

Improve your English



مدارك تحصيلی QUALIFICATIONS

المؤهلات QUALIFIKATIONEN

SHAHADOYINKA CUALIFICACIONES

শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা SERTIFIKALAR بروانامه کان

Квалификации KWALIFIKACJE

کوالیفیکیشنز یعنی منظور شدہ تعلیمی استعداد 資格

資格 KUALIFIKIMET

தகமைகள்

ESOL qualifications from SQA

Improve your English

National Qualifications in English for Speakers of Other Languages

Information for learners

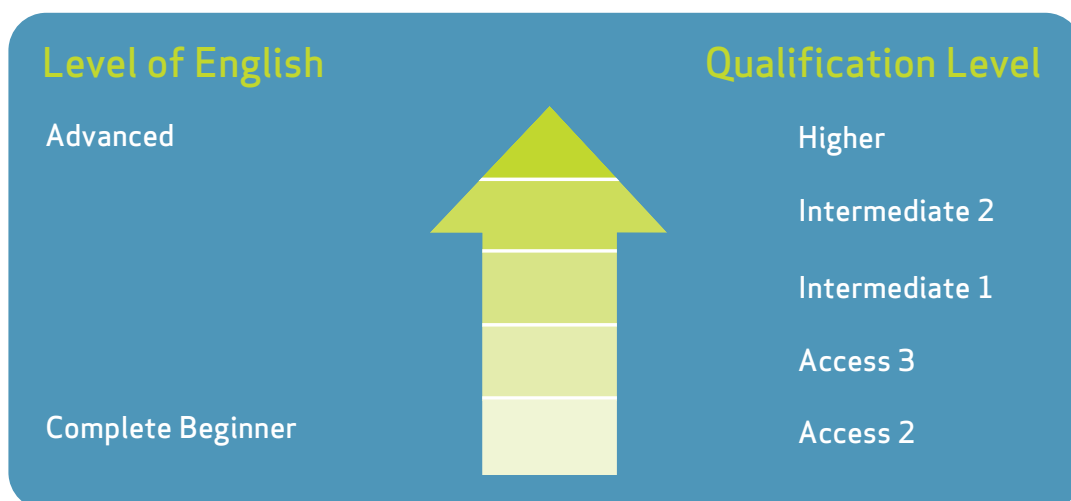
If you want to improve your English so you can live, work or study in an English-speaking country, here is the answer: English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), provided by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA).

What is SQA ESOL?

SQA has a range of National Qualifications in ESOL. There are ESOL Units at five levels and there are also ESOL Courses with exams at the more advanced levels.

SQA's National Qualifications Structure:

The five levels



Each qualification covers Speaking, Writing, Listening and Reading and will help you:

- gain an English language qualification at a level suitable for you
- progress into work
- progress to college or university
- live your everyday life if you wish to settle in the UK or any English-speaking country
- learn English using practical tasks
- prepare for study in other subjects
- apply for UK citizenship

How ESOL has helped others

ESOL at school



'The Higher ESOL Course could be beneficial to everyone as it involves study skills.'
Bo-Yang Li from China is studying the ESOL Higher Course at Morgan Academy, Dundee.



'The ESOL Higher Course is a very special class because it allows me to improve my English in different ways to the ones in my school and lets me concentrate on the areas I need to work on. I think I made the right decision in choosing the course because it has helped me with my English and my school work.'

Mauro Simone from Argentina is studying the Higher ESOL Course at St Thomas of Aquin's High School, Edinburgh.



'You learn loads of techniques that help you with your other subjects. It's great fun working in groups.'

Nurin Omar from Somalia is studying the Higher ESOL Course at Saint Roch's Secondary School, Glasgow.



'The speaking part of the Course is hard, but it's helped me a lot.'

Hermine Makangu from Congo is studying the Higher ESOL Course at Saint Roch's Secondary School, Glasgow.



'I learned language skills which I could adapt to other subjects. In the Scottish system the Standard Grade English might not be the most suitable for those pupils who come to secondary school in S3, like me. The ESOL Courses are an alternative that can help you with other subjects.'

Tsvetomir Stefanov from Bulgaria, formerly of Harris Academy Dundee, now at Dundee College studying an HNC in Travel and Tourism.

ESOL at college



'I now have qualifications I didn't have before, and I can demonstrate that my level of English has improved tremendously. I'm still studying to improve myself, as I would like to get a place on a NC Social Care Course.'

Khadija Imadanyen from Morocco achieved 3 ESOL Units at Intermediate 1 and 2 at Stevenson College, Edinburgh.



'It was hard, but passing ESOL Units at Intermediate 2 helped me start an NC and then an HNC in Health and Social Care.'

Remzie Memeshi from Kosovo studied ESOL Units from Access 2 to Intermediate 2 at Anniesland College, Glasgow.

