

Syllabus

English Group Classes

“Trees” (14-16 yrs.)

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☑ Snapshot

- **Primary focus:** Primary focus: Enhancing fluency in English communication through speaking-focused activities while supporting grammar revision and school curriculum topics. Lessons aim to encourage creativity, independent thinking, and confidence in real-world communication.
- **Target learners:** Children aged 13–16 years old who have completed the “Branches” program or have a similar level of English proficiency.
- **Schedule:** 1 weekly 60-minute session.
- **Duration:** “Trees” 1: 38 weeks; “Trees” 2: 38 weeks.
- **Exam prep focus:** Optional, depending on the groups’ goals.
- **Approximate CEFR Level:** B1+ to C1.

☑ Summary

The “Trees” program is designed to help students refine their English communication skills and become confident speakers in a wide range of contexts. This program offers varied tasks that focus on fluency, creativity, and critical thinking in speaking and writing. Students are encouraged to engage in debates, discussions, and presentations while revising grammar topics to ensure accuracy. Lessons are tailored to support school curricula and provide advanced learners with opportunities to expand their vocabulary and express themselves in complex ways.

☑ Pre-Requisites

To enroll in the “Trees” program, children should:

- Have completed the “Branches” program or demonstrate an equivalent level of English proficiency.
- Be able to:
 - Use intermediate grammar structures (e.g., present perfect, past simple, conditionals) and a vocabulary of at least 300–400 words.
 - Participate in discussions, debates, and presentations in English.
 - Write cohesive paragraphs and short essays independently with proper grammar and punctuation.

☑ Goals

The “Trees” English Program is designed to:

1. Build confidence and fluency in spoken English through discussions, debates, and presentations.
2. Revise and expand grammar topics, focusing on complex structures and fluency in usage.
3. Develop advanced listening and reading comprehension skills through real-world materials like articles, podcasts, and short stories.
4. Improve writing skills by focusing on essay structure, creative writing, and formal correspondence.
5. Support school-based English learning by reviewing curriculum topics and preparing students for exams, if applicable.
6. Foster critical thinking and creativity through structured and open-ended activities.

Program Levels

The “Trees” program is divided into two sub-levels to accommodate the developmental and linguistic needs of children aged 13–16 years old:

“Trees” 1 (Ages 13–14)

- Focus: “Trees” 1 reinforces intermediate grammar and vocabulary while encouraging fluency and creativity in communication. Lessons focus on progressing naturally from “Trees” 2, with structured speaking and writing tasks to build confidence.
- Content: Vocabulary includes every day and expanded topics, opinions, and descriptive language. Grammar topics include passive voice, modals, and complex sentence structures (e.g., relative clauses).
- Social skills: Encourages teamwork, active listening, and collaboration through group projects and discussions.

“Trees” 2 (Ages 14–16)

- Focus: “Trees” 2 introduces advanced grammar and vocabulary, preparing students for real-world communication and higher-level academic tasks. Lessons focus on refining fluency and accuracy for confident, independent expression.
- Content: Vocabulary expands to include abstract topics like global issues, debates, and formal communication. Grammar topics include advanced conditionals, reported speech, and hypothetical structures.
- Social skills: Encourages leadership in group discussions, debates, and presentations.

Content

The “Trees” program focuses on developing students’ listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills with an approximate focus on each skill as follows:

Skill	% Focus
Speaking	50%. Fluency-focused activities such as debates, discussions, and presentations.
Listening	20%. Comprehending real-world materials such as podcasts, interviews, and audio recordings.
Reading	15%. Analyzing and understanding articles, short stories, and informational texts.
Writing	15%. Writing essays, creative texts, and formal correspondence with proper grammar and organization.

☒ Vocabulary and Themes:

The program introduces vocabulary and themes that align with school curricula while promoting creativity and engagement through interactive learning.

