

Trinity Spoken English for Work (SEW) exams at the London College of Business

Programme Title	Trinity Spoken English for Work (SEW)
Awarding Body	Trinity College London
Teaching Institution	London College of Business
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Trinity College London

Trinity College London is an international exam board, fully accredited in the United Kingdom as an independent awarding body. Trinity provides accredited qualifications in English language, music, and the performing and creative arts throughout the world. Trinity has been conducting exams since 1877 and now over half a million people take one of our exams every year. Trinity College London is a charity registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Spoken English for Work (SEW) exams

Trinity's Spoken English for Work (SEW) exams provide a reliable and valid scheme of assessment that measures progress and development of English language use in a work context. The four levels provide a measure of linguistic competence from independent user to proficient user, B1 to C1 in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: learning, teaching, assessment (2001).

The overall focus of the suite is to provide a valid exam of contextualised English through tasks that assess a full range of speaking and listening sub-skills that are required for day-to-day spoken communication in the world of work. SEW certification provides potential employers or other interested parties with an accurate indication of a candidate's communicative competence in internationally intelligible spoken English for work.

Framework

The suite takes the learner from being an independent user (SEW B1) to proficient user (SEW C1).

Progress is marked by:

- greater linguistic demands (language functions, grammar, lexis and phonology)
- increasing evidence of the use of communicative skills
- an increasing degree of independence which allows the candidate to initiate and take control of the interaction

Entry requirements:

The Spoken English for Work exams are open to anyone aged 16 and above. They are intended for those who have learnt English as a foreign, second or additional language. Candidates will either be preparing to enter the world of work or already have had some work experience. The exams cover a wide range of subjects and tasks which reflect a variety of real-life working situations. Candidates are assessed on their language abilities and not their knowledge of specific professions.

Learners with special learning requirements will be accommodated as much as is possible for the college to do so. It is the responsibility of every such learner to make the college aware of their requirements at the earliest opportunity to do so. No learner will be discriminated against in accordance with LCB's [Equal Opportunities Policy](http://www.lcbuk.org/pdf/Equal_Opportunity_Policy.pdf) available at http://www.lcbuk.org/pdf/Equal_Opportunity_Policy.pdf.

Recognition of Prior Attainment

No prior attainment is recognized as part of this certification process.

Teaching and Learning

An extract from the LCB Teaching and Learning Strategy reads:

"students should leave the college inspired and capable of life-long learning building upon the foundations and structure built through the college's programmes. Various approaches to learning have been adopted to achieve

the above:

- Direct contact (e.g. lectures, seminars, tutorials, guest speakers, external visits, case studies, or workshops),
- Collaborative learning (e.g. group projects, discussion forums, or debate),
- Independent learning.”

This is a classroom based course, with some extra online resources and activities accessible using the college’s online managed learning environment.

Please read the college [Teaching and Learning Strategy](http://www.lcbuk.org/pdf/Teaching_and_Learning_Strategy) in full, available at http://www.lcbuk.org/pdf/Teaching_and_Learning_Strategy.pdf

Assessment

The exam consists of three tasks for SEW B1, or five tasks for SEW B2, B2+ and C1. All tasks are a one-to-one communication between the candidate and the examiner. The first part of the exam is conducted over the telephone, the remaining tasks are conducted face to face.

SEW B1	SEW B2	SEW B2+	SEW C1
13 minutes	20 minutes	23 minutes	27 minutes
Telephone task 1	Telephone task 1	Telephone task 1	Telephone task 1
	Telephone task 2	Telephone task 2	Telephone task 2
	Topic presentation	Topic presentation	Topic presentation
Interactive topic presentation	Topic discussion (examiner-led)	Topic discussion (examiner-led)	Topic discussion (candidate-led)
Discussion	Discussion	Discussion	Discussion
CEFR: B1	CEFR: B2	CEFR: B2+	CEFR: C1

Any assessment suspected of unfair practice will trigger the [Unfair Practice Procedure](http://www.lcbuk.org/pdf/Unfair_Practice_Procedure) available at http://www.lcbuk.org/pdf/Unfair_Practice_Procedure.pdf.

This Programme Specification is based upon the Trinity College London Spoken English for Work (SEW) exams found at http://www.lcbuk.org/pdf/SEW_Specifications_from_2013.pdf