

**Higher School of Economics**  
**Syllabus**  
**English Language Course**

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### **1. Course description**

The course covers a wide range of topics, and students are involved in a variety of activities that let them progress in both productive and receptive skills. Students will have the opportunity to engage with longer and denser texts of various genres and registers. They will be able to develop their social and academic competencies as the course implies group, pair and project work.

### **2. Course pre-requisites**

Students have to have achieved the intermediate level of the English language (B1/IELTS 4.0-5.0/ Intermediate).

### **3. Course objectives**

The objectives of the course are:

- to expand the student's proficiency and knowledge English
- to increase student's comprehension of spoken English
- to learn topic-based vocabulary
- to systematically develop student's academic writing skills

### **4. Expected Learning Outcomes**

- to develop skills of basic reading and listening techniques
- use active vocabulary and structures to produce written and spoken texts
- to form understanding of text structure
- plan, structure, create and edit a range of written products such as paragraphs, essays, reports
- plan and execute independent work

### **5. Course outline:**

<b>№</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Class hours</b>	<b>Self-study hours</b>
1	<b>Entertainment</b> Academic Writing: Paragraph structure	12	24
2	<b>Society</b> Academic Writing: Types of paragraphs (descriptive/process/ opinion)	12	24
3	<b>Sports and Interests</b> Academic Writing: Types of paragraphs (compare/contrast)	12	24
4	<b>Accommodation</b>	12	24

	Academic Writing: Types of paragraphs (problem/solution)		
5	<b>Crime and Punishment</b> Academic Writing: Essay structure: Introduction	12	24
6	<b>Careers and studying</b> Academic Writing: Essay structure: Body paragraphs & Conclusion	12	24
7	<b>Transport and Travel</b> Academic Writing: Essay	12	24
8	<b>Health and Medicine</b>	8	12
9	<b>Life-Changing Events</b> Academic Writing: Report	12	24
10	<b>Banks and Money</b> Academic Writing: Formal Letter/Email	12	24
11	<b>Business</b>	12	24
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>252</b>

## 6. Forms of Control and Grading system:

The course consists of 64 classes (2 academic hours each). Control takes the following form:

- Work in class: participation in class discussions, quizzes, grammar acquisition tasks (Gaud)
- Tests (Gt)
- Written assignments: paragraph, essay, report, email (Gw)
- Written examination (Gexam)

$$\text{Final grade} = 10\% \times \text{Gaud} + 30\% \times \text{Gt} + 30\% \times \text{Gw} + 30\% \times \text{Gexam}$$

The marks are rounded up from 0.5. No marks but the exam mark is blocking. No assessment done in class can be retaken unless the student has an admissible excuse such as a sick list. Homework and written papers have to be completed by the set deadline.

If a student refuses to perform oral tasks or hand in written tasks to the deadlines stipulated by the teacher, the student obtains 0 points. Exceptions cover special circumstances, of which the teacher should be informed beforehand. All decisions about rearranging the deadlines are settled on an individual basis by the teacher and the student.

## 7. Required Literature:

- Dellar H., Walkley A. *Outcomes. Upper-Intermediate. 2nd Edition*
- Rumisek L., Zemach D. *Academic Writing: From Paragraph to Essay*
- Bailey S. *Academic Writing: A Handbook for International Students*

## Further Reading and Resources

Will be uploaded into the system

