



### ENGLISH A VEHICLE FOR GLOBAL RESEARCH AND COMMUNICATION

The global spread of English over the last 40 years has been remarkable. It is unprecedented in several ways: by the increasing number of users of the language; by its depth of penetration into societies; by its range of functions. Worldwide over 1.4 billion people live in countries where English has official status. Over 70% of the world's scientists read English. About 85% of the world's mail is written in English. And 90% of all information in the world's electronic retrieval systems is stored in English. By 2010, the number of people speaking English as a foreign language will exceed the number of native speakers.

English is used for more purposes than ever before. Vocabularies, grammatical forms, and ways of speaking and writing have emerged influenced by technological and scientific developments, economics and management. When Mexican pilots land their airplanes in France, they and the ground controllers use English. When German physicists want to alert the international scientific community to new discoveries, they first publish their findings in English.

English is not the property of only a few countries. Instead, it is a vehicle that is used globally and will lead to more opportunities. It belongs to whoever uses it for whatever purpose or need. It is a tool that opens windows, unlocks doors to opportunities, and expands our minds to new ideas.

THE ENGLISH UNIT

THE COORDINATOR: Jamil JADUA

### A 21-21 English training program (action 37) at the FSS soon!

On behalf of the Sfax Faculty of Science and its Dean, Professor Abdelhamid Ben Salah, the members of the English section are pleased to say how proud the faculty staff is of negotiating an English training program within the framework of the National Employment Fund training programs [action 37] for job-seeking university graduates. The English language training program is sponsored by the

"21-21 Fund" under the supervision of the Ministry of Employment and Professional Insertion of Youth, the National Agency for Employment and Independent Employment, and the Office of Independent Employment and Professional Insertion of Qualified Personnel. It is undertaken as a part of the government's efforts to mobilize resources to create employment opportunities for job-seeking university graduates who find it difficult to integrate into the labor market. The program consists in upgrading the skills of the trainees' skills in various areas pertaining to English for International Communication.

#### 1. Objectives

In fact, since his election to the deanship of the FSS, Professor Abdelhamid Ben Salah believed in the potential of vocational training and benefits of the entrepreneurial spirit, as well as in the importance of the English language in the enhancement of the university graduates' academic and professional careers. He made these beliefs at the centre of the faculty's programs, thus endorsing President Ben Ali's conviction in the vanguard role that higher education plays in the creation of balanced partnership with enterprises.

Within this vein, the program is an attempt to promote vocational training and partnership between enterprises and universities. With regard to the promotion of vocational training, the program is undertaken as part of the development of qualified manpower in the service of economic development and employment consolidation. As for the openness of the university on economic enterprises, the program seeks to make the trainees more operational, something that guarantees them a better integration in the professional circle.

#### 2. Training Organization

The training lasts 6 months and spreads over 520 hours divided into two phases (480 hours at the FSS + 40 hours at the AMIDEAST). In both phases trainees are introduced to different communication techniques, given ample opportunities to master the practice of English, and prepared for the culminating TOEIC test, an internationally recognized test that is often required by a wide range of employers all over the world.

Smaoui Anouar