


Cambridge English Language Assessment

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Established	1913
Purpose	Examination board - qualifications for learners and teachers of English
Headquarters	Cambridge , UK
Region served	Global - operating in 130 countries with 5 million+ candidates per year
Membership	52,000+ registered preparation centers
Parent organization	Cambridge Assessment
Subsidiaries	CaMLA
Website	www.cambridgeenglish.org www.facebook.com/CambridgeEnglish
Formerly called	University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations (Cambridge ESOL) / University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES)

Cambridge English Language Assessment is part of the [University of Cambridge](#) and has been providing [English language](#) assessments and qualifications for over 100 years. Cambridge English exams are taken by over 5 million people each year.

The organization contributed to the development of the [Common European Framework of Reference for Languages](#) (CEFR) and its examinations are aligned with the CEFR levels.

In 2010, Cambridge English Language Assessment and the English Language Institute Testing and Certificate Division of the [University of Michigan](#) agreed to form a not-for-profit collaboration known

as [CaMLA](#) (Cambridge Michigan Language Assessments). This brings together two institutions with a long history of language assessment.

Individual Exams

English for Young Learners

The [Cambridge English: Young Learners \(YLE\) tests](#) are designed for young learners in primary and lower secondary education who are taking their first steps in English. The tests include tasks designed to motivate young children, such as drawing, coloring and solving puzzles.

Exams	CEFR level	Exam description
Cambridge English: Starters (YLE Starters)	Pre-level A1	Learners will learn basic sentences, vocabulary, letters and numbers.
Cambridge English: Movers (YLE Movers)	A1	Learners will read simple stories, take part in basic, factual conversations and write simple sentences using words provided.
Cambridge English: Flyers (YLE Flyers)	A2	Learners will understand longer texts, communicate with English speakers who talk slowly and clearly, and write short messages on a postcard or in an email.

General English and for Schools

[Cambridge English: Key \(KET\)](#), [Cambridge English: Preliminary \(PET\)](#) and [Cambridge English: First \(FCE\)](#) is designed for learners who need English for work, study and travel. They also help learners working towards higher level qualifications such as [Cambridge English: Advanced \(CAE\)](#) and [Cambridge English: Proficiency \(CPE\)](#).

The qualifications are offered in two versions: for adult learners and for school-aged learners in lower and upper secondary school education. Both versions lead to the same qualification. The only difference is that the topics in the 'for Schools' version are targeted at the interests and experiences of school-aged learners.

[Cambridge English: Advanced \(CAE\)](#) has become a natural exit level for many school learners, due to ever-growing demands for English language proficiency and is accepted around the world for higher education study, work and migration purposes. Students with a Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE) certificate gain exemption from the English components of school-leaving exams in countries such as Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine. [Cambridge English: Proficiency \(CPE\)](#) is also available for exceptional school learners with the ability to use English at near-native levels.

Exams	CEFR level	Exam description
Cambridge Young Learners English Tests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YLE Starters: Pre-level A1 • YLE Movers: A1 • YLE Flyers: A2 	For learners in primary and lower secondary school education who are taking their first steps in English.
Cambridge English: Key (KET) and Cambridge English: Key for Schools (KET)	A1-B1	An elementary level qualification. It covers basic practical English, such as understanding simple questions, instructions and phrases, expressing simple opinions and needs, interacting with English speakers who talk slowly, completing forms and writing short messages.
Cambridge English: Preliminary (PET) and Cambridge English: Preliminary for Schools (PET)	A2-B2	An intermediate level qualification. It covers every day, practical English, such as understanding straightforward instructions and public announcements, taking part in factual conversations, writing letters and making notes.
Cambridge English: First (FCE) and Cambridge English: First for Schools (FCE)	B1-C1	An upper-intermediate qualification. It covers use of English in real-life situations and study environments. Learners are expected to understand the main ideas of complex texts taken from a range of sources (such as magazines, news articles and fiction), demonstrate different writing styles (such as emails, essays, letters or short stories), follow a range of spoken materials (such as news programmes and public announcements), and keep up in conversations on a wide range of topics, expressing opinions, presenting arguments and producing spontaneous spoken language.
Certificates in ESOL Skills for Life (SfL) (UK only) . Last exam in June 2017.	A1-C1	Qualifications for learners aged 16 and over who live in England, Wales or Northern Ireland. The qualifications are based on the UK government's Adult ESOL Core Curriculum. Cambridge English: ESOL Skills for Life aims to help learners use English in everyday work and life situations. Test topics may include work, health, leisure, education and training, shopping, transport and housing.

Academic and Professional English

[Cambridge English: First \(FCE\)](#), [Cambridge English: Advanced \(CAE\)](#), [Cambridge English: Proficiency \(CPE\)](#) and [IELTS](#) are all commonly used as proof of English language proficiency for academic study, migration, professional registration and employment.

Exams	CEFR level	Exam description
Cambridge English: First (FCE)	B1-C1	An upper-intermediate qualification. Learners use this qualification for study in English at foundation or pathway level and to work in English-speaking business environments.
Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE)	B2-C2	A qualification for high achievers. Learners use this qualification for undergraduate or graduate-level study and to work at professional or managerial level in international business. Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE) demonstrates that a learner has the English language skills needed to follow any undergraduate academic course, participate in academic tutorials and seminars, carry out complex research and communicate effectively at a managerial level in an international business setting.
Cambridge English: Proficiency (CPE)	C1-C2	A qualification which demonstrates proof of exceptional English ability and ability to use English at near-native levels in a wide range of situations. Learners use this qualification to study postgraduate academic courses, lead high-level research projects and academic seminars and communicate effectively at an upper managerial and board level in international business.
IELTS (International English Language Testing System)	A1-C2	The world's most popular English language test for higher education and global migration. IELTS is accepted by over 8,000 institutions, employers and government bodies worldwide, including thousands of universities and colleges in the USA which use it as a standard entrance

		<p>requirement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The <i>IELTS Academic</i> module is designed for learners wishing to study at undergraduate or postgraduate levels and for those seeking professional registration. The <i>IELTS General Training</i> module is designed for learners aiming to study below degree level and for those wishing to migrate to an English-speaking country (Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the UK). IELTS Life Skills is for learners who need to prove their English speaking and listening skills at Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) levels A1 or B1 and can be used to apply for a ‘family of a settled person’ visa, indefinite leave to remain or citizenship in the UK.^[8] <p>IELTS is managed by an international partnership of not-for-profit organizations – the British Council, Cambridge English Language Assessment and IDP: IELTS Australia – and is administered through more than 400 test centers in 150 countries worldwide.</p>
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Business English.

Cambridge English: Business Certificates (BEC) and BULATS are assessments set in a business context that test use of English in practical, everyday situations.

Exams	CEFR level	Exam description
Cambridge English: Business Certificates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BEC Preliminary: B1 BEC Vantage: B2 BEC Higher: C1 	<p>Qualifications for professionals who want to work in an international business environment. Learners will learn to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> understand routine letters, make notes, follow basic presentations and advise clients on simple matters in Cambridge English: Business Preliminary understand the general meaning of reports, write non-routine letters and present arguments in Cambridge English: Business Vantage Deal with unpredictable questions, argue a business case and write business reports in Cambridge English: Business Higher.
BULATS	A1-C2	<p>BULATS’ modular format allows testing of all four skills (reading, writing, speaking and listening) in a business context and scores are reported at the appropriate CEFR level. The BULATS Preparation Courses support learners with their study and test preparation. They are available in two formats: online (self-study) and blended learning (online and classroom).</p>

Diagnostics tests.

Cambridge English Placement Test and Cambridge English Placement Test for Young Learners are used to place learners on the right courses, in the right classes or enter them for the right exams.

Exams	CEFR level	Test description

Cambridge English Placement Test	A1-C2	A computer-adaptive test with automatic marking and instant results. Assesses reading and listening skills. It can be used with candidates of any level. ^[9]
Cambridge English Placement Test for Young Learners	Pre-level A1-A2	A computer-adaptive test with automatic marking and instant results. Assesses reading, writing and listening skills. Uses Cambridge English: Young Learner task types and questions. ^[10]

Teaching qualifications.

Exams	Teaching level on the Cambridge English Teaching Framework	Who is it for	Course delivery
CELTA (Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)	Foundation/Developing	CELTA is an initial teaching qualification for new teachers or people teaching without a formal teaching qualification.	Full-time/part-time. Face-to-face course or online course with face-to-face teaching practice.
CELT-P (Certificate in English Language Teaching – Primary)	Foundation/Developing	Schools or governments who want to support the development of their English language teachers working in primary schools (ages 4–11).	Online modular course with optional face-to-face elements. Assessed through an exam and teaching practice.
CELT-S (Certificate in English Language Teaching – Primary)	Foundation/Developing	Schools or governments who want to support the development of their English language teachers working in secondary schools (ages 12–19).	Online modular course with optional face-to-face elements. Assessed through an exam and teaching practice.
Language for Teaching	Foundation/Developing/Proficient	Schools or governments who want to support their English language teachers to improve their English to reach CEFR levels A2, B1 or B2.	Online learning with optional face-to-face elements.

TKT (Teaching Knowledge Test)	Foundation/Developing	New teachers and existing teachers who want their EFL teaching knowledge formally recognized with an international qualification.	Exams with a flexible modular format.
ICELT (In-service Certificate in English Language Teaching)	Developing/Proficient	Existing teachers who want to develop their English teaching skills and knowledge while they work.	Part-time face-to-face course with teaching practice and distance learning support.
Delta (Diploma in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)	Proficient/Expert	Experienced teachers looking to update their teaching knowledge, improve their practice and seek career progression. It is the same level as a master's degree or a professional diploma in the UK.	Flexible modular format combining coursework and exams. Distance learning support, local tutoring and assessed teaching practice.
Certificate in EMI Skills (English as a medium of instruction)	Proficient/Expert	Academic staff working in English-taught higher education whose first language is not English.	Online learning with optional face-to-face sessions.
Train the Trainer	Proficient/Expert	Experienced teachers who want to train other teachers for the CELT-P, CELT-S or Language for Teaching courses.	Part-time face-to-face course.