



VG1 syllabus

VG1 overview

| | SPEAKING | LISTENING | READING | WRITING | PROJECT |
|-----------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|
| WELCOME | Questions about personality: A discussion | Learning languages: A documentary | Pen pals: A personal narrative | Giving personal information: An informal email | N/A |
| MOVIES | Giving a presentation: A film pitch | Finding a fortune in Bollywood: A news report | Jennifer Lawrence: A biography and interview | Opinions about films: A review | A shortened movie: A performance |
| TRAVEL | Holiday nightmares: A conversation | Sharks in the Indian Ocean: A documentary | Culture shock: A non-fiction book extract | Different cultures: A compare and contrast essay | My town: A guidebook |
| MUSIC | Songs that have special meaning: A presentation | Dancing and self-confidence: A news report | Katy Perry: A concert review | A career in music: A biography | A music genre: A presentation |
| GLOBALIZATION | Positive and negative aspects of globalization: A discussion | Consumer spending: A documentary | Ethical shopping: A current affairs article | Complaining about factory conditions: A formal email | Supply chains: A descriptive narrative |
| THE NEWS | Event reports: A commentary and interview | Behind the scenes at the BBC: A news report | Student newspapers: A feature article | Telling the news: An article | A local news programme: A performance |
| VARIETIES OF ENGLISH | Defining words: A game | Accents of the United Kingdom: A documentary | British Asian English: A newspaper article | Language learning: An argumentative essay | The history of a dialect: A presentation |
| TECHNOLOGY | Computers and technology: A debate | Psychology of an Apple fanatic: A documentary | The Disintegration Machine: A short story extract | A how-to guide: A set of instructions | New inventions and products: A review magazine |
| STORYTELLING | Describing an event or experience: A personal story | Neil Gaiman: An interview | Bone Jack: A novel extract | A short story: A literary appreciation essay | Performance: A teen drama |
| EDUCATION | What and how to study: An interview | Teenagers and sleep: A news report | Studying at an international school: A blog post | Issues in education: A 'for and against' essay | Schools around the world: A presentation |

Welcome

The Welcome unit is an introduction for new Intermediate students, giving them time to get to know each other, and to think about their own approaches to language learning.

READING

Pen pals: A personal narrative

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to the content and language of a personal narrative
- Be able to use a variety of reading strategies effectively

Key language:

- Choose the correct definitions for new words based on their use in the text

Language extension:

- Avoid spelling errors

Skills focus:

- Recognize text types

Authentic text:

Guardian newspaper article

LISTENING

Learning languages: A documentary

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to part of an authentic documentary
- Use a variety of listening strategies effectively

Key language:

- Recognize new words based on their use in the documentary

Language extension:

- Focus on keeping a record of new vocabulary

Skills focus:

- Focus on listening for details

Authentic video:

BBC documentary

Welcome

SPEAKING

Questions about personality: A discussion

Learning goals:

- Interview other students about personality

Key language:

- Recognize language for describing personalities

Skills focus:

- Ask follow-up questions

WRITING

Giving personal information: An informal email

Learning goals:

- Write an informal email

Key language:

- Recognize language used in informal emails

Language extension:

- Identify formal and informal English

PROJECT

There is no project for this unit

N/A

Movies

The Movies unit gives students a chance to speak and write about the latest movies, and also gives a glimpse of life behind the scenes in film industries, from Hollywood to India's Bollywood.

READING

Finding a fortune in Bollywood: A news report

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to part of an authentic news report
- Use a variety of listening strategies effectively

Key language:

- Choose the correct definitions for new words based on their use in the news report

Language extension:

- Practise using phrasal verbs

Skills focus:

- Focus on dealing with unfamiliar accents

Authentic video:

BBC news report

LISTENING

Jennifer Lawrence: A biography and interview

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to the content and language of a biography and an authentic news article
- Be able to use a variety of reading strategies effectively

Key language:

- Choose the correct definitions for new words based on their use in the texts

Language extension:

- Recognize word families

Skills focus:

- Focus on skimming

Authentic text:

Guardian newspaper article

Movies

SPEAKING

Giving a presentation: A film pitch

Learning goals:

- Give a short presentation about a film

Key language:

- Recognize language for describing films

Language extension:

- Recognize word and sentence stress

WRITING

Opinions about films: A review

Learning goals:

- Write a film review

Key language:

- Recognize language for describing films

PROJECT

A shortened movie: A performance

Learning goals:

- Perform a short summary of a film

Travel

The Travel unit gives practical advice on travel, and also explores comparisons between cultures as well as issues such as the environmental impact of tourism.

