

Cambridge English First

Ready for success in study, work and life



Brief exam guide *for exams from 2015*



CAMBRIDGE ENGLISH
Language Assessment
Part of the University of Cambridge

Show you are ready for success in study, work and life

Cambridge English: First uses real-life situations designed to help you communicate more effectively and learn the skills to take you to your next level of success.

Gain real-life skills for work and study

The exam shows you can:

- **study** in English at foundation or pathway level
- **work** in an English-speaking environment
- **live** independently in an English-speaking country.

Get a certificate that is accepted globally

The exam is accepted as an upper-intermediate qualification in English by thousands of universities, colleges and employers around the world.

Use the exam for visa applications

As well as using your certificate for university applications worldwide, you can also use it for your student visa application to the UK and Ireland.

To view the full list of institutions who accept the exam visit www.cambridgeenglish.org/recognition

Ready for success in study, work and life

- Develop real-life English skills for work and study
- Prove you can use everyday written and spoken English at an upper-intermediate level
- Show you are ready to work or study in an English-speaking environment
- Gain a valuable qualification that is accepted worldwide

15,000

organisations worldwide trust

Cambridge English exams

Register now

You can take the exam on paper or on computer.

STEP 1 - Test your level

See if *Cambridge English: First* is the right exam for you - take our free online test at www.cambridgeenglish.org/testyourenglish

STEP 2 - Contact your local exam centre

Your local centre can give you details of dates, costs, how to prepare and how to register for an exam. Find your nearest centre at www.cambridgeenglish.org/centresearch

STEP 3 - Get started on your preparation

Find a wide range of support, including official Cambridge English preparation materials, at www.cambridgeenglish.org/first

What level is the exam?

The exam focuses on Level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) – an upper-intermediate level of English.

What's in the exam?

The exam is designed to be fair to people of all nationalities and linguistic backgrounds and is supported by a dedicated research programme.

It covers all four language skills (Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking) and knowledge of grammar and vocabulary.

Reading and Use of English: 1 hour 15 minutes	Shows you can understand texts from publications such as books, newspapers and magazines.
Writing: 1 hour 20 minutes	Shows you can write different text types, such as an essay, report or a letter.
Listening: 40 minutes	Shows you can follow a range of spoken materials, such as news and everyday conversations.
Speaking: 14 minutes	Shows you can communicate effectively in face-to-face situations. You take the test with one or two other candidates.

The Reading and Use of English paper is worth 40% of the marks, and each of the other papers is worth 20%.

Download sample papers at
www.cambridgeenglish.org/first



www.cambridgeenglish.org/first



“ *My university recommended I take Cambridge English: First.*

Preparing for the exam gave me the confidence and language skills to travel internationally, and get a job at a prestigious biopharmaceutical laboratory. ”

Anais Legent
*Cambridge English: First certificate holder
and Research Associate at Kymab Ltd.*



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Cambridge English Language Assessment – a not-for-profit organisation.