

OET AND IELTS PREPARATION PROGRAMMES FOR NURSES

PREPARING OVERSEAS NURSES TO REGISTER IN THE UK



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Europe's first OET-accredited Premium Provider



The CPD Standards Office
CPD PROVIDER: 50026
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About Specialist Language Courses (SLC)

Based at the University of Sussex, SLC is the UK's leading provider of English language training to the UK healthcare sector.

SLC trains hundreds of nurses every year to pass the OET and IELTS tests so they can register in the UK, Ireland, Australia and elsewhere.

What sets SLC apart

- ✓ First accredited OET Premium Preparation Provider in Europe
- ✓ Unique portfolio of OET and IELTS test preparation services, from level testing to tutoring to self-study to writing correction
- ✓ Qualified, experienced teachers including ex-examiners, materials writers and teacher trainers
- ✓ Courses are tailored to specific organisations in terms of content, structure, scheduling and reporting
- ✓ Client list for OET and IELTS test preparation services includes over 40 NHS Trusts and Welsh Health Boards
- ✓ Work with Health Education England on the HEE Global Nursing Programme
- ✓ Work with NHS England on nationwide International GP Recruitment Programme
- ✓ SLC's online Medical English courses accredited by CPD Standards Office and endorsed by EALTHY (European Association of Language Teachers for Healthcare)
- ✓ Head of Medical English (Virginia Allum) is author of Cambridge English for Nursing textbooks and OET preparation materials for Cambridge University Press
- ✓ Direct relationship with OET directors and Education Team: ran successful OET pilot training programmes for overseas nurses on OET's behalf in the UK





OET and IELTS

Nursing regulatory bodies around the English-speaking world require overseas-trained nurses to pass OET or IELTS to register as a nurse.

OET and IELTS are international English language tests with four parts - Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking. Nurses need a high score to demonstrate they can give safe and effective care in English.

OET

OET is a test of English for Healthcare.

Candidates listen to patient consultations, workplace conversations and medical talks; read a range of healthcare-related texts; write a referral letter; and participate in role plays as a nurse.

OET is scored from A (best) to E. In most countries, including the UK and Australia, nurses need to score an overall B across the four papers.

IELTS

IELTS is a test of Academic English.

Candidates listen to conversations in everyday and education settings as well as an academic lecture; answer questions on a range of academic texts; write a data report and an academic essay; give a presentation and answer questions on both familiar and abstract subjects.

IELTS is scored from 9.0 (best) to 0. In most countries, nurses need 6.5 or 7.0 in the four papers. In the UK for example, nurses need 7.0 in Listening, Reading and Speaking and a 6.5 in Writing.

BASIC		INTERMEDIATE		ADVANCED		CEFR
A1	A2	B1	B2	C1	C2	
		4	4.5 5 5.5 6 6.5 7 7.5 8 9			IELTS
				D C C+ B A		OET

What the scores mean

The OET and IELTS scores required are similar to each other in terms of language level. They represent an advanced or 'C1' level as measured by the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR). The CEFR is an international standard used around the world to describe language competence.

At a C1 level, you can express yourself accurately with complex grammar and vocabulary, understand a wide range of high-level language, and use language effectively in social, academic and professional situations.

To achieve a C1 level in another language requires many hours of training and practice.



Preparing to pass OET and IELTS

Seven factors for success

1. Accurate assessment of starting level

At SLC, we test nurses before they start OET or IELTS training in the four skills. The results enable us to recommend

- Course duration
- Materials
- Blend between tutoring and homework
- Streaming of classes where appropriate

Courses are tailored to specific needs and levels and have inbuilt flexibility to evolve as nurses make progress.

2. Expert teachers

All SLC teachers are highly experienced, qualified English language teaching professionals who specialise in exam preparation.

All OET teachers undergo initial and ongoing training as part of SLC's OET Premium Preparation Provider accreditation. We work directly with the OET academic team in Melbourne and Cambridge on quality assurance issues.



Virginia Allum



Bethan Edwards



Jo Langford



Annelie Phillips



Jane McKinney

Our IELTS trainers include examiners, materials writers and teacher trainers. Virginia Allum, SLC's Head of Medical English, has co-authored OET preparation materials for OET and Cambridge University Press, as well as the internationally renowned Cambridge English for Nursing textbooks.



3. Attendance

Attending classes is vital with results dipping when attendance falls below 90%. We address absence immediately in partnership with employers.

