

14 ESOL and ESOL Speaking and Listening (Stand Alone) Entry Level and Levels 1 and 2

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I Introduction

The units for ESOL and ESOL Speaking and Listening are available at three entry sub-levels: E1, E2 and E3 and at Level 1 and Level 2. ESOL for Work is only available at E3 and Level 1. There are three modes available at each level:

- speaking and listening
- reading
- writing.

Each mode, at each level, consists of one unit, which is assessed by means of a unit test. Tests have nominal time limits and these may vary between mode and level.

Pearson provides all the assessments on a secure area on the Edexcel website. Details on how to access the secure area will be issued to centres upon the first registrations of candidates. The test materials on the secure website should be treated as any other live test materials and kept securely at all times. They should not be used as practice materials. Practice papers can be found on the Edexcel website.

The ESOL Level 1 and Level 2 reading unit was the National Adult Literacy test, however these tests are no longer available and will be replaced with new ESOL Level 1 and Level 2 reading tests which are available to download from September 2013.

Where candidates require certification only for the ESOL Speaking and Listening component as a full qualification, centres must ensure that candidates are registered on the ESOL Speaking and Listening Stand Alone programme with Pearson.

Centres must adhere to procedures as outlined in the Instructions for the Conduct of ESOL Tests document (<http://www.edexcel.com/quals/esol/esol-life/Pages/key-docs.aspx>) and the Instructions for Assessors (which are available with the assessment material) when conducting tests.

Completed assessments are marked by the centre and must be subject to internal verification. Pearson will externally verify the marked assessments.

The only form of assessment will be the assessments set by Pearson for each component. There will be no need for candidates to construct portfolios of evidence or to submit additional coursework.

For further guidance on the assessment of these qualifications please visit the website: www.edexcel.com and see Qualifications - ESOL – Key Documents.

2 Internal and External Verification

2.1 Internal verification

Completed assessments are marked by the centre and must be subject to internal verification. Given the centre's responsibility for marking across unit tests, it is imperative that a robust system of internal verification is established from the outset.

Note: Internal verifiers must not verify evidence that they have assessed.

2.2 External verification

Pearson will appoint a Standards Verifier to centres each academic year when registrations are made onto the programme. You will receive an email with the standards verifier's details when registrations have been made each academic year.

3 Access arrangements

Guidance on providing special arrangements for candidates with particular assessment requirements has been agreed between accredited awarding bodies.

Centres should refer to the Joint Council's document 'Access Arrangements, Reasonable Adjustments and Special Consideration, General and Vocational Qualifications' which is available to be downloaded from www.jcq.org.uk