



International Language Center Newsletter

August 2015 – Issue 1

Celebrating 35 Years of Quality Education

In 1980, International Language Center started as Queen's Language Institute in a small flat on Zehra St., opposite Sharjah Police Headquarters. We opened our doors to the opportunities that we believed lie ahead in



delivering quality education. In part we were dreamers – believing but not yet seeing. We were accustomed to hard work and dedication towards our goals. We were

student and culture focused; we wanted a place that allowed for growth inside and out. And, we knew that positive things would result if we remained focused on creativity and performance. It has become our mission at International Language Center – “finding and adapting better ways in delivering quality education.”

Over the past 35 years there had been a number of instances and developments where our commitment took us to the next level. And, there's no way to account for the hundreds or even thousands of interactions within our community in Sharjah that have become valued relationships with students, suppliers, government agencies, and friends.

With a focus on the needs of students, International Language Center works to promote continuing education on private and public establishments. We know that through these collaborations not only enhance the quality of education programs and contribution to the community, they ensure that students are served in the least restrictive setting, and have the greatest chance of developing their language, computing and business skills.

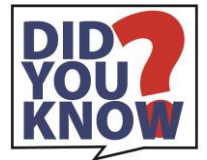
We've gained so much in our interactions with those who have shared their experiences and expertise with us,

especially in the areas of special language and computer training where our objective is to deliver the highest standards of training service excellence for students.

So as we celebrate this landmark of 35 years, we celebrate the vitality of an industry that is designed to make things happen – “educating the community”. We celebrate the talent and dedication of so many teachers and staff members who have inspired us along the way. And, we celebrate what is yet to be seen. We're blessed to be able to look ahead and continue to dream, because of the foundation we stand on today.

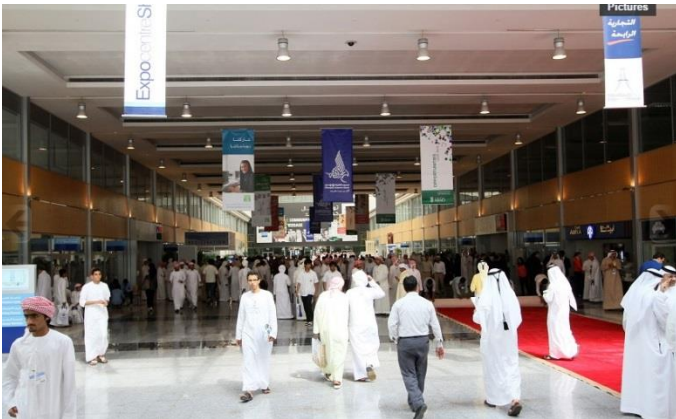
Thanks for being a part of our journey.

- Started out as Queen's Language Institute in 1980 with a clever logo based on the Union Jack, resembling a Q.



- In 1987, our training center was given a name of “Al Bayan” because all names had to be in Arabic with new logo and colors.
- Post 1980s, the name has changed into International Language Institute – having the same logo and colors.
- In 2009, the name of our training center has changed once again to International Language Center marking a new age in educational training services.

International Language Center at the 10th International Education Show 2014



International Language Center took part at the four days International Education Show last year from January 29 until February 1.

The International Education Show (IES) in Sharjah hosted a large delegation of universities and schools answering the strong growth in higher education that continues to provide students with a broader choice of courses every year producing a rise of 34 per cent rise of visitors in this 2014 event.

Now on its 10th year, the four-day show has registered a 31 per cent rise in the number of exhibitors with nearly 150 institutions signing up for the event, including International Language Center at Stand No. 17.

International Language Center made their presence known by providing active counseling to attendees regarding continuing education courses and international certification courses that could help boost their career. The promotion of our language, computer and business courses are at full gear offering promotions to lucky students.

This roadshow also features 60 exhibitors from India that is taking part in the Great India Education Fair which is being held for the second consecutive year featuring international boarding schools, universities and colleges from India.

New Computer Courses at International Language Center

Computing and technology are far and wide, if not, it's everywhere. Knowing how to use and apply the latest software is important to both small and large businesses in order to remain competitive in this market as well as for personal development to further one's career.

International Language Center is your training center for all your computer preparation needs. We have courses that will help you learn everything from Adobe Photoshop to Autodesk AutoCAD 2015. A professional instructor is there to help you understand the learning outcomes of each lesson and answer any questions or address any problems you may have.

