

CLASSROOM Secondary English Competency Assorted Exercises (S.1)

Organisation		
Listening	Reading	Writing
Speaking		Grammar

Listening

Listening strategies	Step-by-step guidelines and answering strategies to certain common question types that students should pay attention to
Vocabulary building & Warm-up exercises	Simple, short listening tasks with a list of theme-related vocabulary for students to familiarise themselves with
Situational exercises	Situational listening tasks in different daily life contexts that require students to answer questions in different formats (e.g. fill-in-the-blanks in an order form, multiple-choice questions in a questionnaire)
Exercises on multiple-choice questions / questions in designated text types	Comprehensive listening tasks that include exam-based questions (e.g. multiple-choice questions and fill-in-the-blanks questions) to familiarise students with school and public listening exam formats
Pre-DSE exam skills	More detailed explanations and practice on certain listening skills to equip students with strategies for tackling public listening exams
Revisions	Two listening exercises for revision

Reading

Reading strategies	Step-by-step guidelines and answering strategies to certain common question types that students should pay attention to
Vocabulary building & Warm-up exercises	Matching exercises with a list of theme-related vocabulary for students to familiarise themselves with; Short reading exercises with various question types
Situational exercises	Situational reading exercises that require students to read different text types (e.g. advertisement and conversation) and answer various types of questions (e.g. matching and fill-in-the-blanks)
Exercises on various question types	Comprehensive reading tasks that include exam-based questions (e.g. multiple-choice and fill-in-the-blanks questions) to familiarise students with school and public reading exam formats

Pre-DSE exam skills	More detailed explanations and practice on certain reading skills to equip students with strategies for tackling public reading exams
Revisions	Two reading exercises for revision

Writing

Writing strategies	Essential writing notes that help students master the formats and requirements of writing different text types (e.g. e-mail, letter and article)
Vocabulary building & Warm-up exercises	Fill-in-the-blanks and matching exercises that provide a list of theme-related vocabulary and guide students through the structures of different text types
Extended writing exercises	Writing tasks with aids (e.g. mind map, pictures and structure table) that help students brainstorm ideas and organise their composition before writing
Pre-DSE exam skills	Extra writing skills and writing tasks to provide students with a more detailed guide to better writing

Speaking

Speaking strategies	Important presentation and interaction skills for a more elaborative presentation and a reasoned discussion
Vocabulary building & Warm-up exercises	Short exercises that provide a list of theme-related vocabulary as well as useful phrases and expressions
Exercises on individual presentation / group interaction	Exam-based speaking exercises with mind maps or guiding questions that help students brainstorm ideas for both presentations and discussions
Pre-DSE exam skills	Extra expressions that are useful in speaking exams


Grammar

Grammar notes	Useful notes and examples on certain grammatical items to clarify and help students avoid making common mistakes
Exercises	A range of exercises to consolidate what students have learnt

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Listening

Units	Themes	Strategies	Page	
1	Meeting a new friend	Tracks 01–04	<i>Identifying the main idea</i>	6
2	Sports Day	Tracks 05–08	<i>Identifying details that support a main idea</i>	10
3	Eating culture	Tracks 09–12	<i>Locating specific information</i>	14
 4	TV guide	Tracks 13–16	<i>Listening for inference</i>	18
5	A new shopping centre	Tracks 17–20	<i>Listening for tones and attitude to identify the speaker's feeling</i>	22
Revision 1	Visiting Italy	Tracks 21–24	<i>Testing the strategies from Units 1–5</i>	26
6	Chinese New Year	Tracks 25–28	<i>Predicting the likely development of the topic</i>	30
7	Special talents	Tracks 29–32	<i>Understanding the connection between ideas</i>	34
 8	English Fun Week	Tracks 33–36	<i>Understanding poems</i>	38
9	Helping the environment	Tracks 37–40	<i>Integrated listening and reading exercise</i>	42
Revision 2	A new wardrobe	Tracks 41–44	<i>Testing the strategies from Units 6–9</i>	46

* QR codes are provided for easy access to the recordings in this part.



Reading

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 10	Dinner buffet	<i>Identifying the main idea</i>	50
11	A perfect prefect	<i>Identifying details that support a main idea</i>	54
12	A trip to Tokyo	<i>Locating specific information</i>	58
13	Shopaholic	<i>Distinguishing facts from opinions</i>	62
 14	A Christmas party	<i>Making reference</i>	66
Revision 3	Hiking fun	<i>Testing the strategies from Units 10–14</i>	70

15	Cookery class	<i>Working out the meanings of unknown words and expressions</i>	74
16	A bad day	<i>Making inference</i>	78
17	A trip to Europe	<i>Identifying key words</i>	82
18	At the beach	<i>Understanding literary features</i>	86
Revision 4	Sports World	<i>Testing the strategies from Units 15–18</i>	90



Writing

Units	Themes	Strategies	Page
19	Summer holiday	<i>Understanding the format / requirements of an e-mail</i>	94
20	Finding a school post	<i>Understanding the format / requirements of a formal letter</i>	96
21	A pen friend from England	<i>Understanding the format / requirements of an informal letter</i>	98
 22	A travel experience	<i>Understanding the requirements of a suggestion letter</i>	100
 23	A new classmate	<i>Understanding the requirements of a description</i>	102
24	Learn outside the classroom	<i>Understanding the format of an article</i>	104
25	A holiday dream	<i>Understanding the requirements of a story</i>	106
26	A boat trip	<i>Understanding the requirements of a diary entry</i>	108
27	A farewell party	<i>Understanding the requirements of an article</i>	110

* Students may refer to the Grammar part to help themselves with the extended writing in this part.



Speaking

Units	Themes	Strategies	Page
28	A new school	<i>Individual presentation: Reading a mind map</i>	112
29	Famous dishes	<i>Individual presentation: Elaborating ideas</i>	114
30	Mid-Autumn Festival	<i>Individual presentation: Giving explanations of ideas</i>	116
 31	In my collection	<i>Group interaction: Seeking information</i>	118
32	Summer camp	<i>Group interaction: Giving suggestions and reasons</i>	120



Grammar

Units	Grammar points	Page
33	Modals (<i>Yvonne can speak and write English fluently.</i>)	122
34	The present tenses (<i>Jack is a film lover. He watches a film every week.</i>)	123
35	Prepositions (<i>We will have the party at Sarah's home on Monday.</i>)	124
36	Adjectives (<i>Judy is good-looking. She has big eyes.</i>)	125
37	The past tenses (<i>Sam had a nightmare last night. He was very frightened.</i>)	126
38	Pronouns (<i>I had dinner with my friends last week. We had a great time.</i>)	127
39	Gerunds and to-infinitives (<i>I like shopping. I want to buy a dress this time.</i>)	128

 Pre-DSE

refers to the taught Pre-DSE exam skills

Appendix

Mock Papers (Listening, Reading, Writing, Speaking)

Answer Key