul>	
	1g relate to other speakers	<ul> <li>recognise the main points made by other speakers and make relevant response</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>be able to use non-verbal signalling to acknowledge other speakers' contributions and join in discussion</li> </ul>	Hand gestures etc.
		<ul> <li>be able to express agreement, partial agreement, disagreement or uncertainty</li> </ul>	I'm not really sure

Compo	onent 2 (continued	f)		
Basic s descrij	kills standards ptor	Component skills	Knowledge and understanding	Indicative language and/or behaviour
Sd/E3.2	Respect the turn-taking rights of others during	2a ask about people's feelings and opinions	<ul> <li>be able to form a range of different question types, including alternative questions and tag questions</li> </ul>	You agree, don't you?
derstanding discussions	aiscussions	2b understand the turn-taking process	<ul> <li>use appropriate language for offering a turn to another speaker</li> </ul>	No, you go first.
		<ul> <li>be able to recognise suitable points for interruption and use appropriate language for interrupting politely</li> </ul>	Can I join in?	
Lr/E3.3	Listen for and identify relevant information and	3b listen for relevant and new information in face-to-face situations	<ul> <li>know some of the linguistic devices used to draw attention to a main point, in informal interaction</li> </ul>	The main thing is
	new information from discussions		<ul> <li>understand how body language can be used to emphasise a point</li> </ul>	Leaning forward, tapping desk etc.
			<ul> <li>ask for clarification where necessary and confirm understanding</li> </ul>	May I just check?
Lr/E3.6	Listen to and respond appropriately to	6a recognise a variety of feelings expressed by another speaker		It's possibly the worst feeling Oh no. That's terrible.
	other points of view	6b listen to and respond appropriately to other points of view	<ul> <li>identify common structures/vocabulary used in expressing a variety of feelings/emotions</li> </ul>	
			<ul> <li>be able to respond appropriately to a range of feelings</li> </ul>	
			<ul> <li>be able to pick out the main point(s) made and recognise opinions</li> </ul>	
			<ul> <li>know how to indicate agreement, disagreement etc. and be able to add comment to another person's point</li> </ul>	Oh yes, I see but maybe we can
Lr/E3.7	Follow and understand the main points of	7a listen for the gist of a discussion	<ul> <li>understand that discussions can serve different purposes and be able to recognise them</li> </ul>	Discuss and reach a consensus of opinion and conclude a plan
	discussions		<ul> <li>identify opinions and/or factual information and identify common structures used in expressing opinions and facts</li> </ul>	Respond appropriately according to whether something is presented as a fact or opinion
		7c follow and participate in a discussion	<ul> <li>understand the vocabulary for expressing the key ideas associated with the topic and know words and phrases for giving an opinion about the topic</li> </ul>	
			<ul> <li>follow the interactive nature of the discussion</li> </ul>	Follow turns and participate

## Reading

# Reading

### 1. Candidate profile

In order to demonstrate ability at this level, candidates are expected to:

- read and understand short, straightforward texts on familiar topics accurately and independently
- read and obtain information from everyday sources.

#### 2. Format

The Reading mode takes the form of a formal examination paper lasting 60 minutes. The examination consists of three tasks, all of which must be undertaken.

The three tasks contain 20 test items:

Task 18 questionsTask 26 questionsTask 36 questions

The texts will be such text types as:

- forms and notes
- records and diagrams
- e-mails and letters
- narratives
- simple instructions
- short reports.
- The item types may be any of the following:
- cloze passage
- sentence completion
- table completion
- matching exercise
- multiple-choice item (one correct answer and two distractors).

#### 3. Procedure

Candidates must write their answers on the examination paper itself in the space/s indicated.

Candidates sit the examination at their own registered Trinity ESOL Skills for Life centre. The papers are sent out by Trinity's Head Office and centres administer the test under secure test conditions, according to the guidelines issued by Trinity, and using one or more invigilators to monitor the session.

Reading papers can be taken in the same session as Writing papers.

## 4. Marking

Test papers are returned to Trinity and are marked at Trinity's Head Office. Each item is awarded one mark. Therefore, the maximum possible number of marks is 20. The pass mark is 13.

