**Information about the VB001 (Specialist English) exam**

The aim of the VB001 (Specialist English) exam is to assess students’ knowledge of general English grammar and specialized math and IT-related terminology. Below is a short description of the exam.

The exam has the following parts:

**Part 1**

* **Part 1 Listening**
* **Part 2 Reading**
* **Part 3 Grammar and Vocabulary**

**Part 2**

* **Part 4 Writing**

**Part 3**

* **Part 5 Speaking**

**Part 1** (58 points)  
**Listening** (15 questions in total)

**Task 1:** True/False (7 questions)  
Students listen to a 3-minute recording and mark the sentences True or False.  
**Task 2:** Sentence completion (8 questions)  
Students listen to a 3-minute recording and complete some notes.

**Reading** (20 questions in total)

**Task 3:** Open cloze based on an IT text (7 questions)  
Students complete a gapped text with a correct word (IT-related term).  
**Task 4:** Error correction (8 questions)  
Students study the lines of a text and find an extra word which should not be there.  
**Task 5:** Gapped sentences (5 questions)  
Students complete a text with missing sentences by choosing from a jumbled list.

**Grammar and vocabulary** (23 questions in total)

**Task 6:** Key word transformations (8 questions)  
Students complete a sentence using a key word so that it means the same as the lead-in sentence.  
**Task 7:** Word formation (6 questions)  
Students form missing words from a text by changing the stem of the word given.  
**Task 8:** Open cloze (9 questions)  
Students complete a gapped text with a correct term. Any type of word may be omitted.

**Part 2** (12 points)  
**Writing**

**Task 9:** Writing an email  
Students write an email on a given topic in 130-150 words.

**Part 3** (30 points) **Speaking**

**Task 10:** A presentation  
Students deliver a 5-minute presentation on an IT topic of their choice in front of an audience using visuals.

**Task 11:** Discussion

Students choose a topic and then discuss as a group. During this task, students show that they are able to participate in a discussion, express agreement or disagreement, and use relevant vocabulary.

For this part of the exam, students need to prepare **a small handout** for other participating students as well as the examiner. The handout should contain:

* + Main points from the presentation for others to review (should not be too detailed – your peers will have just seen the presentation!)
  + Discussion question – make sure to think carefully about your discussion topic, as some of the discussion topics from the handout will be used in this part of the examination!

**Assessment**The passing score for each paper is 60%.  
The passing score for *Paper 1* is 35 points out of 58.  
The passing score for *Paper 2* is 7 points out of 12.  
The passing score for *Paper 3* is 18 (12+6) points out of 30 (20+10).

**If you fail Part 1, you have to retake the whole exam.**

**If you fail Part 2, you need to retake only Part 2 (the writing portion of the written exam).**

**If you fail Part 3, you will be required to have an entirely new presentation. This is true even if you fail the Discussion portion of Part 3!**

The total allotted time for the entire written portion of the exam (Part 1 and 2) is 90 minutes. If you are retaking Part 2, you will have 30 minutes for the task.

**Final assessment**Grade Score  
A 92 – 100  
B 84 – 91  
C 76 – 83  
D 68 – 75  
E 60 – 67

**Grading of students with certificates**:

If you submit the *Certificate in Advanced English* stating that your level of English is at the B2 level, the number of points forthe **Part 1** you receive will correspond to the point distribution below:

A – 58 pts.

B – 53 pts.

C – 49 pts.

D – 44 pts.

E – 39 pts.  
  
If your certificate is at the C1 level, you will receive the maximum points unless the grade you have received for the certificate is relatively low. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis.