




## Introduction

Welcome to the 2024-2025 bulletin of the English inspectorate, which includes initial information. You can read more about the topics by clicking on the icon  in each section. I am sure you will find this bulletin informative and helpful for planning the new school year.

In addition, teachers are invited to focus on our sections for *Emergency and Online Learning*.

-  Elementary
-  Junior High
-  High School


I would like to welcome our two new Chief Inspectors for English and wish them all the best in their meaningful roles:  
 Junior and High School: Dr. Elias Farah  
 Elementary School: Devorah Amar  
 For the first time, two chief inspectors will be working in English (EFL) instruction in the Israeli school context each focusing on one age group.

Wishing us all a peaceful, productive and healthy school year,

Dr. Tziona Levi,  
 Director of Languages Department

HS teachers – click for Bagrut updates

## English Portal

The English Inspectorate site is where English teachers can find all the official documents and most updated information. It is important that all English teachers at all levels are familiar with the site and the information available. We recommend visiting the site regularly. 

### Facebook English Teaching Community






Our Facebook group - English Teaching Community in Israel - has over 18500 members from all over the world sharing ideas, asking questions, and getting answers! If you have a Facebook account, now is the time to join us! 


### WhatsApp groups




Do you want to receive updates in real time? Join the relevant WhatsApp Community announcement groups:

-  Elementary School
-  Junior High community
-  High School

### National Counselors 2024 - 2025


See the list of your national counsellors, areas of responsibility and contact info. 

### Inspectors' contact information 2024-2025

Find the contact info for your regional English inspector. 



## Internal assessment Tools 2024 – 2025 school year

RAMA and the Pedagogical Secretariat are proud to present: Internal AI-based assessment tools for grades 5 and 8. The tools allow for quick reporting on student status in Hebrew, Arabic, and English, including recommendations for action. Follow the link to the RAMA site for a detailed explanation of all the internal assessment tools for Elementary and Junior High schools. Check out the tools. 

These tools can assist you to:

- ✓ enhance teaching
- ✓ get to know your students' abilities
- ✓ plan teaching accordingly.

In addition, external Tnufah exams will take place for the 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade (schools will be informed which exam they will take out of 3 exams – English / Hebrew / Science and Technology).

6<sup>th</sup> grade 6/5/2025



9<sup>th</sup> grade 5/2/2025



# Digital TEHUDA

for emergency learning and general online and distance learning

The Ministry of Education TEHUDA program promotes digital and online learning for both in-school and emergency learning. The program focuses on:

1. Best teaching practices for synchronous and asynchronous lessons
2. Using the digital tools available on the ministry's cloud (Google, Teams, Moodle) for teaching and assessment.
3. Making use of resources such as Dig into Digital and many other materials that are available on the portal. See below for more details.







The program also highlights SEL skills and cyber security awareness. Technical support is provided by the Ministry of Education to empower teachers to make use of the wide array of tools in and out of the classroom.





# Dig into Digital Moodle courses

for you and your students – read all about it! Ready content in a learning management system (LMS) that can be adapted and used according to your needs.

<p>Dig into Digital grades 5-6</p>	<p>Dig into Digital grades 7 - 9</p>
<p>Independent learning courses for grades 5 and 6 (level A1) on Moodle.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All About Me</li> <li>• Come Travel with Me</li> </ul>  	<p>Independent learning course for junior high (level A2) students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Let's Talk</li> <li>• English for Hi-Tech</li> <li>• Climate Change</li> </ul> 
<p>Dig into Digital for High School</p>	<p>Teaching units</p>
<p>Online independent learning courses for Bagrut preparation – Modules A, B, C, D, E, F, G, COBE &amp; Ladders.</p>  <p>Join the Dig into Digital WhatsApp groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Announcements only</li> <li> Discussion group</li> </ul>	<p>Rich teaching units aligned to Curriculum 2020, offer a broad and diverse range of suggested synchronous, asynchronous, online and offline tasks.</p> <p>Teaching units for elementary school </p> <p>Teaching units for junior high school </p>
<p><b>Mondly</b> </p>	<p><b>Whatsup Project</b> </p>
<p>Mondly is a language learning app for elementary school pupils who play their way to learning English. This past year, many young, eager learners immersed themselves in this wonderful app and teachers were happy to see the progress of their pupils and their content faces.</p>	<p>The WhatsUp Project encourages 7th-12th grade students to read a variety of texts via WhatsApp. The texts are accompanied by online tasks and vocabulary practice. You receive the materials directly to your phone by subscribing to a WhatsApp group and can easily send them on to your students.</p> 
<p>Mondly can be used to enhance your pupils' vocabulary and practice spelling at any time and from anywhere. Looking forward to another fantastic year with many elated Mondly achievers.</p> 	<p><b>Makpetzah</b></p> <p>The Makpetzah provides online support lessons in small groups or individually. It is an online tutoring initiative for students finishing 4<sup>th</sup> grade – 12<sup>th</sup> grade. All students can sign up and receive private tutoring for free.</p> 



## Geffen program

The GEFEN program provides more autonomy to all schools. Make sure English is included in your school's chosen resources – talk to your principal.



