



# Newsletter

## June 2026

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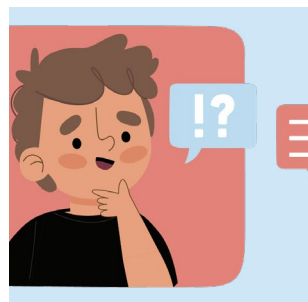
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Dear teachers,

It's a pleasure to reconnect with you at this special time of the year, now that the ball is rolling and we have our academic year planned ahead, there are several interesting updates we are looking forward to sharing with you.

Our academic calendar is already available, with a variety of talks designed to support different needs and interests. We hope you find many of them both useful and inspiring.

We would love to invite you to another edition of our Cambridge and Dickens Open House, taking place on Saturday, 25th July, in the afternoon. It is a wonderful opportunity to come together, share ideas, and enjoy enriching talks led by our most expert teachers in the field, all in the warm, welcoming spirit that defines us.

I believe most of you have received the first round of tests, remember this is a great opportunity for you to gather very useful information on your students' learning process, tests give us useful feedback on their strengths and challenges and are a wonderful tool for us to plan our next steps of their journey.

We also warmly congratulate learners and teachers who have received awards in their Cambridge English exams, this well-deserved recognition is a milestone on this journey that is learning, and becoming true citizens of the world. This ceremony celebrates not only the learners' effort, but also the dedication and guidance of their teachers, which truly reflects our shared commitment to excellence.

We look forward to continuing to work together with the same enthusiasm and dedication as always, so that this can be a truly great year for all of us.

Warm regards,



**Sofia**

# Cambridge and Dickens Celebrated Excellence





Platinum  
Authorised Exam Centre

## Outstanding Cambridge Learner awards: Celebrating Excellence and Achievement

Last May 5th Dickens celebrated the Cambridge Learner Awards which was a special occasion dedicated to celebrating the remarkable achievements of students from across Uruguay, recognizing not only their academic success but also the dedication, perseverance, and enthusiasm that brought them to this important milestone.

### First Stage: Young Learners Awards

During the first stage of the ceremony, we proudly celebrated the accomplishments of:

- 24 students from YLE Starters
- 20 students from YLE Flyers
- 21 students from YLE Movers



These special awards were presented to the students who achieved full marks in their respective levels. Among the award recipients were students from San José, Canelones, Maldonado, Colonia, Rocha, and Paysandú.

The students enjoyed every moment of this meaningful celebration, proudly receiving recognition for their hard work and dedication.

Over the years, these young learners have not only had the opportunity to experience their first approach to the English language in a fun and dynamic way, but they have also developed visible achievements that allow them to communicate successfully in a second language. This experience prepares them for a stronger academic future and gives them an important advantage when facing exams and student life through positive early experiences.

As each student stepped onto the stage to receive their award, they celebrated not only an academic achievement but also the beginning of a journey that will help them unlock their full potential in life.



### Second Stage: Cambridge Main Suite Qualifications

The second stage of the ceremony honored the achievements of 32 students who successfully completed the following Cambridge English qualifications:



- A2 Key | A2 Key for Schools
- B1 Preliminary | B1 Preliminary for Schools
- B2 First | B2 First for Schools
- C1 Advanced
- C2 Proficiency

As each student stepped onto the stage to receive their award, they celebrated not only an academic achievement but also the beginning of a journey that will help them unlock their full potential in life.

### Students received special recognitions such as:

- **Best Across**, awarded to the student with the highest score in each level,
- and **High Achievement**, awarded to the student with the second highest score.

Among the award recipients were students from Montevideo, Paysandú, Maldonado, Canelones, Rocha, and Cerro Largo.

Throughout these years, these students have accumulated visible achievements that allow them to communicate successfully in English while also developing transferable skills that benefit them far beyond language learning. Strategies for reading comprehension, writing, critical thinking, and exam preparation and others, can also be applied to their studies at school, university, and future professional challenges.

This ceremony was not only a recognition of academic excellence but also a celebration of effort, growth, and perseverance.

We warmly congratulate all the students for their commitment and dedication, the teachers for their passion and guidance, and the families for their constant support throughout this journey. Every achievement celebrated was the result of teamwork, encouragement, and the shared belief that education opens doors to endless opportunities.

May this important milestone inspire all students to continue learning, growing, and achieving new goals in the future.



# Develop Your Teaching with TKT: CLIL

## An internationally recognised qualification

CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) is a teaching approach that combines content, communication, cognitive skills, and intercultural awareness. While it is widely used in bilingual programmes, its principles and strategies are also highly valuable for teachers working in contexts where English is taught as a foreign / second language.

