

General English – Essential Plus

Study Guide

1. The levels	3
2. The structure of your course	4
3. Unit sections	6
Start.....	6
Reading	6
Vocabulary	7
Grammar	7
Listening.....	8
Practice	8
Writing Tutorial 1.....	9
Takeaway English.....	9
Pronunciation.....	10
Forum (Optional)	10
Writing Tutorial 2.....	11
Speaking.....	11
Review.....	12
Test.....	12
Feedback.....	13
4. Tools and resources	14
Text to speech.....	15
Dictionary.....	15
Grammar reference	16
Business centre.....	16
Translate into any language.....	17
Pronunciation tool	18
Interactive English.....	19
Fun and games.....	19
Forums	20

Audio speed control.....	20
Additional resources	21
Speech recognition	21
5. Role of the tutor.....	22
6. Assessment	22

1. The levels

Net Languages General English courses	Common European Framework	University of Cambridge ESOL exams	IELTS	TOEFL (paper)	TOEFL (computer)	TOEIC (Listening and Reading)	TRINITY GESE	TRINITY ISE
Proficiency	C2 Proficient user	CPE	8.5 - 9.0	670+	115 - 120	880 - 990	GESE 12	ISE IV
Advanced	C1 Proficient user	CAE (BEC Higher)	7.0 - 8.0	630 - 670	100 - 115	780 - 880	GESE 11 GESE 10	ISE III
Pre-Advanced	B2+ Independent user		6.0 - 6.5	580 - 630	78 - 100	690 - 780	GESE 9 GESE 8	ISE II
Upper Intermediate	B2 Independent user	FCE (BEC Vantage)	5.5 - 6.0	550 - 580	45 - 78	600 - 690	GESE 7	
Mid Intermediate	B1+ Independent user		4.5 - 5.0	530 - 550	30 - 45	500 - 600	GESE 6	ISE I
Lower Intermediate	B1 Independent user	PET (BEC Preliminary)	4.0 - 4.5	500 - 530	0 - 30	400 - 500	GESE 5	
Elementary	A2 Basic user					200 - 400	GESE 4 GESE 3	ISE Foundations
Pre-Elementary	A1 Basic user					0 - 200	GESE 2 GESE 1	

2. The structure of your course

You have access to a complete level of a General English course. This includes access to 10 units and a mid- and end-of-level test.

Access my course Assessment

- Unit 1 - Go
- Unit 2 - Me
- Unit 3 - My Day
- Unit 4 - How Much Is It?
- Unit 5 - People
- Mid-level test
- Unit 6 - Yesterday
- Unit 7 - What Are You Doing?
- Unit 8 - Travel
- Unit 9 - What's On?
- Unit 10 - Festivals
- End-of-level test

 I have completed 0% of the course.

 Total hours worked on course:
00:09:35

 End date: 19/06/2020

Each unit is divided into 15 sections, and is developed around a topic.



Unit 1 - Cities

⌚ **1. Start**
 Check what you know about Australia and other countries.

📖 **2. Reading**
 Read about Sydney.

🏠 **3. Vocabulary**
 Learn words describing geography and cities, country names and place adjectives.

🗃️ **4. Grammar**
 Study comparatives and superlatives.

🎧 **5. Listening**
 Listen to a conversation comparing two cities.

✅ **6. Practice**
 Practise what you have studied so far in this unit.

📝 **7. Writing Tutorial 1**
 Describe different cities, and write about transport and travel in your country.

📁 **8. Takeaway English**
 Practise describing exactly where places are.

/ə/ **9. Pronunciation**
 Look at stress patterns and how to say new words from this unit.

📄 **10. Forum (OPTIONAL)**
 Share your opinions about "the best" and "the worst" things where you live.

📝 **11. Writing Tutorial 2**
 Write a guide to your city, or write about your neighbourhood.

😊 **12. Speaking**
 Practise the /aɪ/ and /ɪ/ sounds and phrasing when you speak.

↩️ **13. Review**
 Review the work in the unit.

✅ **14. Test**
 Test what you have studied in this unit.

✉️ **15. Feedback**
 Send us your feedback on this unit.