#### 5. Guidance

In order to prepare candidates for the Reading paper, teachers are directed to the relevant section of the *Adult ESOL Core Curriculum*, pages 218–231 and to the DfES ESOL Skills for Life Teacher Reference File. The Trinity website also contains sample papers for teachers and candidates to see exactly what to expect and to gain useful practice. Go to the main website at www.trinitycollege.co.uk and follow the links to ESOL and then ESOL Skills for Life, then Sample Papers and then Entry 3 Reading. One sample of a Task 2 can be found below and following that, a table summarising task coverage. In all the tasks, each of the test items is linked to a specific component skill, knowledge and understanding item in the *Adult ESOL Core Curriculum*, thus ensuring complete coverage of all the standards. Candidates, therefore, need reading practice with a focus on word, sentence and text level.

## Reading

### Sample of Reading paper—Task 2

Read the following text and then answer the questions.

Index		
adjectives 94–102		
order of adjectives	94	
adjectives after verbs	95	
and adverbs	96	
comparatives	100	
superlatives	102	
adverbs		
and adjectives	97	
comparatives	101–2	
position of adverbs	106	
agree	54	
apologise (for)	60	
articles 69–77		
a/an	69–71	
a/an and the	72	
the + adjective	73	
the + nationality	73	
the + streets, buildings	77	

Index text adapted from English Grammar in Use by R Murphy

### Questions

- 9. Please circle the correct letter.
  - You will find this text
  - **A** in a dictionary
  - **B** at the back of a grammar book
  - **C** at the front of a grammar book
- 10. You would use this index to
- 11. Which entry can be found under two different headings?
- 12. Please circle the correct letter.
  - Which entry would follow on from 'articles' in the list?
  - A apostrophe
  - **B** auxiliary verbs
  - C ago

13. Which two entries are on the same page?

14. Which page gives information about the use of articles with street names?

## **Reading table**

The following table describes what the candidate is expected to do for Entry 3. It is linked specifically to the examination tasks. The notation used is the same as that used in the *Adult ESOL Core Curriculum*.

		chronological text	
Basic s descrij	skills standards ptor	Component skills	Knowledge and understanding
Rt/E3.1	Trace and understand the	how meaning is built up	<ul> <li>use a range of strategies to understand how meaning</li> <li>is built up in paragraphed text</li> </ul>
	main events of chronological, continuous	in chronological and explanatory texts of more than one	<ul> <li>recognise the common structure of paragraphs and how paragraphs link together to develop meaning</li> </ul>
	descriptive and explanatory texts of more than one paragraph	paragraph	<ul> <li>recognise the significance of organisational structure and the different uses of paragraphs to build up meaning in texts</li> </ul>
Rt/E3.4	Identify the main points and ideas, and predict words	4a extract the main points and ideas, and predict words from context	<ul> <li>understand that some parts of texts may be more important to overall meaning than others</li> <li>develop awareness of topic sentences</li> </ul>
	from context		- develop awareness of topic sentences
Rt/E3.7	Scan texts to locate information	7a scan different parts of texts to locate information	<ul> <li>understand that it is not always necessary to read every word to understand a text</li> </ul>
Rt/E3.8	Obtain specific information	8a read every word to obtain specific	<ul> <li>understand when it is necessary to read every word to understand a text</li> </ul>
	through detailed information reading	information	<ul> <li>judge when detailed reading is necessary and when skimming or scanning is more appropriate and obtain appropriate information by reading in detail</li> </ul>
•	entified in Adult ore Curriculum)	1b use knowledge of syntax and grammar to work out meaning and confirm understanding	< compared by the second s
Rw/E3.1	Recognise and understand relevant specialist key words	1a recognise and understand relevant specialist key words	<ul> <li>show awareness of the concept of key words</li> </ul>
Task 2-	—Informational t	exts, e.g. contents pages	s, indices, menus etc.
Rt/E3.2	Recognise the different purposes of texts at this level	2a understand and distinguish the different purposes of texts at this level	
Rt/E3.5	Understand and use organisational	5a locate organisational features, such as	<ul> <li>understand that organisational features occur in different places in a text and that this helps to predict</li> </ul>
	features to locate contents, index, menus, information and understand their purpose	meaning and to locate information – understand the purpose of different organisational features	
Rt/E3.6	Skim read title, headings and	6a skim read key textual features for different	<ul> <li>understand that we skim read for different purposes and that not all texts need to be read in detail</li> </ul>
	illustrations to decide if material is of interest	purposes	<ul> <li>develop awareness of which textual features give clues to meaning</li> </ul>
Rt/E3.7	Scan texts to locate information	7a scan different parts of texts to locate information	<ul> <li>understand that it is not always necessary to read every word, or every word in a relevant section, to understand a text</li> </ul>
			<ul> <li>develop strategies for extracting information from various parts of text</li> </ul>

