

International Exams: FCE, CAE, CPE

First Certificate in English (FCE), is an English language examination provided by Cambridge English Language Assessment. It is an upper-intermediate, international English language qualification that focuses on Level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

The logo for the First Certificate in English (FCE) exam, featuring the letters 'FCE' in a large, bold, orange sans-serif font.

First Certificate in English

level **B2** in the CEFR

History

- Introduced in 1939, the Lower Certificate in English (LCE) was the second English language exam developed for speakers of other languages by Cambridge Assessment. The exam was divided into 3 sections:
 1. Oral (Dictation, Reading Aloud, and Conversation)
 2. English Composition and Language (2 hours for a free composition on a choice of subjects and various tests on the correct use of simple English)
 3. Prescribed Texts (2 hours on Dickens, Swift, Shaw and/or the Oxford English Course book)

In **1975**, driven by evolving principles of communicative language teaching and testing, LCE was revised and **renamed** as the First Certificate in English (FCE).

1996 -FCE covered a greater range of writing, listening and speaking micro-skills.

2015-the main changes are: the overall exam is now 30

Target audience- The FCE is strongly recommended for anyone who plans to work in international business or to study and/or work overseas.

Recognition- Cambridge English exams are recognized by over 20,000 universities, employers and governments around the world.

Some of the leading organizations that already accept this exams include Sony, Bayer, University of Warwick, Australian Government Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) and American Express.

CAE- Certificate in advanced English is an international English language examination developed by Cambridge English Language Assessment. It is targeted at Level C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages and can be used for study, work and immigration purposes.

**Cambridge English
Advanced**

History

Cambridge English: Advanced was originally introduced in 1991 and is a high-level qualification that is officially recognised by universities, employers and governments around the world. It proves that a candidate has a high level of English for use in academic or professional setting

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

Target audience- Cambridge English: Advanced is typically taken by high achievers who want to show they can:

1. follow an academic course at university level
2. communicate effectively at managerial and professional level
3. participate with confidence in workplace meetings or academic tutorials and seminars
4. carry out complex and challenging research
5. stand out and differentiate themselves

Recognition-Cambridge English: Advanced is accepted by more than 6,000 organizations, employers and governments around the world as being a reliable, accurate and fair test of English. This includes universities and colleges in the UK, USA, Canada, Australia, Europe and beyond.

Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE)-
It is the most advanced qualification offered
by Cambridge English Language Assessment
and has been developed to show
achievement of an extremely high level of
English.



History

The Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) was first introduced in 1913 'for Foreign Students who desire a satisfactory proof of their knowledge of the language with a view to teaching it in foreign schools. The exam took 12 hours and cost £3 and was open only for candidates aged 20 or over. The exam was divided into two sections: written and oral.

By 1926 the length of the exam had been reduced to 11 hours and the translation paper included Italian and Spanish options.

In 1930 a special literature paper for foreign students was provided for the first time. The 1930 essay topics were more general and suitable for a variety of candidates:

The topic that is most discussed in your country at the present time.

- Fascism
- The best month in the year
- Good companions
- Any English writer of the twentieth century.

Candidature began to rise, from 66 candidates in 1933 to 752 candidates in 1939.

In 2017, Cambridge English: Proficiency celebrated its 104th

Target audience- Learners use this qualification to study post-graduate courses, lead high-level research projects and academic seminars and communicate effectively at upper managerial and board level in international business.

Many higher education institutions accept Cambridge English: Proficiency for admission purposes. This includes Universities based in:

- Australia (e.g. Australian National University)
- Russian Federation (e.g. Plekhanov Russian University of Economics)
- United Kingdom (e.g. University of Cambridge)
- United States of America (e.g. Brown

Recognition and purpose- Cambridge English exams are recognized by over 20,000 universities, employers and governments around the world.

Some of the leading organizations that already accept our exams include Sony, Bayer, University of Warwick, Australian Government Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) and American Express.

Structure

- **Reading and Use of English**

7 parts (text with gaps, word formation, rewriting sentences, text with multiple choice questions, text with missing paragraphs).

- **Writing** – 2 parts (an essay, an article/a letter/a report/a review).

- **Listening**– 4 parts (recordings with multiple choice questions, passages with gapped text, matching).

- **Speaking** – 3 parts (interview, normally with another candidate)

	FCE	CAE	CPE	Percentage of the mark
Reading & Use of English	75 min	90 min	90 min	40%
Writing	80 min	90 min	120 min	20%
Listening	40 min	40 min	40 min	20%
Speaking	15 min	15 min	15 min	20%

Scoring

FCE

Grade	Cambridge English Scale Score (140–190)	CEFR Level
A	180–190	C1
B	173–179	B2
C	160–172	B2
CEFR Level B1	140–159	B1

CAE

Grade	Cambridge English Scale Score (160–210)	CEFR Level
A	200–210	C2
B	193–199	C1
C	180–192	C1
CEFR Level B2	160–179	B2

CPE

Grade	Cambridge English Scale Score (180–230)	CEFR Level
A	220–230	C2
B	213–219	C2
C	200–212	C2
CEFR Level C1	180–199	C1

Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)

C2

C1

B2

B1

A2

A1



Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)

C2

C1

B2

B1

A2

A1



Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)

