

Cambridge English:

A Cambridge English exam is much more than just a certificate.

Preparing for Cambridge exams helps children and teenagers to learn. From an early age these exams are an effective way to develop the language skills needed, step-by-step.

Choose a level:

Young Learners (Starters, Movers and Flyers)

Key for Schools

Preliminary for Schools

First for Schools

Advanced

Proficiency

Not sure which level? Take a quick, free, online test.

Why choose a Cambridge English exam?

- **They test all four language skills.** Preparing for Cambridge exams will help children and teenagers develop speaking, writing, reading and listening skills that last.
- **Motivating exams based on everyday situations.** Topics and tasks are created to appeal to the interest of children and teenagers.
- **Accepted by over 20,000 organisations worldwide.** Proving their level of English helps them when applying for a place at university or college, or getting a job.

All Cambridge exams are aligned with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).



Preparing pupils for Cambridge exams at an early age, with step-by-step progress and in a safe classroom environment, will empower them to succeed in all levels in the future.

***Luciane Calcara, English teacher,
Porto Alegre, Brazil***

Cambridge English exams for schools

Cambridge English: Starters, Movers and Flyers are a series of three fun, activity-based tests to introduce children to written and spoken English.

A natural next step is Cambridge For Schools range of exams – **Cambridge English: Key for Schools, Preliminary for Schools and First for Schools**. These exams offer step-by-step progression to help children gain confidence and improve their English. They can

then move on to our higher-level qualifications such as [Cambridge English: Advanced](#) and [Cambridge English: Proficiency](#).

Starters (YLE Starters) from 2018

Test format

Cambridge English: Starters is made up of three papers developed to encourage and motivate young learners. You can see exactly what's in each paper below.

Listening

(about 20 minutes)

4 parts/ 20 questions

a maximum of five shields

Reading and Writing

(20 minutes)

5 parts/ 25 questions

a maximum of five shields

Speaking

(3–5 minutes)

4 parts

a maximum of five shields

The start of a child's language learning journey

Cambridge English: Starters (YLE Starters) is the first of three *Cambridge English: Young Learners (YLE)* tests for children. *Cambridge English: Young Learners* tests introduce children to everyday written and spoken English and are an excellent way for them to gain confidence and improve their English. The tests are written around familiar topics and focus on the skills needed to communicate effectively in English through listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Key facts

CEFR level: Pre-level A1 [What's this?](#)

Test format: Computer or paper-based

No. of papers: 3

Test length: About 45 minutes

Cambridge English: Starters 2018 exam update

Cambridge regularly reviews all of their exams to make sure they are up to date with the latest research in language learning and teaching. *Cambridge English: Starters* has been updated and the revised test will start being used for exam sessions from January 2018.



Cambridge English: Starters can help your students take their first step towards:

- understanding basic English content on the internet
- enjoying books, songs, television and films in English
- making friends globally.



Reasons to choose Cambridge English: Starters:

- There's no pass or fail – every child gets a Cambridge English certificate which celebrates their achievements.
- The test uses realistic everyday situations to bring learning to life.
- The test covers all major varieties of English (e.g. British English, American English).
- There is a huge range of free and paid-for support.

Cambridge English: Movers

Test format

Cambridge English: Movers is made up of three papers developed to encourage and motivate young learners. You can see exactly what's in each paper below.

Listening

(about 25 minutes)

5 parts/ 25 questions

a maximum of five shields

Reading and Writing

(30 minutes)

6 parts/ 35 questions

a maximum of five shields

Speaking

(5–7 minutes)

4 parts

a maximum of five shields

The next step in a child's English language learning

Cambridge English: Movers (YLE Movers) is the second of three *Cambridge English: Young Learners* (YLE) tests for children. Cambridge English: Young Learners tests introduce children to everyday written and spoken English and are an excellent way for them to gain confidence and improve their English.

The tests are written around familiar topics and focus on the skills needed to communicate effectively in English through listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Key facts

CEFR level: A1 **What's this?**

Test format: Computer or paper-based

No. of papers: 3

Test length: About 1 hour

Movers 2018 exam update

Cambridge regularly reviews all of their exams to make sure they are up to date with the latest research in language learning and teaching. *Cambridge English: Movers* has been updated and the revised test will start being used for exam sessions from January 2018.



Cambridge English: Movers can help your students:

understand basic instructions or take part in simple conversations
understand basic notices, instructions or information
complete basic forms and write notes, including times, dates and places.



Reasons to choose Cambridge English: Movers:

There's no pass or fail – every child gets a Cambridge English certificate which celebrates their achievements.

The test uses realistic everyday situations to bring learning to life.

The test covers all major varieties of English (e.g. British English, American English).

There is a huge range of free and paid-for support.

The introduction of Cambridge English: Young Learners has changed the traditional way of teaching a language. It has become more interesting...