Vocabulary	Themes
Grammar: passive voice, modals, conditionals, reported speech.	Global Issues: Climate change, poverty, and education.
Descriptive Language: adjectives for emotions, opinions, and details.	Technology: Innovation, social media, and AI.
Formal Vocabulary: email phrases, polite expressions, and academic terms.	Cultural Exploration: Traditions, diversity, and history.
Idioms and Phrasal Verbs: e.g., "break the ice," "take up."	Debates and Opinions: Expressing and defending viewpoints.
Time Expressions: while, during, simultaneously.	Dreams and Aspirations: Career goals and future plans.

☒ Methodology and Activities

The "Trees" program prioritizes fluency and critical thinking, integrating grammar and vocabulary into engaging activities:

- Debates and Discussions: Structured and open-ended activities to build fluency and confidence.
- Role-Play: Real-life scenarios like job interviews, travel planning, and problem-solving.
- Creative Projects: Producing posters, videos, or presentations on chosen topics.
- Grammar Games: Fun activities to reinforce advanced grammar (e.g., sentence creation challenges).
- Reading and Writing Tasks: Analyzing articles and stories, followed by essay writing or creative responses.
- Speaking Practice: Individual presentations, group debates, and storytelling.

☒ Learning Outcomes

By the end of the program, children will have:

1. Listening: Comprehended real-world materials like podcasts, interviews, and speeches.
2. Speaking: Used advanced grammar and vocabulary to express opinions, ideas, and arguments fluently and confidently.
3. Reading: Analyzed and understood articles, short stories, and informational texts with comprehension.
4. Writing: Written well-structured essays, creative pieces, and formal correspondence using proper grammar and organization.

☒ Assessment Criteria

Teachers will evaluate:

- Listening and Speaking: Fluency, accuracy, and confidence in interactive activities.
- Reading: Comprehension of longer texts and vocabulary usage.
- Writing: Grammar, sentence structure, and organization in written work.
- Engagement: Participation, creativity, and enthusiasm during lessons.

☒ Progression Criteria

To progress to the next program level or complete the Teens program, students should:

- Use advanced sentence structures with correct grammar (e.g., passive voice, hypothetical conditionals).
- Demonstrate a vocabulary of at least 400–600 words.
- Read and comprehend real-world texts with accuracy and critical thinking.
- Write independently, producing essays, articles, or creative stories with proper grammar and punctuation.

☒ **Materials**

The program uses diverse materials to ensure interactive and engaging lessons, including:

- Grammar-based activity sheets and games.
- Articles, short stories, and podcasts for advanced learners.
- Props and role-play materials.
- Technology-based resources (e.g., online tools, videos, and quizzes).
- Writing prompts and creative project materials.
- An appropriate coursebook (to be determined).

☒ **About the Instructors**

Our “Trees” program is taught by experienced instructors who specialize in teaching teenagers and fostering their fluency and critical thinking skills. Lessons are dynamic and engaging, ensuring students feel prepared for real-world communication while refining their language abilities.

IH CLIENT PROMISE

Realise your aspirations and open new horizons by learning with International House in a positive and enjoyable environment.

- ✦ We will help you learn and progress by designing well-structured courses and educational support services.
- ✦ Before enrolling we will listen to your needs and give you guidance on choosing the right course. This may involve a language level test and an interview.
- ✦ You will be given clear and accurate information about all aspects of your course, examination or other service.
- ✦ You will be taught by qualified teachers or trainers, who regularly receive up to date professional development. Younger learners will be taught by teachers trained to meet their specific needs.
- ✦ Your course will be supervised by skilled educational managers who will make sure the content is up to date, the school has the right resources, and whose goal is to help you have a positive experience.
- ✦ Your learning will be regularly assessed during your course to help you progress. You will have opportunities to discuss how to improve.
- ✦ You will be encouraged to give us feedback so we can continue to improve while you are still studying with us.
- ✦ Diversity is celebrated at International House and we are committed to treating everybody fairly and equally.



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20 YEARS OF
EDUCATION SUCCESS
Junior
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House**
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