4. Homework completion

What learners do outside the class has a direct correlation with their test results. Homework enables learners to consolidate and extend classroom learning, fill in learning gaps, and bridge between lessons.

5. Targeted materials

There is a dearth of OET materials on the one hand and a glut of IELTS materials on the other. The ability of teachers to create, select and manage learners' study materials is vital to focusing learning on what matters most and what will make the biggest difference to test results.

6. Employer partnership

Working in partnership with employers keeps nurses focused on learning. Absences, disruptions and slow progress are followed up on quickly and effectively. Schedules are set around workforce logistics. Reporting is built around an employer's needs.

7. Detailed management information

Organisations receive detailed weekly updates, consisting of attendance, homework completion and teacher comments. Mock tests and learner feedback are reported at strategic points. Review calls are scheduled to discuss progress, mock test results, potential issues and action plans where appropriate. Employers can therefore see and discuss the progress their candidates are making at any point throughout a course.

OET and IELTS Preparation Options

SLC offers a portfolio of OET and IELTS study options to be taken independently or in combination with each other.

Group training

SLC works with groups arranged by hospitals, private care organisations, medical education institutions and healthcare recruitment companies around the world.

Self-study

OET and IELTS preparation, complemented by Medical and General English courses.

One-to-one training

Intensive, effective, focused.

Writing correction

Personalised correction and feedback on the most challenging of the four papers.

Assessment

Practice tests, marked and corrected by test specialists.



Sample OET and IELTS Training Programmes

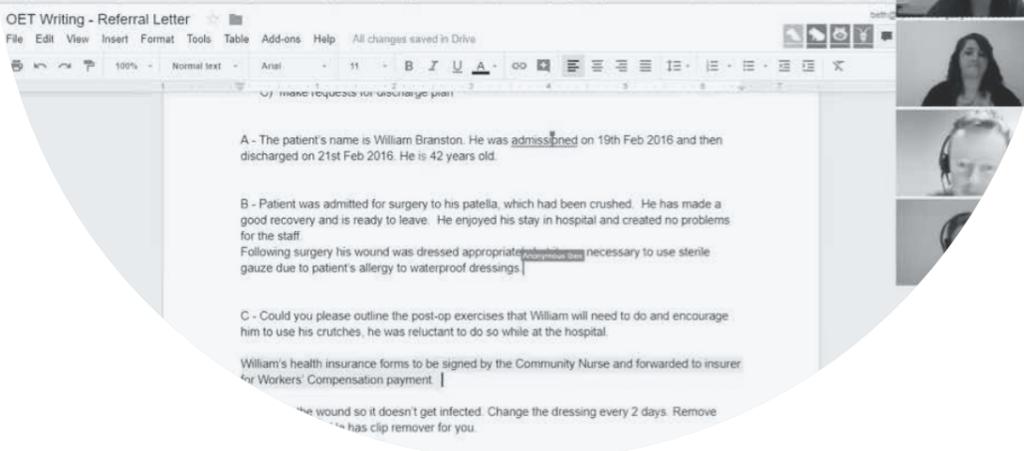
These sample training programmes prepare learners to achieve their required scores in the four papers of either OET or IELTS.

OET Preparation, Group of 8, Entry level OET C

- ✓ OET Placement Test and analysis
- ✓ Schedules and logistics set
- ✓ Pre-course briefings
- ✓ 150 hours tuition over a 15-week period
- ✓ Homework to include Reach OET B Nursing
- ✓ 6- and 12-week mock tests and review
- ✓ Exam strategies consolidation
- ✓ Book the test

IELTS Preparation, Group of 8, Entry level IELTS 6.0

- ✓ IELTS Placement Test and analysis
- ✓ Schedules and logistics set
- ✓ Pre-course briefings
- ✓ 200 hours tuition over a 20-week period
- ✓ Homework to include Reach IELTS
- ✓ 8- and 16-week mock tests and review
- ✓ Exam strategies consolidation
- ✓ Book the test



Small Group Writing Courses

For many nurses, the Writing paper is their biggest challenge. These courses are for groups of up to 5 learners who have achieved the scores they need in Listening, Reading and Speaking, but not in Writing.

