IGCSE First Language English

2018 - 2019

What is IGCSE?

• International General Certificate of Secondary Education
• First Language English (0500) option CS
• Exam board: CIE (Cambridge International Education)
• A one year course in 2nde only- formal preparation January-May 2019
• Summative assessment
• Graded from A* - G

Two compulsory units:

Reading (Paper 2): 50% of overall grade, 2 hour exam, May 2019, assessed externally
Candidates answer 3 questions based on 2 passages

Writing (Paper 3): 50% of overall grade, 2 hour exam, May 2019, assessed externally
Candidates answer one question on a passage(s) and one composition task from a choice of 4 titles

Optional unit:

Speaking and Listening Test (component 5): separate certificate that does not count in the overall mark, graded from 1 – 5, assessed internally in March – April 2019

Who will take IGCSE?

• French Section students in 2nde
• Native speaking / bilingual students only
• Recommendation of English teacher based on language skills

Is there a textbook for students?

• Cambridge IGCSE First Language English Workbook (fourth edition) by Marian Cox ISBN: 978-1107695771

Important dates for 2019:

• Registration in January (payment due by 23rd) NB Pre registration December 14th 2018
• Mock written exams in January / February
• Orals in March / April
• Withdrawals deadline: Thursday April 4th 2019 (no refund)
• Exams: first two weeks of May
• Results in August
Recognition of IGCSE post – Lycée

- Students must declare their IGCSE grade on all UCAS application forms
- IGCSE English First Language is widely recognised by UK universities
- **HOWEVER,** it is strongly advised that students check the specific requirements for each course by contacting the admissions office and checking the CIE website
  

More information:


### READING LIST

**Improving fluency**

- *GCSE English Writing Skills for the grade 9-1 course*, published by CGP (ISBN 978 1 84762 890 9)
- BBC GCSE Bitesize for English Language
- British Council website
  
  [http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/)
- Rosetta Stone software
- Duolingo app

**Fiction and non-fiction**

- *All My Sons / Death of A Salesman / A View from the Bridge* by Arthur Miller
- *Animal Farm / 1984* by George Orwell
- *Anita and Me* by Meera Syal
- Any books by Bill Bryson
- *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte
- *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding
- *Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro
- *Northanger Abbey* by Jane Austen
- *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck
- *The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger
- *The Circle* by Dave Eggers
- *The Giver* by Lois Lowry
- *The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole* series by Sue Townsend
- *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- *Tsotsi* by Athol Fugard