

# IN ENGLISH Education

AT POZNAŃ UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY



## BULATS

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Since the beginning of this year DFL (Department of Foreign Languages) of Poznań University of Technology has been entitled to carry out BULATS examinations.

As the first session of BULATS examination took already place, we would like to familiarize you with what it is, as not everybody may know it.

BULATS (Business Language Testing Service) is developed and delivered by Cambridge ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) which is a department of the University of Cambridge. Cambridge ESOL is one of the world's leading producers of certificated exams for learners of English and their certificates are recognized by thousands of employers, universities and government

organizations around the world. What is more - it is one of very few language assessors which has met ISO 9001:2008 quality management standard. So is BULATS.

BULATS tests communication skills that are needed in real business situations. It enables you to test all four skills - listening, speaking, reading and writing - in

four languages: English, French, German and Spanish.

Reading and Listening Tests are offered in three formats:

- Standard Test (a paper-based version)
- Computer-based online test
- Computer-based CD-ROM test

Speaking Test - a face-to-face evaluation of speaking skills

Writing Test - a paper and pen evaluation of writing skills

All candidates start at the same level, and as they progress through the test, the computer selects the next question on the basis of the previous answers, becoming progressively easier or more difficult until the candidate's level of ability is determined.

BULATS computer-based tests provide a fast, versatile and accurate method of testing reading and listening language ability. It is available both online and in CD-ROM format.

You can mix and match any of the BULATS tests for your personal and organizational purposes. BULATS is a user-friendly test which can be taken on demand when it suits the applicants. You can also get the results quickly to help you make any further decisions about e.g. recruitment. All the tests are developed according to the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages), the standard benchmark used internationally to describe language ability.

Many of the world's leading businesses, employers and educational institutions rely on BULATS as the most effective benchmarking tool for workplace language skills. It is used to assess the language proficiency of their staff and

students and it is helpful in making key decisions about recruitment, training, promotion and placement of staff.

If you would like to see a demonstration of the BULATS Online test or get more detail on technical specification or to know much more about exam, visit:

www.BULATS.org  
www.dfl.put.poznan.pl

We are pleased to inform you that the first BULATS session took place on 9.02.2012 and 21 candidates seated the exam. Because this was the first session the candidates were asked to share their impressions and all remarks on preparation and organization of the exam.

For some students the test was quite difficult, a specially the reading part, but they liked the computerized version and

they said, it was very convenient. Also the test was clear and easy to operate and the speakers did not talk too fast. For others it was long and a bit stressful and the noise of computer distracting ... But the final results of the exam were really satisfying. Congratulations!

Adapted by  
Wiktoria Tyszcza-Ulężańska

## Beyond the Language!



Many students thrive on competition! Contests encourage them to push themselves to their limits. Therefore, every year the Department of Modern Languages (DML), reaching out to its students, organizes Contests on the Knowledge of Culture of Different Language Areas (Konkurs Wiedzy o Krajach Różnych Obszarów Językowych). It all started 3 years ago and every year there are at least 6-7 editions. Contests regard current events, literature, civil engineering, art, architecture and broadly defined culture, e.g. Halloween, Thanksgiving, Famous Bridges, Famous Places in London, British Royal Family, British Writers or Christmas Wishes, New Wonders of the World.

The contest is designed to encourage students to include culture in their language education, spark student interest in the subject, and increase their awareness of the fact that language should be conceived of as culturally embedded rather than as abstract. The contest editions usually last about 4 weeks and are displayed in a showcase, however, last year we also launched an online edition, which attracts full-time as well as part-time students from buildings other than the building of Electrical Engineering. Students can find information about the contest editions on DML's website. Every year each edition engages over a hundred students and the number is growing!

But the contest is also about the prizes! Thanks to sponsors like Pearson Longman, Starbucks Coffee and Department of Modern Languages, students receive appealing rewards, such as dictionaries, books, cups and other gadgets. All prizes can be redeemed directly from the teacher. We encourage everybody to take part in the journey beyond the language and take part in the next edition concerning Cultural Differences!

Karolina Szczepaniak,  
M.A.

