

a tot[®] of English



LANGUAGE LEVEL AND ANNUAL ISSUES

A TOT OF ENGLISH magazine is aimed at students learning English as a second language. It is structured in accordance with the Common European Framework. In relation to the three reference levels – basic level (A1, A2), autonomous level (B1, B2), mastery level (C1, C2) – **A TOT OF ENGLISH magazine sits between levels A2 and B1** (pre-intermediate level).

A TOT OF ENGLISH has two goals: to entertain and inform students with articles, games, comics, and cut-outs; and to provide teachers with materials that are simple and easy to use.

The magazine has a modular structure and is divided into five issues, each corresponding to a complete learning unit. A TOT OF ENGLISH can be used on its own, or as a valuable complement to a textbook, either in class or at home. This means, by the end of the school year, students will have completed a course in English at pre-intermediate level.

The structure of A TOT OF ENGLISH makes it ideal for:

- **developing an academic programme that is complete and co-ordinated**
- **preparing for linguistic certification**
- **promoting self-study**
- **promoting interdisciplinary study**

After they have completed a full academic year of the magazine, students will be able to understand the key points of familiar topics regarding the world of animals, the joy of reading, the importance of solidarity, and topical issues closely related to their own interests. They will be able to produce simple texts related to familiar topics or personal interests, describe experiences, and recount events, dreams and plans. Moreover, they will encounter cultures different from their own, from an interdisciplinary perspective.

A TOT OF ENGLISH'S STRUCTURE

- 1 Each issue is structured around **a complete teaching unit**. This unit includes: an article about socio-cultural issues on page 6; a detailed report on pages 7, 8, and 9; and a games review on page 14. All of the above will reflect the issue's main topic. This cyclic structure, where the same topics return (in different guises) throughout the magazine, is useful because it:
 - gives the magazine a strong thematic structure
 - supports the memorisation and continuous review of vocabulary and grammar structures
 - allows students to put into practice what they have learnt, by reading articles that are topical and related to their own interests
- 2 In addition to the above, each issue contains **5 PAGES OF CULTURE AND RECENT TOPICS FROM THE ENGLISH SPEAKING WORLD**. These are: a section dedicated to 'great cities' throughout the English-speaking world, on page 4; 'find out about' articles on events, customs and holidays in the English-speaking world on pages 12 and 13; and an insert for the English edition on page 16. Each of these pages takes an active approach, in order to reuse and reinforce vocabulary and structures right away.
- 3 This year, the **People** section has been developed further. This section contains an interview with a young international star. Over the year there will be five entertaining **Tests**, on the themes of cinema, art, history, and sport, which facilitate English language learning in an engaging way.

As with previous years, you will find the Language Portfolio on the final pages of this guide. The portfolio will help students take note of the progress of their English language learning over the course of the year.

Go to www.elilanguagemagazines.com

	Month	Vocabulary	Communicative Functions	Grammar
1	September/October Today's music	Vocabulary associated with the world of today's music and the new ways of listening to and making music	Reflections about how music has changed, both in the style and distribution of songs and albums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · possessive adjectives · use of the infinitive form
2	November/December Gift ideas for everyone	Learning about the words and expressions linked to Christmas, presents, volunteering, environmentalism, and family relationships	Reflections about choosing the right gift for our loved ones and friends who are passionate about sport, the environment, nature, technology, and fashion...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · use of the impersonal 'you' · reflexive pronouns · future forms
3	February Cat... world	Learning about the words linked to the world of animals and pets, in particular cats	Reflections and discovery about news, information, scientific research and facts on cats, our well-loved pets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · causal sentences · adverbs
4	March/April Books that save lives	Learning about words and expressions linked to the world of books and literature, including the great classics and poetry	Reflection and questioning about the ability of books to change our lives, encourage self-improvement, develop our imagination, and provide pleasure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · indefinite adjectives and pronouns · personal pronouns
5	May/June Glorious geoparks	Vocabulary associated with travel to different natural environments around the world	Discovery and learning about environmental diversity around the world, and how UNESCO chooses its geoparks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · relative pronouns · use of prepositions

ANSWERS

ISSUE 1: SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

1A: 1 go, 2 to grow, 3 to hike/walk, 4. to play, 5. to give, 6 to write, 7. to have, 8. to drink.

2B: 1. my, my, 2. your, 3. our, 4. our, their.

3C: 3 passive verbs: they're forever banned, it is washed, they're allowed; 1 impersonal you: before you call him a man; 6 modal verbs: must a man walk down, must a white dove sail, must the cannonballs fly, must a mountain exist, can some people exist, can a man turn his head.

