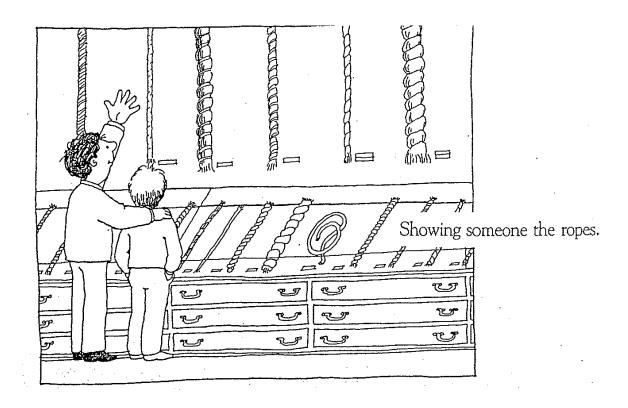
### **Courses, Levels and Objectives**

We are principally interested in teaching the students useful, communicative English. This involves such skills as using appropriate words (and gestures!) in particular contexts, and knowing how intonation and stress can affect meaning. A written syllabus cannot adequately cover these less tangible areas yet they are vital if we are to teach 'real' English. And finally, brimming with good intentions and brandishing our box of tricks let's also be realistic and admit that we not going to make a <a href="https://www.nuc.english.orgo/mean-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-nucleon-realistic-



#### **ELEMENTARY LEVEL**

### POSSIBLE TOPICS/ SETTINGS

At the Airport
First day on a course or in a
new job

### LANGUAGE FUNCTIONS

Meeting and greeting people and saying good-bye (formal and informal)

### STRUCTURAL AND LEXICAL ITEMS

How do you do? v. Hello Good morning! Good-bye See you!

Name
Age
Nationality
JOBS/OCCUPATIONS
Family
Home
Address
Birthday
INTERESTS and HOBBIES
Favourite FOOD
SPORT
Types of CARS
Routines and habits
TV PROGRAMMES

Talking about oneself and asking about people

The Alphabet What? How? Who? Where? How much? How many? When? Present simple tense affirmative, negative and interrogative Singular v. plural and irregular plurals A/an/ some/any/the Much/many I like -ing, I dislike -ing I'm interested in -ing Can v. can't Numbers - one, two v. first, second etc. Days and months Possessives

Telling the TIME
Discussing the WEATHER
CLASSROOM SURVIVAL
(asking about the
meaning, spelling and
pronunciation of words and
phrases)
HEALTH and how one is
feeling

Asking general questions and answering them

Excuse me (and other ways of interrupting / getting attention)

Can/could/may

What is the weather <u>like?</u>

Present progressive tense - affirmative,negative and interrogative

Parts of the body

Names of ailments

Hometown
SCHOOL-LIFE in own country
Hurtwood House
A good friend
A SPORTS PERSONALITY
A troublemaker
Cranleigh
Guildford
LONDON
TOURIST TRAPS
The best car on the road
COUNTRY v. CITY LIFE

Talking in detail about people, places and things

Adjectives relating to age, character, personality, size, shape, colour, substance etc.
Comparative and superlative of adjectives There is v. There are They're
This/that/these/those
She has got (v.She got)
Prepositions

At a chemist's
In a boutique
In a department store
At a stationer's
At a supermarket
British clothes sizes
FASHION
MONEY
At a BANK
A look at SHOP SIGNS

Requesting help (in shops and banks)

I'd like /Could/May..
please and other polite
ways of asking for sth.
I'd prefer and other ways
of expressing preference
A little v. a few
How much v. How many?
It's too + adj.
Words of measurement
Containers e.g. a jar of,
a packet of, a carton of
Quantities e.g. a pound,
a dozen, a bunch

### Specific written skills

- 1. Completion of a simple registration form.
- 2. A short description of oneself, a family member or one's home (using capital letters, apostrophes, commas and full stops).
- 3. A postcard home

- 1. Find other words for these adjectives: great, nice, good, bad, strange, big, large, little, small, old, young, interesting, rich, poor, quiet, happy, cold, bright, fat, funny, boring.
- 2. Short responses in social situations:
  Congratulations!, Good Luck!, Happy Birthday!, Happy anniversary!, all the best!,
  You're welcome, I'm so sorry, Bless you! etc.

### LOWER INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

Any revision from the previous level, if necessary.

