

ESB Early Steps: Step 2 (Speaking Out)



Unregulated

Changes from Version 2

Change made	Page
Reference to Qualifications Wales removed	7

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ESB Early Steps: Step 2 (Speaking Out)

ESB Early Steps – Step 2 (Speaking Out) is an unregulated qualification, which is designed to build learners' speaking confidence in a participating group of six children. The qualification is aimed at Early Years pupils (indicative ages 3-5 years old).

The qualification helps learners to reach early learning goals in the areas of *Communication and Language* and *Personal, Social and Emotional Development*, as stated in the [Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework](#).

ESB Early Steps – Step 2 (Speaking Out) is a participation award. After the assessment, each pupil receives a certificate and is given the badge below:



Qualification Objectives

On completion of the assessment, each learner will be able to:

1. Interact with others, taking turns in conversation.
2. Demonstrate understanding of simple verbal instructions.
3. Use rhythm to support language.
4. Speak in front of a small group and an assessor, for listeners to hear and understand.
5. Recite a memorised short rhyme.
6. Respond, when required, with relevant comments, questions or actions.
7. Listen quietly when required.

Assessment Overview

The assessment is divided into four teacher-led activities – two group activities and two individual activities. The total assessment time for a group of six candidates is approximately 45 minutes.

Section 1: Joining In, 5 minutes per group (Group activity).

Join in a group action-rhyme, game or song led by your teacher, keeping together all the way through. Show the assessor how to join in too.

Say your name, and then on your own, speak from memory a rhyme of at least 4 lines that you enjoy. Make sure everyone can hear the words.

Section 2: Circle time – Speaking by Heart, 1 minute per pupil (Individual activity).

Section 3: Circle Time – Talking about Something Special, 1 minute per pupil (Individual activity).

Bring a photograph or favourite toy to show the group, and tell the group three things about it. Choose facts that the group cannot see for themselves.

The assessor will initiate conversations and interaction during the assessment, but particularly after the 'Talking about Something Special' activity.

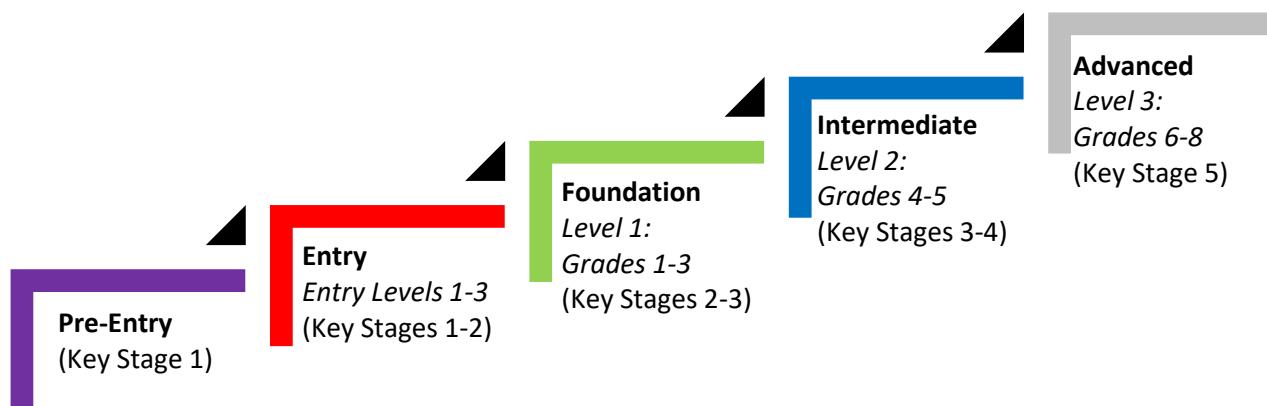
Section 4: Interacting with others during the session (Group activity).

Reasonable Adjustments

Assessment should be a fair test of learners' skills and knowledge; for some learners the usual format of assessment may not be suitable or accessible. Learners with specific needs can apply for reasonable adjustments to be made to the assessment. For further information on access arrangements, please see our Reasonable Adjustments and Special Considerations Policy [here](#).

Qualification Progression

ESB Graded Examinations in Speech are available at five different levels. These levels are shown below:



Below is our qualification portfolio and the relevant qualification highlighted in bold:

ESB Graded Examinations in Speech



Pre-Entry and **Entry** qualifications are unregulated and are designed to build confidence in speaking, listening, reading and responding amongst young learners in a primary school setting. These qualifications can help learners progress to the **Foundation** qualifications at Level 1 (Grade 1 to Grade 3), **Intermediate** qualifications at Level 2 (Grade 4 and Grade 5), and **Advanced** qualifications at Level 3 (Grade 6 and Grade 8). Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced qualifications are regulated by The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual) in England and CCEA Regulation in Northern Ireland.

English Speaking Board (International) Ltd

9 Hattersley Court, Ormskirk
Lancashire L39 2AY
Tel: (+44) 01695 573439
Web: www.esbuk.org
Email: product@esbuk.org

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