3. Unit sections

Start

This is an introduction to the topic of the unit, and may introduce some useful vocabulary as well. Typical exercise types include quizzes and questionnaires.

 **1. Start**
In this section you will learn words about people.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

1. People.

● Click and listen.






 Click to flip

< >

Reading

In this section you read a text with comprehension tasks and reading practice. Language that appears in this text is analysed and practised in the rest of the unit.

 **2. Reading**
In this section you will read a student's blog.

1 2 3 4 5 6

1. A blog.

● Read Marianna's blog. Choose the headings to complete the sections.

Marianna's Blog

HOME



..... ▾

I was born in Mexico City, and I'm 18 years old. I'm a student, and I'm studying medicine in college. I live with my family, and these are the people that I love

Vocabulary

This section focuses on vocabulary from Reading and related to the topic. You practise areas such as word families, collocations, and word formation, as well as discovering meaning from the context.

 3. Vocabulary

In this section you will learn words to describe people.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

1. Character and appearance. 



● Look at the sentences from Marianna's blog. Put the words in blue in the correct box.

I'm a **quiet, easy-going** person, and I like to help people...
 I have a younger sister. Her name's Frida, and she's very **nice**. She's very **smart** and **funny**, and we get along very well. She has big **brown eyes** and **long hair**. She's **tall** and really **pretty**... Another important person in my family is my grandmother, Eliana. She's a very **practical** person.

Appearance
Character

Grammar

In this section you practise grammatical areas that emerge from the READING section. These can include verb forms, modality, the article system, noun phrase construction, syntax and common verb patterns. There are links to the Grammar Reference for each level.

 4. Grammar

In this section you will learn to use 's, possessive adjectives *my, his* and *her*, and practise questions about people.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

3. Possessive adjectives.

 I am a teacher. **My** name is Mike.
 Marianna's father is an accountant. **His** name is Rodrigo.
 Marianna's sister is a student. **Her** name is Frida.
My, his and **her** are possessive adjectives.

Subject pronoun	Possessive adjective
I am Mike.	My name is Mike.
He is Rodrigo.	His name is Rodrigo.
She is Frida.	Her name is Frida.

● Choose the correct option to complete the sentences.

- I have a son. name is Oscar.
- My mother is a doctor. name is Dorothy.
- My brother is an architect. name is Brian.
- I am married. wife's name is Sonia.

Listening

You practise listening skills in this section. You listen to a monologue, dialogue or discussion related to the topic of the unit. You can practise as much as you like. If you find the listening difficult, you can slow down the speed.

5. Listening

In this section you will listen to Paul describing a photo of his family and friends.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

4. Listen again.

- Look at the photo. Listen again. Match the names to the people or the dog.

0:00 / 0:00 0.8x 1.0x

1. 2. 3.
4. 5. 6.

Practice

Here you reflect on and practise what you have learnt so far in this unit.

6. Practice

In this section you will practise what you have studied so far in this unit.

1

1. Language review.

- Choose the correct option.

1. I have three ____ - a boy and two girls.

sons daughters child children

2. There are four people in the taxi - two men and two ____.

woman women lady madams

3. My uncle is _____. He designs roads and bridges.

a lawyer a conductor an accountant an engineer

Writing Tutorial 1

This tutorial focuses on the grammar and vocabulary practised in this unit. You write sentences or a short paragraph. You send this to your tutor and receive a mark out of 10.

Write to your tutor

1. Describe a famous person.

Look at the examples.



Nicole Kidman
She's an actress. She's tall, and she has long blonde hair and blue eyes. She's very pretty.



Woody Allen
He's an actor and a director. He's not very tall. He doesn't have much hair, and he wears glasses.

Now describe five famous people. Then send the descriptions to your tutor.

Takeaway English

In this section you practise useful expressions, functional language based on common situations. For example; at the doctor's or booking an airline ticket.

8. Takeaway English

In this section you will learn how to buy clothes.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

5. In a shop.

- Watch the three videos. Put the lines in the correct order.