## POSSIBLE TOPICS / SETTINGS

### **FUNCTIONS**

STRUCTURAL and LEXICAL ITEMS

Present simple: NATIONAL CUSTOMS TRADITIONS related to birth, marriage and death Weekends v. weekdays ETIQUETTE around the world BODY LANGUAGE e.g. winking, shrugging Dangerous or different JOBS and SPORTS INTERVIEW with a famous person HOLIDAYS ' Present continuous: A COMMENTARY on a drama unfolding PLANS after Summer course A description of what's happening in PICTURES, PHOTOS AND POSTERS

Discussing what people do and what they are doing

continuous tense including tags and contracted forms Present simple for habits, customs, scientific facts Adverbs of frequency e.g. sometimes, often

Present simple v. present

Present continuous for now and definite future plans
Verbs not used in continuous form e.g. know,remember, seem,belong
Verbs in both simple and continuous form e.g. think, see, look, hold, have

- •DIRECTIONS in the street and MAP -READING
- •Travelling by bus,train, taxi and underground
- •STREET and ROAD SIGNS
- •At the TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE
- BANKINGTRANSACTIONS

Requesting specific information when out and about

Vocabulary for monuments, buildings, landmarks etc.

Polite ways of getting attention, making a request and expressing thanks e.g. I'd like .... please
Prepositions of direction and place
Imperatives
Distances: How far is...?
Use or omission of the e.g.
Oxford Street, the High Street
Words for WC.!
Use of present simple for arrival and departure times

- •Places where one can eat out
- Understanding MENUS
- •DIETS and DIETING
- ANOREXIA
- Being a VEGETARIAN
- •The reputation of ENGLISH FOOD
- •RECIPES
- •MANNERS AND EATING HABITS in different cultures
- •PUB NAMES
- •LICENSING LAWS
- •UNUSUAL DELICACIES
- TYPES OF CELEBRATIONS

Ordering a meal and discussing FOOD

Specific vocabulary relating to courses, items on menu and drink
Food adjectives - comparative and superlative.

It's too + adj.
Adjectives relating to HEALTH
Imperatives e.g. mix and Adverbials e.g. first, then for recipes
Markers of comparison and contrast e.g. while, whereas

Drinking expressions Cheers!

- HOLIDAYS •AFTER LEAVING SCHOOL AMBITIONS RESOLUTIONS An interview with a celebrity for HELLO magazine PARTY ELECTION **PROMISES** •HOROSCOPES, TEA LEAVES AND CRYSTAL BALLS •OKLAHOMA 1995 •TERROR on the JAPANESE UNDERGROUND •V.E.DAY •MY OWN OBITUARY Talking about the past •The game of 'Consequences'
  - Going to future in contrast Will' future Discussing future plans, events Conditional sentences with present simple and 'will' future and intentions e.g.If I pass my exams, I'll

Past simple: - negative, interrogative and tags Irregular past simple forms Sequencing adverbs e.g. after Adjectives and verbs describing states of mind and feelings Adverbs of manner

Present progressive

I used to

•Opinions about e.g. FAME •VIDEO GAMES are mindless SCHOOL-preparation for life?

·An event which shocked me

•THE LIFE OF a CULT **FIGURE** 

·An ageing popstar reflecting on past life

•The WORST FILM ever made

•SMOKING - Why ban it?

•AN EYE FOR AN EYE

•MARRIAGE is out-of-date

•HISTORY never learns from its mistakes

·Balloon debate

•Argument between two drivers after car collision Expressing one's opinion

e.g. As far as I'm concerned, I believe that Phrases expressing agreement and disagreement (formal and informal) Phrases expressing indifference (formal and informal) Oaths! Adverbs expressing degrees of certainty e.g. probably, definitely

Phrases to state one's opinion

### Specific written tasks

- 1. Keeping a daily diary (This does not need to be corrected).
- 2. A recipe for a national dish.
- 3. Completion of a detailed registration form.
- 4. An account of a bad dream (using past simple tense).
- 5. A short personal letter (with appropriate layout).
- 6. Writing telephone messages.

- 1. British vs American English (Different in grammar, pronunciation, spelling and vocabulary)
- 2. Idioms related to food e.g. sour grapes; to eat humble pie

- Idioms related to health & wellbeing e.g. to feel up to scratch; to be on cloud nine
- 3. Phrasal verbs with LOOK e.g. to look for, to look at, to look after, to look out Phrasal verbs with TAKE e.g. to take after, to take off, to take in etc.
- 4. To <u>have</u> something <u>done</u> e.g. to <u>have</u> the car <u>washed</u>.

### INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

Any revision from previous levels, if necessary

### POSSIBLE TOPICS/SETTINGS

### LANGUAGE FUNCTIONS

### STRUCTURAL AND LEXICAL ITEMS

Past simple:

Discussing the plot of a FILM Yesterday's news
Present perfect:
NEWS COMMENTARY
e.g. A bomb has just
exploded...

Recriminations: You've never... Therapist to patient: Have you ever...

An impatient person e.g. Have you .....yet? Interview for a job: Have you had any serious illnesses? Talking about the past and the recent past

Past simple with ago, last, in 1994
past simple v. present perfect tense (affirmative, interrogative negative and tags)
Present perfect with yet, since, already, just, recently, ever, never Present perfect for actions in incomplete periods of time

- •HEALTH questionnaire
- •SMOKING and DRINKING
- •JUNK THE JUNK FOOD
- •A.I.D.S.
- •COSMETIC SURGERY
- YOGA and MEDITATION
- •The emphasis on health in ADVERTISING
- •FITNESS FANATICS
- •STRESS in our lives
- •VISIT to DOCTOR or DENTIST
- •STRIP CARTOON ROMANCE
- •PEER PRESSURE
- •ADVERTISING on TV and in the Press
- •PROBLEM PAGE
- •PARENT/TEENAGER or TEACHER/STUDENT PROBLEMS

Discussing HEALTH

Vocabulary relating to parts of the body and internal organs Adj. and verbs to do with healthy and unhealthy living e.g. obese, to gorge, balanced diet Names of illnesses, diseases and symptoms
Nouns relating to nutrients in diet Verbs/adjectives relating to ways of cooking food e.g. boiled Modals for obligation e.g.

If you want to be healthy you must/should/ought to/have to...

Making suggestions, persuading and giving advice

Let's...How about... Would you mind .. If you would...
Phrases for inviting, apologising declining e.g. I'd rather not...
Comparative and superlative of adjectives and adverbs
Clauses expressing reason and consequence: as, so that, so
Adverbials expressing opposition e.g. however, even so, nevertheless
Use of conditionals for giving advice e.g. If you want to...
you'll have to...; If I were you...

- •Rules of a named SPORT e.g. CRICKET
- •ORIGAMI
- •Are <u>YOUR</u> PARENTS STRICT?
- ROAD SIGNS
- •Rules of FILM CENSORSHIP
- •Understanding written INSTRUCTIONS
  How to work the pay phone, the cash dispenser, the word processor
- •Teaching DANCE STEPS
- Looking at GRAFFITI
- •SEX DISCRIMINATION
- •A FILM, PLAY, BOOK, PAINTING OR POEM
- •EUTHANASIA
- •IRRITATING PEOPLE
- •IMPRESSIONS of ENGLISH LIFE
- Feelings at/about BIRTH, MARRIAGE, DIVORCE and DEATH.
- •SCHOOL preparation for Life?

Explaining rules and instructions

Sequencing adverbials e.g.

First of all, then
Imperatives and other ways to express what is obligatory
Conditionals e.g. If you catch the ball...
Impersonal expressions e.g.

It is essential that, It is forbidden

Discussing one's feelings about things, people, and situations

Adjectives and verbs
relating to feelings
Qualifiers e.g. extremely
such a moving film, so realistic
Relative clauses with who.
whose, which where, whom,
that
Euphemisms to refer to
unpleasant events
e.g. They parted company
She passed away

### Specific written tasks:

- 1. Draw up a questionnaire entitled: 'How healthy are you?'
- 2. Write a letter to an 'Agony Aunt' requesting advice about a problem. Write an answer to someone advising him/her how to deal with ha problem.
- 3. Invent an advertisement for a household product, a beauty product or a car.
- 4. Write a set of rules for a named sport.
- 5. Love at first sight? Does this exist? Write half a page about this (using a full range of punctuation and connectives).

