

Suggestions for preparation for the Entry Tests to 2^{nde}, September 2016 (Tests to be held in March)

As a candidate for this class you should bear in mind that your preparation needs to go well beyond the sort of work you have been asked to do in a 'European' or LV1 class up to this point.

1. **You should try to read as extensively as possible.** Reading should include short stories, novels, newspaper articles, and poems. Having read a novel or short story, you should be able to say more about it than simply tell the story. The idea is not just to read, but also to think about what you have read so that you can talk interestingly and thoughtfully about it later.
Try to write a short commentary on each novel or short story you read: summarize the story in 10 lines, then write another 10 or 15 lines of thoughtful commentary saying what was particular/original/unusual about it and what you thought of it.
2. **Work on your vocabulary and grammar.** You may wish to practise some of the Cambridge First Certificate Use of English (Paper 3) exercises to be found on the internet.
3. **Try to watch as many films in English as possible,** and have something interesting to say about them afterwards.
4. **Try to find someone to talk to in English as much as possible.**

Suggestions for Reading:

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night time, by Mark Haddon

Holes, by Louis Sachar

About a Boy, by Nick Hornby

Starseeker, by Tim Bowler

Nation, by Terry Pratchett

Of Mice and Men, by John Steinbeck

Someone Like You, by Roald Dahl (short stories)

Kiss, Kiss, by Roald Dahl(short stories)

The Written test

This will consist of

1. **A reading passage, followed by questions relating to its content and style.**

- 2. A composition of approximately 350 words, related to the content of the reading passage.**

There may also be included in the test

- 3. A question on an aspect of the History which you have studied during the 3ème year**
- 4. A Use of English exercise, of type Cambridge First Certificate**

The Oral test

This will consist of

- 1) A commentary on, and discussion of a poem or reading passage (the candidate will have 30 minutes preparation time)
- 2) A more general discussion based on the candidate's reading experience and other interests.