



Introducing Cambridge IGCSE Subject English as a Second Language (Count-in Speaking) 0511¹

Why Choose This Syllabus?

Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language develops skills for understanding and communicating in a range of situations in English. These skills include the ability to understand written and spoken texts and selecting relevant information from them. Learners develop the linguistic skills required for progression to further studies or employment through being able to communicate clearly in writing and speaking, on both familiar and less familiar topics.

The syllabus is suitable for learners whose first language is not English, but who study through the English-medium. Our approach in Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language encourages learners to be:

- **confident**, using a range of language to communicate ideas and information effectively in writing and speaking
- **responsible**, seeking opportunities to use and develop their language skills
- **reflective**, considering different opinions and information in written or spoken form, and responding to them appropriately
- **innovative**, using language creatively to express ideas and information
- **engaged**, developing different learning strategies and using their language skills in a range of situations.

Syllabus Aims

The aims are to:

- develop learners' ability to use English effectively for the purpose of practical communication
- develop learners' awareness of the nature of language and language-learning skills
- develop transferable skills to complement other areas of the curriculum
- promote learners' personal development and enjoyment.

Content Overview

Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language offers learners the opportunity to develop practical communication skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking. Learners will be presented with a variety of texts that will build up their skills in reading and writing. They will learn to select relevant details, understand the difference between what is directly stated and implied, and practise writing for different purposes and audiences. Learners will listen to a range of spoken material, including talks and conversations, to develop listening skills. Learners will engage in conversations on a variety of topics and develop their skills in responding to different situations and audiences with a degree of accuracy and clarity.

Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language will enable learners to become independent users of English both to support further study and to communicate effectively in a variety of practical contexts.

Continued ►

¹This content is based on the 2027–2029 version of the Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language (Count-in Speaking) syllabus. For the latest updates and detailed information, please visit <https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-igcse-english-second-language-count-in-oral-0511/>.



Introducing Cambridge IGCSE Subject English as a Second Language (Count-in Speaking) 0511

Assessment Objectives

Assessment Objectives	Weighting in IGCSE %
Reading	25
Writing	25
Listening	25
Speaking	25
Total	100

Note: Speaking marks are part of the overall grade in 0511. Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language (Speaking endorsement) 0510 offers a separate speaking component which does not affect the overall grade. Please refer to the syllabus factsheet for details.

Previous Study

We recommend that learners starting this course should have studied an English as a Second Language or an English Language curriculum such as the Cambridge Lower Secondary programme or equivalent national educational framework.

Guided Learning Hours

130 guided learning hours. This is for guidance only. The number of hours a learner needs to achieve the qualification may vary according to each school and the learners' previous experience of the subject.

Exam Timetable

Students can take exams in the June and November exam series.

Further Study

Candidates who achieve grade C overall in Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language 0511 can be considered as being at a level equivalent to B2 on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

It is recommended that the learners complete this course as a previous study for Cambridge International AS & A Level English Language 9093.

University Recognition

Many universities in the UK and other countries accept Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language as proof of English proficiency for admission. Check the specific requirements of your chosen institution for details.