

# Assessment Prep with Kognity

## IGCSE ESL

### What is this guide for?

This guide is designed to help you make the most out of Kognity as a tool to prepare students for success both in formative assessments and IGCSE exam preparation.

### How does Kognity help with assessment preparation for IGCSE ESL?

According to [John Hattie](#), Professor of Education and Director of the Melbourne Educational Research Institute at the University of Melbourne, Australia, feedback is an important driver for improving teaching and learning. Formative assessments play a large role in consistent feedback throughout the year as students prepare for their IGCSE exams. Kognity provides efficient tools for immediate feedback to both the student and teacher.

“

**“Think of feedback as received, not given.”**

John Hattie

#### *For students:*

Students can test their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in ESL through completing vocabulary activities, skills boxes, and comprehension exercises and receiving immediate feedback on their responses.



#### *For teachers:*

Teachers get immediate feedback on their students' progress through the Questions and Textbook data, located on the Insights tab. Here, teachers can view a visual representation of student quiz and assignment scores. Teachers can then easily identify those students who need help, which makes intervention fast and efficient.

Below you will find some ways teachers can use Kognity's resources to successfully prepare their students for IGCSE ESL assessment components.



How does Kognity  
help with formative  
assessments?



How does Kognity help  
with IGCSE Assessment  
Preparation?

# How does Kognity help with formative assessments?

## Applying correct grammar and vocabulary in writing

These practice tasks are interspersed throughout the book and provide a clear application of grammatical structures and words/phrases in the annotations section of every writing task. Please see an example below from section

### 4.2.6: Writing skills: Applying for jobs

#### Example practice question

You want to apply for the job of social media specialist shown in section 4.2.3.

Write a formal job application email explaining why you are a good fit for the position.

Your email should:

- explain your interest in the position
- describe how you fit the requirements
- explain how you would tackle the key responsibilities.

Write about 120 to 160 words.

Text 1. Annotated example formal email (job application)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to apply for the position you offer: social media specialist.

I am passionate about communication, entertainment, and social media. Not only have I a channel of my own, but I am also the manager of other accounts.

In the absence of a paid job, I felt it was important for me to build a portfolio showcasing my aesthetic eye and communicative approach, as well as my motivated personality and organisational skills. Moreover, I have recently completed a data analytics course online; hopefully, you will find my knowledge of the world of data science to be of interest.

If you select me, and I hope you may give me a chance, I will be diligent in creating engaging videos and posts, managing your accounts, and collaborating with the team to manage the budget.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Ms Djamila Yussef

HP Reuse I am confused

## Vocabulary boxes

The numerous vocabulary boxes throughout the content contain words that are closely related to the specific task in the section.

Complete the summary exercise below to demonstrate your understanding of how to use grammar to make your register formal.

#### Vocabulary

Choose the correct statement. Progress: 0/3

Using the first conditional will make you sound impolite and rude.

Using the first conditional can help you to sound confident while being polite, by referring to future situations as possible.

HP Reuse

I am confused

# How does Kognity help with formative assessments?

## Revisions Quizzes

Kognity's [question assignments](#) can be used as question drills for review at the end of a unit. Teachers can drill students on different topics using multiple choice questions and fill in the blank questions. All question assignments are auto-graded, so students and teachers can immediately receive the results. Teachers can then revise any common mistakes before starting to teach new content.



The screenshot shows a Kognity interface for a question assignment titled "1. Identities and interests" with 30 questions. A table lists two questions with columns for "Sent", "Question", "Topic", and "Type".

Sent	Question	Topic	Type
<input type="checkbox"/>	Which of these words is not good for sequencing?	2 areas	☰ 🔍
<input type="checkbox"/>	Which of these words is appropriate for emphasising?	2 areas	☰ 🔍

## Exit Tickets

Exit tickets are a great type of formative assessment. At the end of class, students respond to a series of questions pertaining to the lesson to consolidate their knowledge and understanding. Students can complete question assignments as exit tickets, or answer an activity embedded in the content.

