

PSLE

FOUNDATION ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Implemented from the Year of Examination 2025

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PURPOSE OF EXAMINATION

The purpose of the examination is to assess the candidates' attainment in Foundation English Language based on the Learning Outcomes stated in the *English Language Teaching and Learning Syllabus 2020: Primary Foundation English & Secondary Normal (Technical) Course*. The Learning Outcomes form the basis for the assessment objectives listed on page 3.

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

In the Foundation English Language examination, candidates will be assessed on their ability to:

In Paper 1 (Writing)

- AO1 write to suit purpose, audience and context, using accurate and appropriate vocabulary, grammar, punctuation and spelling
- AO2 generate and select relevant ideas, organising and expressing them in a coherent and cohesive manner

In Paper 2 (Language Use and Comprehension)

- AO1 show understanding of a variety of written and multimodal texts at the literal and inferential levels
- AO2 use vocabulary, grammar, punctuation and spelling appropriately in context

In Paper 3 (Listening Comprehension)

- AO1 show understanding of a variety of spoken texts at the literal, inferential and evaluative levels, including the identification of main ideas and details

In Paper 4 (Oral Communication)

- AO1 read aloud fluently and expressively with clear and accurate pronunciation to suit purpose, audience and context
- AO2 express personal opinions, ideas and experiences clearly and appropriately to engage the listener
- AO3 speak fluently, with clear pronunciation and grammatical accuracy, using a range of appropriate vocabulary and structures

EXAMINATION FORMAT

Candidates will be assessed in the following areas:

PAPER	COMPONENT	ITEM TYPE	NO. OF ITEMS	MARKS	WEIGHTING	DURATION
1 (Writing)	Situational Writing	OE	1	9	25%	1 h 10 min
	Continuous Writing	OE	1	16		
2 (Language Use and Comprehension)	Booklet A: Grammar	MCQ	5	5	40%	1 h
	Punctuation	MCQ	2	2		
	Vocabulary	MCQ	3	3		
	Comprehension (Visual Text)	MCQ	5	5		
	Booklet B: Form Filling	OE	3	3		
	Editing for Grammar	OE	3	3		
	Editing for Spelling	OE	3	3		
	Synthesis	OE	3	3		
	Comprehension Cloze	OE	3	3		
Comprehension: (Passages A and B)	OE	7	10			
3 (Listening Comprehension)	Listening Comprehension	MCQ	15	15	15%	About 35 min
4 (Oral Communication)	Reading Aloud	OE	1 passage	8	20%	About 10 min (5 min preparation time; about 5 min examination time)
	Stimulus-based Conversation	OE	1 photo stimulus	12		
			Total	100	100%	

Legend:

MCQ Multiple-choice questions

OE Open-ended questions

Paper 1 (Writing)

Part 1 (Situational Writing): Candidates write a short functional piece (e.g., a letter or an email) to suit the purpose, audience and context of a given situation.

Part 2 (Continuous Writing): Candidates write a composition of at least 120 words in continuous prose based on a series of pictures.

Paper 2 (Language Use and Comprehension)

This paper comprises 15 multiple-choice questions and 22 open-ended questions which assess candidates' ability to use language appropriately in context and to comprehend a variety of written and multimodal texts at the literal and inferential levels.

Paper 3 (Listening Comprehension)

This paper comprises 15 multiple-choice questions which assess candidates' ability to comprehend spoken English. The tasks may be based on a variety of types of audio texts, e.g., texts that recount, entertain, instruct, describe, inform, explain, respond, argue, evaluate and/or persuade. Graphic representations will be used for the first four items. Each text will be read twice. Time will be given for candidates to read the questions before the first reading of each text.

Paper 4 (Oral Communication)

This paper comprises two parts which are not linked thematically.

Part 1 (Reading Aloud): Candidates read aloud a text.

Part 2 (Stimulus-based Conversation): Candidates engage in a conversation with the Examiners on a topic based on a photo stimulus.