

Partners' information for AIRE units

Unit no. 8 Technical English  
EQF Level 4

Unit no. 8 Technical English, level 4		Knowledge	Skills	Competences
<b>Descriptors defining levels in the European Qualifications Framework (EQF)</b>	Level 3	knowledge of facts, principles, processes and general concepts, in a field of work or study	a range of cognitive and practical skills required to accomplish tasks and solve problems by selecting and applying basic methods, tools, materials and information	take responsibility for completion of tasks in work or study adapt own behaviour to circumstances in solving problems
	Level 4	<b>factual and theoretical knowledge in broad contexts within a field of work or study</b>	<b>a range of cognitive and practical skills required to generate solutions to specific problems in a field of work or study</b>	<b>exercise self-management within the guidelines of work or study contexts that are usually predictable, but are subject to change supervise the routine work of others, taking some responsibility for the evaluation and improvement of work or study activities</b>
	Level 5	comprehensive, specialised, factual and theoretical knowledge within a field of work or study and an awareness of the boundaries of that knowledge	a comprehensive range of cognitive and practical skills required to develop creative solutions to abstract problems	exercise management and supervision in contexts of work or study activities where there is unpredictable change review and develop performance of self and others

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- 40% general language/ 40% technical English/20% cultural background (Europe-wide)

When elaborating material for Technical English there should be close cooperation between English teachers and technical teachers. Suggestion: Organize a "project week" where students and those different teachers develop presentations and handouts in English on a special topic which has something to do with the technical subject, e. g. "Who was Volta?"

The candidates for EQF level 4 must have a demand of **level B1** Technical English skills according to the European Framework of Languages. (Here the adapted version of the EUROPASS document.)

	General contents	Knowledge	Skills	Competences
Understanding	Listening		<i>I can understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters regularly encountered in <u>work</u>, school, leisure, etc. I can understand the main point of many radio or TV programmes on current affairs or topics of <u>personal or professional</u> interest when the delivery is relatively slow and clear.</i>	
	Reading		<i>I can understand texts that consist mainly of high frequency everyday or <u>job-related</u> language. I can understand the description of events, feelings and wishes in <b>technical business</b> letters.</i>	
Speaking	Spoken interaction		<i>I can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst <b>working with colleagues from other</b></i>	

			<i>European countries. I can enter unprepared into conversation on topics that are familiar, of personal interest or pertinent to everyday life and <b>job related topics</b> (e.g. <b>company, tasks, work, travel and current events</b>).</i>
	Spoken production		<i>I can connect phrases in a simple way in order to describe experiences and events, my dreams, hopes and ambitions. I can briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans. I can narrate a story or relate the <b>main issues of my planned work projects e. g. for customers and describe my reactions.</b></i>
Writing			<i>I can write simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of <b>work</b> interest. I can write <b>company letters/memos and other business relevant documents</b> describing experiences and impressions.</i>

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The following general themes should be covered (ref. Technical English officially certified with the standards of the German Authority "Kultusministerkonferenz", Dr. Wolfgang Schäfer, English book Switch on, Klett Verlag 2005):

- The job
- Installation materials
- Troubleshooting and customer service
- Electricity: generation and distribution
- Batteries, direct and alternating current
- Energy from the sun
- Electric circuits
- Magnetism and induction
- Computers and networks
- Control systems
- Presenting your company
- Applying for a job in Europe