

**Pre- seminar task for all types of teachers with the exception of Primary school teachers.  
Italian conventions 2010.**

**Integrated Skills in English (ISE)  
ISE 0, I & II**

These tasks are intended to help you familiarise yourself with the Integrated Skills in English examinations and the 2010 syllabus. Please read the Integrated Skills in English syllabus and complete these tasks before coming to the convention.

All the tasks below relate to the 2010 ISE Syllabus. Please read the relevant pages to help you answer the questions.

You don't need to print out a copy of the syllabus as you will be given one at the seminar. You need however to bring the worked paper copy of this task with you to be granted access to the workshops.

**Task 1 - General introduction**

Use the syllabus to find out the answers to the questions below  
(pages 6-8)

1. What four language skills does ISE assess?

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2. How many ISE exam levels are there? What are they?

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3. What are the 3 components of the ISE exam?

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## Task 2 - The Portfolio

Read pages 8-10 of the syllabus.

For each question choose the most suitable option from the statements below.

1. The Portfolio is:
  - a) A collection of a candidate's best written work
  - b) A dossier with examples of a candidate's class work
  - c) A record of the candidate's language learning and cultural experiences
  
2. The Portfolio includes the following types of writing:
  - a) Letters, instructions, reports and articles and diary entries
  - b) Correspondence, factual writing, creative/descriptive writing, critical/analytical writing
  - c) Personal essays, notes, blogs, forms and reviews
  
3. The finished Portfolio contains:
  - a) 15 tasks
  - b) 5 tasks
  - c) 3 task

## Task 3 - The Controlled Written exam

Read the following passages and decide which one is the best description of the Controlled Written examination. (Pages 10-12 of the syllabus)

### Text A

The Controlled Written examination is taken under exam conditions at registered centres. The exam is available every month on a fixed date. The use of dictionaries, encyclopaedias and reference materials is permitted. Candidates are given a choice of tasks and must complete two tasks at ISE 0, I and II and three tasks at ISE III and ISE IV.

### Text B

The Controlled Written examination is a traditional, timed examination taken at Trinity College in London. The exam is available on demand. The use of dictionaries or any other reference materials is not permitted. There are two tasks, a 'reading into writing' task and a correspondence task. Candidates must complete both tasks and there is no choice given.

### Text C

The Controlled Written examination is a traditional, timed examination taken at registered centres. The exam is available every month on a fixed date. The Controlled Written exam is taken without the support of external resources, such as dictionaries or reference books. At ISE 0, I and II there are two tasks, a 'reading into writing' task and a writing task. Candidates must complete all the tasks and there is no choice given.

## Task 4 - The Interview

Use the syllabus to mark the following statements True or False  
(Look at page 13, p24, p31 & p39 and specific ISE level pages.)

Statement	True	False
<i>e.g. The ISE 0 interview is 8 minutes long.</i>	✓	
Candidates should ask the examiner at least one question about their portfolio.		
There are four different assessed phases in the ISE II interview.		
All the interviews have a Topic.		
In the conversation phase ISE II candidates should be ready to talk about the process of writing the portfolio as well as the content.		
At all levels candidates must take the opportunity provided to include samples of the language functions and language items listed for the grade where appropriate.		
Candidates discuss their Portfolio with the examiner in the conversation phase.		
The candidate chooses which conversation subject area to talk about in the conversation phase.		

## Task 5 - Language requirements

Look in the syllabus and find out whether the language items in the table below are for ISE 0, I, II, III or IV. (Appendix 8 - pages 77-79)

Language item	ISE 0	ISE I	ISE II	ISE III	ISE IV
<b>Grammar</b>					
<i>e.g. Reported speech</i>			✓		
Going to future					
Correct verb patterns after wish and hope					
Zero & First conditional					
Differing linguistic forms to reformulate ideas					
<b>Lexis</b>					
Words and expressions to encourage further participation					
Cohesive devices to recap and recover					
Idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms					
Expressions of past time					
Expressions relating to future time					
<b>Language functions</b>					
Describing past habits					
Giving reasons					
Evaluating different standpoints					
Expressing likes and dislikes					
Denying					
<b>Subject areas</b>					
Shopping					
Public figures					
Advertising					
Travel					

## Task 6 - Assessment

Use the syllabus to find out the answers to the questions below.  
(Pages 14-18)

1. Which two components of the ISE exam does the examiner assess when he/she visits a registered centre?

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2. What are the five 'task fulfilment' factors assessed in the Portfolio tasks?

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3. In the portfolio grading what does a 'U' grade signify?

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4. What are the six 'task fulfilment' factors assessed in the Interview part of the exam?

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5. How are the three components of the exam weighted?

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6. What must the candidate do to be awarded an overall pass?

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## Task 7 - ISE Portfolio practice assessment exercise

Below is an example of an ISE O candidate's portfolio. Use the portfolio performance band descriptors below and the ISE Syllabus to help you decide what grades to award.

ISE O - Section 1 - Correspondence (40-60 words)

You receive an email from your American friend. He tells you about his hobbies and wants to know about yours. Write an email to your friend saying what your hobbies are, when you started them and how often you do them.

FROM: PABLOBORLA96@HOTMAIL.COM  
TO: FACUELCAPO@HOTMAIL.COM  
SUBJECT: MY FAVOURITE HOBBIES  
DATE: SEPTEMBER 27

Hello how are you? I am writing to tell you my favourite hobbies.

My first hobby is football. I started playing football when I was four years old and I play football four times a week.

My other hobby is computers. I started using the computers when I was four years old and I use the computers five times a week.

P.

Number of Words: 61

ISE O - Section 2 - Factual writing (80-100 words)

Your English friend is staying with you and he wants to visit the nearest shopping centre. Write some directions telling him how to get to the shopping centre from your house. Say what shops he can find there.

Hello. I am writing some simple directions to you to how get to the shopping centre from my house.

You are in my house, drive up to Salta Street. There in the left hand you can find a café and houses, in the right hand you can find a cinema and two fast food places. Turn right, drive up to the market. There lives a terrible dog black and white. Turn left and drive up to Vicente Lopez Street. There you can find a library. Turn left, turn right and drive up to the shopping centre.

Number of Words: 96

ISE O - Section 3 - Creative and descriptive writing (80 - 100 words)

Describe your favourite teacher for your school or college magazine. Say what he/she looks like, what he/she taught you this year and what you enjoyed the most in his/her class.

### MY FAVOURITE TEACHER

My favourite teacher is Gala. She is a tall person. She is slim, her face is round. She has a small mouth and a small nose. She is 30 years old. She has nice brown eyes. Her hair is large straight and brown. She was my English teacher in 4o. She is my favourite teacher because she was funny and she was kind. The most thing that I enjoyed in the class of Gala was the games that we sometimes play in class.

Number of Words: 84