OET Writing, entry level OET C in Writing

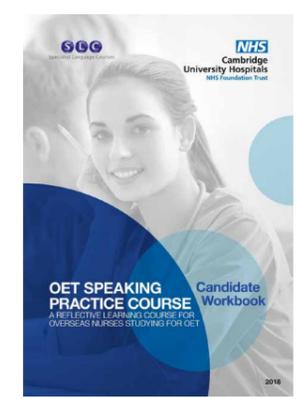
- ✓ Confirmation of OET score and Needs Analysis
- ✓ Schedules and logistics set
- ✓ Pre-course briefings
- ✓ 24 hours tuition over a 4-week period
- ✓ Mock Writing tasks and detailed feedback throughout
- ✓ Book the test

IELTS Writing, entry level IELTS 6.0 in Writing

- ✓ Confirmation of IELTS score and Needs Analysis
- ✓ Schedules and logistics set
- ✓ Pre-course briefings
- ✓ 24 hours tuition over a 4-week period
- ✓ Mock Writing tasks and detailed feedback throughout
- ✓ Book the test

OET Speaking Course

On OET preparation courses, ward managers support nurses with the unique OET Speaking Course, developed by SLC with Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge, so blended classroom learning with ward-based practice.



SLC is digital-first

We use online classrooms to give lessons. SLC's excellent teachers work with students wherever they are, from the UK to India to the Philippines. Schedules are flexible and organised around shifts and time zones. Learners simply login, saving time and travel costs. Lessons are given on Zoom, award-winning classroom software used by thousands of universities and teaching organisations around the world.

We publish OET, IELTS and Medical English courses online. We deliver assessments and practice tests online. All content is hosted on cutting edge learning management software, delivering great learner experience. Scores and progress are tracked and reported. Courses can be branded, customised and commissioned.

We understand not everybody loves technology as much as we do, so we provide dedicated and free technical support for all our learners.





Reach OET B Nursing



Reach OET B Medicine



Reach IELTS

SLC Test Preparation Courses - Online Self-study

These courses are written specifically to help learners achieve the scores they need in OET and IELTS. They can be taken alone or combined with tutored classes.

- ✓ 50 hours of input
- ✓ Paper by paper focus
- ✓ How to answer each question type
- ✓ What language you need to learn
- ✓ What the examiners are looking for
- ✓ Step by step exam strategies
- ✓ Practice questions
- ✓ What to expect on the day
- ✓ Written by test experts



English for Doctors



English for Doctors:
Clinical Interactions



English for Nurses



English for Care



English for Medical
Academic Purposes



Medical Terminology

SLC Medical English Courses - Online Self-study

SLC offers a unique portfolio of online Medical English courses.

These courses are written by experts and used by healthcare professionals and students around the world to improve their ability to work, study, research and communicate in an English-language environment.

Covering a wide range of medical terminology, hospital English, clinical interactions, and medical academic language, these courses also provide excellent preparation for the OET Nursing and Medicine tests.

All courses are accredited by the CPD Standards Office and endorsed by EALTHY.

The CPD Standards Office
CPD PROVIDER: 50028
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www.cpdstandards.com





OET Placement Test



IELTS Placement Test

OET and IELTS Assessment Services

Not sure of your candidates' level? Want to know how long they need to pass OET or IELTS? SLC offer organisations level testing and detailed analysis of candidate readiness.

- ✓ Online assessment
- ✓ Easy to use
- ✓ Timed
- ✓ Writing is submitted and marked by an OET or IELTS expert
- ✓ Speaking is conducted live in SLC's online classroom
- ✓ Accurate skill by skill reporting
- ✓ Training recommendations where required

SLC assess hundreds of candidates every year.

Want your own test for your organisation? We write, create and deliver client-specific OET, IELTS and Medical English tests. Contact us to find out more.



What our clients say

“

“ABUHB has been extremely pleased with the English language tuition service provided by SLC. It has, in its entirety, met the requirements of the contract procured in a cohesive way.”

Dr. Lyn Middleton, Associate Director of Nursing,
Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

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“

“Working in close partnership with SLC, our EU nurses at Cambridge (Addenbrookes hospital) benefit from the professional teaching, curriculum development, knowledge and individual care of tutors at SLC. The tutors care about the EU nurses meeting their potential. The nurses tell us that they have good working relationships with their tutors, who help them to identify their learning needs, and then support them to achieve their English qualification as evidenced by the significant increases in our pass rates.”

Bronwyn Ramsay, Clinical Education Facilitator- Operational EU Lead,
Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge

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“We were delighted with the results achieved through SLC for our candidates undertaking the OET... We would recommend this training programme to all our hospital partners.”

Michael Joyce, Divisional Manager, King's Commercial,
part of King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

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