### Language building:

- 1. Propositional phrases with in (e.g. in a hurry) by, for, on, without, under, at and off.
- 2. Verb + -ing or to e.g. I dread giving, I enjoy visiting, I hope to go, she promised to meet me
- Phrasal verbs with GO (e.g. to go out, to go in for, to go along with, to go through)

PUT (e.g. to put out, to put up with, to put on)

COME (e.g. to come round, to come to, to come across) MAKE (e.g. to make off with, to make out, to make for)

4. Word formation. excitement

Forming adjectives from nouns (e.g. emotion – emotional,

excited)

Forming verbs from nouns (eg advertisement – to advertise, persuasion – to persuade)

5. Idioms using **foreign words** e.g. ad nauseam, bête noire, crème del al crème, paparazzi

involving **animals** e.g. to let the cat out of the bag, to let sleeping dogs lie relating to **people** e.g. bimbo, high-flyer, yuppie

involving **emotions and feelings** e.g. to give someone the cold shoulder, to get on

like a house on fire

- 6. Topical Acronyms e.g. EU, MP, VE Day
- 7. Words which are easily confused (Homophones same pronunciation, different meaning) e.g. allowed/aloud, weather/whether, bear/bare

# UPPER INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

Any revision from previous levels, if necessary

### POSSIBLE TOPICS/ SETTINGS/ACTIVITIES

Past perfect:

The background to a historical, religious or social problem
An account of the sequence of events/actions leading up to a DISASTER
Any action CHAIN STORY using past tenses
EMOTIONAL REACTIONS:
e.g. She laughed/ swore
because he'd...
Politician reflecting on election failure: If we had ... we would have....

Past continuous:

ALIBI: At 7 o'clock I was...

Parents returning early from holiday to find: The music was blaring...

With while + 2 actions:

Lives of 1)service men and 2) their families back home in war

- •SEX EDUCATION in schools
- •Any recent, popular FILM e.g. Forest Gump
- •BLOOD SPORTS why the fuss?
- •GREEN ISSUES

years

- •Reasons for taking DRUGS
- •The BRITISH ROYAL FAMILY should be scrapped
- •Desert Island game
- •Which PERSONALITY in the news would be most welcome to visit Summer School?
- •PROBLEMS AND MORAL DILEMMAS e.g. You witness someone shoplifting. What should you do?

### **FUNCTIONS**

Discussing events in the past

Expressing and justifying one's opinion

### STRUCTURAL AND LEXICAL ITEMS

Past perfect including: interrogative, negative and tags
Use of past simple v. past perfect tense for sequencing
Ordering devices: e.g. as soon as, prior to that, after that
Conditional 3 e.g. If I had, gone, I would have...

Past continuous including negative, interrogative and tags. Use of past simple v. past continuous for interrupted actions
Use of while + 2 past continuous actions

Phrases to express agreement and disagreement (formal and informal) Markers of contrast e.g. whereas Markers of concession e.g. although Means of exemplification e.g., for instance Summarising e.g. In short... Expressions useful for 'butting in' and questioning a point raised e.g. So you're saying... Phrases to challenge an argument e.g. Are you suggesting that ...? Phrases marking depth of opinion e.g. I'm convinced that The unexpected: Oddly enough Believe it or not...

- •MURDER SCENE: What happened?
- Analysis of HANDWRITING
- •Analysis of DOODLES
- •Guessing the next picture in a CARTOON STRIP
- •Speculating about the economy, politics, sport
- •IMPOSSIBLE SITUATIONS: If I had won the Lottery Jackpot last week, I would . have...

### Re-tell/report:

- •FAIRY TALE (re-tell correctly first time then 'embroidered' the second time!)
- •TELEPHONE conversation
- •A JOB INTERVIEW that made you sweat
- •THE NEWS
- •What group members think about e.g.Pres.Clinton, the Eurovision Song Contest, tax fiddling, vivisection etc.

<u>Discussing the possible</u>, the probable and the impossible Modals and verbs expressing possibility and probability e.g. might, I expect Revision of future tenses Conditionals 1, 2 and 3 If you go to London,... If I met Prince Charles,... If I hadn't come to Hurtwood Summer School,...