Our computer courses are structured according to modules for ease of learning – the modules break down complex concepts so that you'll learn the basics first, and build incrementally from there to more advanced concepts. The following are the new computer courses:

Course name	Duration
Architecture and Interior Design	
AutoCAD 2D 2015 Level 1	24 Hours
AutoCAD 2D 2015 Level 2	24 Hours
3D Max 2015 Level 1	30 Hours
3D Max 2015 Level 2	30 Hours
3D Max 2015 Level 3 (V-Ray)	30 Hours
Advertising Design Courses	
Photoshop Level 1	24 Hours
Photoshop Level 1	24 Hours
Illustrator Level 1	24 Hours
Illustrator Level 2	24 Hours
In Design	24 Hours
Computer Maintenance	
Computer Maintenance A+	30 Hours
Archiving	
Electronic Archiving	24 Hours
ICT	
ICT IN Daily life	24 Hours
Cyber Criminal Preservation	24 Hours
Programming and Designing fir Kids	
Little Web Designer	30 Hours
Little Programmer	30Hours

The New ICDL Profile



International Language Center is an approved Training and Test Centre for ICDL Arabia since 2012. With more than 500 enrolled candidates since its launching, producing more than 300 completed candidates.

ICDL is an internationally recognised qualification that enables people to certify their computer skills to an internationally recognised standard. ECDL is the name given to the ICDL Programme in Europe.

Last November 2013, International Language Center's IT representatives attended the ICDL GCC (Now ICDL Arabia) launching of the new ICDL Profile. The ICDL Profile is ICDL's most flexible Programme. It allows candidates to choose the module combinations best suited to their needs and interests.

With ICDL Profile, the candidate can become certified in the skills they need for their own educational and professional journey. ICDL Profile is flexible, so candidates or companies can build the Profile that suits their needs or interests.

There are three ICDL Profiles - Base, Standard, and Advanced - each represents a different level of digital proficiency, and proof of the skill level that a candidate can have. And the great thing is; ICDL Profile is for life. Candidates can build on it over time as they update their skills, as technology evolves or when new modules are developed.

After passing the tests, those modules then represent the candidate's ICDL Profile, which are listed on their ICDL Profile certificate. Their ICDL Profile grows with them: it never expires, and will always be a proof of their skills and lifelong learning.

Candidates are tested in examination conditions supervised by an ICDL Accredited Tester. International Language Center uses automated test systems which automatically assess the candidates' performance on completion of each test. Automated Tests provide immediate feedback to both the centre and the candidate. Candidates must complete one test for each module.

A candidate can start ICDL at any time by contacting the receptionists of International Language Center. Candidates are encouraged to undertake training at International Language Center to guarantee success and improved ICT skills. Once the candidate is ready, they may take a test for any of the modules in any order they choose. Each module is tested separately with each test lasting no longer than 45 minutes. This may be subject to training or testing schedules set by International Language Center. ICDL test usually takes place every Monday and Wednesday at 7:30 PM.

International Language Center offers the ICDL Base Profile (*4 Base Modules*). It consists of 4 separate modules (Computer Essentials, Online Essentials, Word Processing and Spreadsheets) covering key ICT skills and knowledge areas that are a must have regardless what your role is in society. These set of skills are essential in that they enable the candidate to develop more specialised skills and knowledge.

The ICDL Standard Profile (*4 Base Modules + Candidates can choose any 3 out of 5 Standard Modules*) is also offered by International Language Center which is similar to the previously known standard ICDL 7-module certification except it offers more flexibility. It comprises of the essential ICT skills provided by the ICDL Base Profile plus 3 Standard Modules available from a wide range of modules such as Presentation (PowerPoint), Databases (Access), IT Security, Project Planning and Online Collaboration, to help candidates certify a higher level of digital competence. In keeping with the established global standards, this is a recommended certification as it maintains its 7-modules structure while allowing you to combine skills that are relevant to the candidates' job and career path.

Improving your ICT skills can help you keep in touch with friends and family, get on at work or to help with further learning. Come and join International Language Center's ICDL profile course and start improving your ICT skills, regardless of your current skill level.

The English Language is the Lingua Franca Today



Lingua franca is also known as a bridge language, trade language or vehicular language, it is a language systematically (as opposed to occasionally, or casually) used to make communication possible between persons not sharing a native language, in particular when it is a third language, distinct from both native languages.

As of the early 21st century, English has become the lingua franca today. There are many other lingua francas centralized on particular regions, such as French, Portuguese, Spanish, Russian, Arabic, Chinese, and Swahili but English remained the dominant language used as a norm for communication.