#### Reading

and

Task coverage Task 2 (continued) of descriptors, **Basic skills standards Component skills** Knowledge and understanding component descriptor skills and knowledge Rw/E3.1 Recognise and 1a recognise and - show awareness of the concept of key words understand understand relevant - show knowledge of word families, shared roots and relevant specialist specialist key words prefixes and suffixes to help read and understand understanding key words some key specialist words - understand that knowledge of prefixes and suffixes can be generalised to other vocabulary Rw/E3.4 Use first- and 4a Use first- and secondbe aware of the importance of alphabetical order of place letters to find and second-place letters within a word letters to find and sequence words in alphabetical order sequence words in alphabetical order Task 3—Extracts from different text types for identifying text purpose Rt/E3.2 Recognise the 2a understand and identify the purpose different distinguish the different - be aware that similar types of text can have different purposes of texts purposes of texts at this purposes, audience, and intended outcome and that at this level level this may be indicated by features of register - understand that information or purpose may not always be stated overtly and that the reader needs to make the connections Rt/E3.3 Recognise and 3a identify the key - recognise typical layout used in instructional texts organisational features understand the understand that key grammatical features, register, organisational of instructional texts vocabulary may vary according to the formality of features and the text typical language of instructional texts Rt/E3.9 Relate an image 9a relate an image to print be aware that images are sometimes part of whole to print and use it and use it to obtain texts and provide meaning meaning to obtain meaning Rs/E3 (not identified in - show awareness of linguistic features of texts to work 1a recognise the generic **Basic Skills** features of language of out meaning and confirm understanding standards level instructional texts descriptor) 1b use knowledge of syntax and grammar to work out meaning and confirm understanding in other types of text at this level Rw/E3.1 Recognise and 1a recognise and - show awareness of the concept of key words understand understand relevant relevant specialist specialist key words key words Rw/E3.2 Read and 2a read and understand - read and respond to form-filling conventions and understand words and phrases language commonly used on forms words and commonly used on - read and respond to stated and unstated instructions phrases forms on forms commonly used on forms

#### Writing

# Writing

## 1. Candidate profile

In order to demonstrate ability at this level, candidates are expected to:

• write to communicate information and opinions with some adaptation to the intended audience.

#### 2. Format

The Writing mode takes the form of a formal examination paper lasting 60 minutes.

The examination consists of two tasks, both of which must be undertaken.

#### Task 1

consists of writing an account or narration of a sequenced past event, either factual or fictional. The text required will be one of the following:

- account
- narrative.

#### Task 2

consists of corresponding about a planned future event. The text required will be one of the following:

- letter
- e-mail.

#### Task summary chart

	Task 1	Task 2
Text type	account, narrative	e-mail, letter
Reader/s	teacher, job interviewer college newsletter readers	friend, relative
Register	semi-formal	informal
Tone/style	cohesive, structured, crisp	casual, enquiring
Purpose	to inform and explain	to inform, arrange, invite, request information
Word length	approx. 200 words	approx. 120 words

#### 3. Procedure

Candidates must write their answers on the examination paper itself in the space/s indicated.

Candidates sit the examination at their own registered Trinity ESOL Skills for Life centre. The papers are sent out by Trinity's Head Office and centres administer the test under secure test conditions, according to the guidelines issued by Trinity, and using one or more invigilators to monitor the session.

Writing papers can be taken in the same session as Reading papers.

#### 4. Assessment

Examiners make their assessments with reference to the Generic performance descriptors, as stated in the Introduction booklet, in combination with the Task-specific mark scheme provided overleaf. This details the actual performance and competence required for each particular Writing task at Entry 3. The performance and competences are set out as in the *Adult ESOL Core Curriculum* either as general level descriptors or individual component skills, knowledge and understanding, whichever is more relevant to the actual task. Completed papers are sent back to Trinity's Head Office and marked.

