

News and information

UK ESOL examination updates - Winter 2016

Welcome

Dear Colleagues,
Welcome to the Winter 2016 edition of our UK ESOL newsletter. We have included general, academic and operational updates concerning the revised QCF ESOL exams. If you have any queries or concerns, please [get in touch](#).

May we kindly ask you to ensure all relevant members of staff are made aware of these updates.

All good wishes,
The UK ESOL team

Operational news

Fees 2015-16

[These exam fees](#) apply to all UK ESOL exams taken up to and including 31 August 2016.

Candidate ID Policy

Please read [Trinity's Candidate ID Policy](#), which gives clear guidance to centres and candidates about the types of ID required for all UK ESOL Skills for Life exams.

Exam forecast 2015-16

We would like to thank you for updating Trinity with your planned exam dates for 2015-16. If you have any changes or additions to those dates, please do let us know.

Training and support

Trinity is pleased to announce the following live webinar training dates in 2016.

We invite you to join us on these dates from the comfort of your own office for administrative and operational support and assistance. The webinar will include a demonstration of how to use the Trinity exam portal to book, enrol, timetable and

Staff contacts

Here are the team's details:

Alex Stone

Team Leader UK ESOL

Rebecca Hughes

Examinations Co-ordinator UK ESOL

print exam materials. There will also be the opportunity for you to ask questions throughout.

Date	Time (duration)	Topic
Tuesday 23 February	11.00am (30 minutes)	Speaking and listening
Thursday 25 February	11.00am (30 minutes)	Reading and writing
Wednesday 30 March	11.00am (30 minutes)	Speaking and listening
Thursday 31 March	11.00am (30 minutes)	Reading and writing
Tuesday 26 April	11.00am (30 minutes)	Speaking and listening
Thursday 28 April	11.00am (30 minutes)	Reading and writing
Tuesday 10 May	11.00am (30 minutes)	Speaking and listening
Thursday 12 May	11.00am (30 minutes)	Reading and writing
Tuesday 24 May	11.00am (30 minutes)	Speaking and listening
Thursday 26 May	11.00am (30 minutes)	Reading and writing
Tuesday 7 June	11.00am (30 minutes)	Speaking and listening
Thursday 9 June	11.00am (30 minutes)	Reading and writing

Email invites will be sent out ahead of each webinar date where joining instructions will be explained in more detail.

An academic surgery-style webinar will take place on 19 February. Centres will be invited by email shortly.

Contact ukesol@trinitycollege.co.uk to register interest in the meantime.

For information on how to arrange your exams sessions please see the following guides:

[How to arrange a speaking and listening exam](#) and
[How to arrange a reading and/or writing exam](#)

Trinity exam portal guidance is available as always from your coordinator and also now at www.trinitycollege.com/portalhelp.

New VAT number

Trinity's VAT number has changed, the new VAT number is: **228 1298 05**.

Reading and writing

During the 2016 calendar year you have 10 opportunities to take a reading exam and 10 opportunities to take a writing exam.

Please note that if on the same day you book the same module and level exam at two separate start times, this will count as two of your ten opportunities.

For example, if an Entry 1 Reading exam is booked for a 10am start and also a 1pm start on the same day, two of the ten available Entry 1 Reading papers will have been used, leaving only a further eight for the remainder of the calendar year.

Receiving your exam papers

Trinity will send your exam papers to you by courier. You will receive the exam

papers 3 working days before the exam date.

It is important that exam papers are locked away securely until the morning of the exam.

Please check carefully the order number which is shown in the Admin Pack delivered along with the exam papers – this order number corresponds directly with the list of candidates enrolled to take the exam. You can also see your order numbers and candidate enrolments in the Trinity exam portal and on the attendance report.

It is important to ensure that the correct exam papers are given to your students, failure to do this will result in the delayed issue of results.

Returning your exam papers

Exam papers must be returned to Trinity at the end of the exam session in the secure return envelope provided. Please ensure that all of the following items are enclosed:-

- All exam papers (including completed papers, papers for absent candidates and spare papers)
- Attendance report
- Supervisors report
- Seating plan
- Purple security bags

Trinity carries out regular inspections of written paper exam sessions.

Academic news

We have been collecting feedback from centres, students, examiners and markers, which is both interesting and helpful. [The Examiners' report](#) is on the website, and it contains useful tips for preparing your learners as well as a report on the first six months of the new Skills for Life (QCF) exams.

One question type that some centres have queried is the alphabetical order question in Entry 2 and Entry 3 Reading papers. There are now some practice tasks on the website for both [Entry 2](#) and [Entry 3](#).

Our speaking and listening examiners have reported that a few learners are not prepared for the Level 2 presentation. This is a fantastic opportunity for learners to prepare a presentation about something that really interests them, but it is important that this is a topic that allows for the debate of pros and cons, and for the candidate to persuade the examiner. By choosing a topic that allows this, the learners will be more likely to produce Level 2 language, and will be able to perform to the best of their abilities.

We have just released sets of past [Reading and Writing papers](#) on the website for you to use with your learners.

Keep sending us your feedback and questions, and we look forward to seeing you at our [webinar on 19 February](#).

Centre support visits

If you have any general or academic issues you would like to discuss in detail, arrange a support visit from one of our team.

For more information, please contact:

[Janet Golding](#) – ESOL Development and Support Consultant.

Our first webinar of the year will take place on 19 February. It will take a surgery style format and cover both academic and operational issues.

Email us at ukesol@trinitycollege.co.uk to register interest. We will be sending out email invitations to current centres shortly.

Video resources can help both teachers and candidates plan and prepare for the Skills for Life exam. We would be grateful if you and your students would consider taking part in a filming session at your centre. For more information, please [contact us](#).

Citizenship update

Since November 2015, only qualifications on the UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) list of [recognised qualifications](#) will be accepted as proof for British Citizenship and Indefinite Leave to Remain applications. Trinity College London is one of only two providers of recognised Secure English Language Tests (SELTs) in the UK, our GESE speaking and listening test at Grade 5 (B1) or above is approved for British Citizenship applications. [Visit our SELT page](#) for more information about Trinity's Secure English Language Tests for visa purposes.

For more information about English exams for visa purposes [read here](#).

Contact us

For more information or enquiries please [contact us](#).



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