SA = Shop assistant C = Customer



Pronunciation

Here you practise pronunciation features that have emerged in the Listening or Takeaway English sections. You practise hearing the features before you practise them. You will often see **speech recognition** exercises in this section. See the **Speech recognition** guide in **My documents** for more information about these exercises.

Forum (Optional)

In this section you can share comments with other students about the topic of the unit.

Writing Tutorial 2

This is the major writing component of each unit. You write a longer text to send to your tutor. You often analyse a model text before you write, for example, an email or an article. You receive a mark out of 20 for this task.

 **7. Writing Tutorial 1**
In this section you will describe different cities, and write about transport and travel in your country.

1

 **Write to your tutor**

1. Compare cities.
Compare three cities in your country. Write six sentences. (To help you, look at [GRAMMAR exercise 1](#) again.)

2. Compare ways of travelling.
Compare different ways of travelling in your town or city. Which type of transport do you use? Explain why. Write six sentences.

3. The best month.
What is the best month to travel in your country? Write three sentences explaining why.
Here are the months and seasons in English:
Months: January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December
Seasons: spring, summer, autumn, winter
Send the completed tasks to your tutor.

Speaking

In this section you practise different features of pronunciation and fluency. In the last exercise you read aloud a longer spoken text, then receive feedback on your performance. This is speaking practice for you. It does not count in your unit score. See the **Speech Recognition Guide** in **My resources** for more information about speech recognition exercises.

 **12. Speaking**
In this section you will practise the /aɪ/ and /ɪ/ sounds and phrasing when you speak.

1 2 3 4

4. Speaking.

- Listen and follow. Then read and record the description at a medium speed. Imagine you are talking to a new friend.

 **Speaking** 
Practise fluency

I'm from Australia. I'm from a place called Brisbane. Do you know where that is? It's in the north of Australia. It's on the east coast, at the bottom of the state of Queensland. It's the capital, in fact. It's a nice place. It's quite a big city, built on a river, and it's nearly in the tropics, so it's very hot in summer.





< BACK
NEXT >

Feedback

The format for this section is the same in each unit. Here, you fill in a form to give feedback on the unit – the level of difficulty, enjoyment, etc.



16. Feedback

In this section you will send us your feedback on this unit.

