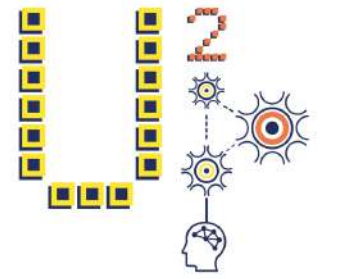
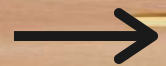


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EXCEL IN THE ELAT



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Overview

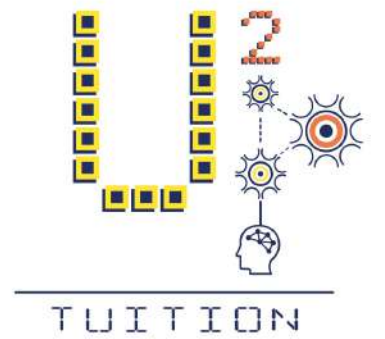
Our ELAT test course aims to provide students with last-minute practice under the tutelage of an Oxbridge English graduate mentor. The small group class aims to encourage team discussion and critical analysis, which will serve students well not only for the test, but also the interview process. The course is suitable for those taking the ELAT in application to Oxford, and also for Cambridge applicants who take the ELAT following notification of interview.

What to Expect

The course host will draw not only from the ELAT past papers available, but a wide array of customised further papers (with new themes/ passages). Students will engage in high level close analysis and learn how to reach the top grade boundaries in the test.

Logistical Details

- All classes will take place over Zoom. Links will be sent out prior to the course commencing.
- The course host will typically set optional tasks between classes.



ELAT Test Course

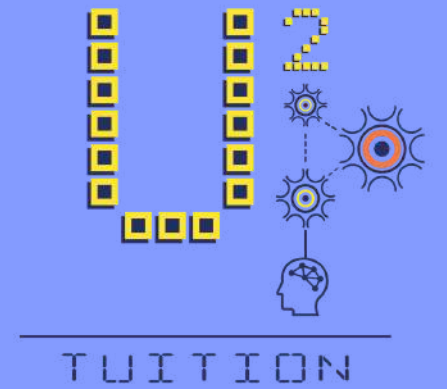
Our Host



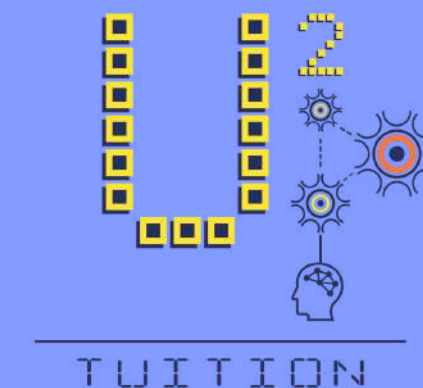
Elizabeth

Elizabeth graduated from the University of Oxford in 2022 with a first-class degree in Classics and English. She is planning to pursue post-graduate study in 2024 after a year teaching English language and literature in France.

Elizabeth is particularly interested in the reception of classical literature, working with early-modern texts as well as contemporary literature, often through a postcolonial or queer theoretical lens. Elizabeth is an experienced Oxbridge admissions mentor who understands the techniques required to perform well in the ELAT exam. She enjoys supporting prospective applicants on their Oxbridge journey and has successfully prepared candidates for both the ELAT and the interview stage.



The Agenda:



Practical Criticism Overview and ELAT Requirements

The first session will provide a close overview of the ELAT, examining the requirements and mark scheme to think in-depth about the skills tested and to understand the expectations of admissions tutors. We will consider the purpose of practical criticism and read some model examples of close analysis in practise.



The Poetry Passages

The second session will focus on poetry. We will discuss how to approach an unseen poem at the highest level, considering structure, language, style, form, narrative voice and tone. We will look at the role of rhetorical devices in poetry and examine a number of poems together. We will consider how mechanisms such as time, perspective, irony and others work within poetry to create complexity. We will learn how to approach a poem in an exploratory and analytical way, without seeking to “solve” the poem. The goal is to open, expand and enrich the reading of the poem via analysis, not to close it down and arrive at one “right answer”.

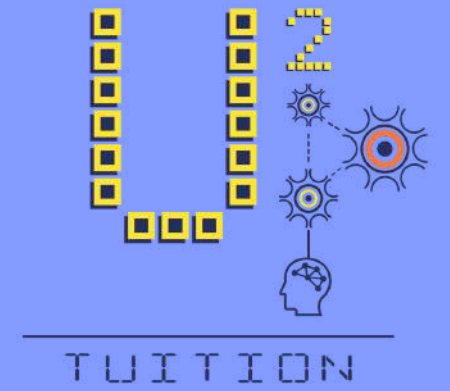


Prose & Drama Passages

The third session will focus on prose and drama. We will talk about how to analyse an unseen piece of prose or drama, considering structure, language and style. We will think about the relevant rhetorical devices and aim to elevate close analysis to the level expected in the highest grading band. We will consider the ways in which intention for performance should shape our analysis of drama. For prose, narrative voice, tone and reader positioning will all be important factors to consider.



The Agenda:

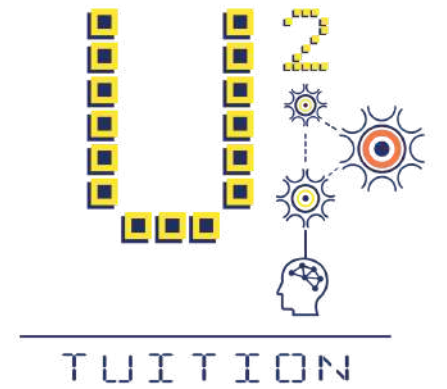


Perfecting ELAT Technique


The fourth session will focus on exam strategy. We will discuss how to select appropriate passages. We will think about how to structure an argument through comparison of the passages. We will also consider the importance of the introduction and conclusion and plan an answer together. We will consider the importance of planning and time management for ELAT answers. We will look at some example answers and think about their relative benefits and shortfalls.

Any questions? Get in touch!

Contact Us



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