

Introduction	Updates from the Pedagogical Secretariat
Dear English Teachers, The new school year offers a renewed opportunity to inspire learning, refine practice, and strengthen professional community. As always, we look forward to advancing our shared goals of excellence in English language teaching. This bulletin will provide key updates, resources, and opportunities for professional growth, supporting our work in fostering communication skills, cultural understanding, and academic achievement. <i>The English Inspectorate</i>	• To ensure the continued relevance and suitability of curricula across all subjects, an anonymous survey will be conducted annually, starting in March 2026. The survey will be distributed by subject inspectors to all teachers. • Beginning in the 2025-2026 school year, teachers will be asked to document their lessons in the school system (Mashov or Smart School) by selecting topics from a list based on the curriculum. This documentation will help to track progress, identify gaps and adapt teaching accordingly, as well as aid in transparency and collaboration.
<i>Facebook English Teaching Community</i>	<i>National Counselors 2025-2026</i>
<i>Our Facebook group - English Teaching Community in Israel - has over 18,600 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! Link</i>	See the list of national counselors, areas of responsibility and contact info. Link <i>Inspectors' contact information 2025-2026</i> <i>Find the contact info for your regional English inspector. Link</i>
<i>National Announcement WhatsApp Group</i>	
<i>Do you want to receive updates in real time? Join the WhatsApp Community. Link</i>	
<i>RAMA Assessment Tools 2025–2026</i>	
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 junior high schools. Link These tools can assist you to enhance teaching, get to know your students' abilities and plan teaching accordingly. In addition, external Tnufa exams will take place for 9th grade on 10/2/2026. Follow the Link for more information.	

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. [Link](#)

The National Debate Program

Join the Debate Club and enable your students to practice English in an active, effective and engaging manner, while developing expressive language skills. Schools that participate in the national debate program will be able to purchase extra hours via the Gefen system for the teachers leading the program in their schools. These teachers will be able to train the debate clubs formed, practice debate skills and prepare their 9th and 10th graders for competitions or debate workshops. Further information and registration details will be sent by your regional inspector. We look forward to seeing many schools participating.

The English Academization Program

The Academization Program offers high school students a university-level English course. The course, adapted for high schoolers and taught in grade 12 by their English teachers, replaces the traditional Module G exam. [More details](#) on the Portal.

Triple Well-Being Week

This past year Triple Well-Being learning materials were developed to enhance the notion of self-care, community care, and Earth care ([learn more here](#)). All Triple Well-Being materials can be found on the [portal](#). We encourage you to make use of them next year.

At Promise Students

Teaching English in Mabar, Etgar, Technical Centers, and Miftanim classes creates endless challenges for both teachers and students. At the department for at-risk students in the MOE, we aim to offer formal and informal support to 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. [Link](#) to more info.

ETAI

ETAI was founded in 1979 as a grass-roots non-profit teachers' association run on a voluntary basis, by teachers for teachers. ETAI provides professional support, advice, teaching ideas and background knowledge. To learn more, visit the ETAI site.

Dig into Digital

Moodle courses for you and your students – follow the links for more information.

- **For Grades 11-12:**

Independent learning courses for Bagrut preparation: [our page on the portal](#)

- **For Grades 7–9:**

Independent learning courses: *Let's Talk*, *English for Hi-Tech* and *Climate Change*:
[our page on the portal](#)

WhatsUp Project

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. Teachers receive the materials directly to their phone by subscribing to a WhatsApp group and can easily send them to their students.

Join here <https://chat.whatsapp.com/F9LAudKOUSAC6NW7j2qO1a>

Click here for more information: [Link](#)

Makpetzah

The Makpetzah provides online support lessons in small groups or individually. It is an online tutoring initiative for students finishing 4th grade–12th grade. All students can sign up and receive private tutoring for free. [Link](#)

One2One

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 (2025-26). Within the suggested framework, Israeli high school students and their peers in the diaspora will have the opportunity to participate in a series of value-added, on-line meetings. These encounters will encourage the Israeli students to practice their English in an authentic environment and make fascinating new friends overseas. [Link](#)

Chat Away

Give your 8th–12th grade students the opportunity to improve their English speaking skills from the comfort of their home!

Learn more and sign up: [Chat Away](#)

Diplomacy and International Communication in English

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](#). The Diplomacy major is moving forward with the technological era and will be testing ALL students on the iTest. As of the summer of 2026, all students will take the exam on the iTest platform.

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 Charlie Mack - <mailto:cemack27@gmail.com>

In-Service Courses

Many courses are offered for teachers, both face-to-face and online via your local pisha, 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. [Link](#)

Customize your learning experience with *HaKaveret Mix & Match!* Build your own 30-hour program by selecting from a variety of new English courses. Plus, explore general courses to enhance your classroom skills. Find out more: [HaKaveret](#)

Check out the new courses for elementary and JH & HS teachers on Kaveret. [Link](#)
Coming soon!

PLCs

Professional Learning Communities, PLCs, started nine years ago throughout 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. PLCs not only support teachers, but also promote professional development."

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.

Interdisciplinary Programs: Financial Management & Geo-English

Financial Management in English and Geo-English are interdisciplinary programs for junior high and high school students, integrating content with English language learning. A wealth of material can be found on the portal [here](#).

