

Trinity's Integrated Skills in English (ISE) Scoring information

What is included in the ISE qualifications?

Trinity's Integrated Skills in English (ISE) exams assess all four language skills: reading, writing, speaking and listening.

These skills are assessed in two modules: the Reading & Writing module and the Speaking & Listening module. The full Trinity ISE qualification certificate is issued once a learner achieves a Pass in both modules.

What levels are available for ISE?

Modules can be taken at different times and each module is offered at the following levels:

- ▶ ISE Foundation (CEFR* A2)
- ▶ ISE I (CEFR B1)
- ▶ ISE II (CEFR B2)
- ▶ ISE III (CEFR C1)

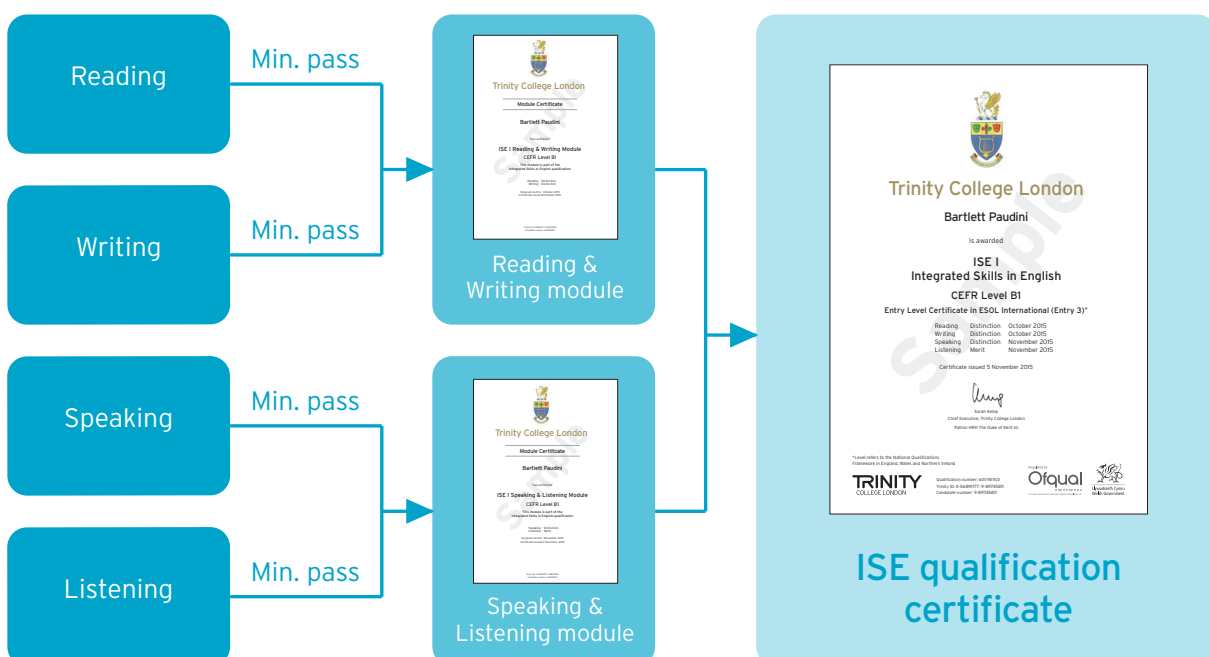
How is ISE scored?

For each skill (reading, writing, speaking, listening) candidates are awarded one of the following results:

- ▶ Distinction
- ▶ Merit
- ▶ Pass
- ▶ Fail

A module certificate is issued if a learner achieves a minimum of a Pass **for each skill** within the module. The module certificate shows details of the result achieved for each skill.

When both modules have been passed at the same level, candidates are awarded the Trinity ISE qualification and receive a certificate at the appropriate CEFR level, showing results for each skill.



*CEFR = Common European Framework of Reference

What are the score boundaries for each skill?

Each stage of the development of the ISE exam has followed strict academic processes to ensure the test is of the highest standard. This also includes setting and maintaining pass marks, and the reporting of results.

Trinity consulted a panel of external experts to determine the score boundaries for each skill, using procedures described in the *Manual for Relating Language Examinations to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, Teaching, Assessment*, produced by the Council of Europe. Their judgments were further reviewed by leading statistical experts in the field of assessment.

Each skill and each task within the same skill are equally weighted. To achieve this the raw scores for some tasks need to be converted using a common scale. This means that the raw scores give a good, but not precise, indication of the likely pass band for an individual student. Therefore the final outcome is only confirmed after the conversion.

Reading

The total score for Reading is 30. Students will normally pass the Reading section if they score at least 15. They will normally achieve a Merit if they score 23 and a Distinction if they achieve 28 or higher.

Writing

The total score for Writing is 28. Students will normally pass the Writing section if they score at least 14. They will normally achieve a Merit if they score 20 and a Distinction if they achieve 25 or higher.

Speaking

The total score for Speaking is 16. Students will normally pass the Speaking section if they score at least 8. They will normally achieve a Merit if they score 12 and a Distinction if they achieve 15 or higher.

Listening

The total score for Listening at ISE Foundation and ISE I is 8. Students will normally pass the Listening section at these levels if they score at least 4. They will normally achieve a Merit if they score 5 and a Distinction if they achieve 7 or higher.

The total score for Listening at ISE II and ISE III is 4. Students will normally pass the Listening section at these levels if they score 2. They will normally achieve a Merit if they score 3 and a Distinction if they achieve 4.