

Platinum English First Additional Language Grade 9 Updated Version

Platinum English First Additional Language Grade 9: Your Ultimate Guide to Success

Introduction

Navigating the curriculum for Grade 9 English First Additional Language can be a challenging yet rewarding journey for students. The Platinum English First Additional Language Grade 9 resource is designed to elevate learners' language skills, enhance their comprehension, and prepare them effectively for exams. This comprehensive guide explores the core components of the Platinum program, offering insights into its structure, benefits, and how students can maximize their learning experience.

Understanding the Platinum English First Additional Language Grade 9 Program

What is the Platinum English FAL Grade 9?

The Platinum English First Additional Language Grade 9 is a tailored educational resource aimed at learners who speak English as an additional language. Developed with the South African curriculum in mind, it combines comprehensive content coverage with engaging activities to foster mastery of language skills.

Key features include:

- Structured lessons aligned with CAPS curriculum standards
- Focus on developing reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills
- Practice exercises and assessments for continuous evaluation
- Emphasis on language proficiency for academic success

Why Choose Platinum for Grade 9 English FAL?

Opting for the Platinum program offers numerous advantages:

- Curriculum Alignment: Ensures learners meet all curriculum requirements.

- Skill Development: Focuses on core language skills necessary for high school and beyond.
- Exam Preparation: Provides targeted practice for national assessments like the NSC exams.
- Engaging Content: Uses relevant texts, real-world contexts, and interactive activities.
- Progress Tracking: Facilitates monitoring of student progress through assessments and feedback.

Core Components of the Platinum English FAL Grade 9 Curriculum

1. Reading and Comprehension

Effective reading comprehension is vital for academic achievement. The Platinum program emphasizes:

- Diverse texts, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and drama
- Strategies for understanding main ideas, themes, and literary devices
- Vocabulary building exercises
- Critical thinking questions to analyze texts deeply

2. Writing Skills

Students learn to express themselves clearly and correctly through various writing tasks:

- Essays (descriptive, narrative, argumentative)
- Formal and informal letters
- Summaries and reports
- Creative writing techniques
- Grammar and punctuation exercises

3. Listening and Speaking

Active listening and effective speaking are crucial for communication skills:

- Listening comprehension activities
- Speech presentation practice
- Group discussions and debates
- Pronunciation and intonation exercises

4. Language Structures and Grammar

A solid grasp of language mechanics enhances overall proficiency:

- Parts of speech
- Sentence structure
- Tenses and verb forms
- Syntax and punctuation rules
- Common grammatical errors and how to avoid them

5. Literature and Text Analysis

Engaging with literature fosters cultural awareness and analytical skills:

- Study of prescribed texts and poems
- Themes, characters, and literary devices
- Contextual understanding of texts
- Comparative analysis tasks

6. Exam Preparation and Practice

To excel in assessments, students need targeted practice:

- Past exam papers and sample questions
- Time management strategies
- Marking schemes and peer review
- Revision techniques

Benefits of Using the Platinum English FAL Grade 9 Resource

Enhanced Learning Outcomes

Students using the Platinum curriculum typically experience:

- Improved reading comprehension abilities
- Increased confidence in writing and speaking
- Better understanding of grammatical concepts
- Greater engagement with texts and classroom activities

Preparation for Future Academic Success

A strong foundation in Grade 9 sets the stage for:

- Success in Grade 10 and subsequent levels
- Preparation for matriculation exams
- Development of lifelong language skills

Engagement and Motivation

Interactive activities and relevant content keep learners motivated, fostering a love for language and literature.

Strategies for Maximizing Your Success with Platinum English FAL Grade 9

1. Consistent Study Schedule

Set aside dedicated time each day to study different components of the curriculum. Consistency helps reinforce learning and reduces last-minute cramming.

2. Active Participation

Engage actively during lessons, group discussions, and activities. Asking questions and participating in debates enhances understanding.

3. Use of Supplementary Resources

Complement the Platinum material with:

- Online educational platforms
- Language apps
- Additional reading materials
- Past exam papers

4. Practice, Practice, Practice

Regularly complete exercises and mock exams to familiarize yourself with exam formats and time constraints.

5. Seek Feedback and Support

Don't hesitate to ask teachers or tutors for feedback on your work. Join study groups for collaborative learning.

Additional Tips for Success in Grade 9 English FAL

- Build a Vocabulary Notebook: Record new words and their meanings; review regularly.
- Read Widely: Explore various genres to improve comprehension and appreciation.
- Enhance Listening Skills: Listen to podcasts, speeches, and debates.
- Practice Speaking: Record yourself speaking or participate in oral presentations.
- Stay Organized: Keep notes, assignments, and resources neatly arranged for easy review.

Conclusion

The Platinum English First Additional Language Grade 9 program is a comprehensive tool designed to elevate learners' language proficiency and prepare them for academic challenges. By combining structured lessons, engaging content, and targeted practice, it empowers students to achieve their language goals confidently. With dedication, active participation, and strategic studying, Grade 9 learners can make significant strides in mastering English and setting a strong foundation for future success.

FAQs about Platinum English FAL Grade 9

- Is the Platinum program suitable for all learners?

Yes, it is designed to cater to diverse learning needs, providing a structured approach suitable for most students.

- Can I use the Platinum resources for self-study?

Absolutely. The materials are user-friendly and ideal for independent learners seeking to improve their skills.

- How does Platinum prepare students for exams?

Through practice questions, past papers, and exam strategies embedded within the curriculum.

- Are there online versions of the Platinum Grade 9 English FAL?

Many publishers offer digital versions and supplementary online resources to enhance learning.

- What support is available if I struggle with certain topics?

Teachers, tutors, and peer study groups can provide additional guidance and clarification.

By leveraging the comprehensive structure of the Platinum English First Additional Language Grade 9 program and adopting effective study strategies, students are well-equipped to excel academically and develop a lifelong appreciation for the English language.

Platinum English First Additional Language Grade 9 is a comprehensive resource tailored to meet the needs of Grade 9 students preparing for the English First Additional Language (FAL) assessments, particularly in the context of the South African curriculum. This textbook aims to bridge the gap between classroom instruction and exam requirements by providing structured content, practice opportunities, and skills development that foster both language proficiency and critical thinking.

Overview of Platinum English First Additional Language Grade 9

At its core, Platinum English FAL Grade 9 is designed to prepare learners for the final examinations by covering essential language skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and language structures. The curriculum aligns with the CAPS (Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement) requirements, ensuring that learners are equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills to succeed.

The book features a well-organized layout, with clear sections dedicated to various language skills and themes. It integrates literary texts, comprehension passages, grammar exercises, and writing prompts, all contextualized within themes relevant to Grade 9 learners. This holistic approach aims to develop well-rounded language competence that is both functional and academic.

Content and Structure

Content Coverage

The content in Platinum English FAL Grade 9 is broad and varied, covering:

- Language Structures and Conventions: Grammar, punctuation, vocabulary development, and language mechanics.

- Reading and Comprehension: A variety of texts, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and drama.
- Writing Skills: Essays, summaries, narratives, reports, letters, and speeches.
- Listening and Speaking: Activities to improve oral communication skills.
- Literature: Selected texts that explore themes, character development, and literary devices.

Organization

The book is segmented into thematic units and skill-based sections, making it easier for learners to navigate and focus on specific areas. Each chapter typically includes:

- An introduction to key concepts.
- Examples and explanations.
- Practice exercises with answer keys.
- Summary and revision sections.

This structure promotes self-study and revision, essential for learners preparing for summative assessments.

Strengths of Platinum English FAL Grade 9

Alignment with CAPS Curriculum

One of the most significant advantages of this textbook is its strict adherence to the CAPS guidelines. It ensures that all essential topics and skills are covered comprehensively, reducing the risk of gaps in learners' knowledge.

Variety of Texts and Activities

The inclusion of diverse reading materials helps develop critical reading skills and exposes students to different genres and writing styles. The activities are varied, ranging from multiple-choice questions to essay writing, catering to different learning styles.

Focus on Exam Preparation

The book emphasizes exam techniques, including how to interpret questions, manage time, and structure answers. Practice tests mimic exam conditions and are invaluable for building confidence.

Clear Explanations and Supportive Resources

The language explanations are straightforward, making complex grammar and vocabulary

accessible. Additionally, many chapters include tips and strategies to improve language use and comprehension.

Inclusion of Literary Texts

Literary texts are selected to stimulate critical thinking and analysis, aligning with the assessment standards for literature components.

Potential Limitations and Areas for Improvement

Limited Digital Integration

While the textbook is comprehensive in print, it offers limited online or digital resources. In an increasingly digital learning environment, supplementary online exercises or multimedia content could enhance engagement.

Depth of Literary Analysis

Some users find that the literary sections could benefit from deeper analysis prompts or more varied literary genres to broaden students' exposure and interpretative skills.

Differentiation for Diverse Learners

The material is generally suitable for the average learner, but additional scaffolding or differentiated tasks could better support learners with varying abilities.

Features and Highlights

- Progressive Skill Development: Each section builds on previous knowledge, fostering cumulative learning.
- Practice and Assessment: Regular exercises and end-of-unit tests help track progress.
- Language Focus: Dedicated grammar and vocabulary sections reinforce language mechanics.
- Contextualized Themes: Topics are relevant and engaging, encouraging learners to connect language skills with real-life situations.
- Teacher Resources: Some editions offer supplementary teacher guides, providing lesson plans and additional exercises.

How to Maximize the Use of Platinum English FAL Grade 9

To get the most out of this resource, learners and educators should:

- Integrate with Classroom Instruction: Use the textbook as a supplementary tool alongside active classroom lessons.
- Encourage Active Engagement: Students should complete exercises thoroughly, seek feedback, and reflect on their progress.
- Utilize Practice Tests: Regularly simulate exam conditions to build confidence and improve time management.
- Incorporate Speaking and Listening Activities: Use the included prompts for oral assessments and listening exercises.
- Leverage Literary Texts: Encourage deeper analysis beyond surface-level comprehension to develop critical thinking.

Comparison with Other Resources

Compared to other Grade 9 English FAL textbooks, Platinum English FAL Grade 9 stands out for its structured approach, alignment with CAPS, and balanced focus on language skills and literature. While some competitors may offer more digital content or interactive features, the clarity and comprehensiveness of this book make it a reliable choice for both teachers and students.

Conclusion

Overall, Platinum English First Additional Language Grade 9 is a robust educational resource that supports learners in developing essential language skills and preparing effectively for their final exams. Its well-organized content, variety of activities, and focus on exam readiness make it a valuable addition to any Grade 9 classroom. While there is room for enhancement in digital resources and differentiation strategies, the textbook's strengths in content coverage and alignment with curriculum standards make it a commendable choice for educators aiming to equip their students for academic success in English FAL.

Final Verdict:

Pros:

- CAPS-aligned content
- Diverse texts and activities
- Focus on exam techniques
- Clear explanations and structured layout
- Suitable for self-study and classroom use

Cons:

- Limited digital resources
- Needs deeper literary analysis options
- Could include more differentiation strategies

In sum, Platinum English FAL Grade 9 remains a dependable and comprehensive resource for learners aiming to excel in English as a First Additional Language, providing a solid foundation for both academic achievement and language mastery.

QuestionAnswer What are the key topics covered in Platinum English First Additional Language Grade 9? The key topics include comprehension, language structures, literary analysis, writing skills, poetry, and oral communication, all aligned with the Grade 9 curriculum to prepare learners for exams. How does Platinum English First Additional Language support exam preparation for Grade 9 students? It provides structured lessons, practice questions, past exam papers, and clear explanations to help students understand concepts, improve their skills, and build confidence for their final assessments. What are effective strategies for mastering comprehension and language skills in Grade 9 Platinum English? Effective strategies include regular reading, practicing past papers, expanding vocabulary, analyzing texts critically, and engaging in writing exercises to develop clarity and coherence. How can Grade 9 learners improve their essay writing using Platinum English resources? Learners can improve by studying essay structures, practicing different types of essays, receiving feedback from teachers, and using model answers provided in Platinum resources to refine their writing skills. What role does literary analysis play in Platinum English First Additional Language Grade 9? Literary analysis helps students interpret texts, understand themes, characters, and literary devices, which is essential for answering exam questions effectively and developing a deeper appreciation of literature. Are there any online platforms or supplementary materials recommended for Grade 9 Platinum English learners? Yes, online platforms like CAPS-aligned websites, educational apps, and teacher-recommended resources offer additional practice, tutorials, and interactive exercises to enhance learning. How can teachers utilize Platinum English First Additional Language Grade 9 materials to improve classroom engagement? Teachers can incorporate varied activities such as group discussions, interactive reading, and writing workshops using Platinum materials to make lessons more engaging and cater to diverse learning styles.

Related keywords: Platinum English First Additional Language, Grade 9 English, ESL Grade 9, English Language Curriculum, Grade 9 English Textbooks, English Literature Grade 9, English Language Skills, Grade 9 English Resources, English Exam Preparation Grade 9, English Grammar Grade 9

AN INTRODUCTION TO ENGLISH LANGUAGE

An Introduction to English Language

The English language is one of the most widely spoken and influential languages in the world today. From global business and international diplomacy to entertainment and technology, English serves as a vital communication tool across countless domains. Understanding the roots, development, and characteristics of the English language is essential for learners, educators, linguists, and anyone interested in global communication. This comprehensive guide aims to provide an insightful introduction to the English language, exploring its history, structure, global significance, and future trends.

Historical Background of the English Language

The Origins of English

English is a Germanic language that originated in early medieval England. Its roots can be traced back to the Anglo-Saxon tribes—Angles, Saxons, and Jutes—that migrated to the British Isles around the 5th century AD. The language spoken by these tribes formed the basis of Old English.

The Evolution Through Ages

The history of English is marked by several distinct periods:

- **Old English (c. 450–1150 AD):** Characterized by Germanic roots, Old English was heavily influenced by Norse invaders and Latin church influence.
- **Middle English (c. 1150–1500 AD):** Marked by Norman conquest in 1066, which introduced Norman French vocabulary and grammar influences.
- **Early Modern English (c. 1500–1700 AD):** The Renaissance brought a revival of classical learning, expanding vocabulary and standardizing spelling and grammar.
- **Modern English (1700 AD to present):** The language continued to evolve with colonial expansion, technological advances, and globalization, leading to the diverse forms of English spoken today.

The Role of Literary and Cultural Influences

English literature, from Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* to William Shakespeare's plays and modern authors like J.K. Rowling, has significantly shaped the language's development. Cultural exchanges through colonization, trade, and diplomacy have also contributed to the vocabulary and idiomatic expressions in English.

The Structure and Features of the English Language

Phonology and Pronunciation

English phonology includes a wide range of vowel and consonant sounds. The pronunciation varies significantly across different regions and accents, which adds to the language's richness but also presents challenges for learners.

Vocabulary and Lexicon

English boasts one of the largest vocabularies among languages, with estimates ranging from 150,000 to over a million words, considering technical and scientific terms. This extensive lexicon is a result of:

- Borrowings from Latin, French, Greek, and other languages
- Coining of new terms during technological and scientific advancements
- Slang and colloquialisms evolving over time

Grammar and Syntax

English grammar is characterized by:

- Relatively simple verb conjugation compared to other languages
- Use of auxiliary verbs for tense and aspect (e.g., be, have, do)
- Flexible word order, with Subject-Verb-Object being standard
- Extensive use of prepositions and articles

Writing System

English uses the Latin alphabet, consisting of 26 letters. Its orthography (spelling system) can be complex due to historical spelling conventions, silent letters, and irregular pronunciation rules.

The Global Significance of the English Language

English as a Global Lingua Franca

Today, English is regarded as the world's primary lingua franca—an auxiliary language used for international communication. It is the official or working language in over 50 countries and widely used in international organizations like the United Nations and the International Olympic Committee.

English in Business and Commerce

English dominates international business, finance, and trade. Many multinational corporations operate primarily in English, and proficiency is often a prerequisite for global career opportunities.

English in Science, Technology, and Education

A significant portion of scientific research, technological development, and academic publications are in English. Universities worldwide offer courses in English to attract international students.

English in Media and Entertainment

English-language media, including movies, music, television, and literature, have a global reach. Hollywood films, English pop music, and online streaming platforms have popularized the language worldwide.

English on the Internet and Social Media

English is the dominant language on the internet, accounting for a large percentage of online content. Social media platforms facilitate global interaction primarily in English, further fostering its universal status.

Learning and Teaching the English Language

Why Learn English?

Learning English offers numerous benefits:

- Access to a vast amount of information and educational resources
- Enhanced employability and career prospects
- Ability to communicate with people worldwide
- Participation in global culture and entertainment

Methods of Learning English

Effective approaches include:

- Classroom instruction with trained teachers
- Online courses and language learning apps
- Immersive experiences through travel and cultural exchange
- Practice with native speakers or language exchange partners

Challenges in Learning English

Some common difficulties faced by learners are:

- Complex spelling and pronunciation rules
- Irregular verb forms
- Idiomatic expressions and phrasal verbs
- Regional accents and dialects

The Future of the English Language

Emerging Trends

English continues to evolve with technological innovations:

- Increased influence of digital communication and social media
- Emergence of new slang and internet vernacular
- Globalization leading to more diverse accents and dialects
- Integration of loanwords from other languages due to cultural exchange

Potential Challenges

As the language grows, there are concerns about:

- Language homogenization potentially overshadowing regional dialects
- Loss of linguistic diversity
- Difficulty in maintaining standardization across different regions

Conclusion

The English language remains a dynamic and influential means of communication. Its rich history, extensive vocabulary, and widespread use make it an invaluable global asset. Whether for personal growth, academic pursuits, or professional development, learning English opens doors to countless opportunities. As the world continues to embrace globalization and technological innovation, the role of English is poised to expand further, shaping the future of international communication.

Keywords for SEO Optimization:

- Introduction to English language
- History of English
- English language structure
- Global importance of English
- Learn English online
- English language development
- English as a lingua franca
- Benefits of learning English
- Future of the English language
- English language learning tips

Introduction to the English Language: A Comprehensive Overview

The English language, often regarded as the global lingua franca, has a rich history, complex structure, and widespread influence that permeates nearly every corner of the world. As one of the most widely spoken and studied languages today, understanding its fundamentals offers invaluable insights into its role in communication, culture, and international relations. This detailed exploration delves into the origins, evolution, grammatical features, vocabulary, phonetics, and the significance of English in contemporary society.

Historical Background of the English Language

Origins and Early Development

The roots of English trace back over 1,400 years to the Germanic tribes—namely the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes—who migrated to the British Isles around the 5th century AD. These tribes brought with them their languages, which gradually coalesced into what we now call Old English.

Key points about early English:

- Old English (circa 450–1150 AD): Characterized by a complex system of inflections, a vocabulary heavily influenced by Latin and Norse, and a rich oral tradition including epic poetry like *Beowulf*.
- Influence of Latin and Norse: Latin arrived through Christian missionaries, while Norse influence increased due to Viking invasions, shaping vocabulary and syntax.

Middle English and the Norman Conquest

The Norman Conquest of 1066 marked a pivotal turning point:

- Norman French influence: The ruling class spoke Norman French, which heavily influenced the vocabulary, especially in law, governance, art, and cuisine.
- Language features: Middle English (circa 1150-1500) saw simplification of inflectional endings and an expansion of vocabulary.

Early Modern English and the Renaissance

From the late 15th to the early 17th century:

- The Renaissance: Brought a revival of classical learning and an influx of Latin and Greek words.
- The printing press: Invented by Johannes Gutenberg, it standardized spelling and grammar, making literature more accessible.
- Notable figures: William Shakespeare and the King James Bible significantly shaped the language.

Modern English and Global Spread

Since the 17th century:

- Colonial expansion: British colonization spread English worldwide.
- Industrial Revolution: Facilitated international trade and communication.
- Contemporary English: Continues to evolve with influences from numerous languages and cultures, especially in the digital age.

Structural Aspects of the English Language

Phonetics and Pronunciation

English phonetics is known for its complexity and variability:

- Consonant and vowel sounds: The language features approximately 24 consonant sounds and around 20 vowel sounds, with many variations.
- Spelling and pronunciation discrepancies: Due to historical influences, English spelling often does not align directly with pronunciation (e.g., though vs. through).

Grammar and Syntax

English grammar, while relatively straightforward compared to some languages, has distinctive

features:

- Parts of speech: Nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions, and interjections.
- Sentence structure: Typically follows a Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) order.
- Tenses: Present, past, future, along with perfect and progressive aspects.
- Agreement: Subject-verb agreement in number and person.
- Modifiers: Use of adjectives and adverbs to add detail.

Vocabulary and Lexicon

English boasts an extensive vocabulary, estimated at over a million words:

- Loanwords: Borrowed extensively from Latin, French, Greek, German, and many other languages.
- Synonyms and antonyms: Rich variety of words with nuanced differences, offering precision and expressiveness.
- Neologisms: Continual creation of new words, especially in technology and popular culture.

Unique Features of the English Language

Orthography and Spelling

English spelling can be irregular due to its diverse origins:

- Historical influences: Words retain spellings from older forms or borrowed languages.
- Examples: Knight, psychology, colonel.
- Spelling reforms: There have been proposals but no widespread standardization.

Idioms and Phrasal Verbs

Idiomatic expressions and phrasal verbs are integral:

- Idioms: Phrases whose meanings are not deducible from individual words (e.g., kick the bucket).
- Phrasal verbs: Verb + particle combinations with idiomatic meanings (e.g., look up, give in).

Varieties and Dialects

English manifests in numerous dialects:

- British English: Variations like Cockney, Received Pronunciation.
- American English: Distinct vocabulary and pronunciation.
- Other varieties: Australian, Canadian, Indian English, each with unique features.

The Role of English in the Modern World

Global Lingua Franca

English is the primary language of:

- International diplomacy
- Business and commerce
- Science and technology
- Entertainment and media

English in Education and Research

- Most scientific journals publish in English.
- Universities worldwide offer courses in English.
- English proficiency is often a requirement for international careers.

The Digital Age and English

- Dominance in internet content, social media, and digital communication.
- Emergence of digital slang, memes, and abbreviations, influencing language evolution.

Cultural Impact

- English-language music, films, and literature shape global pop culture.
- Cultural exchange and understanding facilitated through shared language.

Learning and Teaching English

Methods and Approaches

- Traditional grammar-translation
- Communicative language teaching
- Immersive and bilingual approaches
- Use of technology and online platforms

Challenges for Learners

- Irregular spelling and pronunciation
- Idiomatic expressions
- Extensive vocabulary
- Variations in dialects and accents

Resources and Tools

- Language apps (Duolingo, Babbel)
- Online courses and tutorials
- Media and literature in English
- Language exchange programs

Conclusion

The English language remains a dynamic, influential, and complex means of communication. Its history reflects centuries of cultural exchange and adaptation, shaping a language that is both diverse and adaptable. For learners, educators, and global citizens alike, understanding English's structure, history, and role in society unlocks numerous opportunities for connection, learning, and cultural appreciation. As it continues to evolve in the digital age, English's significance is poised to grow, cementing its status as a cornerstone of international communication.

In summary, mastering the English language provides access to a vast repository of knowledge, culture, and opportunities. Its rich history and widespread use make it a fascinating subject of study and an essential skill in today's interconnected world. Whether for academic pursuits, professional advancement, or cultural engagement, an introduction to English opens the door to endless possibilities.

QuestionAnswer What are the key features that define the English language? English is a West Germanic language characterized by a rich vocabulary, extensive use of loanwords, and a flexible

grammar system. It is known for its adaptability, widespread global use, and its role as a lingua franca in international communication. How did the English language develop over time? English evolved from the Anglo-Saxon languages brought to Britain by Germanic tribes around the 5th century. It was later influenced by Norman French, Latin, and other languages, leading to the Modern English we use today. This development spans Old English, Middle English, and Modern English periods. Why is English considered a global language? English is considered a global language because it is the primary or secondary language in many countries, used extensively in international business, science, technology, entertainment, and diplomacy, making it a key tool for global communication. What are the main components of learning the English language? Learning English involves mastering four main components: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Additionally, understanding grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and cultural context are essential for effective communication. How has the internet influenced the spread and evolution of the English language? The internet has accelerated the global spread of English, introduced new slang, abbreviations, and digital communication styles, and facilitated intercultural exchange, thereby continuously shaping and evolving the language in real-time.

Related keywords: English language, language learning, linguistics, grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, syntax, phonetics, language skills, language history

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