1. What did you think of this unit?

- It was about right for me
- It was too easy
- It was too difficult

2. The topics were ...

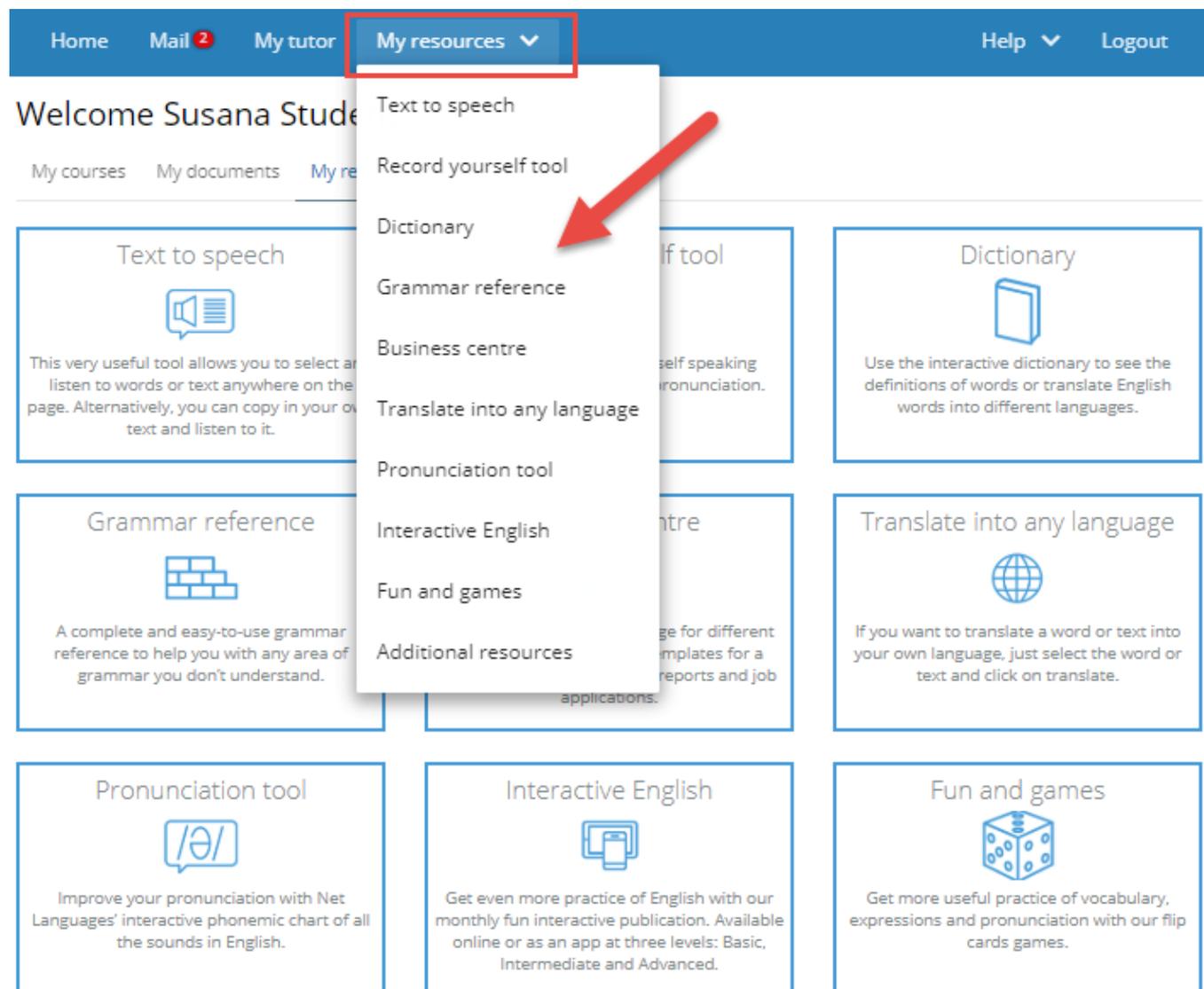
- interesting
- not interesting

3. Did you like the following sections?

- | | | |
|------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Start | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| Reading | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| Vocabulary | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| Grammar | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| Listening | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |
| Practice | <input type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No |

4. Tools and resources

To see the resources available in your course, click on **My resources**.



The screenshot shows the Net Languages user interface. At the top, a blue navigation bar contains links for Home, Mail (with a red notification badge), My tutor, My resources (highlighted with a red box and a dropdown arrow), Help (with a dropdown arrow), and Logout. Below the navigation bar, the user is greeted with 'Welcome Susana Student' and has links for My courses, My documents, and My resources. A dropdown menu is open under 'My resources', listing the following options: Text to speech, Record yourself tool, Dictionary, Grammar reference, Business centre, Translate into any language, Pronunciation tool, Interactive English, Fun and games, and Additional resources. A red arrow points from the 'Dictionary' option in the dropdown to the corresponding 'Dictionary' resource card in the grid below. The grid consists of nine resource cards, each with an icon and a brief description:

- Text to speech:** This very useful tool allows you to select and listen to words or text anywhere on the page. Alternatively, you can copy in your own text and listen to it.
- Record yourself tool:** Use this tool to practice your self speaking and pronunciation.
- Dictionary:** Use the interactive dictionary to see the definitions of words or translate English words into different languages.
- Grammar reference:** A complete and easy-to-use grammar reference to help you with any area of grammar you don't understand.
- Business centre:** A resource for different templates for a reports and job applications.
- Translate into any language:** If you want to translate a word or text into your own language, just select the word or text and click on translate.
- Pronunciation tool:** Improve your pronunciation with Net Languages' interactive phonemic chart of all the sounds in English.
- Interactive English:** Get even more practice of English with our monthly fun interactive publication. Available online or as an app at three levels: Basic, Intermediate and Advanced.
- Fun and games:** Get more useful practice of vocabulary, expressions and pronunciation with our flip cards games.

Text to speech

Text to speech



This very useful tool allows you to select and listen to words or text anywhere on the page. Alternatively, you can copy in your own text and listen to it.

