

PROGRAMA DE INGLÉS I

(Materia obligatoria: 3er curso, común, anual, 3h/semana (2 teóricas y 1 práctica), 90 h/año)

Objetivos docentes

A lo largo del programa académico de esta asignatura los alumnos deberán desarrollar, como objetivos generales, las cuatro destrezas lingüísticas básicas (comprensión y expresión escrita, comprensión y expresión oral), así como la traducción directa e inversa de textos técnicos de ingeniería.

Como objetivos específicos los alumnos deberán realizar las siguientes actividades: (1) comprensión lectora de textos de ingeniería civil mediante distintas técnicas de lectura; (2) reconocer la organización discursiva del texto técnico; (3) expresar correctamente las funciones retóricas más frecuentes en textos técnicos; (4) elaboración de resúmenes, informes y artículos técnicos, cartas...; (5) realizar presentaciones orales en inglés; (6) aprendizaje del léxico específico de la ingeniería civil, tanto semi-técnico como técnico; (7) mejorar la pronunciación mediante la práctica de la fonética; (8) mantener una conversación en inglés utilizando correctamente las convenciones necesarias tanto en contextos generales/coloquiales como académicos y profesionales.

Clases teóricas:

Unit 1: Engineering materials

- Describe properties of materials: shape, size, colour, appearance, texture, composition, weight and use.
- Make classifications and comparisons dealing with different engineering materials and their properties.
- Write an outline highlighting the hierarchical relationships between ideas included in a text.
- Transfer information from a text to notes (summarising).

Unit 2: Facts about matter

- Give the students practice in skimming and scanning reading techniques.
- Infer techniques in order to deal with unfamiliar vocabulary, especially related to physics and chemistry.
- Make classifications of substances into elements, compounds and alloys.
- Introduce the reading in English of mathematical expressions and basic formulae.

Unit 3: Instruments and tools

- Describe objects used in engineering, such as measuring instruments, laboratory containers and receivers, hand and power tools, etc.
- Describe their composition and uses.
- Make comparisons between different objects.
- Extract gist information from oral texts.

Unit 4: Environmental concerns

- Skim and scan technical texts about studies based on environmental matters.
- Express probability and forecasting.
- Describe a process.
- Sequence main and subsidiary points.
- Highlight the importance of clarity and precision in translation.

Unit 5: Electricity

- Learn specific vocabulary related to generating electricity, electrical motors and devices, different types of circuits, batteries, etc.
- Analyse the structure and patterns of technical processes by means of reading activities.
- Practise useful sequence signalling markers and connectors in a process description dealing with the area of electricity.
- Express the relationships between cause and effect.

Unit 6: Mathematical expressions and formulae

- Learn numerical expressions.
- Describe objects used in engineering, such as measuring instruments, laboratory containers, hand and power tools, etc.
- Make comparisons between different objects.
- Describe geometric shapes and dimensions using specific vocabulary.
- Read and write basic and more complex formulae.

Unit 7: Graphic information

- Interpret charts, graphs, diagrams and tables.
- Understand the relationship between texts and graphs.
- Learn specific vocabulary to describe different trends in a graph.
- Analyse visual aids and their characteristics.

Unit 8: The engineering profession

- Recognise written conventions dealing with technical reports.
- Develop written accuracy (punctuation, spelling, cohesive devices, precise selection of terms, etc.).
- Practise how to link different sections in technical texts (coherence and cohesion).
- Learn the patterns of nominal compounds and practise their translation.
- Write a technical report.

Unit 9: Civil engineering companies

- Learn the conventions to write different types of letters (request, complaint, application, etc.).
- Practise the layout (addresses, salutation, main body, ending and closing stages) in formal letters.
- Write an application letter.

Unit 10: Professional careers in civil engineering

- Read and comment about printed and web information on professional activities in civil engineering.
- Recognise the differences between written and spoken language.
- Practise the use of visual aids in presentations such as flipcharts, transparencies, blackboard, power point, slides, video tapes, etc.
- Develop communicative strategies focused on the purpose, organizational aspects and linguistic features of an oral presentation.
- Improve pronunciation, intonation, fluency and accuracy.
- Prepare and deliver in groups an oral presentation.

Clases prácticas

Class debates on environmental impact, urban planning, impressive constructions around the world, etc.

Clases de laboratorio/multimedia

Audiovisual activities about the following topics:

The effect of heat treatment on steel. Crack stability. Sedimentation. Dredging. Electric power transmission. Formulae. Measuring devices. Graphs and trends. Simulations and role-playing.

Bibliografía

- Beigbeder, F. (1997), *Nuevo Diccionario Politécnico de las Lenguas Española e Inglesa*. Madrid: Díaz de Santos.
- Brieger, N & A. Pohl (2004), *Technical English. Vocabulary and Grammar*. Oxford: Summertown Publishing.
- Glendinning, E. & N. Glendinning (1995), *Electrical and Mechanical Engineering*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Robb, L. (2005), *Diccionario para Ingenieros. Español/Inglés – Inglés/Español*. México: CECSA.

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Course aims

The general aim of this course is to acquaint students with the basic communicative skills (reading, writing, listening and speaking) of the English language, as well as the practice of translation with technical texts related to engineering areas.

In order to achieve the specific objectives of the course, students should carry out the following activities: (1) reading comprehension of civil engineering texts developing different reading techniques; (2) identifying the discursive organization of technical texts; (3) expressing appropriately the rhetoric features most frequently used in technical texts; (4) writing abstracts, technical articles and reports, letters...; (5) delivering oral presentations; (6) learning specific vocabulary related to civil engineering, both semi-technical and technical; (7) improving the pronunciation in English by means of phonetic activities; (8) holding conversations in English correctly using the necessary conventions, either in general or academic and professional contexts.

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