



## Meet Dominique Schaefer, Germany

**Name:** Dominique Schaefer

**From:** Stuttgart, Germany

**Occupation:** Student

**Course:**

*Quatorial + 5 tutorial programme*

*30th September–14th December, 2012*

**Accommodation:**

*Homestay with Mr and Mrs Harris*

**Level of English on entry:** B1-B2

**Level of English at exit:** C1– Advanced

**Goal for the course:** *To improve his general and business English to successfully pass the TOEFL and TOEIC exams.*

**Current use of English:** *A few hours every other day*

**Main area of English to improve:**

*Business English with a particular focus on:*

- *Presentation & meeting skills*
- *Writing skills*
- *The ability to understand various Anglophone accents*

Dominique arrived at OISE London with a target to improve his general and business English for his future projects. Back in Germany he is a young student who has taken a year off between his A-levels and university to participate in two internship programmes to determine what he wants to do in the future and what direction he will take at university. He decided that taking the TOEFL and TOEIC tests would improve his career prospects and smooth his way forward should he decide to do any study outside of Germany.

In his first weeks at OISE, Dominique was given an overview of the four components, listening, reading, writing and speaking of each of the two tests. As well as familiarising him with the tests, this process indicated which areas he needed to concentrate on the most. In the following weeks he focused on expanding:

- Building grammatical awareness
- Listening for gist (general understanding)
- Building complex sentences
- Exam preparation
- Essay writing skills

*“Dominique has applied himself fully to his studies and I am confident that he will reap the benefits of his hard work in his exam performance. We wish him good luck”.*

*Gregory Edwards,  
Private tutor at OISE London*

*“Having spent over a month at OISE London, I can already see an improvement in myself. My vocabulary is getting wider, my understanding is getting better and I feel more comfortable expressing myself in English.. I am learning a lot of business English which will be very useful for the two internships I’m planning to do. Also, staying in a host family has improved my English on a 24 hour scale. I am glad I came here and I would definitely recommend OISE London to a friend”.*

*Dominique Schaefer*



## Examples of Dominique's programme throughout his stay

Although Dominique joined OISE London with a good level of English, he needed to improve some areas. In his first month, he was introduced to both TOEIC and TOEFL exams. In his second month, Dominique focused on his main weakness— his writing skills. He achieved good results in both exams at the end of his course.

Quatorial Lessons	Tutorial lessons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Essential language</b>, meeting people for the first time; making small talk; socialising</li> <li>• <b>Telephoning</b> making contact; making arrangements; leaving voicemail</li> <li>• <b>Emailing</b> formal and informal language; appropriate greetings and closing</li> <li>• <b>Meetings</b> making suggestions; negotiating; making decisions; giving opinions; agreeing and disagreeing diplomatically</li> <li>• <b>Trends</b> language for describing change; describing various kinds of graph; Verb/adverb and Noun/ adjective combinations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Writing</b> - tasks focusing on paragraph structure and linking words</li> <li>• <b>Listening</b> - for general understanding. Learn to focus on what's important by listening for key words and phrases</li> <li>• <b>Grammar</b> - building grammatical awareness with work on present, perfect, infinitive and imperative</li> <li>• <b>Building complex sentences by using:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Narrative tenses (mixing tenses)</li> <li>2. Reference (using pronouns)</li> <li>3. Cohesive devices (linkers)</li> <li>4. Subordinate clause (relative clauses)</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

### Tutorial lessons

Dominique spent all of his tutorial lessons focusing on preparing for the TOEIC and TOEFL exams. With Gregory, his personal tutor, he went through an intensive programme of exam techniques, listening skills, speaking and writing skills using the appropriate grammar.

He has learned to use complex sentences which will be very beneficial for academic purposes and should prepare him for success on his exams.

### Quatorial Programme +5 Timetable

News Review	15 minutes
Quatorial lesson	30 minute pre-lesson preparation 1.5 hour lesson
Quatorial lesson	30 minute pre-lesson preparation 1 hour lesson
Quatorial Project	30 minutes
Tutorial lesson	1 hour
Spoken Performance Workshop	1 hour

**Level of English at course completion:** *Advanced*

**Dominique's biggest achievement at OISE:** *Back in Germany, Dominique was told by his high school teachers that his writing skills were not good. Gregory taught him how to plan his essay and write in a clear and concise way. Not only his writing skills improved overall, he is now able to present a clear argument in English.*