2. Reading
In this section you will read three diary pages.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

3. Dear diary...

- Read these three diary pages. Choose the picture that goes with each one.

1. Sheryl's di Listen Translate

Tuesday, 23 May

It was the best day of my life. I got up early. I was so

Record yourself tool

Record yourself tool



Record and listen to yourself speaking English and practise your pronunciation.

Record yourself tool

To record your work:

- Click the record button. Speak into the microphone. Click the stop button to finish.
- Click the play button to listen.
- Click on the download button to save the file.

Dictionary

Dictionary



Use the interactive dictionary to see the definitions of words or translate English words into different languages.

Translation Box - Google Chrome

netlanguages.com/platform/player/diction...

Translate...

English ▼ Go

Grammar reference

Grammar reference



A complete and easy-to-use grammar reference to help you with any area of grammar you don't understand.

Search

Grammar reference

Contents

Adjectives ▼

What are they?

Comparatives and superlatives

-ed, -ing

Opposites with **un-**

So, such + adjective

Too, enough

Word order

Adverbs >

Adjectives

Comparatives and superlatives

Comparative sentences compare two things.

- Moon Rock is **smaller than** Pittsville.
- The train is **more expensive than** the bus.
- I like the train, but the bus is **cheaper**.
- Jill is **better than** Wendy at languages.
- Jill is **the better** learner of the two. (Sometimes we use **the** in comparative sentences when it is understood which two people or things are being compared: the + comparative + noun)

Superlative sentences compare more than two things.

- Sydney is **the biggest** city. (= of all the other cities)
- The plane is **the most expensive** way to travel.
- Of all the forms of transport, the plane is **the most expensive**.
- Alison is **the best** swimmer.

Business centre

Business centre



Business tips, useful language for different business situations, and templates for a variety of texts like memos, reports and job applications.

 Business centre

Useful business language

Business tips

Useful business links

Interesting reading

Interesting videos

Writing templates for business

Phone message samples

Translate into any language

You can select any text on a page, listen to it spoken, and translate it into any language.

Translate into any language



If you want to translate a word or text into your own language, just select the word or text and click on translate.

2. Reading

In this section you will read three diary pages.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

3. Dear diary...

- Read these three diary pages. Choose the picture that goes with each one.

1. Sheryl's di Listen Translate

Tuesday, 23 May

It was the best day of my life. I got up early. I was so

Pronunciation tool

Pronunciation tool



Improve your pronunciation with Net Languages' interactive phonemic chart of all the sounds in English.

Pronunciation tool netlanguages^o

[Home](#) [About](#) [Help](#)

All the sounds of English

- Click on a sound and do the exercises.

Vowels

i:	ɪ	ʊ	u:
e	ə	ɜ:	ɔ:
æ	ʌ	ɑ:	ɒ

Consonants

p	b	t	d
f	v	θ	ð
m	n	ŋ	h

Pronunciation tool netlanguages^o

[Home](#) [Sounds](#) [Words](#) [Sentences](#) [Contrasts](#) [Help](#)

/i:/

- Listen to the word. Repeat the word. Record yourself. Compare.



sheep



Stopped



beach



Stopped



eagle



Stopped

Interactive English

Interactive English



Get even more practice of English with our monthly fun interactive publication. Available online or as an app at three levels: Basic, Intermediate and Advanced.

Interactive English



Issue 243 - Lockdown challenge

< Back

- Basic
Vocabulary: Actions
News story: Lockdown challenge
- Intermediate
Comprehension: Instructions – Lockdown challenge
News story: Lockdown challenge
- Advanced
Comprehension: Instructions – Lockdown challenge
News story: Lockdown challenge



Fun and games

Fun and games



Get more useful practice of vocabulary, expressions and pronunciation with our flip cards games.

Fun and games

Collocations

What's the word in the centre? It can be used with all the other words in the wheel. Click on the card to see the answer.

