

OET Preparation

Specialist English for refugee and migrant
healthcare professionals

What is OET?

The Occupational English Test (OET) is a specialist English language qualification built specifically for healthcare professionals.

Unlike general English tests, OET assesses language in realistic clinical contexts — consultations, patient notes, referral letters, ward handovers — making it directly relevant to the work learners will actually do.

OET is available in twelve profession-specific versions, including Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy and Physiotherapy.

What does a high OET score unlock?



Registration in the UK — OET scores are accepted by most UK healthcare regulators, including the GMC (doctors), NMC (nurses and midwives), GPhC (pharmacists) and HCPC (dietitians, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, podiatrists, radiographers, speech and language therapists)



Confidence — preparing for OET gives learners the confidence and knowledge needed to re-enter the professions they spent so much time both studying for and working in.



Profession-specific communication skills — real-world tasks that mirror what healthcare professionals face every day

- ✓ Consulting with patients, explaining diagnoses and treatment
- ✓ Writing referral and discharge letters
- ✓ Listening to workplace conversations
- ✓ Reading medical texts — guidelines, drug charts, research

What does the OET course cover?

The course develops both clinical English competence and the specific skills each sub-test demands.



Speaking — two role-play consultations; active listening, explaining diagnoses, managing difficult patient conversations



Reading — clinical texts, research extracts and patient information; identifying relevant detail and interpreting health data



Writing — a referral, discharge or transfer letter, using appropriate structure, clinical summarising and safe, clear communication



Listening — healthcare conversations and patient consultations, note-taking and extracting key clinical information

Because OET content mirrors real clinical environments, studying for it is not a detour from professional development — it is professional development.

OET courses typically last between 40 and 150 hours, depending on starting levels.



**Ready to enrol
your learners?**

Get in touch with SLC to discuss
start dates and group bookings.