ISSUE 2: NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

2A: 1 blue, 2 red, 3 blue, 4 blue, 5 red, 6 blue.

2B: Dear Diary, tomorrow will be 10 December. It's going to be an exciting day, because I'm going to go Christmas shopping in town with mum. I'm going to buy an illustrated book for my brother to help him learn to read. And for my uncle, who loves animals, I'm going to look for a pet bed for his cat. Mum is also going to take me to the pound, so we can bring food to abandoned animals. I'm going to stay around an hour with the puppies and I'm going to take them for walks, as I do every week. Mum is going to pick me up later and then we're going to rush home to wrap everyone's presents, ready to go under the tree ready for Christmas. Tomorrow, I'm going to go to bed with a smile on my face, dreaming about the puppies that I cuddled.

2C: 1 strings, 2 woodwinds, 3 brass, 4 percussion, 5 electrophones.

ISSUE 3: FEBRUARY

3A: "There's a shoal of herring to the left!" the lookout gull announced, and the flock of the Red Sand Lighthouse greeted the news with shrieks of relief. They had been flying nonstop for six hours, and although

the pilot gulls had guided them along currents of warm air that made gliding over the ocean enjoyable, they felt the need to regain their strength, and what could be better for that than a good feast of herring? They flew over the mouth of the Elbe River in the North Sea. From above they saw the ships in single file, like disciplined aquatic animals, waiting patiently for their turn to go out to sea and then set course for all the ports of the Earth. Kengah, a silver-feathered seagull, particularly enjoyed looking at the flags of the ships, because she knew that each represented a way of speaking, of calling the same things in different words.

3B: causal sentences: 1, 3, 5, 6.

3C: *maybe:* rather, *a lot:* slightly; *quickly:* only, *always:* hardly.

ISSUE 4: MARCH/APRIL

4A: 1 some (IA), a few (IA); 2 none of (IA); 3 many (IA), some (IP), others (IP); 4 a lot of (IA), a little (IA); 5 a few (IA), a lot (IA); 6 other (IA), many (IP).

4B: 1. Children like illustrated books and read **them** together with the teacher; 2. I told Julie to buy the latest book by Lucia Troisi and I advised **her** to go to the bookshop immediately! 3. If you bring me your poems, I'll read **them** on the weekend; 4. I need the black pen; have you seen **it**? 5. My sisters are very nice; have you met **them**?

4C: 1 him, 2 her, 3 we, 4 her, 5 She, 6 him, 7 he, 8 us.

ISSUE 5: MAY/JUNE

5A: 1 where, 2 who, 3 who, 4 where, 5 that, 6 that.

5B: 1 with whom, 2 of which, 3 that, 4 that, 5 that, 6 to whom, 7 that, 8 of which.

5C: above, on, in, across, over, off, in, by.

FINAL SELF-ASSESSMENT

Activity 1: 1.b, 2.a, 3.b, 4.c, 5.c.

Activity 2

antiques: a collection of very old and precious objects

distribute: carry around, disseminate

constellations: groups of stars

to amaze: to surprise, to do something that leaves you speechless

domestic: who has learned to stay indoors

dishevelled: with hair out of place, very messy

confronts: fights, goes very determined towards something, like a hero

salvation: liberation, help, defence

archipelago: a group of islands

ecosystem: set of animals and plants in perfect balance

Activity 3

1. With Spotify you can import your music from iTunes by syncing devices and buy your favourite songs. Also you can create your own playlist and share it with friends.

2. On the One Star Register site you can choose a star in the sky and give it a name, then you can make it yours... your very own star!

3. Cats can go a long time without drinking. They hate still water, so sometimes they don't drink from the bowl but prefer the tap where the water flows.

4. The novel is set in 1939 in Germany, during the Nazi occupation.

5. They are very beautiful natural spaces, chosen by UNESCO because they have a wonderful natural environment, but they are also places that tell the story of the Earth and humanity.

Activity 4: free choice.

Name and surname..... Class.....

1A Write the missing verbs in the infinitive form below.

1. Tomorrow, I will (.....) to a concert with my sister and Mike.
2. I like (.....) colourful flowers in my garden.
3. In the summer, I like (.....) in the mountains.
4. The musician wants (.....) a new instrument.
5. The History professor always used (.....) us lots of homework.
6. In my letter, I told my friend (.....) back to me as soon as possible.
7. We planned (.....) a picnic next week, but we're too busy.
8. I'm thirsty, but there's nothing (.....)!