# Writing Task-specific mark scheme

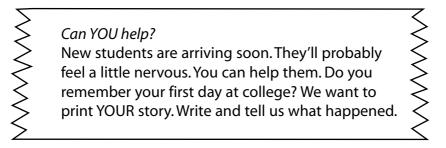
Task 1—Write an accou	int or narrative, factual or fictional, of a sequenced past event
1. Text focus: writing composition	Show evidence of planning and drafting and integrate these into a final legible version
	Sequence events chronologically using suitable sequence words, connectives and discourse markers
	Compose a text, organised into short paragraphs, using an appropriate format and register for a semi-formal account or narrative suitable for the readership
2. Sentence focus: grammar and punctuation N.B. When assessing a candidate's performance in this criterion, examiners are required to come to a judgement on the balance of competence in the items listed below using the Generic descriptor for guidance.	Compose complex sentences consisting of a main and one subordinate clause and introducing defining relative clauses using <i>who, which, that</i> Use present perfect, used to and past continuous in conjunction with simple past to clarify the chronological sequence Use correct subject-verb agreement Use punctuation correctly, e.g. capital letters, full stops, commas, exclamation marks Use complex adverbial phrases of time, place, frequency and manner
3. Word focus: spelling and handwriting	Spell correctly common words and relevant key words for work and special interest Write legibly
Task 2—Write an infor	mal letter about a planned future activity or event
1. Text focus: writing composition	Include all the relevant information about the event as indicated in the question rubric in order to achieve the communicative purpose Compose a text, organised into short paragraphs, using an appropriate format and register for an informal letter or e-mail to a relative or friend
2. Sentence focus: grammar and punctuation N.B. When assessing a candidate's performance in this criterion, examiners are required to come to a judgement on the balance of competence in the items listed below using the Generic descriptor for guidance.	Compose complex sentences consisting of a main and one subordinate clause and introducing defining relative clauses using <i>who</i> , <i>which</i> , <i>that</i> Use simple future verb forms Use appropriate modals to express possibility and uncertainty about the future Convey definite arrangements clearly Make clear inquiries Use correct subject–verb agreement Use punctuation correctly, e.g. capital letters, full stops, commas, exclamation marks and question marks Use a wide range of adverbials to express certainty and uncertainty
3. Word focus: spelling and handwriting	Spell correctly common words and relevant key words for parties, special interest events Write legibly

## 5. Guidance

In order to prepare candidates for the Writing paper, teachers are directed to the relevant section of the *Adult ESOL Core Curriculum*, pages 232–243 and to the DfES ESOL Skills for Life Teacher Reference File. The Trinity website also contains sample papers for teachers and candidates to see exactly what to expect and to gain useful practice. Go to the main website at www.trinitycollege.co.uk and follow the links to ESOL and then ESOL Skills for Life, then Sample Papers and then Entry 3 Writing. Extracts from one sample of a Task 1 can be found below which illustrate a pass performance at Entry 3. Following that is a table summarising task coverage. Each task is linked to specific component skill, knowledge and understanding items in the *Adult ESOL Core Curriculum*, thus ensuring complete coverage of all the standards. Candidates, therefore, need writing practice with a focus on word, sentence and text level. The communicative functions and language items most relevant for these tasks are listed above in the Task-specific mark scheme.

### Sample of Writing paper—Task 1

You read this in your college magazine:



*Plan your article by making notes of the most important points and then make a draft version of your article.* 

Then write the actual article for the college magazine making sure that you proofread it. (about 200 words)

My first day at this college. I felt so nervous and so lonely. I entered the college door and looked around. everyone looked so strange. I walked through the college corido and saw a boy with black hair, then one question sprang up in my mind 'Is he from my country?' But I'm too afraid to ask this question to him so I just walked pass him by toward my classroom.

The room was quite big and there were some table in U style and a table in the middle. I sat near the door next to a girl who was wearing a sari ...

## Writing

## Writing table

The following table describes what the candidate is expected to do for Entry 3. It is linked specifically to the examination tasks. The notation used is the same as that used in the *Adult ESOL Core Curriculum*.