Click to flip

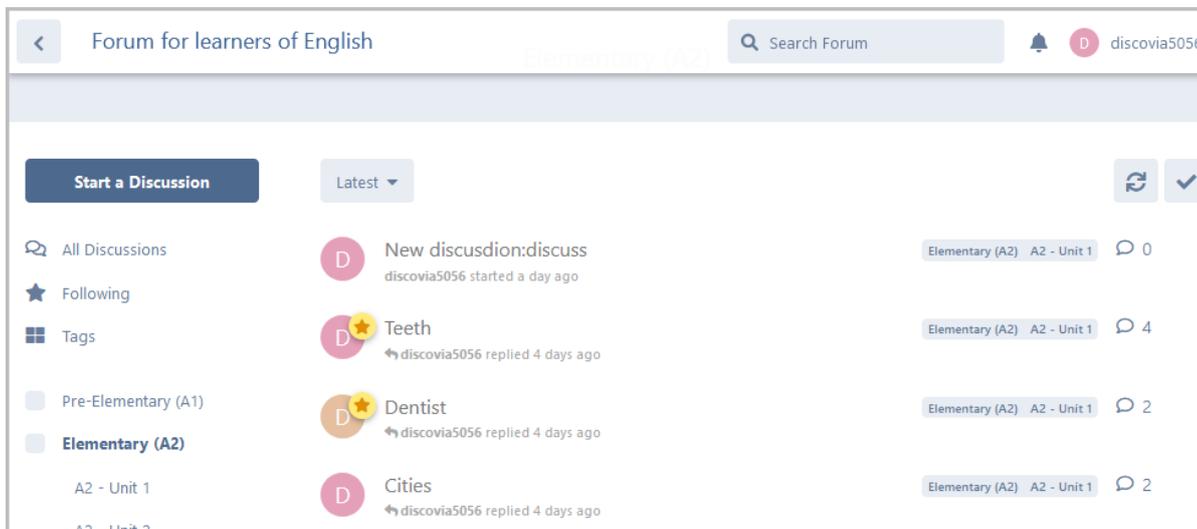
< >

Forums

Forums



Share your experiences and opinions with other Net Languages students from all over the world.



Audio speed control

Audio speed control



If you find the audio exercises difficult, you can slow down the speed.

1 2 3 4

4. Listen again.

- Listen from where Andy says, "... No, it's smaller than Barc next?"

▶

●
0:00 / 0:00
🔊
0.8x
1.0x



Additional resources

Additional resources



Access useful online resources and practise listening and reading with learning materials and authentic sources.


Additional resources

Video material

Listening material

Online reading

For elementary learners:

Pick of the month

- **Star Wars Day**
May 4th is Star Wars day. Find out why.

Food

- **Pink chocolate**
A new colour for chocolate.
- **Insect ice cream**
A new flavour for your ice cream. Would you eat it?

Speech recognition

- Listen to and record the words and sentences.

Speaking
i

Practise your pronunciation of sounds and words

7 I think this is his book.





✓ Correct!

< BACKNEXT >

Powered by Carnegie Speech

Each unit also contains a variety of speech recognition exercises. There are different types of exercises. They practise sounds, words, sentences and your fluency when you read aloud. These exercises are often in the **Pronunciation** and **Takeaway English** sections of the unit, and are always in the **Speaking** section, where you practise speaking fluency. See the **Speech Recognition Guide** in **My resources** for more information about speech recognition exercises.

5. Role of the tutor

The tutor is an experienced teacher of English who will help you throughout the course. The tutor will:

1. send written comments, corrections and marks for Writing Tutorial 1 and Writing Tutorial 2 of each unit
2. answer any questions you have about the course
3. motivate and encourage you throughout the course

6. Assessment

Marks are awarded as follows:

Unit tests	Marks for each test
Vocabulary	50 (5 items per unit)
Grammar	50 (5 items per unit)
Functional language	50 (5 items per unit)
Listening	50 (5 items per unit)
Speaking	50 (5 items per unit)
Reading	50 (5 items per unit)
Mid-level exam	50 marks
End-of-level exam	50 marks
Writing tutorial 1	100 marks (10 per unit)
Writing tutorial 2	200 marks (20 per unit)
Total	700

You need to get a minimum score of 60% to pass the course and receive a certificate.