1B Insert the correct possessive adjectives in the sentences below from famous musicians.

1. I don't want to change the world, I just want the songs I write to describe sensations and feelings. (Freddy Mercury)
2. You must play with all of soul, and not like a trained bird! (Johann Sebastian Bach)
3. I like thinking about music as a science of emotions. (George Gershwin)
4. task as adults is to make sure that all children have the chance to find own gift. (Chris Martin)

1C Read these lyrics from the song *Blowin' in the wind*, written by Bob Dylan, in 1962. Find the following in the text:

3 passive verbs

1 impersonal 'you'

6 modal verbs

How many roads must a man walk down, before you call him a man?

How many seas must a white dove sail, before she sleeps in the sand?

Yes, and how many times must the cannonballs fly, before they're forever banned?

The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind

The answer is blowin' in the wind

Yes, and how many years must a mountain exist, before it is washed to the sea?

And how many years can some people exist, before they're allowed to be free?

Yes, and how many times can a man turn his head, and pretend that he just doesn't see?

The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind

The answer is blowin' in the wind.

Name and surname..... Class.....

2A Underline in blue the uses of the impersonal 'you', and underline in red the uses of the subject pronoun 'you'.

1. At Christmas you should think about those who are alone and without families.
2. Yesterday, you went on a trip with your daughters.
3. The books you choose for school are really important for developing children's imagination.
4. You insert the card into the slot before putting in your pin number.
5. You can give John a call tomorrow, as he'll be at home.
6. You never ask a woman her age.

2B Change this page of a diary written by a thirteen-year-old girl, from the Present Continuous to the future form: going to + verb (for future plans)

Dear Diary, Today is 10 December. It's an exciting day, because I'm going Christmas shopping in town with mum. I'm buying an illustrated book for my brother to help him learn to read. And for my uncle, who loves animals, I'm looking for a pet bed for his cat. Mum is also taking me to the pound, so we can bring food to abandoned animals. I'm staying around an hour with the puppies and I'm taking them for walks, as I do every week. Mum is picking me up later and then we're rushing home to wrap everyone's presents, ready to go under the tree ready for Christmas. Tonight, I'm going to bed with a smile on my face, dreaming about the puppies that I cuddled today.

Dear Diary, tomorrow will be 10

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2C Every orchestra is made up of five families of instruments, brought together according to the sounds they produce. Try solving the anagrams and find out the names of these families!

- | | | | |
|--------------|-------|------------------|-------|
| 1. NGSTRSI | | 4. ONPCSUERSI | |
| 2. OWONDDWIS | | 5. OTRELECPESHON | |
| 3. SRASB | | | |

Name and surname..... **Class**.....

3A Underline the adverbs in this passage, which is the opening words of the novel *Story of a seagull and the cat who taught her to fly* by Luis Sepúlveda.

“There’s a shoal of herring to the left!” the lookout gull announced, and the flock of the Red Sand Lighthouse greeted the news with shrieks of relief. They had been flying nonstop for six hours, and although the pilot gulls had guided them along currents of warm air that made gliding over the ocean enjoyable, they felt the need to regain their strength, and what could be better for that than a good feast of herring? They flew over the mouth of the Elbe River in the North Sea. From above they saw the ships in single file, like disciplined aquatic animals, waiting patiently for their turn to go out to sea and then set course for all the ports of the Earth.

Kengah, a silver-feathered seagull, particularly enjoyed looking at the flags of the ships, because she knew that each represented a way of speaking, of calling the same things in different words.

3B Mark only causal subordinate sentences with a cross.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Watching a cat eat is a fascinating experience because it eats very differently to humans. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>2. For example, a cat prefers certain types of food and only goes to the bowl when it is completely alone in the house. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>3. Some domestic cats, in fact, feel external threats as they have inherited some fears from the big cat family. <input type="checkbox"/></p> | <p>4. When a cat feels comfortable, it will eat calmly and without looking around. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>5. Sometimes cats do not eat kibble as they have dental problems that make it painful for them to chew dry food. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>6. A domestic cat should always eat meat and fish because a protein diet is what is best for their health. <input type="checkbox"/></p> |
|--|---|

3C Find the ‘odd one out’ among the synonyms of the adverbs below.

maybe	a lot	quickly	always
probably possibly perhaps rather	very much slightly greatly remarkably	only fast soon promptly	continuously perpetually endlessly hardly

Name and surname..... Class.....

4A Underline the indefinite adjectives (IA) in red, indefinite pronouns (IP) in blue.

