



BYRON BAY
ENGLISH
LANGUAGE
SCHOOL



ELECTIVE CLASSES - GENERAL ENGLISH **INTERMEDIATE, UPPER-INTERMEDIATE & ADVANCED**

Elective classes offer full time General English (GE) students an opportunity to focus on their own special needs and interests. It is a very popular part of our GE program. Student feedback indicates a high level of satisfaction with this component of our GE course.

DETAILS

- classes are mixed levels classes
- classes are for intermediate, upper intermediate and advanced students
- classes run only from Tues, Wed, Thurs from 1.30pm – 3pm
- electives are only available for full time GE students
- students have a different class and teacher for their electives
- classes run for 4 weeks
- students indicate their elective preferences in Week 1, 5, & 9
- a minimum of 6 students is required for a particular elective to run
- elective subjects are changed every 4 weeks
- new elective classes are added every 4 weeks

1. Vocabulary & Speaking

This elective aims to improve fluency and practical vocabulary. There is a new theme for each week. For each theme students will learn idioms, phrasal verbs, slang etc.

Themes include

Travel & Holidays

Food & recipes

Fashion & Contemporary Society

Animals & the Natural World

Love & Romance

Sport & Leisure

World of Work

2. Australian Studies

This elective aims to improve fluency and Australian English. Students study Australian language & culture as well as Aboriginal Australia. It includes interesting excursions around the Byron Shire and talks from local Byron people. Students learn Australian slang & colloquialisms, songs, movies and lives of famous Australians.

3. Cinema Studies

This elective aims to improve listening and comprehension skills by focusing on language in movies. Students learn to write a movie review. Worksheets for each movie explore themes and story plots as well as vocabulary and characterisation. Movies include:

*** American Beauty * Four Weddings & A Funeral * Bridget Jones' Diary * Rain Man.**

4. English Structure

This elective explores English language structures and patterns. It's a fun way to discover the rules and patterns of English grammar including tenses, phrasal verbs and conditionals. Teachers diagnose

student problems to decide which structures to study. This elective is for students who wish to improve their grammar and English usage and enjoy using English at the same time.

5. Work in Australia - Hospitality, Tourism

This elective is focused on finding work in Byron Bay and Australia. Students create a current resume (CV) and employment application letter as well as explore job opportunities in newspapers and websites. Students also practice job interviews skills. Hospitality components include general restaurant service and coffee making at the school café. Students learn vocabulary used in cafes, hospitality and job seeking.

6. Listening & Pronunciation

This elective focuses on understanding and being understood in English. Students study the phonetic alphabet, diphthongs, homophones, the schwa etc... The course targets listening skills and explores English accents such as Australian, New Zealand, Indian, Canadian, American, and Irish. Students listen to authentic English in songs, TV shows and movies.

7. IELTS Preparation

This elective introduces students to the IELTS exam, assisting students to improve their reading, writing and listening skills. Activities include short practice activities and authentic exam situations. The elective enhances confidence to use all English skills. This elective will be offered when the IELTS course is not running.

8. Reading & Writing Skills

This elective is aimed at helping students improve their English ability by learning reading & writing skills. In this elective students will learn how to read faster, improve comprehension skills and read for pleasure. Techniques taught are skimming and scanning, reading for gist and comprehension. Students will look at different styles of writing, how to write an essay, letter, blog etc. In this elective students will write a school newspaper that will be published at the end of the elective, write a weekly diary and complete a graded reader.

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