



## MLS Courses in General English and FCE

The MLS Cambridge English: First (FCE) exam preparation courses are designed for students who are specifically seeking preparation for the FCE exam, or who feel they will benefit from an exam focused syllabus. Students will be studying at a minimum Upper-Intermediate level (CEFR B2).

Courses can be joined weekly throughout the year, and the minimum age is 16. The MLS Library has a good range of exam preparation and practice material that will help you prepare for your exam. There is always an experienced teacher available to advise and help you, and you can use our self-study rooms for guided exam practice. Study options are as follows:

**General English and FCE (FCE):** 20 lessons (15 hours) weekly

**General English Intensive and FCE (FCEI):** 30 lessons (22.5 hours) weekly

**Course Level.** Preparation for FCE is available at Upper-Intermediate level (CEFR B2) and above.

**Course Length.** 2 – 12 weeks

### Course Objectives.

- *to equip students with the English language they need in order to perform confidently within the FCE exam and achieve the score they need*
- *to prepare students specifically for the Cambridge English: First (FCE) exam by studying examination specific course materials alongside those of General English*
- *to provide students with optional additional exam practice sessions with an experienced teacher to guide and advise them in a tutorial format*
- *to build on and develop existing grammar, vocabulary and orthography*
- *to improve students' language skills so that the right balance of accuracy and fluency can be achieved*

**Course Certification.** Academic achievement is assessed by means of continuous assessment. On successful completion, students will achieve the following certification:

**MLS Certificate** of Study and report on language level

MLS is a long-established and officially recognised examination preparation centre and we can also help you enrol for the FCE examination at a convenient FCE examination centre.

**Course Structure.** All students are tested when they arrive at MLS, and are then placed in classes at their language level. Students will join our General English classes at the appropriate level for the FCE exam and in addition to our general English syllabus will use an FCE book, course materials and practice papers during one of the elements. Students will also be invited to join our weekly FCE exam practice tutorial with an experienced teacher to guide and advise you.

Students on the **FCE** course will study two Elements, while those who choose the **FCEI** course will study three Elements. One of these Elements will be Element 4 and MLS will select from Elements 1, 2 or 3 to make the 20 or 30 lesson programme:

**Element 1** – integrated language systems and skills development with a focus on level specific grammar and vocabulary. Level-specific, syllabus-based lessons follow published course-book material with supplementary grammar and vocabulary development. Element 1 includes course-book and supplementary materials based homework/private study activities as appropriate.

**Element 2** – a reading and writing skills development session with focus on written English. Level-specific, syllabus-based lessons focus on the development of the skills of reading and writing. Drawing from a wide range of sources, including a level-appropriate workbook, the Element 2 lessons additionally make reference to and use of the level-specific reading and writing components and tasks

of internationally recognised EFL examinations, while also allowing for grammar and vocabulary revision, consolidation and extension as appropriate. A range of learning strategies is also explored in Element 2 with the aim of developing skills of independent learning. The delivery of Element 2 includes associated task-based homework/private study activities as appropriate.

**Element 3** – listening, speaking and pronunciation skills development through study of Communication and Culture. Lessons include practising function language for real life situations, listening to and discussing current events, world news and general interest topics, discussing cultural topics, both British and other cultures, and accessing online resources for listening and pronunciation. Element 3 lessons additionally make reference to and use of the level-specific listening and speaking components and tasks of internationally recognised EFL examinations, while allowing for language systems development as appropriate. The delivery of Element 3 includes associated task-based homework/private study activities as appropriate.

**Element 4** – examination focused training, delivering specific language preparation for the FCE exam, including focus on exam strategies, all parts of the exam (ie reading, writing, listening and speaking) as well as grammar and vocabulary appropriate to the exam. By the end of the course, you should be familiar with the format of the exam and prepared to achieve the highest possible score according to your General English level. You will use an Exam course book (specific to your exam and level) as well as other supplementary materials. Practice tests or past exam papers are also used regularly. The delivery of Element 4 includes homework/self-study activities, review and sample tests.

**Course Timetable.** For a typical weekly timetable for the General English and FCE courses, see Page 3 below. You can also individualise your course through selection of additional Electives (see page 4).

**Course Entry Dates.** The courses can be joined on most Mondays throughout the year (excluding UK public holidays). For those planning to take the FCE exam we would recommend joining at the beginning of an academic term and studying for the full term (ie 12 weeks).

