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## OISE Oxford – Abitur Exam Preparation

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### Course Overview for Abitur Exam Preparation

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Our tutors have years of experience of working with Abitur students and have prepared students for the wide variety of Abitur exams which different states use. A strong focus is placed on developing students' functional strategies for oral and written discourse.

Please find below some additional information about the specific work our tutors do to prepare Abitur students for the reading, writing and oral elements of the exam.

#### **Oral**

For the students whose Abitur exam includes an oral element, our teachers focus on developing their accuracy, fluency and comprehensibility in English. It is vital that these students develop a variety of discursive strategies and our tutors focus in particular on developing students' confidence and ability to organise their ideas, communicate them logically and sequentially, clarify and rephrase where necessary and summarise. The individual tutorials allow a specific focus to be placed on the development of their oral skills and in particular to eliminate any fossilised 'bad habits' they may have developed.

#### **Reading**

For the Abitur students whose reading comprehension text will be based on a theme, our tutors ensure there is a focus on 'culture and civilisation' in the lessons to ensure the students are confident and comfortable with subjects like 'The American Dream' or 'Globalisation' etc. To develop an Abitur students' reading skills, our tutors begin by focusing on their general comprehension skills to ensure they are equipped to deal with the literal comprehension questions in the exam. They then move on to develop the students' functional reading skills. This includes their ability to reorganise the information in the text and to feel confident when analysing the more abstract texts.

If there is any element of literary analysis required, which is sometimes the case for students whose reading text doesn't contain a general theme, our tutors will focus on the style of the text and ensure students are able to describe the features of poetry and short stories, as well as interpret their meaning. There will also be a focus on the relations between lexis used within the text and a development of the students' synthesis and summary skills.

#### **Writing**

The focus on 'culture and civilisation' should also benefit the Abitur students' writing for the exam. We ensure that students' writing strategies develop, including their ability to use abstract language, to organise their thoughts into units or sentences and their sentences into coherent paragraphs and how to use a wide variety of cohesive devices successfully.