If you are looking to expand your teaching skills, discover more engaging and purposeful classroom practices, and work towards an internationally recognised Cambridge English qualification, our **TKT: CLIL preparation course** is an excellent opportunity for professional development.



### 2026 Course Dates

- 15 & 29 August
- 12 September
- 3 & 17 October

**Exam Date: 7 November**



**Time:** 9:00–12:00  
**Delivery:** Via Zoom



For further information and enrolment,  
contact [camila@dickens.edu.uy](mailto:camila@dickens.edu.uy)



# OPEN HOUSE



**Saturday,**  
**25th July, 2026**



**Dickens:**  
**21 de setiembre 2744**



**PM**






Platinum  
Authorised Exam Centre




## FECHAS DE EXAMEN - MAYO A JULIO 2026

### Cambridge English Qualifications

En nuestra web podrás encontrar toda la información sobre fechas y precios de exámenes **paper-based** y **digital**.

Fechas **paper-based**. 

Fechas **digital**. 

# DEVELOPING SPEAKING SKILLS

## Workshop for students



In these workshops, students will

- ◆ listen to a different teacher’s voice and accent.
- ◆ listen to learners who are not their usual classmates
- ◆ talking in English.
- ◆ focus on useful strategies for their exam
- ◆ become aware of challenging pronunciation features
- ◆ for Spanish speakers.
- ◆ get useful tips for the day of the exam.



ENCOURAGE YOUR STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE  
SESSIONS ARE ENRICHING AND ALSO FUN!

**A2** 6<sup>th</sup> August

**B2** 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> August

**B1** 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> August

**C1** 7<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> August



# TIMING FOR TESTS

Transition 1 & 2	1 hour
Children 1, 2 & 3	1.30 hour
Juniors 1 & 2	1.30 hour
Adults 1 & 2	1.30 hour
Juniors 3, 4 & 4 PLUS	1.45 hour
Juniors 5 & Adults 4	1.50 hour
Oxford House	2 hours

Remember:  
Students with special needs should be offered 25% extra time to complete the test.

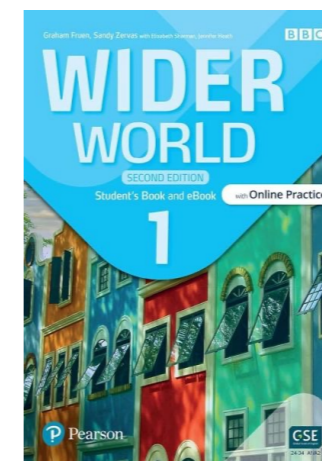


# DICKENS ORAL EXAMS at a glance

LEVEL	BOOK	FORMAT	APPROXIMATE TIMING
JUNIORS 2	HARMONIZE 1 WIDER WORLD 1	1 EXAMINER – 1 CANDIDATE	8 minutes
ADULTS 2 (optional)	ENGLISH FILE ELEMENTARY – FULL EDITION MODULE 4	1 EXAMINER – 1 CANDIDATE	8 minutes
ADULTS 4	ENGLISH FILE INTERMEDIATE PERSONAL BEST B1	1 EXAMINER – 2 CANDIDATES*	13 minutes
JUNIORS 5	ENGLISH FILE INTERMEDIATE PERSONAL BEST B1	1 EXAMINER – 2 CANDIDATES*	13 minutes
OXFORD HOUSE	OPTIMIZE B1+	1 EXAMINER – 2 CANDIDATES*	14 minutes

\* a trio might be necessary

# ORAL EXAMS 2026 Elementary level



## 2026 TOPICS

For the oral exam in Juniors 2, students have to choose one of these four topics to develop a conversation with the examiner:

- ◆ A typical day at school
- ◆ My favourite free time activity/ hobby /sport
- ◆ A famous inspiring person
- ◆ A place I visited last year

Leaners are advised to bring a folder or a cardboard with pictures related to the topic to the exam. Please note that written text should not be included. Students are not expected to read from their materials but to hold a natural conversation with the examiner.

## Feature Article

# Are we asking better questions in class?



In the world of English Language Teaching, teachers are constantly seeking innovative strategies to enhance students' learning journeys and develop their own teaching. Most of us would spend hours scouring our favourite ELT resources for engaging activities and ideas to kickstart our Monday morning (and every other morning) classes. Why not broaden horizons beyond the ELT sphere to explore educational trends from global education, such as introducing Visible Thinking Routines (VTRs) in our lessons.

