

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers about ESL



Helping to build your future

Campuses at:

Burnaby: Boundary View Plaza
201 - 3701 Hastings St
Tel: (604) 320-3332

Mission: 7311 James Street
Tel: (604) 826-3107

E-mail: info@metropolitancollege.ca

www.metropolitancollege.ca



UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE
International Examinations

CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE



Frequently Asked Questions and Answers about ESL

Q: What is ESL?

A: ESL stands for English as a Second Language. It is English made-easy for everyone (adults, youths and children) to learn. Our ESL program has been designed and taught based on the Canadian Language Benchmark curriculum and learning resources.

Q: How many levels are there in the ESL program?

A: There are three main levels, and they are:

- a) Beginner Level
- b) Intermediate Level
- c) Advanced Level

Q. At what level can I enter the ESL?

A. After you apply, you will be given an appointment for an interview, and you will take an English assessment (test). The result of the assessment will determine your entry level. You cannot choose your entry level by yourself.

Q: How long does it take to complete each level?

A: There is no fast rule and time for completing each level. It will take some people far less time than others to complete each level. ESL study is self-paced.

Q: How fast is progression in ESL?

A: Some people learn English very quickly. ESL is self-paced.

Q: Do I receive a certificate on completion?

A: Yes, you will receive a certificate on completing and exiting from any of the language levels.

Q: Who can take ESL?

A: You must be challenged with the English language and have a desire to learn. You may be a newcomer (adult, youth or child) to Canada either as a permanent resident, citizen, visitor or student. Students and visitors must have an authorized leave of stay in Canada in order to be eligible to take ESL. So you can be a:

- i) Parent accompanying your child(ren) to study in Canada
- ii) Student on a study permit
- iii) Visitor on authorized permit
- iv) Permanent resident
- v) Canadian citizen
- vi) Person preparing for a career and do not know the English language
- vii) Person wishing to set up and run a business

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Q. As a parent, what can I do with my child(ren)?

A: If you are a parent accompanying your child(ren) on student authorization, you can attend ESL classes when your child is in school. We have flexible hours to accommodate parents with such needs.

Q: What will I learn in ESL classes?

- A.** i) You will learn English to help you carry on conversations, talk to schoolteachers, store clerks, doctors, etc.
- ii) You will learn about Canada's political system, laws, health care and many other things.
- iii) You will learn English language and life skills necessary for you to be able to function in the Canadian society. This will include grammar, sentence structure, vocabularies, alphabets, numerals, etc.
- iv) All levels of ESL will integrate Canadian history, geography, politics, and holidays in the curriculum, and these will be tied in closely with times, seasons, current events and other topics.
- v) The higher level ESL is for people who intend to acquire a working knowledge of the English language either for purposes of pursuing higher education at Colleges and Universities or simply for an every-day business transaction.

Please note that ESL is not a job training class. To work in Canada, you must have work authorization. Please contact your nearest Canada Immigration Centre

Q. How will I be taught?

A. ESL courses are taught by qualified instructors with appropriate professional designations and relevant university credentials. They also have extensive practical wisdom teaching ESL. The teaching method includes:

- i) instructor-led lectures,
- ii) computer/language labs,
- iii) classroom discussions,
- iv) audio visual aids and interactive methods - video tapes, CD ROMs, cassettes, etc.
- v) excursion tours,
- vi) assignments,
- vii) observations,
- viii) practical exercises,
- ix) oral and listening tests

Q. Where are ESL classes?

A: ESL classes are held at our two campuses.

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Q: Which campus will I go to?

A: You can choose either of the two campuses. You may not be able to go to the campus very near to your house perhaps because of limited space and waiting list. Also the campus very near to your house may not have the class schedule that will suite your time. Please check with the campus very near to you.

Q: How far are ESL campuses from bus stops?

A: Each campus is conveniently located within easy walking distance from bus stops and train stations. There are also ample parking stalls if you are driving.

Q. How much does ESL cost?

A. Because **ESL** is self-paced, we charge hourly. The fee is very reasonably competitive with a flexible payment plan. The campus will give you a fee schedule.

Q: When are ESL classes taught?

A: There are classes in the morning, afternoon and evening. Full-time classes are 25 hours a week. Part-time classes are 6 to 15 hours a week spaced out between days. Classes run in the morning, afternoon and evening.

Q: When do ESL classes start?

A: You can start when there is a place in a class at your level. In many cases, you will join existing classes where a student has left.

Q: How long do I have to wait?

A: You can start right away, but some classes may be full. If so, you will have to wait for usually not more than 2 or 3 months. Please telephone the campus near to you for more information.

Q: Can I keep my job and take ESL?

A: If you are working, you may want to take the **ESL** class that allows you to keep your job. So do not quit your job to attend **ESL** classes.

Q: What are the attendance rules?

A: The school will tell you about the attendance rules. **You must go to all your classes in order to do well in your English.** In an emergency, talk to your instructor about your problem.

Q: When should I apply for ESL?

A: Apply **only** when you are able to attend classes. Do not apply when you are going to travel, go to hospital or have a baby. The assessment results are valid for 6 months. If you have not started classes in 6 months after your assessment, you will have to take the test again.

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Q: Can I change campuses?

A: Yes, you can change your campus if you have an important reason to do so. One example is when you move house. You can transfer to the campus that is near to your house.

Q: How can I apply for ESL?

A: Write, telephone or come in person to our campuses:

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Hurry - Register Now !

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