Direct v. Indirect Speech:

Reporting/Re-stating information

Changes in tense, pronouns and adverbs
Commands: 'Don't do that!'
He told me not to ...
Questions and word order: 'How long have you worked for IBM?'
He asked me how long I had worked for IBM
Introductory verbs:
e.g. warn, advise, persuade, admit, accuse, suggest, pretend, refuse and promise
Cases where there are no verb changes in indirect speech

- •Forgetting someone's name
- •Responding to bad news
- •How to reply when offered something you hate
- ·Avoiding being chatted up
- •Pointing out a faux pas at a formal function
- POLITICALLY CORRECT LANGUAGE

Managing unforeseen situations and being tactful

Formal and informal expressions of apology/request Use of understatement, euphemism and circumlocution Politically correct language: e.g. nouns: ageism, birth name adjectives: sexually active, physically challenged, morally different
Words we may no longer use! e.g. bald, deaf, fat, ugly, homosexual, illiterate....

nondiscretionary

indefinitely idled

chemically inconvenienced

involuntarily undomiciled

nonhuman animal companion

### Specific written skills:

- 1. Write Curriculum Vitae.
- 2. An account of the life of someone famous (using a good range of connectives and accurate punctuation).
- 3. Two contrasting dialogues showing how disagreement can be expresses formally and informally.
- 4. Short written horoscopes for all signs of the Zodiac.
- 5. Re-tell (using indirect speech) how someone tried to force you to handover some money outside a nightclub/party.
- 6. A formal business letter (e.g. a letter of complaint) with appropriate layout and language.

- 1. Everyday abbreviations explained e.g. etc, RSVP, PS and mph
- 2. Foreign and classical terms used in English e.g. alter ego, bête noire, nouveau riche, ad hoc, angst
- 3. Phrasal verbs with BRING (e.g. to bring back, bring out, bring up, bring about)
  GET (e.g. to get over, get along with, get out)
  TURN (e.g. to turn against, turn up, turn to)
  BREAK (e.g. to break down, break in, break off)
- 4. Idioms:
  - Slang e.g. bonkers, iffy, plonk, old banger, wet blanket
  - Idioms which sound funny e.g. mumbo jumbo, fuddy-duddy, hotchpotch, gobbledygook, namby-pamby
  - Historical idioms e.g. Hobson's choice, money for old rope
- 5. Common prefixes and suffixes
- 6. Word order e.g. one brand new pink Swiss woollen ski hat! Re-arranging words in the right order.

### ADVANCED

### **LEVEL**

Any revision from previous levels if necessary

### LANGUAGE FUNCTIONS

Talking about pleasant and unpleasant

feelings

### STRUCTURAL AND LEXICAL ITEMS

- Abstract nouns and corresponding adjectives expressing feelings e.g. embarrassment, embarrassed inferiority, inferior
- •Use of prepositions in e.g. embarrassed about, ashamed of aggressive towards.
- ·Verbs showing how one is feeling e.g. shudder, gasp, wink, beam, stutter, hesitate etc.
- ·Adjectives to do with sensations e.g. smooth, soft,
- •Verbs showing how people treat /relate to each other e.g. betray, hurt, envy, admire, respect, understand

### POSSIBLE TOPICS /THEMES

Pleasant feelings e.g. in

- •SUCCESS
- •FRIENDSHIP
- PEACE

Unpleasant feelings in

- •PHOBIAS
- •EMBARRASSING moments
- •LOSS
- •GUILT
- •DEPRIVATION of any of the five senses and resulting feelings
- ·Feelings conjured up by MUSIC
- •SELF-IMAGE feelings
- •MALE/FEMALE differences in how we react to events
- •Imagine the feelings of:
- -the unborn child
- -a bull in a ring

WAR / PEACE

LIFE / DEATH

LOVE / HATE

YOUTH / OLD AGE

BEAUTY / UGLINESS

-an ant or a bird!

- •Comparison between DIFFERENT COUNTRIES and CULTURES
- •OPPOSITES ATTRACT. True?

Comparing and contrasting

people, places, objects, ideas and ideals

Discussing cause and effect

- •FAMINE
- A.I.D.S.
- •The DRUGS PROBLEM
- •A PERSONAL DILEMMA
- •EXAM STRESS
- •UNEMPLOYMENT ·
- •MORAL AND ETHICAL IMPLICATIONS of people's actions e.g.
- -ABORTION
- -GENETIC experimentation

adjectives e.g. victory, failure; to lose one's temper, to keep calm; optimistic, pessimistic •Connectives used to express

·Contrasting nouns, verbs and

- comparison e.g. similarly and contrast e.g. whereas
- •Connectives which limit the area of similarity or difference e.g. in that, insofar as
- •Connectives used to express concession e.g. although, despite the fact that...
- •In writing: use of the semicolon for balancing contrasting statements
- •Revision of forms of the comparatives and superlatives of adj. including irregular
- •Subject specific vocabulary
- •Clauses of result; so... that, such..... that
- •Clauses showing reason: due to, owing to, because
- •Nouns: factor, consequence
- •Connectives: e.g. thus
- •Verbs: to result in , to lead to
- •Conditional I, using two present tenses: If trees are cut down, wild life suffers Expressions showing approval/disapproval

