

Coláiste Mhuirlinne/ Merlin College

English Department

Information to Students & Parents regarding Classroom Based Assessments for Junior Cycle English

There are two Classroom- Based Assessments (CBA) in English.

Classroom Based Assessment	Format	Preparation	Deadline
1. Oral Communication	A 3 minute presentation on a topic of your choice	A maximum of three weeks, with support & guidance by teacher	Presentations will take place during class time during the week beginning 16 th May. CBA must be completed by 20 th May, 2016.
2. The Collection of the Student's Texts	2 texts (i.e essay, short story, a poem, an extended diary entry or letter), chosen by the student from his/ her portfolio of texts	Texts produced over time with support and guidance by teacher	Friday December 2 nd , 2016

The CBAs are Common Level assessments. The teacher awards a level of achievement for each of the assessments by reference to the Features of Quality outlined below:

Features of Quality for Classroom- Based Assessments

The features of quality are the criteria that will be used to assess the student work as best fitting one of the following broad descriptors:

Exceptional
Above Expectations
In line with expectations
Yet to meet expectations

Oral Communication – Features of Quality

Exceptional	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The student's communication is remarkable for its fluency and its control of material usedThe communication is imaginatively shaped to a very clear purpose
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student's engagement with the audience/ listener is compelling and sustained.
Above Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student's communication is clear and convincing, and material has been well chosen Communication is fully shaped to a purpose. Engagement with the audience/ listener is highly effective.
In line with expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication is clear and convincing for the most part, showing knowledge of the subject of the communication. Communication is shaped to a purpose. Engagement with the audience/ listener is reasonably well sustained.
Yet to meet expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication is unconvincing although some knowledge of the subject of the communication is shown. The purpose of the communication is sometimes unclear. Engagement with the audience/ listener is haphazard or poorly sustained.

Oral Communication CBA – Choosing your Format and Topic

The **Oral Communication CBA** has two priorities – the development of the students' basic research skills and the communication.

Students will be credited for preparation they have done for their oral communication. The evidence of this preparation will be demonstrated during the Oral Communication itself.

In preparation for the assessment each student must complete a **Student Reflection Note** which will be given to each student by his/ her English teacher. Completion of the note is the student's declaration of the part that he or she has played in the assessment. The note is submitted to the teacher.

Choosing a Format and Topic

Students may choose any one of the following formats: presentation, performance, interview, response to stimulus material.

Students will be given some time in the school's computer rooms to do research and to prepare a PowerPoint slideshow. However, students will also have to plan and prepare for their CBA as part of homework.

Students will identify **one topic**. Topics may range from school- based or course related topics.

The suggested topic options are:

An interesting sports person; writer, performer, or film director; hobby	An organisation with which the student is involved	An investigation of a text, or writer, or film	An activity or interest or pastime the student is involved in.
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The class teacher will provide support and guidance to students when choosing their format and topic.

If students/ parents have any concerns or queries regarding the CBAs for Junior Cycle English they can consult with the student's English teacher. Further information and resources are available on JCT website http://www.jct.ie/english/resources_oral_communication.php

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