

# Admission Guide

## INTRODUCTION

1. This Admission Guide comprises details regarding admission to the university programmes that Romanian Nautical College organises in partnership with the University of Bedfordshire (BSc Computer Science) and Tyne Coast College (HND Nautical Science and Marine Engineering) in a “1+1” system.
2. “1+1 system” means you will study the 1<sup>st</sup> year in Romanian Nautical College (str. Lebedei nr. 1, Constanta, Romania) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in England.
3. We teach in English language only! At the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> year in RNC your English language proficiency level must be at least 5.5 – IELTS. Consequently, it is crucial for all candidates to be at least at an intermediate level at the beginning of the Officer’s programme.
4. The scope of this Admission Guide is to explain the structure of the admission exam in RNC, as well as to support candidates by providing some details about the tests.
5. To be admitted, a candidate must comply with the following:
  - a. Successfully graduated from a high school with a Bacalaureate Diploma
  - b. Medically fitted
  - c. Successfully pass the Admission examination

## STRUCTURE OF THE ADMISSION EXAM

1. Admission Examination consists in 3 steps:
  - Step 1** - an interview in English to evaluate the **Listening Comprehension** and **Speaking skills** – 15 minutes each candidate
  - Step 2** - a written test to evaluate **Reading Comprehension** and **Writing skills** (including a 200-word essay/letter on general topics) – 1 hour
  - Step 3** (**optional**) – a written exam in Mathematics – 1 hour

### Step 1 – The Interview

**LISTENING AND SPEAKING:** you will have a conversation with the examiner on general subjects (questions about yourself, familiar topics such as home, family, work, studies and interests). This

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#### ROMANIAN NAUTICAL COLLEGE TYNE COAST COLLEGE

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test aims to evaluate your ability to understand oral messages and your capacity to express ideas, opinions and statements on particular topics.

***Minimum expected language passing level is intermediate (55%)!***

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Candidates with a lower English language level who wish to attend our programmes are encouraged to apply provided that they agree to follow an additional intensive English language support course enabling them to achieve the required IELTS<sup>1</sup> 5.5 standard.

### Interview - SPEAKING SAMPLE QUESTIONS:

#### Ice Breaking Qs

Did you find the location okay? / Are you having a good day so far? / Can you believe this weather?

#### High School

Describe your high school. / What subject in high school did you find most challenging? / What high school experience was most important to you? What does your high school do well?

What are your strengths academically?

Which teachers have you connected with in high school and why? What elements make a great teacher for you?

#### Personal/Family/Friends

Tell me about your friends. Has your friend group changed since you started high school? Why / How? / Which of your friends do you most admire and why?

Speak about things you do as a family. How is your family supporting you through college search? / Why do you want to attend a college?

Describe yourself (*strengths vs weaknesses*) / What three adjectives best describe you?

Who in your life has most influenced you?

#### Onto RNC...

How do you hope college will be different from high school? / In creating your college list, what are key characteristics you are seeking in an institution?

How did you find out about us? Given your expectations, why is RNC on your list of interest? / How do you see yourself engaging with RNC? What exactly do you hope to gain from your overall RNC experience?

## Step 2 - Written Test English Language

**GRAMMAR:** you will have to resolve a test of 50 items in multiple choice system (100 points)

**READING:** you will read a short text and then you must answer a few questions about the text. This test aims to evaluate your skills to understand main ideas, details, logical arguments and opinions expressed in that text (100 points)

<sup>1</sup> © 2016 IELTS <https://www.ielts.org/> The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) is a test that measures the language proficiency of people who want to study or work in environments where English is used as a language of communication. An easy-to-use 9-band scale clearly identifies proficiency level, from non-user (band score 1) through to expert (band score 9).



**WRITING:** you will be asked to write an essay (maximum 200 words) with a given title. This test aims to evaluate your coherence, lexical resources, grammatical range and accuracy (100 points)

**MULTIPLE CHOICE TEST SAMPLE:**

- (1) ' \_\_\_\_ to Mexic, Ginny?' 'Yes, two years ago.'  
a) Did you ever go  
b) Do you ever go  
c) Have you ever been  
d) Are you ever going
- (2) Newcastle is \_\_\_\_ city I've ever lived in.  
a) the most big  
b) the bigger  
c) the biggest  
d) the more big
- (3) A vegetarian is someone \_\_\_\_ doesn't eat meat.  
a) who  
b) what  
c) which  
d) whose
- (4) \_\_\_\_ these days.  
a) I never a newspaper buy  
b) I never buy a newspaper  
c) I buy never a newspaper  
d) Never I buy a newspaper
- (5) I \_\_\_\_ watch TV tonight.  
a) am  
b) go to  
c) going to  
d) am going to

(2 points each, only one correct answer)

**READING SAMPLE TASK:**

Read the text below and answer Questions 1-8.  
Note: answers have been provided for you!