Teachers that would like to order movies and create unit plans accordingly should follow the link on the portal to register and receive additional info, register and subscribe.



## Chemed English Community

The Chemed English Community aims to further English education in Chemed and Talmud Torah schools. While maintaining the national standards of English, teachers will find adaptations of material, programs and tools, which suit the sector. Monthly Coffee Time sessions are held in order to provide information and to continue building the Chemed English teaching community. Please join our WhatsApp group for updates and information.



## CLIL: Content and language integrated learning

### Arrow to the Future

The main goal of these materials is to strengthen the involvement and connection of junior high students to school and to improve scholastic achievements by connecting the material studied to the students' future and to various desirable careers. English teachers integrate content on the future career world into the regular curriculum.



### Financial Management

Financial Management in English is an interdisciplinary program to learn and teach financial management in English for JH and HS students (9th grade and up).

A practical course is offered.





# Professional Development

## In-service courses for English teachers

Many courses are offered for teachers, both face-to-face and online via your local pisa, or via a provider such as Matach, Lnet and others.

Visit the Professional Development page for more details of courses for the upcoming school year.



Kaveret now includes courses for JH and HS teachers! The Kaveret is a website for high-quality autonomous learning professional development. It includes courses designed for English teachers in English. The courses are usually 3 academic hours per unit. In the Kaveret, you can put together a 30-hour training course tailored to your professional needs and learn it at your own pace.

Check out the new courses for elementary and JH & HS teachers on Kaveret.



Asynchronous Units  
Teaching Writing in JH



Asynchronous Units  
Twee - AI tools for English teachers



Asynchronous Units  
The Craft of Prompt Engineering



## PLC

Professional Learning Communities, PLCs, started 8 years ago. During these years 68 communities have joined the program all over the country. PLCs differ from traditional in-service courses as they offer teachers opportunities to learn one from another, share ideas and analyze dilemmas in the classroom. Teachers collaborate, create, and cooperate with each other in a supportive environment where matters related to English instruction and pedagogy are discussed. This is the essence of the PLCs and the English Learning Communities are there not only to support you but to encourage every teacher towards professional development as well. English teachers can join a PLC in their area and take part in a hybrid or online 30-hour course. Contact your regional inspector to find out which PLC is suitable for you.

## Matzpen

The new system for registering for and tracking your in-service development is up and running. Read all about it!

If you are having problems navigating the new Matzpen system, call support \*6552. We recommend searching for courses and registering on your computer and not your phone.



ETAI was founded in 1979 as a grass-roots non-profit teachers' association run on a voluntary basis, by teachers for teachers. Its aim is to provide professional support, advice, teaching ideas and background knowledge. To learn more, visit the ETAI site. Teachers are encouraged to become active members of ETAI.





# School Programs

## Written Production

Teaching writing is crucial as a basis for enhancing literacy. Writing and reading are interconnected. Writing practice improves reading skills, as it helps students understand sentence structure, language, and vocabulary. Other key skills are enhanced by writing:

### Critical Thinking:

Writing encourages students to organize their thoughts, analyze information, and present arguments clearly and logically.

### Communication:

Proficient writing is essential for effective communication. It allows individuals to convey ideas, information, and emotions precisely.

### Creativity and Expression:

Writing provides an outlet for creativity and self-expression, allowing individuals to explore their thoughts and emotions.

### Academic and Career Success:


Strong writing skills are necessary for academic success and are highly valued in many careers, facilitating clear and professional communication.

Overall, teaching writing fosters a comprehensive set of skills that contribute to overall literacy and personal and professional development.

Stay tuned for an upcoming comprehensive guide that will provide EFL teachers with essential knowledge about writing instruction. This informative booklet, to be published in alignment with the National English Curriculum by the National English Inspectorate, will offer a thorough overview of key principles and best practices for teaching written production in EFL classrooms.


## Learn in Tune



Experiencing English through music is a great way to learn. It's fun and the students' language fluency grows as they hear the music, sing the songs, move to the beat and engage with new vocabulary. The program is for both elementary and junior high pupils. 

