PPCU

Autumn 2015

# EFL Language Development 1/Correspondence Course

BBLAN10500

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**Course content:** The primary aim of this course is to develop students’ language skills so that they can take their complex language exam with success at the end of the academic year. In order to reach this goal, students will expand their vocabulary by learning useful phrases and expressions as well discussing relevant topics. They will improve their writing skills and their ability to comprehend different kinds of texts too. Students will also be familiarized with the types of exercises frequently appearing in such exams.

**Schedule of classes:**

Sep 12: Introduction of course, assignment of tasks, overview of the end of the year exam.

How to write a narrative

Sep 26: Vocabulary 1; Words and Phrases 1.

Presentations by

Oct 3: Vocabulary 2, 3; Words and Phrases 2.

Presentations by

Oct 17: Vocabulary 4; Words and Phrases 3. TEST I

How to write an informal letter

Presentations by

Nov 7: Vocabulary 5, 6; Words and Phrases 4. DEADLINE to submit a hard copy of your informal letters

Presentations by

Nov 21: Vocabulary 7, 8; Words and Phrases 5. TEST II

Presentations by

Dec 5: Vocabulary 9

**Compulsory reading:**

Vince, Michael.*Advanced Language Practice with Key*. 3rd ed. London: Macmillan, 2009. “Vocabulary, Words & Phrases”, pp. 188-222; pp. 265-279.

**Recommended reading:**

French, A. *CAE Testbuilder*. London: Macmillan, 2003.

Jones, Leo. .*New Cambridge Advanced English* (with audio materials). Cambridge: CUP, 2005.

McCarthy, M. and F. O’Dell. *English Vocabulary in Use* (Upper intermediate). Cambridge: CUP, 2010.

Skipper, M. *Advanced Grammar and Vocabulary.* Express Publishing, 2004.

Stephens, M. *New Proficiency Writing*. Longman, 2002.

**Requirements:**

You are required to

* attend classes regularly: no more than 2 absences are allowed during the semester
* participate in class actively and do your homework regularly
* write both tests with an average 2 minimum (if you cannot come to class on the day specified for the test, you can still write it on the following occasion)
* submit your informal letter of 300 words on the due date; late submissions receive a reduced mark
* give a presentation (tell a story) on a day of your choice in 3-5 minutes
* e-mail your narrative of 300 words within a week after you have presented it in class;

late submissions receive a reduced mark.

**Evaluation criteria:**

Oral presentation:

* overall impression
* pronunciation

Written composition:

* task achievement
* coherence and cohesion
* correct use of English
* vocabulary

**Assessment:**

Your final mark will be based on how successfully you accomplish all the tasks listed above.

**1st year comprehensive language exam:**

1 *Written examination*

1.1 Use of English (90 mins)

task types: context vocabulary, cloze, error correction, sentence transformation, word forms, multiple choice, reading comprehension (multiple choice)

1.2 Writing task (formal & informal letter, narrative, review)

2 *Oral examination –* taken in pairs

Task types: (a) 1 minute talk about a topic prompted by pictures – other student

comments on talk

(topics: Vocab. section of ALP)

(b) reading a short article and summarising it

(c) communication activity – two-way conversation with another student – decision-making based on visual and written prompts

Topics in the vocabulary section of ALP:

1. Leisure activities  
2.      Travel and movement  
3.      News events  
4.      Places  
5.      Media and advertising  
6.      The natural world  
7.      Work  
8.      Business and money  
9.      People and relationships  
10.     Social problems  
11.     Entertainment  
12.     Government and society  
13.     Health and the body  
14.     World issues  
15.     Thinking and feeling  
16.     Technology  
17.     Quality and quantity  
18.     Education