Title of the text: **London to Brighton Bike Ride**

--- BEGINNING OF THE TEXT ---

### **The start**

The bike ride starts at Clapham Common tube station.

- Your Start Time is indicated by the colour of your body number in this pack. It is also printed on the address label of the envelope. Please arrive no earlier than 30 minutes before that time.
- We allocate an equal number of cyclists for each Start Time to ensure a steady flow. Please keep to the time you've been given so we can keep to our schedule and avoid delaying other riders and prevent 'bunching' further down the route.
- An Information Point, toilets and refreshment stands will be open from very early in the day.

### **Ride carefully**

We put together as many facilities as possible to help ensure you have a troublefree day. But we also rely on you to ride safely and with due consideration for other cyclists and road users. Although many roads are closed to oncoming traffic, this is not always the case and you should be aware of the possibility that there could be vehicles coming in the opposite direction. Please do not attempt reckless overtaking whilst riding – remember it is NOT a race.

### **Follow all instructions**

Every effort is made to ensure that the route is well signed and marshalled. Please obey all directions from police and marshals on the route. If you hear a motorcycle marshal blow his/her whistle three times, move left.

### **Wear a helmet**

Every year we are delighted to see more riders wearing protective helmets, but we would like to see every cyclist on the ride wearing one. More than half of reported injuries in cycling accidents are to the head, and a helmet gives the best protection when the head hits the ground.

### **Attracting assistance**

If you have an accident, ask a marshal for help; they are in contact with the support/ emergency services. To call for help from our motorcycle marshals, give a 'thumbs down' signal. The marshal will do all he/she can to help, providing he/she is not already going to a more serious accident. If a motorcycle marshal slows down to help you, but you have just stopped for a rest and don't need help, please give a 'thumbs up' signal and he/she will carry on. *Remember – thumbs down means 'I need help'.*

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General Training Reading sample task – Identifying information

**In case of breakdown**

Refer to your route map and make your way to a Mechanics Point. Mechanical assistance is free when you show your Rider Identity Card; you just pay for the parts.

**Refreshment stops**

Look out for these along the route. Most are organised by voluntary clubs and their prices give you real value for money. They are also raising money for their local communities and the British Heart Foundation, so please give them your support.

**Rain or shine – be prepared**

In the event of very bad weather, watch out for signs to wet weather stations en route. Good waterproofs, like a cycle cape, are essential. Our first aid staff can only supply bin liners and by the time you get one you may be very wet. However, the English summer is unpredictable – it may also be hot, so don't forget the sun protection cream as well!

**If you have to drop out**

We will try to pick up your bike for you on the day. Call Bike Events (01225 310859) no more than two weeks after the ride to arrange collection. Sorry, we cannot guarantee this service nor can we accept liability for any loss or damage to your bike. Bike Events will hold your bike for three months, after which it may be disposed of. You will be charged for all costs incurred in returning your cycle.

--- END OF THE TEXT ---

Fill in the 2<sup>nd</sup> column the table below with:

- TRUE**, if the statement agrees with the above text
- FALSE**, if the statement contradicts the above text
- NOT GIVEN**, if there is no information in the above text

STATEMENT	Correct answer
1. You should not arrive more than half an hour before your allocated starting time.	TRUE
2. Your Rider Identity Card will be sent to you before the event.	NOT GIVEN
3. Some roads may have normal traffic flow on them.	TRUE
4. Helmets are compulsory for all participants.	FALSE
5. Refreshments are free to all participants during the ride.	FALSE
6. If you need a rest you must get off the road.	NOT GIVEN
7. First aid staff can provide cycle capes.	FALSE
8. Bike Events will charge you for the return of your bike	TRUE

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### WRITING SAMPLE TOPICS:

You will be asked to write a 200 word essay in response to a point of view, argument or problem. This task assesses the test takers' ability to present a clear, relevant, well-organised argument, giving evidence or examples to support their ideas, and to use language accurately.

Possible topics for the essay:

1. Are parents the best teachers?
2. If you could change one thing about your hometown, what would it be?
3. Is progress always a good thing?
4. Should we ignore the past?
5. The impact of new communication technology on society

### Step 3 (optional) – Mathematics Exam

The 3<sup>rd</sup> step is a **Mathematics Exam** and it is **optional**. A number of 10 exercises will be selected from the Book "ADMISSION-MATH-2018.pdf" which can be downloaded by our web page.

If your score of the Mathematics Exam is over 90% you will benefit by a discount from the year 1 tax!!!

If your score is below 50% **you will not fail**, but you must follow an intensive 2-week programme in Mathematics and Science between 15 september and 01 october, which is taught in English and it is free of charge!

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