Basic s descrip	kills standards otor	Component skills	Knowledge and understanding
Wt/E3.1	Plan and draft writing	1a recognise the process of planning and drafting when writing	<ul> <li>plan, understanding that the choice of how to organise writing depends on the purpose, audience and intended outcome of writing</li> </ul>
		certain types of text	<ul> <li>identify appropriate register for task and audience</li> </ul>
			<ul> <li>integrate planning and drafting</li> </ul>
			<ul> <li>produce final legible version of text</li> </ul>
		1b make notes as part of the planning process	<ul> <li>understand the importance of noting key words and the relationship between them</li> </ul>
Wt/E3.2	Organise writing	2a structure main points of	– understand the concept of paragraphing
	in short paragraphs	writing in short paragraphs	<ul> <li>understand that paragraphs normally consist of more than one sentence</li> </ul>
			<ul> <li>understand that paragraphs follow on from each other and are linked together with key words and phrases</li> </ul>
			<ul> <li>understand key aspects of basic paragraphing structure</li> </ul>
Wt/E3.3	Sequence chronological	the use of discourse	<ul> <li>understand the importance of chronological sequencing of events in personal writing</li> </ul>
	writing	markers and conjunctions	<ul> <li>understand the sequence words, conjunctions and connectives</li> </ul>
Wt/E3.4	Proofread and correct writing for grammar and spelling	4a proofread to check for content and expression	<ul> <li>understand that proofreading is a way of checking the content and expression</li> </ul>
Ws/E3.1 Write in complete sentences	1a write using complex sentences	<ul> <li>understand that the most basic form of complex sentence consists of a main clause and one subordinate clause</li> </ul>	
			<ul> <li>understand that sentences can be amplified by expanding the information around the noun</li> </ul>
			<ul> <li>understand the importance of register</li> </ul>
Ws/E3.2	Use correct basic grammar	2a use basic sentence grammar accurately	<ul> <li>know the form of and understand the concept expressed by a variety of tenses, in statement, negative and question form</li> </ul>
			<ul> <li>understand that a verb and its subject must agree in terms of number</li> </ul>

# Writing

	(continued)		
Basic s descrij	kills standards ptor	Component skills	Knowledge and understanding
Ws/E3.3	Use punctuation correctly	3a use punctuation to aid clarity in relation to beginnings and ends of sentences	<ul> <li>understand that full stops and capital letters are sentence boundary markers</li> <li>understand how punctuation varies with formality</li> </ul>
Ww/E3.1	Spell correctly common words and relevant key words for work and special interest	1a apply knowledge of spelling to a wide range of common words and special interest vocabulary	
Ww/E3.2	Produce legible text		
Task 2-	—Write an inforn	nal letter about a planne	d future activity or event
Wt/E3.2	Organise writing in short paragraphs	2a structure main points of writing in short paragraphs	<ul> <li>understand the concept of paragraphing</li> <li>understand that paragraphs normally consist of more than one sentence</li> </ul>
			<ul> <li>understand that paragraphs follow on from each other and are linked together with key words and phrases</li> <li>understand key aspects of basic paragraphing structure</li> </ul>
Ws/E3.1	Write in complete sentences	1a write using complex sentences	<ul> <li>understand that the most basic form of complex sentence consists of a main clause and one subordinate clause</li> </ul>
			<ul> <li>understand that sentences can be amplified by expanding the information around the noun</li> </ul>
			<ul> <li>understand the importance of register</li> </ul>
Ws/E3.2	Use correct basic grammar	2a use basic sentence grammar accurately	<ul> <li>know the form of and understand the concept expressed by a variety of tenses, in statement, negative and question form</li> </ul>
			<ul> <li>understand that a verb and its subject must agree in terms of number</li> </ul>
Ws/E3.3	Use punctuation correctly	3a use punctuation to aid clarity in relation to beginnings and ends of sentences	<ul> <li>understand that full stops and capital letters are sentence boundary markers</li> </ul>
Ww/E3.1	Spell correctly common words and relevant key words for work and special interest	1a apply knowledge of spelling to a wide range of common words and special interest vocabulary	

# Appendix 1

Entry 3 Key language items

(Adult ESOL Core Curriculum)

