Supporting you every step of the way

We provide a wide range of support so that you can give your learners the best possible preparation for Cambridge qualifications. Here is a list of the teaching and learning support available for the Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0500 syllabus for examination from 2020.

Our support material is available online through the School Support Hub at: www.cambridgeinternational.org/support

Syllabus and assessment materials

The syllabus is well designed, interesting to teach, accessible to learners and has been updated for first teaching in 2018. It explains what your learners need to know, how they will be assessed, and the relationship between assessment objectives and the examination papers.

Specimen papers and mark schemes will help you familiarise yourself and your learners with exam requirements, command words in questions and how to answer questions that meet the assessment objectives.

Scheme of Work

This medium term teaching plan provides ideas about how to construct and deliver Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0500. The syllabus has been broken down into teaching units with suggested teaching activities and learning resources to use in the classroom. This document is a guide offering advice, tips and ideas to provide you with a basis to plan your lessons.

Example Candidate Responses (ECR)

ECR booklets provide illustrative examples of candidate work at different levels of performance. Each answer is annotated with examiner comments on the awarded mark and any mistakes the candidate has made. The examiner explains how the candidate could have improved their answer, and lists common mistakes made in this question across all candidates who sat the exam. You can use the existing booklets to demonstrate the examination standard but note that these do not reflect the content changes in the 2020 syllabus. Revised booklets will be available in 2021.

Learner Guide

Learners can use this guide to develop an understanding of the Cambridge course and how it will be assessed, helping to increase their confidence. The guide describes each exam paper and includes useful advice to help your learners understand what to expect in the Cambridge exams. There is some suggested help with revision and an example candidate response to demonstrate the Cambridge standard.
Coursework Handbook
This is a detailed guide and introduction to the coursework component of First Language English 0500. The handbook offers advice on the requirements, provides examples of candidate work and offers guidance on course planning.

Speaking and Listening Handbook
This handbook gives practical advice to help you conduct the Speaking and Listening test components of the Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0500 examination. It clarifies points of the administration, marking and interpretation.

Specimen Paper Answers
This booklet exemplifies high-standard examination responses for the Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0500 syllabus and assessment structure. Use this resource to develop your learners’ understanding of what is required to gain marks based on answers written in the style of a Cambridge IGCSE candidate.

Other support
The School Support Hub hosts an active English Language forum, which is a great way for you to keep up to date with your subject. Ask questions, get the latest information and connect with other Cambridge teachers around the world. You can also upload your own resources for the community to use, and access resources shared by others.

Our public website provides a list of endorsed textbooks for Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0500. Many of our syllabuses are supported by a range of different endorsed textbooks and teachers are advised to choose the one that best suits their needs. There is information on the back of textbooks about which syllabus the book supports and the year of first examination of that syllabus.

Endorsed resources go through a rigorous quality-assurance process to make sure they closely reflect the syllabus and are appropriate for Cambridge schools worldwide. Resources may be endorsed for full syllabus coverage or endorsed to cover specific sections, topics or approaches. Look for the specific ‘endorsed for’ logo on the resource.

For further information on endorsed resources and their approaches to teaching and learning, go to the ‘Published resources’ tab on the relevant syllabus page of our public website.