READING

Culture shock: A non-fiction book extract

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to the content and language of an authentic non-fiction book extract
- Be able to use a variety of reading strategies effectively

Key language:

- Choose the correct definitions for new words based on their use in the text

Language extension:

- Recognize word roots

Skills focus:

- Focus on guessing meaning from context

Authentic text:

David Sedaris essay extract

LISTENING

Sharks in the Indian Ocean: A documentary

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to part of an authentic documentary
- Use a variety of listening strategies effectively

Key language:

- Choose the correct definitions for new words based on their use in the documentary

Language extension:

- Form compound nouns (noun & noun)

Skills focus:

- Preview listening questions

Authentic video:

BBC documentary

Travel

SPEAKING

Holiday nightmares: A conversation

Learning goals:

- Role-play making a phone call in English

Key language:

- Recognize language for making phone calls, complaining, and apologizing

Language extension:

- General telephone language

Skills focus:

- Develop telephone skills

WRITING

Different cultures: A compare and contrast essay

Learning goals:

- Write a compare and contrast essay about culture

Key language:

- Recognize language for showing similarities and differences

Language extension:

- Recognize the grammatical form of language for expressing similarities and differences

PROJECT

My town: A travel guide

Learning goals:

- Create a travel guide

Music

The Music unit explores the history of music genres and musicians, as well as the effect of music on our lives, self-confidence, and happiness.

READING

Katy Perry: A concert review

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to the content and language of an authentic concert review
- Be able to use a variety of reading strategies effectively

Key language:

- Choose the correct definitions for new words based on their use in the text

Language extension:

- Recognize compound nouns (verb & preposition)

Skills focus:

- Practise previewing reading texts

Authentic text:

Guardian newspaper article

LISTENING

Dancing and self- confidence: A news report

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to an authentic news report
- Use a variety of listening strategies effectively

Key language:

- Choose the correct definitions for new words based on their use in the news report

Language extension:

- Recognize word families

Skills focus:

- Focus on learning English through songs

Authentic video:

CBS documentary

Music

SPEAKING

Songs that have special meaning: A presentation

Learning goals:

- Give a presentation about songs

Key language:

- Recognize language for describing personal experiences and feelings

Skills focus:

- Focus on confident public speaking

WRITING

A career in music: A biography

Learning goals:

- Write a biography

Key language:

- Recognize language for talking about time

Language extension:

- Use prepositional phrases of time

PROJECT

A music genre: A presentation

Learning goals:

- Give a presentation about a music genre

Globalization

The Globalization unit explores our changing world, in which our demand for cheap goods has made more companies export jobs to other countries, leading to social and environmental challenges.

READING

Ethical shopping: A current affairs article

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to the content and language of an authentic news article
- Be able to use a variety of reading strategies effectively

Key language:

- Recognize new words based on their use in the text

Language extension:

- Use prefixes to form words with a negative meaning

Skills focus:

- Recognize a text's context, purpose, and audience

Authentic text:

Guardian newspaper article

LISTENING

Consumer spending: A documentary

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to part of an authentic documentary
- Use a variety of listening strategies effectively

Key language:

- Choose the correct definitions for new words based on their use in the documentary

Language extension:

- Use suffixes to form words for people and jobs

Skills focus:

- Focus on listening for attitudes

Authentic video:

BBC documentary

Globalization

SPEAKING

Positive and negative aspects of globalization:
A discussion

Learning goals:

- Hold a discussion evaluating pros and cons

Key language:

- Recognize language for expressing opinions

WRITING

Complaining about factory conditions: A formal email

Learning goals:

- Write a formal email of complaint

Key language:

- Recognize language for writing a formal email

Language extension:

- Form embedded questions in formal English

PROJECT

Supply chains:
A descriptive narrative

Learning goals:

- Write a descriptive narrative

The news

In The news unit, students will look at the ways that news and events coverage is created and shared in the modern world, and get the chance to create their own news reports.