### What are VTRs?

VTRs are compact strategies designed to scaffold students' deeper thinking and augment content learning. While not tailor-made for English classrooms, many routines are easily adaptable across diverse ages and proficiency levels in the language classroom. Indeed, the Visible Thinking Routines Toolbox (<https://pz.harvard.edu/thinking-routines>) is home to over 100 routines, categorized into boxes like "Digging Deeper Into Ideas", "Global Thinking" and "Perspective Taking".

### Why VTRs?

Surely our job is to teach grammar and vocabulary and to develop students' language skills? Well, that might be our primary goal, but it shouldn't be our only concern. Far from it. As we know education (should) transcend rote subject instruction; it should cultivate critical and creative thinking and other 21st century skills

essential for real-world success. And that's exactly what VTRs promote. As such they fit into a more holistic approach to language learning, while fostering cognitive development in students and promoting authentic communication - the cornerstone of communicative English lessons. And that's the real kicker for language teachers: they are highly communicative.

In regards to providing opportunities for critical thinking, activities like See-Think-Wonder, The 4Cs and Compass Points stimulate learners to analyse, evaluate and synthesize information, developing a deeper understanding of content in the process. Furthermore, this process not only fosters critical thinking skills but also encourages intellectual curiosity and inquiry as well as driving communication. Activities like GOGO (Give One, Get One), Question Starts and Think-Puzzle-Explore, also promote collaboration and peer interaction, creating a supportive and inclusive learning environment where every student voice is valued. They give learners the space to practice articulating their ideas, to listen carefully to each other and engage in meaningful and authentic dialogue, thus further enhancing their communication skills. And instead of passively receiving information, students are encouraged to actively observe, reflect, and engage with the material. This active engagement fosters a sense of ownership over their learning and promotes deeper retention of knowledge. All things, we want for our classes.

Indeed, the research from Project Zero suggests that this in turn can help develop not just greater engagement in class, but motivation too, helping to create a shift in classroom culture towards more enthusiastically engaged thinkers and learners.

Other routines like The 3 Whys, Same-Different-Connect-Engage and Step Inside also have communication at their heart, but offer opportunities for perspective-taking while encouraging greater empathy and acceptance of other views and beliefs in the classroom. And that's where the real beauty of the routines lies. As the focus is on sharing thoughts, ideas and opinions, there is rarely a "wrong" or "right" answer and so learners feel more at ease in speaking out, thus helping create a more inclusive classroom environment.

From a teacher perspective they are a great tool to add to your own "Teacher Toolbox", due to the fact that they are remarkably flexible and can be used with a wide array of topics. They are particularly well-suited to real world content (readings/videos) and topics based around global issues and sustainability. In addition to that, they also offer flexibility in where you use them in your lessons. Some can be used as warmers for new topics/unit or pre-reading/viewing tasks (e.g. KWL, The 3 Whys), while others like Used To Think, Now I Think and The 4Cs work better as follow-up discussions and reflection tasks. Arguably even

more appealing to teachers, is that the majority of the routines require zero prep, meaning you can drop them into your lessons whenever needed.

To sum up, as we have seen, integrating visible thinking routines into the ELT classroom offers a myriad of benefits that extend beyond language acquisition. By nurturing critical thinking, communication skills, reflection and creativity, they empower students to become lifelong learners equipped to navigate the complexities of the modern world. And that, ultimately, is our job as educators - to prepare learners for their futures and the real world.



Bibliography:  
<https://www.hltmag.co.uk/>

Ritchart, R& Church, M. (2020). *The Power of Making Thinking Visible*, Jossey-Bas



## Materials That Matter for Teachers Who Care

### 10 visible thinking routines

These visible thinking routines can add an extra dimension to your lessons and help bring them to life. **Click on each routine for a full description.**

- ◆ **See-Think-Wonder:** Kickstart discussions with captivating images, prompting students to observe, interpret, and speculate.
- ◆ **Beginning-Middle-End:** Supercharge your students' creativity and story-telling skills with thought provoking and unusual images.
- ◆ **Same-Different-Connect-Engage:** How are we different to people on the other side of the world? How are we the same? A wonderful activity to help humanise the other.
- ◆ **GOGO:** Brainstorming with a difference and that involves every student in the class.
- ◆ **The 3 Whys:** Encourage multi-dimensional thinking by exploring personal, local, and global perspectives on a given topic.
- ◆ **Think-Puzzle-Explore:** Activate prior knowledge, stimulate curiosity, and pave the way for deeper inquiry into a subject.
- ◆ **Question Starts:** Facilitate question brainstorming using provided language frames, igniting inquiry into a topic.
- ◆ **The 4Cs:** Foster text-based discussions by prompting students to make connections, challenge ideas, identify key concepts, and contemplate implications.
- ◆ **Looking: Ten times two:** A routine for making careful observations about images, visual art, or objects.
- ◆ **I Used to Think, Now I Think:** Encourage reflection on evolving perspectives, consolidating learning and promoting an inquiry-based approach.



