# Improve Your English – Level 2
## Course Outline

### Description
Most of the writing dealt with in Improve Your English Level I was of a personal and self expressive nature. In Improve Your English Level 2, the focus will be on expository writing, that is, on writing that informs or explains. In general, the tone and style of expository writing is more objective, formal and detached. Activities have been designed to meet the skills requirements of tertiary students. Students sitting the STAT test will find this course useful.

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<th>Week</th>
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| 1    | **Expository Writing – Informing and Explaining**  
  - Revise parts of speech – rules for spelling.  
  - Consider modes of writing, referring to those dealt with in W.E.F.I.  
  Expository writing aims to be: **CLEAR – COHERENT – CONCISE.**  
  Activity: Giving instructions. (“How to-”) Use an activity or a recipe. Write directions, aiming for clarity, coherence and conciseness. (Note the use of the imperative) |
| 2    | **Note-taking**  
  - From a lecture  
  - From a print text |
| 3    | **Summarising**  
  - Various texts |
| 4    | **The Essay**  
  - Revise the form and structure of the essay.  
  - Research a topic. Write an essay incorporating your information.  
  - Reference you material.  
  - Drafting, editing and re-writing.  
  - Practise reading your work aloud in the editing process.  
  - Punctuation-colon, semi-colon. |
| 5    | **Comprehension**  
  - Read and discuss expository text/s.  
  - Compose your own short essay response. |
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| **6** | **Writing a Review**  
• A review as information and evaluation.  
• Read examples of book and film reviews.  
• Write a review on a text of your choice. |
| **7** | **Responding to an exam question – Saying what you mean**  
• How to write an essay in response to an exam question.  
• Use the wording of the question as the framework of your response.  
• Analyse terms of reference in question e.g. evaluate, discuss, explore etc. |
| **8** | **Saying what you don’t mean**  
All satirical writing has a target of criticism. It is important to discern what that target is to discover the satirist’s true meaning.  
• Read Mary Dow’s satirical essay on society’s treatment of the elderly.  
• Main techniques of satirist are IRONY and HYPERBOLE.  
• Write your own satirical piece, employing these techniques. |
| **9** | **Ways to enliven your writing**  
• Avoiding faults of style e.g. clichés.  
• Use of devices such as metaphors, alliteration, rhetorical questions etc. |
| **10** | **Correction exercises to test skills**  
• Spelling, punctuation, incomplete or “run-on” sentences, subject-verb agreements etc.  
• Reading examples of “best” writing done by students during the course. |