 **Activity**

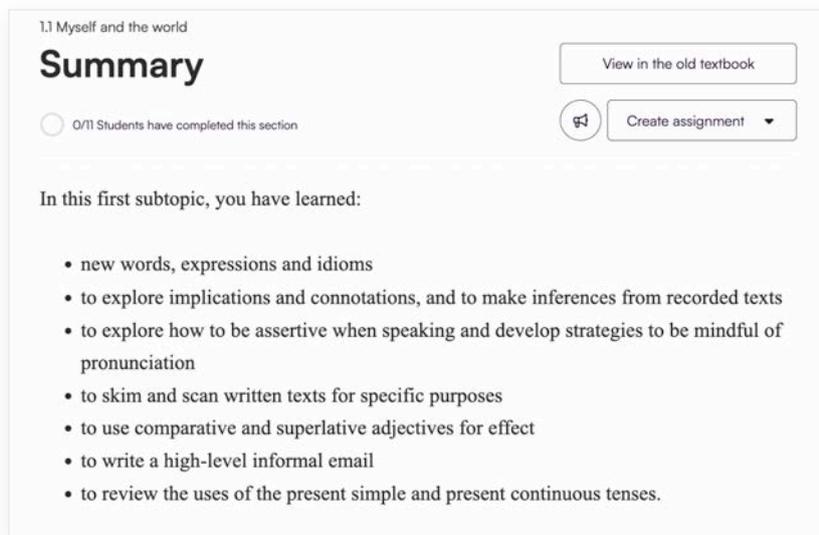
Look at the photos in Figure 1 and discuss these ideas with a partner:

- How would you define friendship?
- How important is friendship to you? Why?
- Do you have a best friend?
- What do you think about long-lasting friendships?

# How does Kognity help with formative assessments?

## Notebook and Summaries

Kognity's notebook feature allows students to make their own notes and print out if necessary for consolidation. Students can use the notebook feature when they are performing self-assessment of knowledge and understanding at the end of each subtopic with the summaries.



1.1 Myself and the world

### Summary

0/11 Students have completed this section

[View in the old textbook](#)

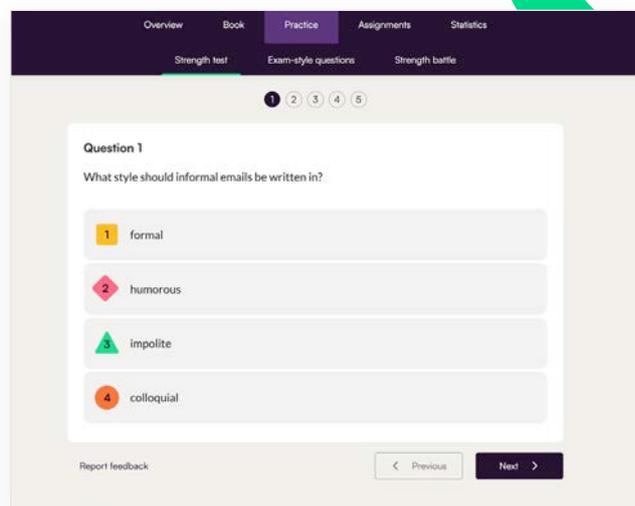
[Create assignment](#)

In this first subtopic, you have learned:

- new words, expressions and idioms
- to explore implications and connotations, and to make inferences from recorded texts
- to explore how to be assertive when speaking and develop strategies to be mindful of pronunciation
- to skim and scan written texts for specific purposes
- to use comparative and superlative adjectives for effect
- to write a high-level informal email
- to review the uses of the present simple and present continuous tenses.

## Self-Study

To provide students with resources for self-directed active recall study, use strength tests and battles. Students can also use self-assessment checklists before a test or exam to help identify areas of weakness, and keep track of their progress with the strength bar.



Overview Book Practice Assignments Statistics

Strength test Exam-style questions Strength battle

1 2 3 4 5

**Question 1**

What style should informal emails be written in?

1 formal

2 humorous

3 impolite

4 colloquial

Report feedback

< Previous Next >

# How does Kognity help with IGCSE Assessment Preparation?

Each subtopic focuses on all four skills of the language (L, S, R, W) in a variety of instructional 'Study Skills' boxes in addition to exercises that progress in difficulty with the subtopics. Furthermore, each skill is being enhanced through specific steps that enable students to do a perfect job in every exercise.

**Study skills**

**Shall + infinitive** is a variation of will + infinitive that is more formal and can be used to make offers, refusals or proposals.