READING

Student newspapers: A feature article

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to the content and language of an authentic feature article
- Be able to use a variety of reading strategies effectively

Key language:

- Choose the correct definitions for slang words based on their use in the article

Language extension:

- Recognize abbreviations, initials, and acronyms

Skills focus:

- Focus on writing summaries

Authentic text:

Guardian newspaper article

LISTENING

Behind the scenes at the BBC: A feature

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to part of an authentic news report
- Use a variety of listening strategies effectively

Key language:

- Recognize new words based on their use in the report

Language extension:

- Recognize homographs and heteronyms

Skills focus:

- Focus on learning English through film and TV

Authentic video:

BBC news report

The news

SPEAKING

Event reports: A commentary and interview

Learning goals:

- Perform a sports commentary and interview

Key language:

- Recognize language for commentaries and interviews

Language extension:

- Review verb tenses

WRITING

Telling the news: An article

Learning goals:

- Write a news article

Key language:

- Recognize language for news articles

Language extension:

- Practise writing news headlines

PROJECT

A local news programme: A performance

Learning goals:

- Perform a local TV news programme

Varieties of English

The Varieties of English unit explores the many different forms of English, different slang terms, and dialects and accents, from Irish English and Geordie to British Asian English.

READING

British Asian English: A newspaper article

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to the content and language of an authentic newspaper article
- Be able to use a variety of reading strategies effectively

Key language:

- Choose the correct definitions for new words based on their use in the article

Language extension:

- Recognize idioms related to parts of the body

Skills focus:

- Focus on scanning

Authentic text:

Guardian newspaper article

LISTENING

Accents of the United Kingdom: A documentary

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to part of an authentic documentary
- Use a variety of listening strategies effectively

Key language:

- Choose the correct definitions for new words based on their use in the documentary

Language extension:

- Use the suffixes -able and -ability to form adjectives and nouns

Skills focus:

- Focus on listening for main ideas

Authentic video:

BBC documentary

Varieties of English

SPEAKING

Defining words: A game

Learning goals:

- Play a word definitions game

Key language:

- Recognize language for checking comprehension

Skills focus:

- Focus on group work

WRITING

Language learning: An argumentative essay

Learning goals:

- Write an argumentative essay

Key language:

- Recognize language for connecting arguments

Language extension:

- Practise using sentence linkers

PROJECT

The history of a dialect: A presentation

Learning goals:

- Give a presentation on the history of an English dialect

Technology

The Technology unit looks at futuristic sci-fi technologies, gives advice on writing instructions and reviews for gadgets, and explores the powerful effect that technology has on our lives.

READING

The Disintegration Machine: A short story extract

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to the content and language of extracts from a science fiction story
- Be able to use a variety of reading strategies effectively

Key language:

- Write correct definitions for new words based on their use in the extracts

Language extension:

- Recognize stressed syllables in words

Skills focus:

- Focus on approaching fiction

Authentic text:

Arthur Conan Doyle short story extract

LISTENING

Psychology of an Apple fanatic: A documentary

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to part of an authentic documentary
- Use a variety of listening strategies effectively

Key language:

- Choose the correct definitions for new words based on their use in the documentary

Language extension:

- Recognize slang and jargon for talking about technology

Skills focus:

- Practise distinguishing fact from opinion

Authentic video:

BBC documentary

Technology

SPEAKING

Computers and technology: A debate

Learning goals:

- Take part in a debate

Key language:

- Recognize language for arguing about an issue

WRITING

A how-to guide: A set of instructions

Learning goals:

- Write a set of instructions

Key language:

- Recognize language for telling people how to do things clearly and simply

Language extension:

- Practise using phrasal verbs

PROJECT

New inventions and products: A review magazine

Learning goals:

- Write a review for a technology product

Storytelling

The Storytelling unit lets students read and analyse exciting works of fiction and hear about a writer's inspirations, and helps them tell their own stories.