## Brindamos apoyo académico a Instituciones, Colegios y Profesores que dictan clases de Portugués.

Ofrecemos:

- ◆ Selección de textos
- ◆ Evaluaciones bimestrales
- ◆ Material de apoyo para usar con los alumnos
- ◆ Exámenes y certificaciones nacionales Dickens
- ◆ Exámenes internacionales de la Universidade Federal do Rio Grande
- ◆ Simulacros de examen oral para los exámenes internacionales
- ◆ Cursos y talleres para docentes

...y nuestro respaldo y acompañamiento para lograr las más altas metas académicas!



# DICAS DE PORTUGUÊS

## NÃO TROPECE NA LÍNGUA

pela professora  
@luciana.gaffree

X com som de CH

- Táxi
- Tóxico
- Oxigênio
- Complexo
- Anexo
- Fixo

X com som de SS

- Máximo
- Próximo
- Texto
- Experiência
- Sexta
- Excelente

X com som de Cs

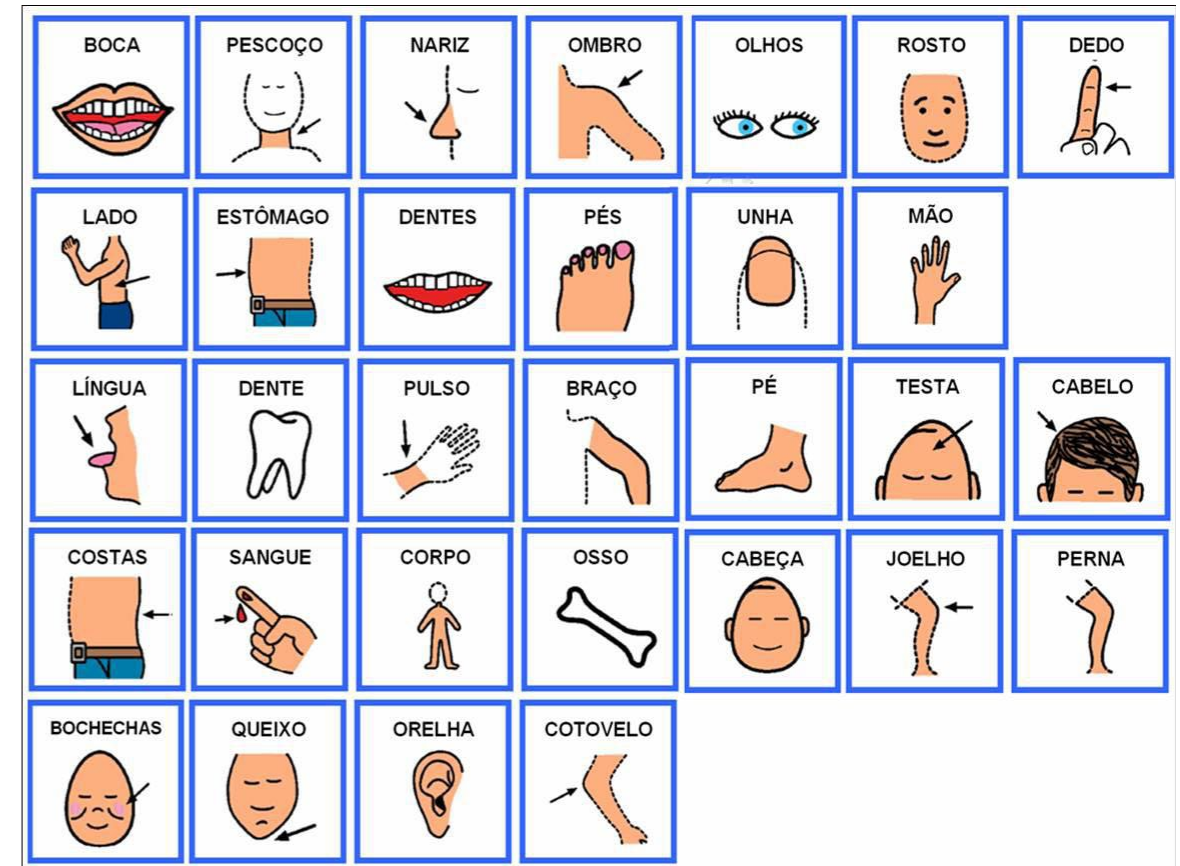
- Xícara
- Xampu
- Paixão
- Mexer
- Caixa
- Xandrez