- •NEWS HEADLINES e.g. Students arrested in...
- •FACTORY and AGRICULTURAL processes e.g. How chickens are farmed How cars are manufactured
- Processes involved in **BUILDING A HOUSE**
- •RECYCLING SCHEMES in different countries
- •Interpretation of FLOW CHARTS showing processes
- •INSTRUCTIONS explaining WHAT YOU WANT DONE at work or at home while you are away
- e.g. I'd like the minutes of the meeting to be sent..., the files to be organised etc.
- •TERRORIST DEMANDS e.g. The prisoners are to be released

### Looking at e.g.:

- •MUSIC
- PLAYS
- •POEMS
- PAINTINGS
- •STATUES
- •SHORT STORIES
- NONSENSE POETRY and the British sense of humour
- •Reasons for writing, the target audience, the writer's/ artist's point of view, depiction

of life/society etc.

Newspaper/Magazine **ADVERTISEMENTS:** 

Looking at e.g.

- •GENDER ROLES
- •YOUTH
- SOCIETY
- •CLASS CATEGORIES
- •PRODUCT PROMOTION
- •CULTURAL assumptions

Describing processes

materials have to be taken •Perfect passive infinitive: e.g. The President is thought to have been shot by guerrilla forces •Impersonal passive constructions e.g. It is believed that, it is said that •Use of need, want and require with passive meaning: e.g. My watch needs cleaning ·Ways of linking parts of sentences involving passives e.g. After being...,..... Having been...,.... Before being...,.... e.g. After being put into storage containers, the goods are then transported...

The passive: ·Passive infinitive: The

- •General critical vocabulary e.g. crude, compelling, harrowing, overrated, tasteless
- ·Vocabulary for discussing poetry: theme, rhythm, symbolism, allegory, intonation etc.
- •Different types of writing: e.g. argument, description, exposition, narrative
- •Figurative language e.g. simile and metaphor
- •Formal and informal language
- •Technical terms to discuss music.
- ·Superlatives,
- onomatopoeia
- connotations of words
- ·use of imagery
- foreign words
- imperatives

Talking about the ARTS

### Specific written skills:

- 1. Prepare a speech for a debate in which you warn your audience of the effects of a planned course of action (e.g. releasing a convicted murder form prison, building a motorway near town).
- 2. Describe a process (e.g. how tea is made, how wine is produced) using passive forms.
- 3. Have you ever seen a work of art/exhibition/unusual portrait etc. which took your breath away or which left you cold? Describe your experience.

- 1. Idioms
- Using similes and metaphors e.g. as cool as a cucumber, as tick as two short planks, a storm in a teacup
- Using proverbs e.g. once bitten twice shy, one swalloe does not make a summer, let sleeping dogs lie
- Current expressions e.g. DIY, toyboy, nightmare scenario
- 2. Looking at negatives of nouns, verbs, adjectives (e.g. negatives with: dis-, mis-, il-, ir-, un-, anti- etc)
- 3. Review of punctuation rules
- 4. Phrasal verbs with
- DOWN e.g. close down
- Out e.g. close out
- Off e.g. lay off
- Up e.g. shut up
- 5. Prepositional phrases e.g. peace with, in time for, in the hope of, in love with
- 6. Word formation: Forming nouns from adjectives e.g. aggressive aggression Forming nouns from verbs e.g. criticise criticism
- 7. English words/phrases used abroad e.g. le weekend
- 8. Common errors in English e.g. its, it's; whose, who's; less, fewer; lie and lay etc.

### **Attainment Targets**

### **Elementary Level**

- 1. To know what to say when meeting/being introduced to people both in formal and informal situations.
- 2. To be able to understand basic written and oral questions (in the present simple tense) and to respond to these. To ask someone simple questions about him/herself, using appropriate stress and intonation. To be able to ask for help/clarification when a question is not clear.
- 3. To understand range of vocabulary relating to one's home, family, native country and immediate surroundings, both in spoken and written form; to be able to talk about these subjects and to write a short description, using simple sentences and basic punctuation.
- 4. To have no difficulty in communicating requests in shops and to phrase these with a suitable level of formality and politeness.
- 5. To be able to give a short, appropriate response conveying praise, good wishes or sympathy in social situations.

