

DISCOVER TRINITY'S GESE: Graded Examinations in Spoken English

Suitable for learners of all ages and abilities

Trinity's Graded Examinations in Spoken English (GESE) are one-to-one oral assessments of speaking and listening skills with a Trinity examiner. Available at 12 grades of proficiency from CEFR level pre-A1 to C2, they are suitable for all learners from beginner to advanced.

Focus on communicative skills

Trinity's GESE qualifications equip people with the English speaking and listening skills they need for life in the 21st century. Candidates typically range from schoolchildren and college students to mature learners wanting to improve their English for study, travel, employment or immigration purposes.

Trinity's GESE exams assess a range of speaking and listening skills and test what a candidate can actually do, rather than just what they know.

Preparation for GESE exams focuses on the development of authentic communicative skills and on building the confidence to use English in real life.

A qualification for every level

GESE qualifications are available at 12 grades of proficiency, grouped in four development stages:

Stage	Grade	CEFR level
Initial	Grades 1-3	Pre-A1 to A2
Elementary	Grades 4-6	A2+ to B1+
Intermediate	Grades 7-9	B2 to B2++
Advanced	Grades 10-12	C1 to C2

All GESE grades, except pre-A1, have been formally calibrated to the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR).

Developing exams and assessing performance for over 140 years

Key features

- ▶ **Motivational:** The opportunity to gain qualifications in achievable steps inspires learners to progress.
- ▶ **Personalised:** Candidates prepare a topic of their own choice in advance of their exam, as the basis of an interactive discussion with the examiner.
- ▶ **Expert examiners:** Trinity examiners are trained to put students at ease and encourage them to perform at their best.
- ▶ **Diagnostic feedback:** Trinity provides a free 30-minute examiner feedback session on students' overall exam performance (for in-person examiner visits only).
- ▶ **Supports teaching:** GESE is designed to support classroom teaching and maps easily to general English language curricula and coursework.
- ▶ **Exam preparation:** Trinity provides clear exam specifications, guidance and support, plus free online teaching and learning resources.
- ▶ **Inclusive:** There is a GESE grade for every learner – whatever their proficiency stage, nationality or cultural context.
- ▶ **Early results:** Early provisional results are available before certificates are issued to successful candidates.
- ▶ **Exam options:** GESE exams are available as face-to-face in-person examiner sessions or online sessions via video conference.

Exam information, together with teaching and learning resources for each stage are available at trinitycollege.com/GESE



Quality audited by the
Association of Language Testers in Europe

Assessment summary

At each stage of proficiency, candidates carry out a number of speaking and listening tasks that show their fluency, accuracy and ability to communicate in spoken English.

Stage (Grade) CEFR level	Initial (Grades 1-3) Pre-A1 to A2	Elementary (Grades 4-6) A2+ to B1+	Intermediate (Grades 7-9) B2 to B2++	Advanced (Grades 10-12) C1 to C2
Exam length	5-7 minutes	10 minutes	15 minutes	25 minutes
Listen to a short passage and answer questions	–	–	–	Listening task
Presentation on topic of own choice	–	–	–	Topic presentation
Ask questions about a given situation	–	–	Interactive task	Interactive task
Talk about a topic of own choice	–	Topic discussion	Topic discussion	Topic discussion
Talk about two subjects and give ideas and opinions	Conversation	Conversation	Conversation	Conversation

About the exam tasks

- ▶ **Conversation (all grades):** An opportunity for the candidate to demonstrate their ability to exchange information, ideas and opinions at an appropriate level for the grade.
- ▶ **Topic (Grades 4-12):** Before the exam, the candidate prepares a topic of their own choice. This is used as the basis for an interactive discussion and as the basis of a formal presentation at Advanced level.
- ▶ **Interactive task (Grades 7-12):** A prompt from the examiner initiates candidate-led interactions – requiring an authentic and spontaneous exchange of information and opinions.
- ▶ **Listening task (Grades 10-12):** Short spoken passages prompt the candidate to demonstrate skills of prediction, deduction and inference.

About Trinity

Trinity's English language qualifications are recognised by regulatory authorities and widely accepted by governments and institutions as valid and reliable evidence of English language proficiency.

Operating in over 60 countries worldwide, Trinity College London is a leading international exam board and independent education charity specialising in the assessment of communicative and performance skills.

Learning progression

As they move up the grades, GESE candidates undertake tasks that require a more advanced use of language. Progress is typically characterised by:

- ▶ increased evidence of communicative abilities
- ▶ use of more demanding language functions, grammar, lexis and phonology
- ▶ increased candidate independence showing they can initiate and take control of interactions.

Trinity also offers Integrated Skills in English (ISE) qualifications at CEFR levels A2-C2, incorporating Reading & Writing and Speaking & Listening exam modules. Visit trinitycollege.com/ISE for more information.

Find out more

- ▶ For GESE exam information, guidance, sample videos and teaching resources, visit trinitycollege.com/GESE
- ▶ Contact your local Trinity representative for information about GESE exams in your area – find their details at trinitycollege.com/worldwide
- ▶ To find out about becoming a Trinity-registered exam centre visit trinitycollege.com/register