ESOL and finding work



'I come to this ESOL class to improve my language skills, to speak fluently, and help me find a better job.'

Venelina Marinova from Bulgaria (right) is studying in Inverness for the ESOL for Work Unit at Intermediate 2 through North Highland College, Thurso.



'Breaking down language barriers and communicating fluently with my clients – that's why I'm learning English.'

Myung Hee Lee from South Korea (left) works in Inverness as a Complementary Therapist and is studying for the ESOL for Work Intermediate 2 Unit through North Highland College, Thurso.



'I'm here because I want to learn English grammar and new vocabulary.'

Ewa Woszenska from Poland (right) is studying in Inverness for the ESOL for Work Unit at Intermediate 2 through North Highland College, Thurso.

'The reason why I am learning English in this class is because I want to improve my English in a fun way.'

Sander van Nugteren from the Netherlands is studying in Inverness for an ESOL for Study Unit at Intermediate 2 through North Highland College, Thurso.

Learning ESOL for everyday life



'It helped me to apply for British nationality. It will also help me to find a job because they will know my English isn't too bad.'

Saima Imran from Pakistan is studying for an ESOL Unit at Access 3 at Langside College, Glasgow, to help her move into work.



'The course helped me to go shopping, travelling and registering my name with a doctor, because we learned these things.'

Abdullah Rasuli from Afghanistan is studying for an ESOL Unit at Access 3 at Langside College, Glasgow. He intends to make a new life in the UK, and would like to find work after improving his English.



'Before, I couldn't understand what people say, but now I understand. The ESOL class has really helped me. I understand news from TV and I volunteer every Tuesday in Rosemount. I sell fruit, recycle clothes, talk to students and visitors. ESOL gave me the confidence.'

Zaharina Hussin from Malaysia has completed three Units at Intermediate 1 and is now studying for ESOL Units at Intermediate 2 at Rosemount Lifelong Learning, Glasgow.



'I am more confident to speak to the Home Office and hospital. ESOL has also helped me with volunteer work. I am Advocate helping people who come to Scotland who only speak Arabic.'

Salma Sharaf, age 17 from Sudan, came to Scotland 14 months ago. She has achieved ESOL Units at Access 3 at Rosemount Lifelong Learning, Glasgow.



'I feel more confident, better than before. I can talk to Housing with all the problems with my house. I have one baby, and when a letter comes from the hospital I can read and understand.'

Lula Tesfamariam, age 22 from Eritrea, has completed two ESOL Units at Access 3 and is now starting Intermediate 1 at Rosemount Lifelong Learning, Glasgow.



'I'm improving my speaking, listening and writing. I volunteer in North Glasgow Community Food and Fruit Shop Initiative. I work in an office, helping them count money. I also write letters and do some copy typing and all kinds of things.'

Jinfeng Wang from China, has completed two ESOL Units at Access 3 and is now starting Intermediate 1 at Rosemount Lifelong Learning, Glasgow.

What ESOL teachers and tutors say

'ESOL offers great opportunities to our pupils.'

Mrs Ross, Acting PT for Raising Attainment, Saint Roch's Secondary, Glasgow

'Teaching ESOL Courses will let us teach what the students really need.'

Mr Dolan, English as an Additional Language (EAL) teacher, Cleveden Secondary, Glasgow

'It means a lot to people. It helps them feel they have achieved something.'

Frances Logan, ESOL Tutor, Rosemount Lifelong Learning, Glasgow

'The students managed well with the assessments as we were able to do lots of small assessments instead of one, very difficult exam. If a student failed an assessment, they could do more practice and then try again.'

Robin Ashton, Langside College, Glasgow

'The students seem to enjoy the lessons and feel that the assessments offer them a challenge and something to aim towards at the end of the programme. As a result, motivation is high.'

Gillian Scott, The Workers' Educational Association, Inverness

'If you have been educated in another language and are now in a Scottish secondary school, the ESOL Course can help you to improve your English language skills. The skills you learn and the progress you make give you the confidence to participate in school life.'

Gill Aitchison, Morgan Academy, Dundee

'SQA ESOL Units help our students to understand at what step they are along the road of English Language learning. They are an obvious pointer of progression and achievement for students, lecturers and employers alike.'

Janet Breckon, ESOL Tutor, Stevenson College, Edinburgh

Higher Education Institutions

A growing number of universities are accepting ESOL at Higher and Intermediate 2 as part of their general entrance requirements.

For more information on SQA ESOL Units and Courses

- Contact your local college or learning centre. The SQA Customer Contact Centre can give you the contact details of centres in your area.
- Call SQA's Customer Contact Centre on **0845 279 1000** or send an e-mail to: **customer@sqa.org.uk**.
- Visit our website: **www.sqa.org.uk/esol**.



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Customer Contact Centre

T: 0845 279 1000 E: customer@sqa.org.uk W: www.sqa.org.uk

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