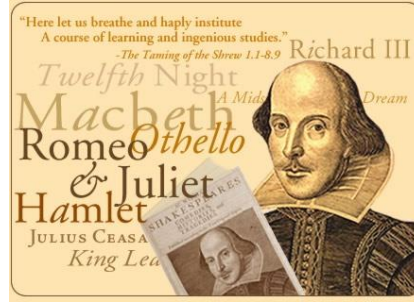
How the history of the English language has led it to become the lingua franca

English was a relatively unimportant language (or, more precisely, a set of dialects) around 450 AD, when a set of



Germanic tribes (mostly the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes) moved from their homelands in what is now northern Germany and Denmark to what is now England. Old

English was widely spoken on the island in the centuries that followed, lost status when the French-speaking Normans conquered England, and slowly regained status in the late Middle English period. At this point, still, English was just one of many languages. It was generally less respected than Latin among scientists and theologians, for example.



It was not until the period of Early Modern English, a period also known as the Age of Discovery (c. 1500-1800 AD) that English really began to gain status. England

began to establish colonies around the world and exported its language and governing systems so that it could import what it wanted, e.g. spices and rare woods and, for a while, slaves. The Early Modern English period witnessed the first time that English was spoken around the world, but still it was not nearly as widely distributed as it is today.

Today, English is widely taught around the world as a second language. (The number of native speakers of English is not very large at all, compared to Spanish or Chinese, it's worth noting.) The emergence of the United States as a global power after WWII (including the strong economy and the enduring military presence of American soldiers in many countries around the world) took the globalization of English one step further. Still, British English is still widely taught as the prestige form in classrooms around the world.

For a more exhaustive linguistic approach, it is recommended to read the book "The Story of English" written by Robert MacNeil, Robert McCrum and William Cran, the book is based on the Emmy Award winning nine-part television series produced in 1986, detailing the development of the English language.

8 Ways on How to learn English Faster



English can be a daunting language to learn. English is full of contradictions and odd rules and pronunciations, but it can be a challenge if you're new to it and even if

you're not! We'll offer some useful tips for English learners on how to speed up the process of learning this complex language, so that you'll be fluent before you know it.

1. Invest in good study materials

In addition to a basic learning guide that will provide some structure for your studies, you'll need a good dictionary for translations, and ideally also a dedicated grammar guide. You'll also need a notebook, lined paper and a lever arch folder for your notes. Get some stationery that you enjoy using, so that it makes studying more fun!

2. Buy an Audio CD or DVD

Audio CDs or DVDs are really useful for learning pronunciations, giving you essential practise that you won't get otherwise if you're studying on your own. These will also give you practise at saying the words yourself.

3. Learn variations of words

When you come across a new word, look it up in the dictionary and try to learn any variations. This way, you could get four or five words for the price of one! For example, the word "tidy" has variations including "untidy", "tidily", "tidier", "tidiest" and "tidy up".

4. Use Google in English

When you're searching for things on the internet, try going to Google.co.uk instead of your native language. This will force you to find the results you're looking for in English, and using English will slowly start to become a habit.

5. Read a favourite book in English before bed

If you're serious about learning English fast, even bedtime can be given over to making progress. Pick one of your favourite books and buy the English version. Each night when you go to bed, try and read a few pages, and keep a dictionary next to your bed for any words you don't understand.

6. Listen to English radio

Having the radio on in the background is a good way of tuning in to the sounds of the English language, and you may be surprised at how much you can pick up without even realising it. The news might be a good place to start, particularly if you already know the story, as you'll be able to make sense of what the words mean more easily.

7. Watch English TV and Films

Watching English-speaking television programmes is a fun way of picking up more new words and phrases at the same time as helping to familiarise yourself with how English sounds (and learning to understand different dialects). You could start by using subtitles in your own language, and then when you start picking up more, switch the subtitles off.

8. Study at International Language Center

For a really intensive learning environment, you can't do much better than a language school like International Language Center. Immersed in academic surroundings with other students who want to learn English as much as you do, you'll make rapid progress. So start studying with us.

The International English Language Testing System (IELTS)



International Language Center is an exam preparation venue for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). IELTS is the world's most popular English language test for higher education and global migration.

IELTS is the International English Language Testing System which tests English proficiency internationally. IELTS tests all four language skills – listening, reading, writing and speaking. The Speaking test is a face-to-face interview with a certified examiner. The four major points of IELTS test will be covered under International Language Center's IELTS preparation course. The student would be able to learn key points in listening, speaking, reading and writing. Through different models

and modules, students would be able to develop a strategy on how to successfully acquire their target band score.



