

ESL PLACEMENT and INTERVIEWS

Placement test

ESL placements involve a placement test, a grammar test and an interview.

Grammar Test

The Grammar Test must be conducted with a strict time limit to be indicative of student performance. Access applicants should be given **30 minutes** and Further Study applicants **45 minutes** to complete as much of the test as possible.

Interview

It is sometimes difficult to find a topic which will elicit the applicant's best language, especially if they are a bit nervous. It's best to be armed with some standard prompts to help you in these cases. At higher levels you will want to elicit a facility with tenses or the extent of an applicant's vocabulary. You might then need to get beyond the personal to a more reflective topic.

Introduction

- How did you get here today?
- How long have you been living there....?
- Have you lived anywhere else in Melbourne/Australia?

Country of origin

- Tell me about your country
- Have you lived in or been to any other countries?

Family in Australia

- Do you have family members in Australia?
- Are they/ she/ he working?

Education

- What did you like/dislike when you were learning...?
- Tell me about the last course/class you attended.
- Are there any problems that may impact on your learning?
- What do you need to improve in now?

Work

- What have you done in your home country and Australia?
- What would you like to do after your English improves?
- Tell me about what sort of work you would like to do.

General/ reflective

- Can you describe any funny/awkward situation that you may have had when trying to speak English?
- What do you do in your spare time?
- What do you think about the most recent....(insert current news items)