Savita Travis

Chennai Public School, India

Cambridge English: Flyers

Test format

Cambridge English: Flyers is made up of three papers developed to encourage and motivate young learners. You can see exactly what's in each paper below.

Listening

(about 25 minutes)

5 parts/ 25 questions

a maximum of five shields

Reading and Writing

(40 minutes)

7 parts/ 44 questions

a maximum of five shields

Speaking

(7–9 minutes)

4 parts

a maximum of five shields

The third of Cambridge fun, activity-based English tests for children

Cambridge English: Flyers (YLE Flyers) is the third of three *Cambridge English: Young Learners* (YLE) tests for children. *Cambridge English: Young Learners* tests introduce children to everyday written and spoken English and are an excellent way for them to gain confidence and improve their English.

The tests are written around familiar topics and focus on the skills needed to communicate effectively in English through listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Key facts

CEFR level: A2 What's this?

Test format: Computer or paper-based

No. of papers: 3

Test length: About 1 hour 15 minutes

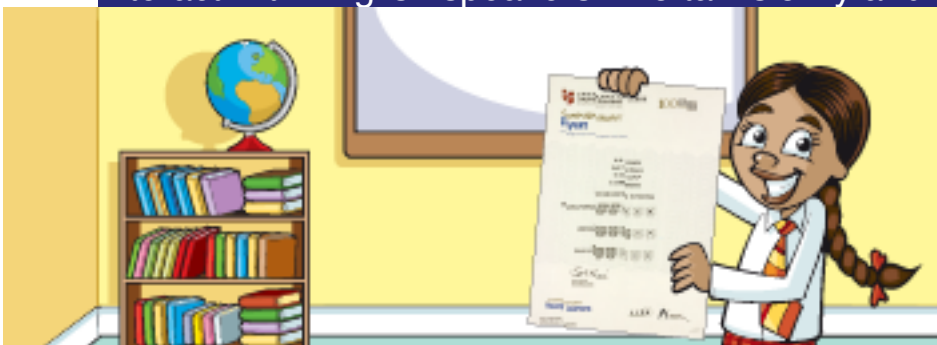
FLYERS 2018 exam update

Cambridge regularly reviews all of their exams to make sure they are up to date with the latest research in language learning and teaching. *Cambridge English: Flyers* has been updated and the revised test will start being used for exam sessions from January 2018.



Cambridge English: Flyers can help your students:

- understand simple written English
- communicate in familiar situations
- understand and use basic phrases and expressions
- interact with English speakers who talk slowly and clearly.



Reasons to choose Cambridge English: Flyers:

There's no pass or fail – every child gets a Cambridge English certificate which celebrates their achievements.

The test uses realistic everyday situations to bring learning to life. The test covers all major varieties of English (e.g. British English, American English).

We have a huge range of free and paid-for support.

Preparing for a Cambridge English exam is highly motivating for students.

Mark Thomas

English Teacher, VHS Berlin-Pankow, Germany

Cambridge English: Key (KET) for Schools

An exam for school-age learners which will help prepare them for higher-level English language qualifications.

A *Cambridge English: Key (KET) for Schools* qualification shows that a student can use English to communicate in simple situations. It's a logical next step after Cambridge English: Young Learners (YLE) and a good place for older children to start learning English too.

The exam gives students the confidence to go on to study for higher-level English exams, such as Cambridge English: Preliminary (PET) for Schools.

Cambridge English: Key for Schools is targeted at the same CEFR level as Cambridge English: Key (KET), but with content aimed at school-age learners rather than adults.

Key facts

Exam format

Cambridge English: Key for Schools is made up of three papers developed to test students' English skills. You can see exactly what's in each paper below.

Reading and Writing

(1 hour 10 minutes)

9 parts/

56 questions

50%

Shows a student can understand simple written information such as signs, brochures, newspapers and magazines. They will also have to fill gaps in simple sentences and write a short message or note.

Listening

(30 minutes, including 8 minutes' transfer time)

5 parts/
25 questions
25%

Requires a student to be able to understand announcements and other spoken material when people speak reasonably slowly.

Speaking

(8–10 minutes per pair of candidates)

2 parts

25%

Tests a student's ability to take part in a conversation by answering and asking simple questions. Their Speaking test will be conducted face to face with one or two other students. This makes their test more realistic and more reliable.

Cambridge English: Preliminary (PET) for Schools

The English language exam that shows that students have mastered the basics.

A *Cambridge English: Preliminary (PET) for Schools* qualification shows that a student has mastered the basics of English and now has practical language skills for everyday use.

This exam is the logical step in a student's language learning journey between Cambridge English: Key (KET) for Schools and Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools.

Cambridge English: Preliminary (PET) for Schools is targeted at the same CEFR level as Cambridge English: Preliminary (PET) but with content aimed at school-age learners rather than adults.

Key facts

CEFR level: B1 What's this?