X com som de Z

- Exemplo
- Exatamente
- Exercício
- Exagero
- Êxito
- Exato

**Compartilhe com seis alunos!**  
*'Grandes coisas geralmente têm pequenos começos...'*

## Exercícios...



Complete



Assistir ao vídeo **17 Coisas Sobre o Corpo Humano Que Vão Fazer Seu Queixo Cair**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G6h4QYYkVyl>



# MÁS QUE

## UN CURSO UN VIAJE DE IDA

### ¿PARA QUÉ EDAD ES EL VIAJE?

¡¡De 14 años en adelante!!

### ¿ES UN VIAJE DE ESTUDIO?

Es una experiencia de inmersión en la cultura local que incluye:

- 20 horas semanales de cursos de inglés
- compartir clases con estudiantes internacionales
- todas las tardes se realizan paseos y actividades
- los fines de semana se realizan excursiones

### ¿DÓNDE NOS ALOJAMOS?

Casas de familias

- seleccionada por el colegio, con una ubicación céntrica
- media pensión (desayuno y cena)
- consultar por opción residencia

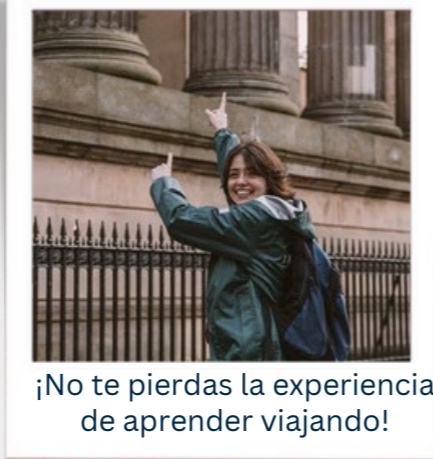
### ¿DURACIÓN?

2 o 4 semanas

### ¿EN QUÉ CIUDADES ESTÁ DISPONIBLE?

Cambridge, Londres, Nueva York, Boston, Liverpool, Bath

**¡Podemos armar una propuesta exclusiva para ti!**



¡No te pierdas la experiencia de aprender viajando!



# ESTE PLAN DE VIAJE

## INCLUYE:

- Pasaje aéreo
- Traslado IN/OUT
- 20 horas semanales de inglés
- Material y Certificado de Estudio
- Alojamiento: casa de familia
- Comidas: media pensión (desayuno y cena)
- Todas las tardes realizamos actividades y excursiones los fines de semana acompañados por nuestros coordinadores
- Seguro médico de cobertura internacional ilimitada
- Chip de celular
- Pase de transporte público en la ciudad
- De regalo: tarjeta ISIC y mochila
- Mi Tarjeta (solicitarla)

**¡Salidas acompañadas!**



**¡Cada 10 alumnos, el docente acompañante viaja sin costo!**



Oficina: 096 306 304

Av. Arocena 1664 apto. 305

@viajerosuy

Oficina: 096 306 304

Av. Arocena 1664 apto. 305

@viajerosuy

**Course information:**

info@dickens.edu.uy

consultas@dickens.edu.uy

**Workshops, examinations  
arrangements in the provinces:**

camila@dickens.edu.uy

**Accounts and payments:**

gustavo@dickens.edu.uy

**Enrolments, syllabuses, tests, certificates,  
examination arrangements in Montevideo:**

mariaines@dickens.edu.uy

**Enrolments, syllabuses, tests, certificates:**

asd@dickens.edu.uy

**Academic support:**

teresagallete@dickens.edu.uy

**International examinations:**

intexams@dickens.edu.uy

**Cambridge International Certificate  
in Educational Leadership:**

karencapel@dickens.edu.uy

**Incompany Courses:**

lauramesa@dickens.edu.uy

**Departamento De Portugues:**

portugues@dickens.edu.uy

**Psychology Department:**

gastonscarone@dickens.edu.uy

**Marketing & Communication:**

fsoto@dickens.edu.uy

**Graphic design:**

grafico@dickens.edu.uy

# CONTACT US



**HEAD OFFICE**  
21 de Setiembre 2744  
Tel: 7555 2710

**ASD (Academic Support Department)**  
Luis de la Torre 678  
Tel: 9557 2711

**PUNTA GORDA BRANCH**  
Emilio Oribe  
Tel: 0406 2606

**MALVIN BRANCH**  
Orinoco 4927  
Tel: 7236 2619

[www.dickens.edu.uy](http://www.dickens.edu.uy)