### Lower Intermediate Level

- 1. To be able to ask, understand and respond to questions using the present simple, present progressive, 'will' and 'going to 'future, and past simple tenses (to refer to present actions, everyday life and personal history). To be aware of the different future uses of the present simple, present progressive, 'will' and 'going to 'future tenses. To be able to discuss recent items in the news using the past simple tense; to write a short account with accurate use of the past simple tense, basic punctuation and simple/compound sentences.
- 2. To be easily understood when requesting travel information, directions to a place and help regarding other essential services; to be familiar with a range of settingspecific vocabulary/phrases and t use these correctly and in context. To express one's requests with appropriate stress and intonation and with a suitable level of formality. To be able to interpret and discuss written information, for example as presented in train timetables.
- 3. To have a good understanding of the words and phrases used in menus and recipes; to be able to order a meal and comment on the food. To be able to discuss issues/facts related to food, diet, national dishes and eating habits.
- 4. To be able to express one's opinion formally and informally, using expression of agreement, disagreement and indifference with suitable stress and intonation.
- 5. To write a short, personal letter, with appropriate expressions, lay out and punctuation.

#### Intermediate Level

- 1. To use English to suggest, advise, instruct and to order i.e. 'to affect the behaviour of others', both formally and informally and with an awareness of the degree of obligation implied. To be able to understand suggestions made, advice offered and rules/instructions given both in spoken and written form.
- 2. To be able to discuss issues related to health; to be able to extract general and specific information from articles on the subject. To be able to express symptoms, if necessary, to a doctor/dentist and to understand the treatment proposed.
- 3. To talk or write about an outing/activity/book/situation/social issue, conveying the necessary shades of opinion and feeling. To write an essay on the topic of one's reaction to a specific event, using simple, compound and complex sentences, connectives and a full range of punctuation.
- 4. To write a semi-formal letter, with appropriate expressions, layout and punctuation
- 5. To sustain a flow of conversation, responding to questions and interruptions, and to follow colloquial dialogues adequately.

### **Upper Intermediate Level**

- To be able to sequence events in the past using the past simple and past perfect tenses and to use the past continuous and past simple tenses to refer to interrupted actions in the past. To be sensitive to, and know how to, express degrees of future certainty and uncertainty, having mastery of the tenses and modals necessary to convey these distinctions orally and in writing.
- 2. To be able to use a full range of verb tenses and forms to report statements, questions, request and commands. To be aware of when such reporting requires changes in verb tenses, pronouns and adverbs and when no changes are necessary.
- 3. To be able to expand upon and justify one's opinion when taking part in both a formal and an informal discussion; to present one's arguments in a logical and convincing way.
  - In writing, to express one's point of view using clear pronominal reference, a variety of sentence types, effective discourse markers and appropriate use of punctuation.

To understand linguistically complex discussions and to be sensitive to subtleties of intonation; to be able to write a concise summary of what has been read or heard, with few syntactic errors.

- 4. To write a formal business letter, with the appropriate layout, phrasing and level of formality.
- To have the linguistic control to manage conversations in unexpected situations where tact, sensitivity or firmness are called for. To be able to manipulate language to this end.

### **Advanced Level**

- 1. To be sensitive to and express, in written and spoken form, shades of emotion, sensation and opinion. To be able to express personal feelings as well as empathy.
- 2. To be able to compare and to contrast abstract and concrete subjects, using appropriate markers of comparison, contract and concession.
- 3. To be able to discuss cause and effect, taking into account the personal, global and ethical implications of actions/situations/problems. In writing, to use a range of verbs, nouns and connectives to mark cause, effect and deduction.
- 4. To recognise and use passive forms in all tenses and to be aware of situations/contexts where the use of the passive is desirable or effective; for example, in media reporting.
- 5. To give an objective and subjective appraisal of plays, poems, prose, songs, works of art, employing an extensive range of critical vocabulary. In analysing written texts, to be aware of the literal and figurative meaning so the language as well as the writer's purpose.
- 6. To be able to give a clear, accurate and detailed presentation on a prepared topic, suing complex sentences and few syntactic errors. To be able to extract key information from a general or a specialised article and to express this succinctly.
- 7. To understand discussions at a high linguistic level and to be able to formulate complex questions. To have no difficulty in following colloquial dialogues between native speakers, and to contribute to the conversation effectively and naturally.