

KEEP INFORMED ABOUT ORAL EXAM

I- EXAM RELATED DATA

1- **Duration: 30 mns partitioned as follows:**

- a. **15 mns for preparation**
- b. **10 mns for delivery**
- c. **05 mns for open discussion**

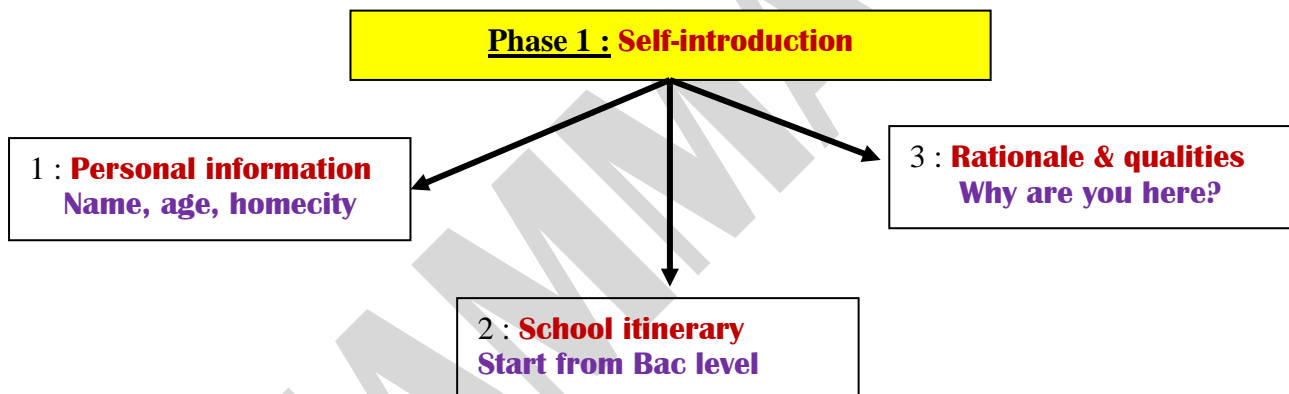
2- **Document nature:**

- a. **Newspaper or magazine extract**
- b. **Audio recording**

II- EXAM PHASES

There are three main phases:

- 1- **Self-introduction**
- 2- **Delivery / Submission**
- 3- **Open discussion / interview**



Phase 1 : Self-introduction Tips

- 1 : **Be brief and precise**
- 2 : **Do not exceed 2 mns**
- 3 : **Use self-branding to highlight your qualities**
- 4 : **Be structured, coherent, unified & logical**

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Phase 2 : Delivery / Submission

1 : **Summary**

2 : **Commentary**

Phase 2 : Summary

1 : **Information about text:**

a- **Text type**

b- **Text source**

c- **Author**

2 : **Text problematic (main idea)**

3 : **Sub-ideas**

Phase 2 : Summary Tips

1 : **Be brief and precise**

2 : **Do not exceed 1 mn**

3 : **Avoid personal opinions & judgements**

4 : **Be structured & coherent**

Phase 2 : Commentary

1 : **Topic nature**

2 : **Author's possible intention**

3 : **Discussion of some key ideas (2 maxi)**

4 : **External evaluation of the text**

5 : **Internal evaluation of the text**

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Phase 2 : Commentary: External evaluation

1 : **Text & Context:** relate the text to:

a : *Your background knowledge*

b : *Local culture*

c : *Global culture*

2: **Intertextuality:** try to find similarities & differences between assigned text and other texts from your local or global literature

Phase 2 : Commentary: Internal Evaluation

1 : **Text & Language:** examine aspects like:

a : *Vocabulary / Lexical pool*

b : *literal Vs figurative language (metaphor, simile, irony...)*

c : *discourse modes (informative, persuasive, narrative, descriptive)*

d : *Author's tone (subjective, objective, provocative, ironic...)*

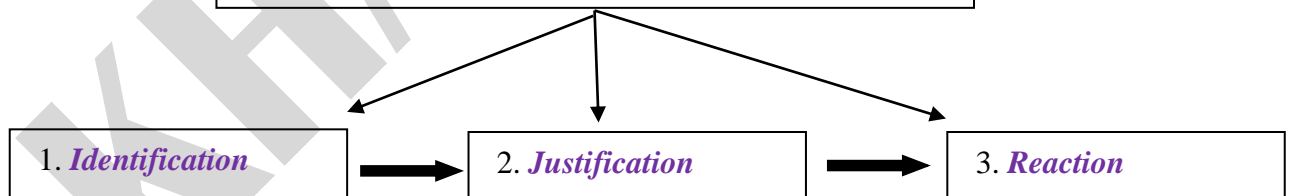
2: **Argument organization:** *deductive Vs inductive method*

3- **Argument development:** *investigation of rhetorical strategies*

4- **Argument patterns:** *Fact-based Vs opinion-based*

Phase 2 : Commentary: Interpretive Cycle

Three axes to consider



Phase 2 : Commentary Tips

1 : **Use the interpretive cycle all along**

2 : **Be original:** use your own ideas

3: **Take initiatives:** provide alternatives & solutions, pinpoint text weaknesses

4: **Be structured, coherent, unified & logical**

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Phase 3 : Interview

1 : **The exchange with the jury can focus on:**

- a : *aspects of the assigned document*
- b: *your background knowledge*
- c: *your personality*

Phase 3 : Interview Tips

- 1 : **Be structured, coherent, unified & logical**
- 2 : **Be well-informed about current news**
- 3 : **Adopt self-branding with questions related to your personality**
- 4: **Keep eye contact**
- 5: **Take a positive posture**
- 6: **Trace whenever possible a smile on your face**
- 7: **Use suitable body language**
- 8: **Take few seconds of reflection before responding**

III- TEXT PREPARATION TIPS

- 1 : **Use highlighters to demarcate things you'd like to use in your commentary: *key ideas, linguistic items, rhetorical strategies...***
- 2: **Always ask questions as you read**
- 3: **Use the margin to write hints to your questions**
- 4: **Be a challenging reader**

VI- TIPS TO REMEMBER

1 : **Politeness:**

- a- *Be punctual*
- b- *Salute the examiners with formal expression*
- c- *Don't not sit down until you are allowed to. You can take the initiative by asking "May I sit down, please?"*
- d- *If you don't understand a question, you can ask: "Excuse me, could you please repeat the question?"*
- e- *Thank the jury before you quit the room. Do not forget to place the chair in its*

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2 : **Posture:**

- a- Do not cross your legs
- b- Put your forearms on the table & use them appropriately
- c- Keep your trunk erect (**Do not lean forward or backward**)
- d- No parasite gestures (**scratching or touching face**)
- e- No chewing-gum

3 : **Vocabulary & Structure:**

- a- Use rich and varied word-choice
- b- Avoid informal jargon like: **'gonna', 'wanna', 'yeah'**
- c- Do not make recourse to French
- d- Vary your sentence forms (**simple, compound & complex**)
- e- Use transitions to mark relations between your arguments

4 : **Diverse Tips:**

- a- Adopt a professional attitude
- b- Use complete sentence in your answers (**No fragments**)
- c- Make your voice audible
- d- Do not fix your eyes on your notes & keep eye-contact with the examiner
- e- Manage well your time delivery

Remember
If you fail to prepare, you prepare to fail.

All the luck