Test format: Computer or paper-based

No. of papers: 3

Exam length: About 2 hours 20 minutes

Exam format

Cambridge English: Preliminary for Schools is made up of three papers developed to test students' English skills. You can see exactly what's in each paper below.

Reading and Writing

(1 hour 30 minutes)

Reading:

5 parts/

35 questions

Writing:

3 parts/

7 questions

50%

Students need to be able to read texts from signs, newspapers and magazines and understand the main points. They will need to show they can use vocabulary and structure by completing tasks such as producing a short message, and writing a story or letter of around 100 words.

Listening

(36 minutes including 6 minutes' transfer time)

4 parts/

25 questions

25%

Students need to show they can understand the meaning of a range of recorded spoken material, including announcements, interviews and discussions about everyday life. They will also need to be able to understand the attitudes and intentions of the speakers.

Speaking

(10–12 minutes per pair of candidates)

4 parts

25%

Students take part in a conversation, asking and answering questions, and talking freely about their likes and dislikes. They take the Speaking test with another candidate or in a group of three.

Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools

A *Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools* qualification shows that a student has the language skills they need to communicate in an English-speaking environment.

It's also a great way to prepare for higher-level exams such as Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE).

Cambridge English: First for Schools is targeted at the same CEFR level as Cambridge English: First (FCE) but with content aimed at school-age learners rather than adults.

Key facts

CEFR level: B2 **What's this?**

Scale score: 160–190 **What's this?**

Test format: Computer or paper-based

No. of papers: 4

Exam length: About 3.5 hours

Exam format

The updated *Cambridge English: First for Schools* exam (for exam sessions from January 2015) is made up of four papers developed to test students' English language skills. You can see exactly what's in each paper below.

Reading and Use of English

(1 hour 15 minutes)

7 parts/52 questions

Students need to be able to understand a range of texts, including how they are organised and the opinions and attitudes expressed in them. The texts will be from sources familiar to school-aged learners, such as magazines, articles, fiction and advertisements, but targeted at the interests of students. Students' use of English will be tested by tasks which show how well they can control their grammar and vocabulary.

Writing

(1 hour 20 minutes)

2 parts

Students are required to produce two pieces of writing. The first piece is compulsory and will be an essay of 140–190 words. For the second, they can choose from an article, email/letter, essay, review or story of 140–190 words.

Listening

(about 40 minutes)

4 parts/30 questions

Requires being able to follow and understand a range of familiar spoken materials, such as news programmes, public announcements and other sources, but targeted at the interests of school-aged learners.

Speaking

(14 minutes per pair of candidates)

4 parts

A face to face test taken with one or two other candidates and two examiners. Students have to show how well they can produce spontaneous spoken language, talking with either the examiner, the other candidate, or by themselves.

Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE)

The in-depth, high-level qualification that shows students have the language skills that employers and universities are looking for.

More than 6,000 educational institutions, businesses and government departments around the world accept *Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE)* as proof of high-level achievement in learning English.

Preparing for *Cambridge English: Advanced* helps learners develop the skills to make the most of studying, working and living in English-speaking countries.

This exam is the logical step in your language learning journey between Cambridge English: First (FCE) and Cambridge English: Proficiency (CPE).

Key facts

CEFR level: C1 What's this?

Scale score: 180–210 What's this?

Test format: Computer or paper-based

No. of papers: 4

Exam length: About 4 hours

Exam format

Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE) is a thorough test of all areas of language ability.

The updated exam (for exam sessions from January 2015) is made up of four papers developed to test your English language skills. You can see exactly what's in each paper below.

The Speaking test is taken face to face, with two candidates and two examiners. This creates a more realistic and reliable measure of your ability to use English to communicate.

Reading and Use of English

(1 hour 30 minutes)

8 parts/

56 questions

Shows you can deal confidently with different types of text, such as fiction, newspapers and magazines. Tests your use of English with different types of exercise that show how well you can control your grammar and vocabulary.

Writing

(1 hour 30 minutes)

2 parts

You create two different pieces of writing, such as essays, letters/emails, proposals, reports and reviews.

Listening

(about 40 minutes)

4 parts/

30 questions

Tests your ability to follow and understand a range of spoken materials, such as interviews, radio broadcasts, presentations, talks and everyday conversations.

Speaking

(15 minutes per pair of candidates)

4 parts

Tests your ability to communicate effectively in face-to-face situations. You will take the Speaking test with another candidate.

What would you say to someone thinking about taking Cambridge English: Advanced?

A CAE certificate is essential for the professional world nowadays.

Everybody is trying to get an English qualification and you have not got a second to lose. CAE is an excellent option to stand out from the crowd, and it will open up job possibilities in your country and abroad.

Eva Munoz-Quiros, Spain

Candidates who have taken Cambridge English: Advanced will be confident and flexible language users and should be able to flourish in an academic environment.

Alison Standring

Coordinator of English

London School of Economics