# Saint Patrick's Day



Saint Patrick's Day is a Catholic festival celebrated nowadays all over the world. However, Saint Patrick is a patron saint of Ireland and it is there where the celebration is the most vivid and the most famous. It is a national holiday in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. St. Patrick's Day is usually celebrated on March 17, but Ireland's bishops have shifted the feast day in 2008, in honor of the national saint, to Saturday, March 15. On this day, there are big parades in most of the Irish cities. Saint Patrick's Day parades in Ireland date from the late 19th century, originating in the growing sense of Irish nationalism. People usually drink some alcoholic beverages (lager dyed green,

Irish beer such as Murphys, Smithwicks, Harp or Guinness, or Irish whiskey, Irish Coffee or Baileys Irish Cream) and wear at least one article of green-colored clothing. According to the legend, Saint Patrick used the shamrock, a three-leaved plant, to explain the Holy Trinity to the pre-Christian Irish people. As well as being a celebration of Irish culture, Saint Patrick's Day is a Christian festival celebrated in the Catholic Church, the Church of Ireland and some other denominations. The day always falls in the season of Lent and sometimes during Holy Week.

ENGLISH - SPEAKING COUNTRIES QUIZ

## ENGLAND

England - a country that is part of the United Kingdom. It shares land borders with Scotland to the north and Wales to the west. There is the Irish Sea to the north west, the Celtic Sea to the south west, the North Sea to the east and the English Channel to the south separating it from continental Europe. Most of England comprises the central and southern part of the island of Great Britain. The country also includes over 100 smaller islands such as the Isles of Scilly and the Isle of Wight.

How much do you know about this beautiful country? Check yourself! The answers are given at the bottom of the page.

1. What is the name of the famous English clock?

- a. Big Ben
- b. Buckingham Clock
- c. Nelson's Column

2. The famous meeting area is called Picadilly...:

- a. Circus
- b. Square
- c. Place

**3. What is the name of the city in the north of England which has two famous football teams?**

- a. Liverpool
- b. London
- c. Manchester

**4. What is England's national flower?**

- a. The rose
- b. The thistle
- c. The daisy

**5. Saint George is the patron saint of England. He was famous for killing:**

- a. His wife
- b. Dragon
- c. Snake

**6. What was Elizabeth I's last name?**

- a. Tudor
- b. York
- c. Windsor

**7. In what part of England is Stonehenge?**

- a. The Moors
- b. Cotswold Hills
- c. Salisbury Plain

**8. What famous London cathedral designed by Christopher Wren is famous for surviving the Blitz of World War II?**

- a. St. Paul's Cathedral
- b. Canterbury Cathedral
- c. Coventry Cathedral

**9. What is the oldest royal residence still in use?**

- a. Dover Castle
- b. Windsor Castle
- c. Kensington Palace

**10. Who traditionally lives at 10 Downing Street, London?**

- a. Prince of Wales
- b. Prime Minister
- c. Queen

Answers: 1. A, 2. A, 3. C, 4. A, 5. B, 6. A, 7. C, 8. A, 9. B, 10. B

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## TALKING ABOUT HOBBIES / INTERESTS

### ROZMAWIANIE O HOBBY / ZAINTERESOWANIACH

#### ASKING ABOUT INTERESTS

##### ZAPYTYWANIE O ZAINTERESOWANIA

**1. What are you interested in?**

Czym się Pani / Pan interesuje ?

**2. What are your interests / hobbies?**

Jakie są Pani / Pana zainteresowania / hobby?

**3. Do you have any interests / hobbies?**

Czy ma Pani /Pan jakiś zainteresowania / hobby?

**4. What sort of hobbies do you have?**

Jakiego rodzaju hobby ma Pani / Pan?

**5. What sort of things do you do in your free time?**

Jakiego rodzaju czynności wykonuje Pani / Pan w czasie wolnym?

**6. What do you like doing in your free time?**

Co lubi Pani / Pan robić w czasie wolnym?

**7. What do you do for fun?**

Co Pani / Pan robi dla przyjemności?

**8. What are you keen on?**

Co Pani / Pan uwielbia robić ?

#### TELLING ABOUT INTERESTS

##### OPOWIADANIE O ZAINTERESOWANIACH

**1. I am interested in sport / playing football.**

Interesuję się sportem / gram w piłkę nożną.

**2. I am keen on football / playing football.**

Uwielbiam piłkę nożną / grać w piłkę nożną.

**3. I enjoy swimming.**

Bardzo lubię pływanie.

**4. I like reading books in my free time.**

Lubię czytać książki w czasie wolnym.

**5. When I have some free time I like going for a walk.**

Kiedy mam trochę wolnego czasu lubię pójść na spacer.

**6. In my free time I enjoy gardening.**

W moim wolnym czasie lubię pracować w ogrodzie.

**7. My hobbies are music and travelling**

Muzyka i podróżowanie to moje hobby.

**8. I relax by listening to music.**

Relaksuję się słuchając muzyki.