

Institute of IT and Business Administration

Contemporary Foreign Languages. The English Language. Curriculum for A1 level (Beginner)

I. Introduction:

The course of Contemporary English has the following aims:

- to provide the students with fundamental knowledge of phonetics, grammar, vocabulary and stylistics;
- to teach the students to conduct a talk giving proper reasons to support the point of view or to contradict;
- to teach the students to participate in different discussions, to start a conversation, to continue and to finish a conversation and how to take an initiative during a conversation;
- to train skills in implementing their knowledge for solving problems, explaining the gist of the problem;
- to teach the students to understand, to check, to share the information on different topics;
- to train the students to use the language to provide the listener with the correct information and to give instructions ;
- to prepare the students for an effective interview and for switching from one problem to another.
- to teach the students to write different kinds of letters showing their involvement and interest, to comment on the events and the topic under discussion.

The course is designed for the students:

- who want to master their skills of Contemporary English;
- who need English in everyday situations for communicating with foreign colleagues using spoken English and writing official letters;
- who have basic skills in phonetics, grammar and vocabulary (elementary level)

The course is developed according to existing rules of international communication. The course is divided into topics to study different aspects. Each

topic includes necessary lexical and grammar material, cultural notes, professionally-oriented texts for reading.

The main attention is paid to business communication and each topic includes a great number of dialogues, role games and practice tasks.

The course provides development of basic skills: listening, writing, reading, speaking.

The course is based on the main principles of teaching from the least difficult material to the most difficult. Texts for reading , listening and writing tasks, practice tasks and speaking activities vary according to their difficulty.

The course is based on student's motivation to study, self-consciousness, self-reflection, creative work, group and pair work and project work.

The classes are conducted in specially equipped classes.

The level of language competence at the end of the course:

A learner is supposed to be able to:

- understand and use familiar everyday expressions and basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type (**about 1000 units**);
- to show a sufficient control of simple grammatical structures and sentence patterns;
- to manage short utterances with much pausing to search for expressions;
- to ask and answer questions and interact in a simple way;
- to link words or group of words with very basic linear connectors.

II. Topics

- 1.Meeting new people. Greetings and introductions.
- 2.Personal information.
- 3.Family and friends.
- 4.Food and drinks.
- 5.Jobs and places of work.
6. A typical day and free time activities of a university teacher.
7. What can/can't you do.
8. Interview about last teaching experiences.
9. Staying in a hotel.
10. Planning a presentation.

Practical English topics:

1. The alphabet. Spelling your name.
2. Introducing people. Phone numbers. Personal information.
3. Telling the time. Days of the week.
4. Saying and understanding prices. Buying a coffee.
5. Ordinal numbers. Months. Saying the date.
6. Asking for opinions. Giving opinions.
7. Asking for and giving directions. Prepositions of place.

III. Bibliography:

1. New English File Beginner (SB), Oxford University Press.
2. New English File Beginner (WB). Oxford University Press
3. The Good Grammar Book. Oxford University Press
4. Round-Up 2, Longman
5. Round-Up 3, Longman
6. Target Vocabulary 1. Peter Watcyn-Jones.
7. Elementary Vocabulary. B. J. Thomas.
8. Focus on Grammar (Basic), Longman
9. Grammarway 1, Express Publishing.
10. Let's Talk 1, Cambridge University Press.
11. Common European Framework.
12. BBC Learning English. Available at:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/the-english-we-speak>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/6-minute-english>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/english-at-work>

IV. Contents of the syllabus Contemporary English. Elementary (A1)

#	Unit of study/ Topic	Number of academic hours
1.	Greetings and introductions. All forms of the verb <i>be</i> (Present simple), personal pronouns. Countries and nationalities. Where are you from? Nationality adjectives. Numbers.	9
2.	Personal information. Introducing yourself, giving personal details.	10
3.	Family and friends. Singular and plural nouns, <i>a/an, the</i> , possessive adjectives and possessive <i>s</i> .	10
4.	Food and drinks. Vocabulary for basic food items, present simple forms. Ordering in a café. Prices.	10
5.	Jobs and places of work. Vocabulary for some common jobs and places of work, present simple: he, she, it.	10

	Adjectives to describe a job. Prepositions of place. The job of a university teacher.	
6.	A typical day and free time activities of a university teacher. Present simple with adverbs of frequency, present simple questions. Telling the time. Time words. Daily routine vocabulary.	10
7.	What can/can't you do. <i>Can/can't</i> : permission and possibility. A group of common verbs.	10
8.	Interview about last teaching experiences. Past simple of regular and irregular verbs. Positive and negative sentences. Word order in questions. Past time expressions.	11
9.	Staying in a hotel. Asking for information. <i>There is/are, there was/were</i> , prepositions of place, object pronouns.	9
10	Planning a presentation. <i>Be going to</i> to talk about future plans, future time expressions.	9
	Final exam:	2
	Total	100