## E-Talent



This year many schools joined the E-Talent program, and we were amazed to see the talent at the school and district stages. Next year, E-Talent will be run locally again, and our suggestion is to be in touch with your regional counsellors and inspectors for more details. 

**Be on the lookout for updates.**






## Maccabiah 2025 Countdown


The Maccabiah is the world's largest Jewish athletic competition. "**The Jewish Olympics**" as they are often called, are Maccabi World Union's largest and most famous enterprise. These spectacular sports and cultural extravaganzas unite close to ten thousand Jewish athletes from all over the world in Israel approximately every four years. This coming competition 2025 is planned to be even bigger than the Olympic Games with the number of athletes and visitors to Israel.

Students will be educated about the Maccabiah in a wide range of subjects, and as English is the primary language connecting Israelis with Diaspora Jewry, our students will participate in a variety of interactive, relevant, and meaningful projects throughout the year. This **website** is a treasure trove of resources that was created by and for Israeli EFL teachers of all levels. It was established in honor of the 21st Maccabiah in 2022 and will continue to be developed and enriched throughout the coming school year as well.


We hope that by educating and motivating our students about the Maccabiah in their English classes as well, many of them will attend the 22nd Maccabiah sports' events during their next summer vacation between the dates of 8-22 July 2025 at various locations in Israel. A webinar about the Maccabiah will be held in November. Watch the portal, WhatsApp groups and Facebook page for updates. 

### Building Blocks



A program for enhancing literacy acquisition and developing reading intervention programs. Reading is the key to academic success. Being able to read in English is vital for learners of English as a foreign language. In Israel today, far too many elementary and junior high school students have not yet mastered the basic rudiments of reading in English. Check out your local pisga or our WhatsApp groups for upcoming BB courses. 

### The ABLE Kit

The ABLE Kit was designed to assess and diagnose basic reading skills and build intervention programs based on the results of mapping students' specific skills. The screening test should be administered to all 5th graders during the first two months of the school year or by the end of the 4th grade. Please note that the layout of the ABLE Kit has slightly changed as of September 2023. 

Please note:

Bagrut exams shouldn't be used as teaching or testing tools in JH or prior to 10th grade.



## Hi-Tech for Junior High

Hi-Tech for Junior High is a new project aimed at introducing students to essential digital tools through real-life skills. It promotes English learning, social interaction, and digital skills through a collection of activities and essential topics that provide opportunities to talk and think creatively in the language classroom. This year, students were introduced to a fantastic speaking platform by Second Nature that provides real feedback on their conversations with an AI character. Students have fun speaking English while effortlessly improving! Additionally, the system enables teachers to easily gather information and feedback on their students' progress. This pilot represents a groundbreaking use of AI with speaking English in the classroom.

## Debate Clubs

Debate enables students to practice English in an active and effective manner while developing expressive language skills.

Schools that participate in the national debate program will receive an additional hour to practice debate skills. Further information about the program and how to register will be sent by your regional inspector.

## Writing Competition

Writing is often considered to be the most challenging of English language skills, but pupils who can write in English, certainly enjoy the benefits. These include a boost to their reading comprehension skills, improvement of organizational and study skills, enhancement of speaking abilities, enjoyment of production, interaction and mediation opportunities, and perhaps most importantly, increased confidence and academic success.

Each year, we encourage students to write creatively on a variety of topics that are close to their daily realities. To date, pupils have written about their personal experiences during the Covid pandemic, their dreams for the future, and this last year, about their awareness and personal stories that relate to all kinds of safety issues. Check out the Teachers' Guide for the *Be Safe! Writing Project* and 6th grade National Writing Competition.

The topic for next year's writing project is sure to touch the hearts of our young writers and their readers: HOPE. More information to follow in September '24.





# High School

## At Promise Students



Teaching English in Mabar, Etgar, Technical Centers and Miftanim classes creates endless challenges for teachers and students as well. We, at the department for at-risk students in the MOE, aim at offering formal and informal support for our teachers. We believe that as teachers juggle a multitude of different tasks and demands, it is important that they are given practical support so that they can support their students.



## Chat Away

ESRA Chat Away is part of ESRA's English Tutoring Program (ETP) and offers online enrichment for students from 7th to 12th grades who have little opportunity to improve their English-speaking skills. One-on-one meetings take place on Zoom, with cameras open, after school hours.