READING

Bone Jack: A novel extract

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to the content and language of an extract from an authentic English-language novel
- Be able to use a variety of reading strategies effectively

Key language:

- Choose the correct definitions for new words based on their use in the extract

Language extension:

- Recognize phrases starting with prepositions

Skills focus:

- Focus on inferring as a reading strategy

Authentic text:

Sara Crowe novel extract

LISTENING

Neil Gaiman: An interview

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to an authentic interview
- Use a variety of listening strategies effectively

Key language:

- Choose the correct definitions for new words based on their use in the interview

Language extension:

- Recognize noun & preposition collocations

Skills focus:

- Focus on previewing listening texts

Authentic video:

CBS interview

Storytelling

SPEAKING

**Describing an event or experience:
A personal story**

Learning goals:

- Tell a personal story

Key language:

- Recognize language for describing experiences and events

Language extension:

- Recognize 'strong' and 'weak' adjectives

WRITING

A short story: A literature appreciation essay

Learning goals:

- Write a literary appreciation essay about a short story

Key language:

- Recognize language for describing a short story

Language extension:

- Use language related to literature and storytelling

Authentic text:

Meg Cabot short story

PROJECT

**Performance:
A teen drama**

Learning goals:

- Perform a teen drama

Education

The Education unit gives students the chance to think about challenges they face in the school system, and compare their experiences with those of students in English-speaking schools around the world.

READING

Studying at an international school: A blog post

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to the content and language of an authentic blog post
- Be able to use a variety of reading strategies effectively

Key language:

- Choose the correct definitions for new words based on their use in the text

Language extension:

- Practise using phrasal verbs

Skills focus:

- Focus on using a dictionary

Authentic text:

Guardian blog post

LISTENING

Teenagers and sleep: A news report

Learning goals:

- Understand and respond to an authentic news report
- Use a variety of listening strategies effectively

Key language:

- Choose the correct definitions for new words based on their use in the news report

Language extension:

- Recognize word families

Skills focus:

- Focus on taking notes while listening

Authentic video:

CBS documentary

Education

SPEAKING

What and how to study: An interview

Learning goals:

- Interview someone about what and how to study

Key language:

- Recognize language for asking interview questions

Language extension:

- Recognize verb & noun collocations

WRITING

Issues in education: A 'for and against' essay

Learning goals:

- Write a 'for and against' essay

Key language:

- Recognize language for introducing advantages, disadvantages, and examples

Language extension:

- Practise using commas correctly

Skills focus:

- Focus on writing good body paragraphs

PROJECT

Schools around the world: A presentation

Learning goals:

- Give a presentation on school in an English-speaking country



About EF Class

We are dedicated to understanding the needs of teachers and students.

EF Class has been designed, tested, and perfected where it matters most—in the classroom. Over the course of three years, we have worked with teachers, students, and principals to craft the way EF Class supports learning and teaching. As all classrooms are unique, we've visited, observed, and learned from a wide variety of Swedish public and charter schools in large cities and small towns.

EF Class makes teaching and learning more effective by enabling everyone in the classroom to participate.

About EF Education First

EF Education First is the world's leading international education company.

With more than 50 years of experience and 500 EF schools and offices in 53 countries, we have been focused on how to improve the way teachers teach and students learn. We were the first to team up with Apple Computer to explore computer-aided classroom learning.

Our deep experience in traditional classroom teaching and our dedication to finding fundamentally better ways of learning has allowed us to bring you EF Class—bringing the power of digital learning to the physical classroom.

Contact us

To learn more, visit: class.ef.com

If you have any questions or would like to request a demo, email class@ef.com