



Department of English Language Teaching
Gauhati University
Guwahati 781014, Assam

Ability Enhancement Compulsory Course
(All Undergraduate Degree Programmes under Gauhati University)

ENG-AE-1014 English Communication
English Language Proficiency

First Semester

Total marks: 100 (External: 80 + Internal: 20)	Nature of Course: AECC	No. of Credits: 4
		No. of hours: 60

Course Description

This course on English for undergraduate students aims to develop the language skills of students who need to use English for academic and other purposes. The sustained content in this course is based on Reading and Writing pedagogy, and uses authentic materials to teach students. The accessible short texts used will help the students develop their speaking, reading, writing, vocabulary and grammar skills.

Objectives

This course will enable students to

- develop their reading skills
- read various texts efficiently and critically
- learn to extract the main ideas and key details of a text
- approach an academic text with confidence
- develop writing skills through a stimulus
- build their vocabulary
- develop their grammar skills
- speak according to the context and with confidence
- use academic skills for other courses of study

Courses it feeds into

This course will feed into all the other courses of study. This will also help prepare students for various examinations.

Mode of delivery

Interactive discussions, silent reading, personalization of topics, exercises and activities based on the texts, on the spot writing assignments, pair and group discussions, and feedback sharing.

Evaluation plan

Students will be evaluated through an Internal component of 20 marks comprising a Mid-session exam, class assignments, home assignments, class discussions, oral presentations, and so on. There will also be an end-of-term External examination of 80 marks where students will be evaluated on their understanding of the course and their ability to use the skills and strategies studied in the course.

Distribution of marks: External = 80 marks; Internal = 20 marks

I. External assessment: 80 marks

Reading: 25 marks

Writing: 25 marks

Vocabulary: 15 marks

Grammar: 15 marks

Speaking: Not for formal testing

II. Internal assessment: 20 marks

All the sections will be tested in the same pattern as the external components

Course Content

Reading

Specific Objectives

The course aims to enable students to:

- read for the main idea of a text
- know the context of the text
- develop their overall comprehension skills

Teaching Points

- Thinking about the topic, predicting, personalizing the topic
- Reading for key terms
- Reading for the main idea
- Guessing meaning in context
- Skimming (overall idea)
- Scanning (specific information)
- Reading for gist
- Understanding context through language

Course Outcomes

After studying / completing the course the students will be able to comprehend a text meaningfully by:

- making predictions about a text
- relating to their life experiences to the topic of the text
- identifying the key terms in a text
- guessing meaning of the text in particular contexts
- reading for overall idea of the text and for specific information
- knowing the context of the text
- comprehending a text meaningfully

Writing

Specific Objectives

The course aims to enable students to:

- compose grammatical sentences
- write coherent paragraphs (various types and for various purposes)
- summarise texts
- use punctuation appropriately
- define terms with illustrations
- make notes

Teaching Points

- Making / Building sentences
- Generating ideas
- Paragraph building
- Punctuation
- Capitalization
- Writing expanded definitions
- Note taking
- Writing a summary
- Writing a listing paragraph
- Writing about differences
- Writing about changes

Outcomes

At the end of the course, the students will be able to:

- Generate ideas for focused writing
- Use punctuation accurately
- Write various types of paragraphs coherently
- Write summaries
- Define terms giving illustrations

Vocabulary

Specific Objectives

The course aims to enable students to:

- deal with unknown words using knowledge of related words and context clues
- relate words to the topic
- understand key terms in the text
- know linking words
- understand collocations
- define technical terms
- know the use of phrasal verbs and idioms

Teaching Points

- Dealing with unknown words
- Using knowledge of related words
- Learning words related to topic
- Using context clues
- Understanding key terms in the text
- Word maps for remembering new vocabulary
- Linking words
- Collocations
- Technical terms and definitions
- Phrasal verbs and idioms

Outcomes

At the end of the course the students will be able to

- Learn and use unknown words
- Use words related to a topic
- Understand key terms in the text
- Make word maps for remembering new vocabulary
- Use linking words and collocations
- Define technical terms
- Use phrasal verbs and idioms in appropriate contexts

Grammar

Specific Objectives

The course aims to enable students to:

- use the structures of English appropriately
- write longer texts such as reports using appropriate sentence construction, such as the use of Active and Passive voice
- recognize distinctions in meaning through the use of different grammatical terms

Teaching Points

- Uses of tenses: simple plus progressive, degree of certainty, special uses of the past
- Verbs and idioms
- Articles
- Conditional sentences
- Modal verbs
- Indirect and direct speech
- Active and passive voice
- Comparatives and superlatives
- Questions and question types
- Determiners
- Contracted forms

Outcomes

After the course, the students will be able to:

- speak reasonably grammatical English in various academic and social contexts
- use appropriate grammatical structures while writing English
- use various tense forms appropriately

Speaking

Specific Objectives

The course aims to enable students to:

- Identify and use appropriate expressions to perform various language functions
- Communicate in different situations using various language functions
- Recognize the degree of formality while performing language functions

Teaching Points

- introducing oneself and others
- asking for clarification
- expressing gratitude
- making requests
- giving directions/instructions
- apologizing
- agreeing/disagreeing

Outcomes

At the end of the course, the students will be able to:

- Use appropriate expressions to perform various language functions
- Perform various language functions according to the degree of formality
- Respond appropriately to various situations using the most relevant language function

References

Prescribed textbook:

Tamuli, A. (2019). *English Language for Undergraduate Students (Units 1 – 8)*,
Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Reference books:

Brown, K. & Hood, S. (2002). *Academic Encounters: Intermediate to High Intermediate*.
Cambridge: CUP

Doff, A. & Jones, C. (2004). *Language in Use: Intermediate Classroom Book*.
Cambridge: CUP

Jones, L. (1988). *Cambridge Advanced English: Student's Book*. Cambridge: CUP

Soars, J. & Soars, L. (2012). *New Headway: Intermediate*. Oxford: OUP

Thaine, C. (2012). *Cambridge Academic English: B1+ Intermediate Student's Book*.
Cambridge: CUP