## Diplomacy and International Communication in English



One2One is a joint venture between the Government of Israel and Enter: The Jewish Peoplehood Alliance. We invite you to a unique cross-border project that will take place in the coming school year (2024-25). [Additional info](#)



The Diplomacy major is now running strong in over 100 schools. Visit the [Diplomacy Site](#) to read all about this major and the curriculum. Teachers who are interested in being trained as diplomacy teachers can find the registration link [HERE](#).



## Negotiation Skills

Negotiation Skills is a diplomacy activity where students work together to solve global issues. Students practice English as they role-play as delegates of countries working together to produce written resolutions that detail how they will solve the problem being discussed. For more information, please contact Suzanne Aroshes Fischer



## First University Semester in HS program

Details of this program for English options will be announced.



## Mikud

Despite the troubling news, we hope that the upcoming academic year 2024 - 2025 (תשפ"ה) will be a regular and full year. Further information about the mikud will be provided during September.

## Bagrut Updates

### COBE

The key words that appear in the clips on the COBE exam will only be available for 4 pointers as of winter 2025. 5 pointers will no longer see the key word prompts on the screen.

Students who are clearly reading from notes on their COBE exam (identified through serious mispronunciation and/or speech that is fragmented and unnatural) will be given a 0 for that question as in previous years. Yet, unlike previous years, they will ALSO be given a chashad for using forbidden materials (חומר עזר) during the test.

### Module E

As of the 2024 – 2025 school year (תשפ"ה), all students (including external & overseas students) at the 4- or 5-point level will take the Vocabulary Module E exam (16471).

List C of the lexical band 3 (core 1) was divided into two parts in October 2023. Students were tested on the **first part** only. The additional approx. **150 words for Part 2** will be incorporated into Module E as of Winter 2025.

**List D** will be included as of the first Summer test, 2025.



### BOOST (Bagrut Online Oral Skills Test) 3 pointers

As of winter 2025, all 3 pointers (excluding special education (07) students) will be tested orally via the computer. The content of the BOOST exam includes a listening section, a very structured interview on preprepared topics and very simple description of pictures.

*We highly recommend that 3-point teachers join one of the 30-hour courses about BOOST (details from your English inspector or local Pisga). Watch for webinar announcements on the portal, WhatsApp groups and Facebook.*



### BOOST and Changes in Module A

Starting winter 2025, the BOOST exam (the computerized 3-point level oral bagrut exam, which has been optional since 2023) will be compulsory for 3 pointers. The BOOST replaces the F2F oral exam (16385); 07 students will still be allowed to take the test with a human tester, if they wish. Therefore, starting winter 2025, the listening component of Part II of Module A will be eliminated. The new module A exam will consist of two texts (A + B). See the table below for details.




	OLD			NEW			
	# of questions	Point distribution	Text length	# of questions	Point distribution	Question types	Text length
Texts A + B	9	7 x 8pts 2 x 7pts	2 x 150 words	15	10 x 7pts 5 x 6pts	6-7 MC + 8-9 OE *	2 x 180 – 200 words
Listening	6	6 x 5 pts	400 - 430	0	None - moved to BOOST		
Total	15	100		15	100		

\*MC = multiple choice question, OE = open ended question

## NEW: Reporting internal Grades:

Log grades and COBE oral Bagrut exam with a human tester for Spec. Ed. Students.

Starting summer 2024, the testing department has made changes in the reporting of internal literature log grades and in the COBE grades for Special Education students. It is now only possible to report **ONE literature Log** per student and **ONE oral grade for Special ED students**.

Following these changes, it is recommended that you DO NOT report grades for the Literature Modules (B, D, and F) in class 11 but rather save the grades to be reported in class 12. If for extenuating circumstances, a second grade needs to be reported, please approach your district English inspector. Native speakers may complete their 5-point Bagrut exam at the end of 11th grade. We recommend using the 3-year planner in the Bagrut handbooks to plan accordingly. 

Here are the recommended instructions regarding moving up or down a level:

### Change of level in the oral grades of Special Ed. students:

A Special Ed student moving between 4 and 5 has 3 options:

1. Taking the COBE exam at the requested level.
2. Leaving the previous grade and adjusting it accordingly: plus/minus 10 points. This is done by the testing department.
3. Taking another test with a human tester. This requires the approval of the regional English inspector. The inspector's approval must be sent to the מרכז מידע בחינות to open the possibility of being allocated a human tester and then reporting the new grade.

A Special Ed student moving between 3 and 4 points has 2 options:

1. Take the COBE exam at the requested level.
2. Take a test with a human tester. This requires the approval of the regional English inspector. The inspector's approval must be sent to מרכז מידע בחינות to open the possibility of being allocated a human tester and then reporting the new grade.