

# English for Young Learners



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City & Guilds offers two English Language awards to help young learners improve their levels of English:

- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) for Young Learners tests the learners' reading, writing and listening skills
- Spoken English for Speakers of Other Languages (SESOL) for Young Learners tests the learners' speaking skills.

Both awards cover two levels of language proficiency: basic and elementary.

## Who are these awards aimed at?

These awards are aimed at young learners of English aged 8 to 14 years old. They are designed to give these students the important first steps on their path of English language development.

## How are the exams made suitable for young learners?

These tests cover topics and language that most children can identify with. The test tasks focus on use of English in contexts that children experience on a day to day basis, from going to parties and speaking to friends, to playing games and going on trips. Also, graphics and pictures are used throughout to vary the input and maintain the children's enthusiasm.

## How are the learners assessed?

In ESOL for Young Learners the children are asked to complete a test that contains a range of multiple choice and short answer questions. The answers are sent to City & Guilds for marking.

In SESOL for Young Learners the children are asked to complete a speaking test with an interlocutor, consisting of a series of questions and speaking tasks. The learners' performance is recorded on a tape and sent to City & Guilds for marking.

## What are the benefits to young learners of taking these examinations?

Although some teachers and parents express concern about the pressure of test taking on children, City & Guilds believes that as long as certain precautions are taken, there can also be a number of important benefits. Taking and passing tests can often prove to be a motivating force with young learners. Not only do the different levels of our test break up language learning into achievable chunks, but also exam success at each stage can give children the added encouragement they need to enjoy their studies whilst making real progress.

## When are the examinations held?

Candidates can sit the tests at any City and Guilds approved examination centre.

The tests for both ESOL and SESOL for Young Learners are flexible and on demand. This means exam sessions are not planned by City & Guilds. The exam dates are requested by the local examination centre and often set to meet the needs of the learners.

UK centres are required to give two weeks notice prior to their chosen exam date and International centres are required to give four weeks notice.

## Why choose City & Guilds?

City & Guilds is a high quality provider of assessment and certification in a wide range of subjects. We operate in over 80 countries worldwide, through 8500 centres, issuing over a million certificates a year. Our award are recognised by a wide range of both UK and international institutions including employers and government regulatory bodies.

## How can I find out more?

You can find out more by contacting your nearest City & Guilds centre. Log on to our website to find the location of your nearest one, or contact our Customer Relations team at:

**City & Guilds**  
**1 Giltspur Street**  
**London**  
**EC1A 9DD**  
**T +44 (0)20 7294 2800**  
**F +44 (0)20 7294 2405**  
**intcg@cityandguilds.com**  
**www.cityandguilds.com/ieq**

## If asked for a scheme number, please quote 8962/8969

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1 Giltspur Street, London EC1A 9DD Telephone 020 7294 2468  
Facsimile 020 7294 2400 E-mail intcg@cityandguilds.com  
Website <http://www.cityandguilds.com>

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## Key points

- On demand exams
- Exam tasks designed specifically for young learners
- Exams target different language skills allowing learners to focus their learning