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## Sample Weekly Timetable

|                      | <b>Monday</b>  | <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>Wednesday</b>   | <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>Friday</b>  |
|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| <b>09:00 – 10:30</b> | <b>Element 1 *</b><br><i>integrated language<br/>(grammar &amp; vocabulary)</i>                            | <b>Element 1 *</b><br><i>integrated language<br/>(grammar &amp; vocabulary)</i>                            | <b>Element 1 *</b><br><i>integrated language<br/>(grammar &amp; vocabulary)</i>                            | <b>Element 1 *</b><br><i>integrated language<br/>(grammar &amp; vocabulary)</i>                            | <b>Element 1 *</b><br><i>integrated language<br/>(grammar &amp; vocabulary)</i>                            |
| <b>11:00 – 12:30</b> | <b>Element 2 *</b><br><i>written language<br/>(reading writing and<br/>learning skills)</i>                | <b>Element 2 *</b><br><i>written language<br/>(reading writing and<br/>learning skills)</i>                | <b>Element 2 *</b><br><i>written language<br/>(reading writing and<br/>learning skills)</i>                | <b>Element 2 *</b><br><i>written language<br/>(reading writing and<br/>learning skills)</i>                | <b>Element 2 *</b><br><i>written language<br/>(reading writing and<br/>learning skills)</i>                |
| <b>13:30 – 15:00</b> | <b>Element 3 *</b><br><i>communication and<br/>culture (listening,<br/>speaking and<br/>pronunciation)</i> | <b>Element 3 *</b><br><i>communication and<br/>culture (listening,<br/>speaking and<br/>pronunciation)</i> | <b>Element 3 *</b><br><i>communication and<br/>culture (listening,<br/>speaking and<br/>pronunciation)</i> | <b>Element 3 *</b><br><i>communication and<br/>culture (listening,<br/>speaking and<br/>pronunciation)</i> | <b>Element 3 *</b><br><i>communication and<br/>culture (listening,<br/>speaking and<br/>pronunciation)</i> |
| <b>15:15 – 16:45</b> | <sup>^</sup> <i>Optional library/self-<br/>study</i>   | <b>Element 4</b><br><i>FCE Exam Practice<br/>Tutorial</i>  | <sup>^</sup> <i>Optional library/self-<br/>study</i>   | <sup>^</sup> <i>Optional library/self-<br/>study</i>   | <sup>^</sup> <i>Optional library/self-<br/>study</i>   |

**FCE** will include two Elements, **FCEI** will include three Elements.

\* One of the above Elements will also include Element 4 - *examination focused training, delivering specific language preparation for FCE.*

<sup>^</sup> *Optional extra 10 lessons library/self-study with teacher guidance at 15.15-16.45 – free of charge.*

*The above schedule is only a sample and may be subject to amendment.*

# MLS Certificate Courses in General English and FCE

## MLS Electives – Individualise Your Course

At MLS we understand that each student is different, and we can offer you the flexibility to adapt our courses to suit your individual needs. During your time at MLS we offer the possibility of upgrading your course to better fit your specific needs. You can do this by adding Electives (additional fees will apply). Electives allow you to add an extra 2 lessons per week (1.5 hours) of small group training (group size 1-4) to your course, enabling you to tailor your training to a specific area of interest or learning need. You can choose from the Electives below (these are some of the most popular Electives chosen at MLS) or tell us what you would like to study and we will agree a plan with you:

| Elective                | Sample Elective Content (for illustration purposes only)   |
|-------------------------|--|
| General English         | Additional focus on reading, writing, speaking or listening; additional grammar; English for a specific purpose ...  |
| Exam Preparation        | Focused preparation towards Cambridge English exams (KET, PET, CAE, FCE, CPE, IELTS), Business English exams (BULATS, BEC), or Legal English exams (TOLES)...  |
| Business English        | Focus on a specific area of business relevant to you; business skills such as negotiating, presenting, business writing, team working, problem solving, business culture and etiquette, networking, etc...   |
| Marketing               | Focus on specific areas of marketing relevant to you, such as digital marketing, customer relationships, competitive advantage, marketing research, the global marketing environment, branding, relationship marketing, etc...                                   |
| Management              | Focus on specific areas of management relevant to you, such as leadership and improving performance, human resource management, corporate social responsibility, sustainable development, business ethics, operations management, etc...                         |
| Legal English           | Focus on specific areas of law relevant to you, such as company law, contract law, human rights and the law, intellectual property, the environment and the law, etc...  |
| Financial English       | Focus on specific areas of finance relevant to you, such as budgeting, cash flow and sales forecasting, sourcing of finance, crowdfunding, etc...  |
| Medical English         | Focus on specific areas of medical English relevant to you, such as communicating and dealing with patients, discussing and explaining diagnosis, communicating with health professionals and medical practitioners, reading and using medical documents, etc... |
| Hospitality and Tourism | Focus on specific areas of hospitality or tourism relevant to you, such as customer service, event management, quality management in business, marketing in hospitality and tourism, sustainable tourism, etc...   |
| Other (please specify): | Please let us know what you would like to study and we will agree a training plan with you.  |