<ul> <li>variations in word order</li> </ul>	To the east is	
• word order in complex sentences	Divali is a Hindu festival which takes place in autumn	
<ul> <li>there has/have been;</li> </ul>		
there will be/there was going to be		
complex sentences with one subordinate clause:		
– of time	When the red light goes out, you press the button	
– of reason	l didn't go to the doctor's yesterday because I was too ill	
– of result	They didn't have an appointment this week so I had to make one for next week	
– of condition	If it rains, I'll stay at home	
– of concession	Although she can't swim, she loves the seaside	
• defining relative clauses using who, which, that	The car that I bought is quite old	
• a range of verbs + - <i>ing</i> form	l enjoy swimming	
• verbs + infinitive, with and without to	We saw the police arrive	
• infinitive to express purpose	He went to France to learn French	
simple reported statements	She says she wants to study English	
• a wide range of <i>wh</i> - questions	Which colour do you prefer?	
<ul> <li>simple embedded questions</li> </ul>	Do you know where the library is?	
• question words including <i>whose</i>	Whose bag is this?	
<ul> <li>statements with question tags using Entry 3 tenses</li> </ul>	You've got your documents back, haven't you?	
phrase		
noun phrases with pre- and post-modification	fair-haired people with sensitive skin	
a range of determiners	all the, most, a few	
use of articles including:		
<ul> <li>definite article with post-modification</li> </ul>	The present you gave me	
<ul> <li>use of indefinite article to indicate an example</li> </ul>	This is a perfect cheese	
- use of indefinite articles in definitions	An architect is a person who designs buildings	

# Appendix 1

<ul> <li>present perfect with since/for, ever/never, yet/already</li> </ul>	
• used to for regular actions in the past	l used to go to Italy for my holidays
• past continuous	She was working in a bank when that happened
• future simple verb forms	I'll see you tomorrow
<ul> <li>modals and forms with similar meaning:</li> <li>positive and negative</li> </ul>	you should/shouldn't to express obligation
<ul> <li>might, may, will probably to express possibility and probability in the future</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>would/should for advice</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>need to for obligation</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>will definitely to express possibility in the future</li> </ul>	
- May I? asking for permission	
– <i>I'd rather</i> stating preference	
<ul> <li>common phrasal verbs and position of object pronouns</li> </ul>	l looked it up She looked after them
iectives	
<ul> <li>comparative and superlative adjectives</li> </ul>	
comparative structures	as as, the same as, not so as looks/is like
verbs and prepositional phrases	
<ul> <li>wider range of prepositions and prepositional phrases</li> </ul>	in her twenties, of average height
<ul> <li>a wide range of adverbial uses, e.g. to express possibility and un/certainty</li> </ul>	possibly, perhaps, definitely
<ul> <li>more complex adverbial phrases of time, place, frequency, manner</li> </ul>	as soon as possible
• a range of intensifiers, including too, enough	
course	
markers to indicate:	
-addition	also
– sequence	in the first place
– contrast	on the other hand
	anyway, by the way
<ul> <li>markers to structure spoken discourse</li> </ul>	
<ul><li>markers to structure spoken discourse</li><li>use of ellipsis in informal situations</li></ul>	got to go

## Appendix 2

Entry 3 Communicative functions and notions

(Adult ESOL Core Curriculum)

- greet
- take leave
- give personal information
- introduce others
- ask for personal information
- describe self/others
- describe places and things
- ask for descriptions of people, places and things
- compare people, places, things
- make comparative questions
- narrate events in the past
- give factual accounts
- ask about past events
- express certainty about the future
- ask about future events
- express opinions about future possibilities
- express obligation
- offer help
- make arrangements
- make requests on the phone, in formal and informal situations
- make requests—ask someone to do something in formal and informal situations
- make requests—ask for directions
- respond to request for directions
- respond to request for instructions
- respond to request for an explanation
- make requests—ask for permission formally
- express feelings, likes and dislikes, with reasons, cause and effect
- ask about people's feelings, opinions, interests, wishes, hopes
- express views and opinions
- apologise in formal and informal situations
- explain and give reasons
- show contrast, cause, reason, purpose
- ask for clarification and explanation
- confirm information
- check back and ask for confirmation
- ask for advice and suggestions
- respond to suggestions
- respond to advice
- make suggestions and give advice
- suggest action with other people
- praise and compliment others
- complain
- warn and prohibit