IELTS uses a unique 9-point scoring system to measure and report test scores in a consistent manner. Candidates receive scores for each language skill (listening, reading, writing and speaking) and an overall band score.

The IELTS 9-point scoring system (band score)

Each band corresponds to a level of English competence. All parts of the test and the Overall Band Score can be reported in whole and half bands, eg 6.5, 7.0, 7.5, 8.0.

Band 9: Expert user: has fully operational command of the language: appropriate, accurate and fluent with complete understanding.

Band 8: Very good user: has fully operational command of the language with only occasional unsystematic inaccuracies and inappropriacies. Misunderstandings may occur in unfamiliar situations. Handles complex detailed argumentation well.

Band 7: Good user: has operational command of the language, though with occasional inaccuracies, inappropriacies and misunderstandings in some situations. Generally handles complex language well and understands detailed reasoning.

Band 6: Competent user: has generally effective command of the language despite some inaccuracies, inappropriacies and misunderstandings. Can use and understand fairly complex language, particularly in familiar situations.

Band 5: Modest user: has partial command of the language, coping with overall meaning in most situations, though is likely to make many mistakes. Should be able to handle basic communication in own field.

Band 4: Limited user: basic competence is limited to familiar situations. Has frequent problems in understanding and expression. Is not able to use complex language.

Band 3: Extremely limited user: conveys and understands only general meaning in very familiar situations. Frequent breakdowns in communication occur.

Band 2: Intermittent user: no real communication is possible except for the most basic information using isolated words or short formulae in familiar situations and to meet immediate needs. Has great difficulty understanding spoken and written English.

Band 1: Non-user: essentially has no ability to use the language beyond possibly a few isolated words.

Band 0: Did not attempt the test: No assessable information provided.

IELTS Test Versions

There are two versions of IELTS. If you plan to work or undertake work-related training in an English speaking



country as well as to migrate to an English speaking countries like Australia, the UK, and New Zealand which is an often visa requirement, choose the IELTS General exam preparation course. If you want to register with a professional organization or

for an academic, higher education environment, choose the IELTS Academic exam preparation course.

International English Language Testing System (IELTS) exam are valid for two years from the date of the exam.

Both IELTS versions are offered by International Language Center and being delivered by professional trainers with solid background on both versions.

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)



Test of English as a Foreign Language or TOEFL (toh-fəl) is a standardized test of English language proficiency for non-native English language speakers wishing to study at a higher education institution, English-language learning program admissions and exit, for scholarship and certification candidates, and for students and workers applying for visas. The test is accepted by many English-speaking academic and professional institutions.

TOEFL is one of the two major English-language tests in the world, the other being the IELTS. TOEFL scores are valid for two years after the test date and there is no limit to the number of times you can take the test, but you cannot take it more than once in a 12-day period.

Two types of TOEFL tests:

TOEFL iBT

TOEFL iBT is the abbreviation for TOEFL Internet Based Test. The TOEFL iBT lasts approximately 4.5 hours. The TOEFL iBT test measures the test taker's ability to use and understand English at the university level. And it evaluates how well they combine their listening, reading, speaking and writing skills to perform academic tasks.

TOEFL PBT

PBT means Paper Based Test. TOEFL PBT is taken 6 times a year at test centers where Internet Based Test is not available. This test contains exercises in listening, structure (grammar), reading and writing. Fulfilling a test takes approximately 3.5 hours. The test mostly consists of multiple-choice questions and a 30 minutes essay.



In comparison with the TOEFL PBT test the iBT Reading and Listening sections are not dramatically different. But the integrated tasks in Speaking and Writing sections may seem more challenging because they are new in iBT test. However, to be successful in English-speaking colleges and universities, students have to show the ability to integrate their language skills in the classroom. The integrated tasks will help learners feel themselves more confident about communication in the academic environments they plan to enter.

International Language Center offers TOEFL iBT and PBT test preparation courses. The course includes materials, sample questions, practice tests, interactive skill-building programs and more.

Summer Programs



Every summer, from May to September, International Language Center offers General English and Computer Courses to young children, pre-teens and adults.

- Classes will be separated according to age groups and English levels. Separate classes for men and women.
- Classes will be offered both in the mornings and in the late afternoons until evening.
- Transportation in our school buses is provided within the areas of Sharjah and Ajman.

The English courses are taught by EFL experienced instructors and the computer courses are conducted by certified computer professionals.

Registration is now open for the summer course.



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