1. I met some friends and we exchanged a few words.
2. None of us was able to solve the problem correctly.
3. You have read many books: some were interesting, others were not.
4. I have shown a lot of patience with you, but you have only a little patience with me.
5. There were just a few people at the cinema, a lot of people around the city.
6. I don't need other colours, I already have many at home.

4B Replace the repeated words with the correct object pronouns.

1. Children like illustrated books and read the books together with the teacher.
.....
2. I told Julie to buy the latest book by Lucia Troisi and I advised Julie to go to the bookshop immediately!
.....
3. If you bring me your poems, I'll read the poems on the weekend.
.....
4. I need the black pen; have you seen the pen?
.....
5. My sisters are very nice; have you met my sisters?
.....

4C Complete with the correct personal or object pronouns.

1. Luca needs me and I must help out.
2. I haven't seen Francesca for a long time, so I should phone
3. My sister and I are sporty, in fact like almost all sports.
4. Maria changed school and I miss her; in fact I often think about
5. Ask the teacher, Mrs Simpson. will explain the lesson better.
6. Tad is very shy, that's why it's often me who speaks to first.
7. Since he read that book, has gained a lot of confidence.
8. Her party is this evening, but has she invited?

Name and surname..... Class.....

5A Complete the sentences below with one of these relative pronouns: that, who, where

1. Paris is a city you can walk for hours.
2. That teacher was the one asked me a lot of questions.
3. She's someone always tells the truth
4. A desert is a place very little grows.
5. A fork is something you use to eat with.
6. Palms are trees grow in hot climates.

5B Complete the sentences with the relative pronoun. Choose from those below.

WITH WHOM • OF WHICH (2) • TO WHOM • THAT (x4)

1. What's the name of the boy you play basketball?
2. I saw the programme on TV you spoke to me yesterday.
3. In the kitchen there are the cakes we have prepared for the party.
4. Remember to take the backpack contains your house keys and the phone.
5. I need help to understand the exercises are left in the book.
6. Valeria is the friend I gave a ride on my bicycle.
7. This is the book I want to give to my mum.
8. Berlin is a city I know nothing at all.

5C This is an excerpt from Cheryl Strayed's novel *Wild*, a woman's story of adventure and courage. Complete the story with the prepositions below:

over off by above on in (x2) across

"The trees were tall, but I was taller, standing them a steep mountain slope northern California. Moments before, I'd removed my hiking boots and the left one had fallen into those trees, first catapulting into the air when my enormous backpack toppled onto it, then skittering the gravelly trail and flying the edge. It bounced of a rocky outcropping several feet beneath me before disappearing into the forest canopy below, impossible to retrieve. I let out a stunned gasp, though I'd been the wilderness thirty-eight days and then I'd come to know that anything could happen and that everything would. But that doesn't mean I wasn't shocked when it did."

Name and surname..... **Class**.....

Did you enjoy reading the “A Tot of English” reports? What did you learn? Do the exercises, count your score and read your profile!

1 Tick the correct answer. Give each correct answer 1 mark.

1. Vinyl is back in fashion because...

- a. it gives a perfect sound.
- b. it's vintage and gives a warm sound.
- c. on the cover there is always a portrait of the artist.

2. What does Treedom do?

- a. Plants a tree in a distant country for you.
- b. Plants flowers in city parks.
- c. Sows vegetables around the world.

3. Cats easily pass through dangerous passages. Why?

- a. They have sensitive whiskers.
- b. They have a great sense of balance.
- c. They have great peripheral vision.

4. What world did the inventor of bookcrossing dream about?

- a. A world without libraries and books for sale.
- b. A world with open-air classes and schools.
- c. A world like a large library.

5. In which country is the Magma region located, where the landscape looks like the moon?

- a. Finland.
- b. Iceland.
- c. Norway.

Total score: 5 marks

Your score is:

Name and surname..... **Class**.....

The following words are new terms that you have learned by reading the issues of A TOT of English. Do you remember what they mean? Write a definition next to each word! Give each correct definition 1 mark.

- antiques:
- distribute:
- constellations:
- to amaze:
- domestic:
- dishevelled:
- confronts:
- salvation:
- archipelago:
- ecosystem:

Total score: 10 points

Your score is:

3. Here are some questions about the A TOT of English reports this year. Give 5 marks for each correct answer.

- 1. What can you do with Spotify?
.....
- 2. Do you remember what you can do on the One Star Register site?
.....
- 3. What relationship do cats have with water?
.....
- 4. In what historical period is the novel The Story of a Book Thief set?
.....
- 5. What are geoparks?
.....

Total score: 25 marks

Your score is:

