

## **Introduction**

I meant my book for a specific, targeted audience within the larger group of those who are preparing to take their B2 level language exam. 'Theolingua' is a state-accredited, Christian-themed, ESP (English for Specific Purposes) language exam, which provides a great opportunity for students of theology, religious education, and all other candidates who are generally interested in Christianity, to take their compulsory language exam in a field in which they have a special interest.

The course primarily offers support for the oral part of the exam. It covers twenty-five topics which correspond to the compulsory exam topics of the oral exam. It also includes twelve sample role plays, and sixteen sample picture descriptions. Because it covers in detail such a great variety of topics and thus aims to teach a versatile vocabulary, the book –indirectly - is also a great help for the written part of the exam.

I approached the questions in each chapter from the Catholic perspective, so – undoubtedly – the book will be the most beneficial for Catholics. However, it does not mean that the candidates of the other Christian denominations will not be able to take an advantage of the material. The sample role plays and picture descriptions - for example – are general in nature so all candidates can make use of them equally. As for faith doctrines, the chapters are treated mostly from the Catholic viewpoint, so the material puts more limits on the language-learners' preparation in these parts. However, the vocabulary in the sections dealing with faith doctrines is so extensive and the questions that the answers are based on are so plainly-stated that, with a little bit of common sense and some professional help, the reader will be able to adapt these answers to the religious beliefs of their own faith. Furthermore, there are certain topics which discuss information that is generally true, and consequently these more general topics can be learnt in the same way by all students, independent of religion or denomination (such chapters are for example the one about the major world religions, or the one which discusses the major religions practised in Hungary.)

Last but not least, let me highlight the fact that I offered a great number of my answers as sample answers only. I am aware that in certain chapters, if the topics require it, there is a great deal of theological information that the candidates are not expected to memorize word by word and then merely repeat it mechanically at the language exam. I would like my readers to be creative users of these texts, select topics which meet their interests and learn new vocabulary which corresponds to the active part of their own mother-tongue vocabulary.

Here is a list of the photo titles in the order the photos follow from left to right and from top to bottom on the front page:

- 1 Esztergom Basilica
- 2 St. Michael's Cathedral and the Holy Trinity Monument, Veszprém
- 3 Blessed Gizella Seminary, Veszprém
- 4 The Chapel of the Seminary
- 5 The Abbey of Zirc
- 6 The Abbey of Dallas

On the back cover:

Statues of King St. Stephen and Blessed Gizella