Matzpen

Matzpen is the system for registering for in-service courses and keeping track of your credits. 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 via your phone. [Link](#)

Bagrut Updates

The Revised 3-, 4-, and 5- point Bagrut Booklets [are now available on the Portal](#).

From the 2025-2026 school year, teachers are required to follow the Revised Literature Program. A Revised Literature Handbook will be posted in the coming weeks.

Mikud

The "Mikud" for the 2025/2026 academic year (תשפ"ו) will be published in September 2025. It will mark a gradual return to the full Bagrut program and requirements that were in place prior to the disruptions caused by COVID-19 and the war.

The Mikud will include the following:

- **Module C:** There will be a list of 19 topics for the writing section. Note that from the 2026-2027 (תשפ"ז) school year, this list will no longer be provided.
- **Module E:** As of Winter 2026, the exam will include Band I, Band II and Band III Core I (Lists A, B, C and D).
- **Literature:** The special accommodations for the Literature Program for 3, 4 and 5 points will still be in effect for 12th graders in the 2025-2026 school year. Students in grades 10 and 11 will be required to complete the full Literature Program.
- **Module G:** As of Winter 2026, 07 students will be required to complete the writing assignment (90 to 100 words). The reading comprehension section will be reduced to five to six questions for these students.

The rubric for grading the G writing for 07 students:

Criteria	Descriptors				
Content and Organization	- task is fully on topic - text is well organized - content is easily understood		- task is partially on topic - text is fairly well organized - content is sometimes difficult to follow		- task is almost or completely off topic, but it is due to misunderstanding of topic - text is poorly organized - content cannot be understood
	5	4	3	2	0
Vocabulary	use of appropriate vocabulary		occasional use of inappropriate vocabulary		consistent use of inappropriate vocabulary
	6	4	2	1	0
Language Use	- correct use of basic language structures - hardly any errors of word order, pronouns, prepositions		- occasional incorrect use of basic language structures - several errors of word order, pronouns, prepositions		- consistent incorrect use of basic language structures - frequent errors of word order, pronouns, prepositions
	5	4	3	2	0

TOTAL: 16 points

Teachers can give in-between grades.

Deduction for Length (90-100 words)

# of words	# of points deducted
80-89	2
70-79	4
60-69	8
50-59	10
40-49	12
Fewer than 40	16

Literature

With the transition period ending, the 2025–2026 school year will see full implementation of the aligned Literature Program. The updated Literature Handbook will be published in September 2025, providing clear program requirements and assessment updates.

Program Implementation

The 2025–2026 academic year marks the complete transition from the previous Bagrut Literature Program to the newly aligned Literature Program, based on the Curriculum 2020 document. All teachers will teach literary texts according to the updated program requirements.

Transitional Provisions

Students currently in Grade 12 during the 2025–2026 academic year may continue to follow the reduced requirements ("mikud") from the previous academic year. This provision ensures continuity for students who are already well into the program. All students in Grades 10 and 11 will follow the standard program requirements outlined below.

Assessment Modifications

The internal examination option will no longer be available for students beginning the program in Grade 10. These students will follow only the log assessment option. The following table outlines the requirements for each Module:

Module	2025-6 Requirements for grade 10 and 11 students	2025-6 Mikud ONLY for grade 12 students	
Module B (16383)	2 Short Stories 1 Poem 2 Book Reports	1 short story 1 poem 1 book report	
Module D (16483)	3 Short Stories 3 Poems 4 Book Reports	2 short stories 2 poems 3 book reports	
Module F (16583)	1 Play/Novel 3 Short Stories 2 Poems 4 Book Reports	Option 1 2 short stories 2 poems 3 book reports	Option 2 1 play or novel 1 short story 1 poem 3 book reports

Bagrut Testers & Markers

ALL teachers who prepare students for Bagrut and who report the internal literature grades OR test special education students orally MUST be registered on the Experts' Site and approved as testers

Please note that there are 4 different statuses on the experts site:

1. בוחן הערכה חלופית - for reporting internal literature grades (can be approved by the school principal)
2. בוחן הקלות בעל פה - for oral exams of written modules (A,C,E,G) (can be approved by the school principal)
3. בוחן - for testing and reporting oral exams with a human tester for sheelonim 16385, 16485, 16585 (must be approved by the Testing Department and the English Inspectorate)
4. מעריך - for marking written exams. For more details about the requirements and how to apply: [Link](#)

The COBE and the BOOST

The oral components of the Bagrut exam in ALL levels, can only be taken starting the winter of grade 12.

The keywords that previously appeared with questions on the 5-point COBE will be reintroduced starting in Winter 2026.

No materials are allowed in the oral exams. Students will get a "Chashad" if they are heard reading from notes.

It is essential to ensure that students take these exams under the best possible conditions. Schools should verify that all equipment is functioning properly and that the testing environment is quiet and free from distractions. If background noise interferes with the clarity of students' recordings, it may negatively affect their scores.

In addition, students should be instructed to listen to their recordings before submitting the exam to ensure the sound quality is good enough. Students will get a zero if they use inappropriate or offensive language in any written and oral exam.