

## SYLLABUS FOR THE **FIRST STEP** LEVEL OF PALSO

The Syllabus for the **First Step** level of the PALSO - LAAS Examinations is a general guide which aims to inform school owners and teachers about the various language areas normally taught in the first two years of tuition. It also purports to help teachers prepare their students and candidates in the various skills, themes, functions, vocabulary and language structures examined in this particular test. The lexical items listed in the present syllabus concern active vocabulary, which students should be able to understand and use after the second year of studies. It is assumed that they can recognise a greater number of words and expressions.

Finally, the present syllabus is only a first attempt and, therefore, by no means conclusive. It will in time be updated so as, together with the existing PALSO GUIDE, to constitute a useful tool for all people involved in the teaching of English.

### THEMES

School, Family, House, Clothes, The body, Domestic animals, Wild animals, The neighbourhood, Hobbies and pastimes, Where I live, Seasons and the weather, Likes and dislikes, Food and drink, Summer holidays/activities, Celebrations, Feelings, Past experiences, Transport.

### FUNCTIONS

Greeting (informally), Introducing themselves and other people, Following and giving simple instructions, Describing themselves and other people, Talking about family/home/room/personal possessions, Describing places (neighbourhood, town, area, etc), Talking about their likes and dislikes, Asking other people about their likes/dislikes, Talking about their daily routine/habits, Talking about friends and family, Describing people's appearance/qualities, Asking and telling the time, Comparing objects, people and animals, Talking about locations, Talking about present abilities, Talking about money and prices, Describing their mood, Describing things happening at present time, Narrating simple past experiences, Talking about simple future plans.

### GRAMMAR

#### NOUNS

Proper (*Greece, Monday, Peter*, etc), common (*dog, cat, car*, etc), abstract (*love, idea, information*, etc). Plural of nouns, mostly regular nouns, but also *child/children, man/men, woman/women, tooth/teeth, foot/feet, mouse/mice*, plural with *-es*, countable/uncountable nouns.

#### ARTICLES

Definite, indefinite articles: *the, a/an*, zero article.

## **PRONOUNS**

Subject personal pronouns (*I, you, he, she, it*, etc), Object personal pronouns (*me, you, him, her, it*, etc), Possessive adjectives (*my, your, his, her, its*, etc).

## **ADJECTIVES/ADVERBS**

Comparative, Superlative, Adverbs of frequency.

## **PREPOSITIONS**

Prepositions of place (*in, on, under, on the left/right, behind, opposite, across, in the middle*, etc), Prepositions of time (*at, in, on, after, before, at the beginning, at the end*, etc).

## **VERBS**

*To be*, (affirmative, interrogative, negative), *have got* (affirmative, interrogative, negative), *there is/are* (affirmative, interrogative, negative), present simple (affirmative, interrogative, negative), present continuous (affirmative, interrogative, negative), *like/hate + -ing, can/can't* (for ability), past simple (recognition), *going to* for future.

## **QUESTION WORDS**

*who, when, where, what, why, how, how often, how many/much*.

## **QUANTIFIERS**

*some, any, no, a lot of*.

## **ACTIVE VOCABULARY**

### **Verbs**

*answer, arrive, ask, believe, break, brush, buy, can, carry, catch, clean, climb, close, come, cook, count, cry, cut, dance, decide, dig, dive, do, draw, drink, drive, eat, feed, feel, find, finish, fly, forget, get, give, go, hate, have, hear, help, hit, hop, jump, kick, know, laugh, leave, like, live, look, love, listen, make, match, meet, mix, move, need, open, paint, pay, play, put, rain, read, remember, repeat, ride, run, sail, say, see, sell, send, shout, sing, sleep, snow, speak, start, stay, study, swim, take, talk, teach, tell, tidy, touch, travel, understand, use, wait, walk, want, watch, wash, water, wear, work, write*.

### **Phrasal verbs**

*come from, come in, get out, get up, give away, go into, look for, pick up, put on, shut up, sit down, stand up, take off, throw away, turn on, turn off, wake up*.

### **School**

*classroom, class, teacher, bag, rubber, pencil, pencil case, pencil sharpener, crayon, felt tip, glue, book, dictation, copy, pupil, student, student's book, ruler, activity book, desk, school yard, blackboard/whiteboard, poem, story*,

*History, Geography, Maths, PE, subject, desk, language, homework, mistake, lesson, dictation, copy, notebook.*

### **The body**

*arms, blood, beard, brain, ears, eyes, feet, fingers, hair, hands, head, heart, knees, lips, mind, mouth, nose, toes, shoulders, legs, moustache, face, thumb, tooth, voice.*

### **Feelings**

*happy, unhappy, sad, tired, angry, scared, frightened, surprised, funny, thirsty, hungry.*

### **Days, months, seasons**

*Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December, Winter, Spring, Summer, Autumn, weekend, week, month, year.*

### **Domestic animals and birds, insects**

*ant, bird, bee, canary, cat, chicken, cow, cockroach, dog, donkey, duck, fly, goat, gold fish, hen, horse, mosquito, mouse, parrot, pet, pig, rabbit, rat, sheep, spider.*

### **Wild animals**

*bear, camel, crocodile, dinosaur, dolphin, eagle, elephant, flamingo, fox, frog, giraffe, gorilla, hippo, lion, tiger, monkey, panda, tortoise, shark, snake, vulture, whale, wolf.*

### **Occupations**

*teacher, policeman/woman, doctor, nurse, fireman, postman, waiter, football player, pirate, captain, pilot, bus/lorry/taxi driver, shop assistant, shop keeper, car mechanic, priest, film star, actor, actress, singer, farmer, dentist, milkman, sailor, job.*

### **Geography, environment**

*island, sea, ocean, sky, cave, desert, jungle, river, lake, pond, mountain, hill, forest, beach, plants, trees, flowers, country, city, town, capital, north, east, west, south, south east, south west, north east, north west, village.*

### **Local places**

*aquarium, bank, building, bus station, car park, castle, chemist's, church, cinema, corner shop, gallery, garage, greengrocer's, house, hospital, hotel, library, museum, park, pet shop, police station, post office, restaurant, road, square, street, supermarket, theatre, statue, traffic lights, train station, zebra crossing, zoo.*

### **House**

*bedroom, bathroom, balcony, living room, dining room, kitchen, hall, garden, bed, table, chair, armchair, sofa, bookcase, desk, dish, glass, cup, cupboard, wardrobe, cooker, fridge, washing machine, dishwasher, lamp, basin, mirror, bath, shower, TV, radio, telephone, computer, CD player, DVD player, clock, watch, door, window, furniture, fridge, toilet, spoon, fork, knife.*

### **Family**

*aunt, baby, brother, child, cousin, dad, daughter, father, friend, husband, grandad, granddaughter grandfather, grandmother, grandson, granny, mother, mum, parents, people, sister, son, uncle, wife.*

### **Food, drink**

*apple, banana, a bar of chocolate, biscuit, bread, breakfast, butter, cake, carrots, cheese, cheesecake, cherries, coffee, chips, crisps, dinner, egg, fish, fruit, fruitcake, food, garlic, grapes, hamburger, honey, ice cream, jam, lemon, lemonade, lunch, meal, meat, milk, orange, orange juice, oil, pear, pepper, pizza, potato, salad, salt, sandwich, sausage, spaghetti, strawberries, sugar, sweets, tea, tomato, vegetables, watermelon, water, wine.*

### **Clothes, footwear, accessories**

*jacket, trousers, socks, jumper, sweater, costume, hat, scarf, belt, gloves, coat, T-shirt, shirt, jacket, skirt, dress, blouse, trainers, shoes, boots, sandals, wellies, umbrella, jeans, watch, belt, glasses tracksuit, pyjamas, ring, necklace, pocket, shorts.*

### **Colours**

*grey, red, pink, white, orange, blue, yellow, purple, brown, green, black.*

### **Sport, pastimes**

*football, ball, baseball, basketball, bike, board games, chess, computer games, cycling, drawing, doll, fishing, hiking, hockey, kite, model, reading, roller-skating, puzzle, riding, sandcastle, sports, skateboarding, skiing, tennis, teddy bear.*

### **Music, musical instruments**

*piano, guitar, drums, violin, trumpet, song.*

### **Transport**

*bike, car, taxi, lorry, track, train, plane, ship, boat, helicopter, bus, spaceship, motorbike, journey.*

### **Countries, cities, languages**

*Greece, The UK, Portugal, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Spain, Sweden, the USA, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Austria, Russia, Turkey, Japan, China, Brazil, Argentina, Luxemburg, Athens, Dublin, London, Paris, Madrid, Moscow, New York, Rome, English, Greek, Italian, German, French, Spanish, Dutch, Danish, Portuguese, Japanese, Chinese.*

**The weather**

*sunny, sunshine, sun, wind, windy, rain, rainy, snow, snowy, storm, cold, hot, warm, fog, foggy, cloud, cloudy, air.*

**Holidays**

*Christmas, Christmas Eve, Santa Claus, Father Christmas, New Year, Easter, present, gift, reindeer, sleigh.*

**Greetings, wishes**

*Hello, Hi, Bye, Goodbye, Good morning, Goodnight, Good afternoon, Good evening, Merry/Happy Christmas, Happy Birthday, Have a nice weekend, Have a good time, Welcome.*

**Qualities**

*bad, bald, beautiful, best, big, blond, boring, brave, calm, careful, cheap, clever, curly, dangerous, dark, deep, delicious, dirty, excellent, expensive, fair, famous, fast, fat, fresh, friendly, good, greedy, heavy, horrible, interesting, large, little, long, lovely, noisy, modern, new, nice, odd, old, poor, rich, strong, quick, quiet, ready, small, short, silly, slow, straight, strange, stupid, sweet, tall, terrible, thin, ugly, unfriendly, wonderful, worst.*

**Numbers**

*one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty, thirty, forty, fifty, sixty, seventy, eighty, ninety, a hundred, a thousand, first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth.*

**Money**

*penny, pence, note, pound, coin, euro, dollar, cent, price.*

**Health, sickness**

*headache, temperature, cold, toothache, stomach ache, ill, sick, aspirin, medicine, sore throat.*