- Offers or refusals:
  - *Shall I help you with your workload?*
  - *I shall not put up with you being late to work.*
- Proposals:
  - *Shall we meet the new intern and show her around the office?*

As for the grammar, it is first explained and examples are given, while later the scaffolding is removed so students can proceed with independent application. Moreover, the vocabulary boxes are closely related to all four skills, making sure students express themselves in the best possible way.

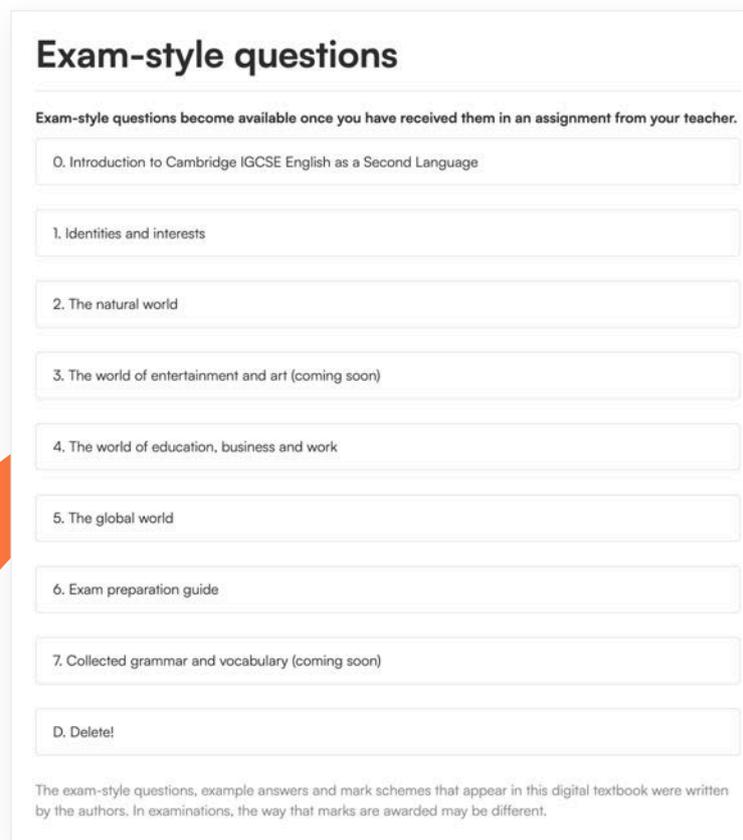
**Grammar tip**

These tips will help you to achieve a formal register in your writing.

- Using the **first conditional** can help you sound confident while being polite, by referring to future situations as possible. For example:
  - *If you select me, and I do hope you may give me a chance, I will be diligent in ...*
- Using **several verb tenses** will allow you to communicate complex ideas and showcase your proficient use of English. You could use past simple + present perfect tense in combination. For example:
  - *I felt it was important for me to build a portfolio showcasing my artistic style and communicative approach, as well as my motivated personality and organisational skills. Moreover, I have recently completed a data analytics course online.*
- Using **inversions** and **discourse markers** can help you sound more formal and in greater command of the language. For example:
  - *Not only have I a channel of my own, but I am also the manager of other accounts.*
  - *Moreover, I have recently completed a data analytics course online.*
- Using **modal verbs** in formal writing will help you describe things that you believe to be generally true or possible without sounding rude. For example:
  - *Hopefully, you may find my knowledge in the world of data science to be of interest.*

# How does Kognity help with IGCSE Assessment Preparation?

Finally, what everyone loves about this resource is the exam style questions (ESQ) section in the assignments tab. These ESQ's show students what the real exam will look like and what is expected of them. The scaffolding has again been removed and students are expected to complete the tasks in exam conditions, i.e. no steps, no instructions, and no help from their teacher or peers.



## Exam-style questions

Exam-style questions become available once you have received them in an assignment from your teacher.

- 0. Introduction to Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language
- 1. Identities and interests
- 2. The natural world
- 3. The world of entertainment and art (coming soon)
- 4. The world of education, business and work
- 5. The global world
- 6. Exam preparation guide
- 7. Collected grammar and vocabulary (coming soon)
- D. Delete!

The exam-style questions, example answers and mark schemes that appear in this digital textbook were written by the authors. In examinations, the way that marks are awarded may be different.