C2

C1

B2

B1

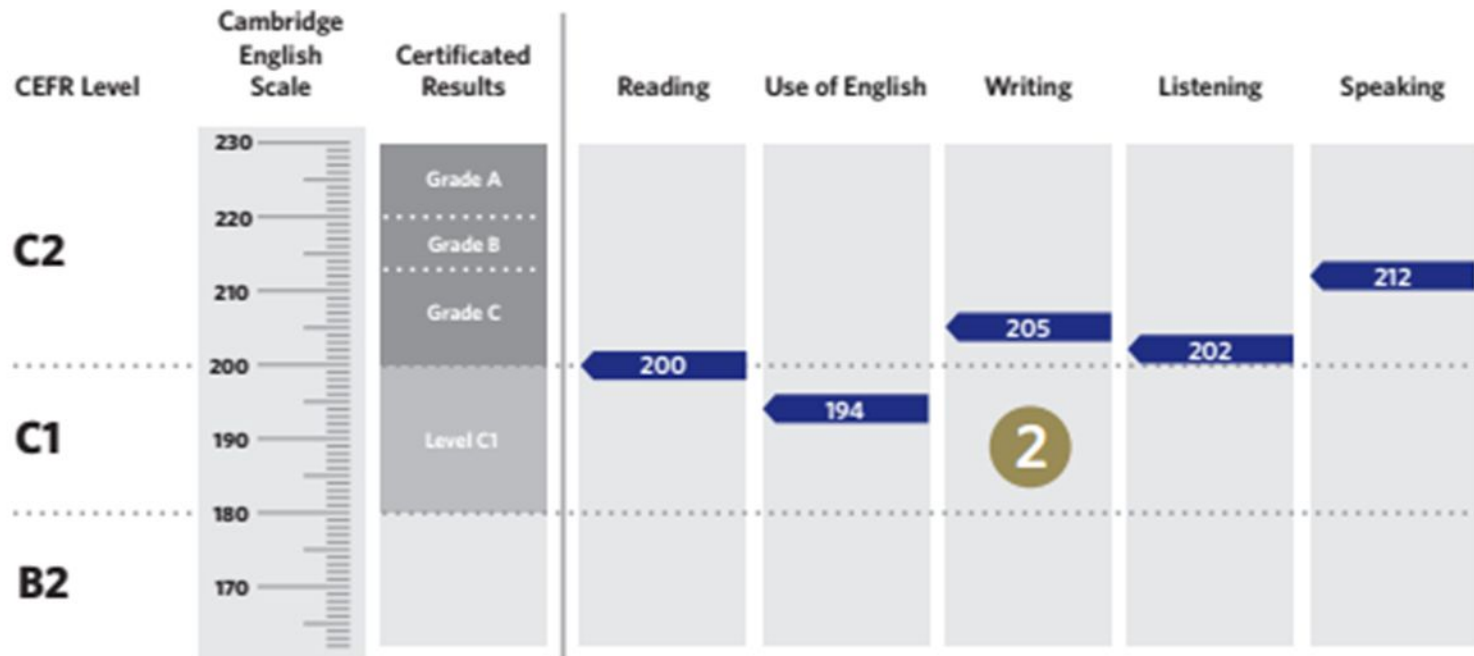
A2

A1

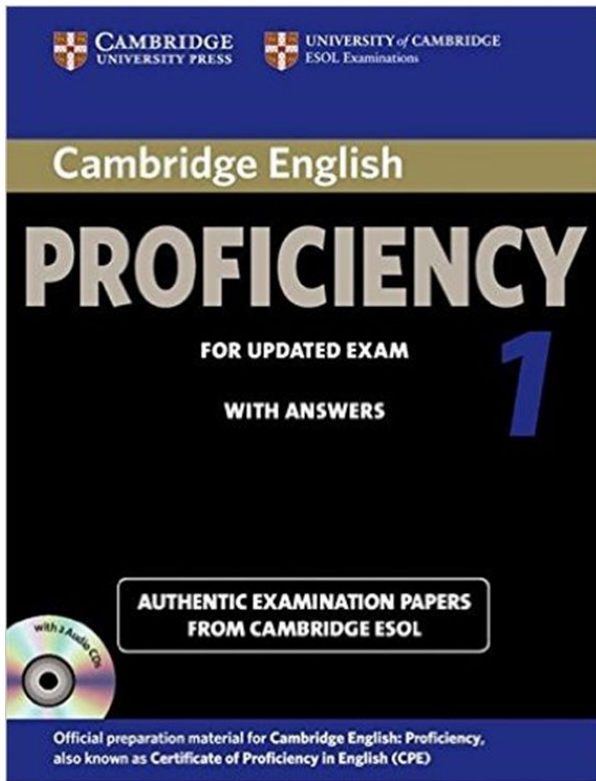


Statement of Results

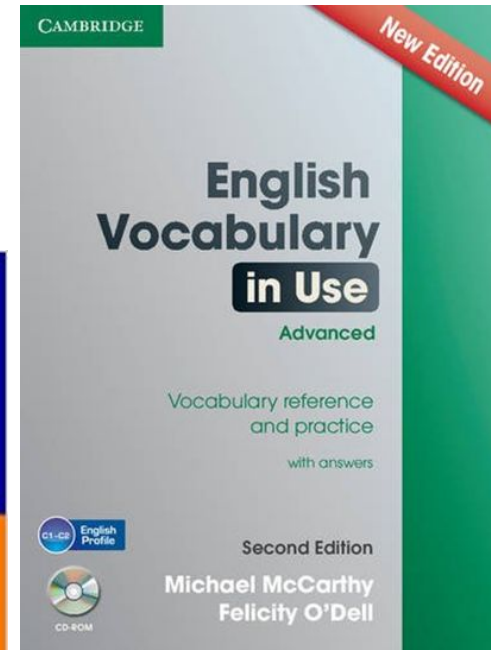
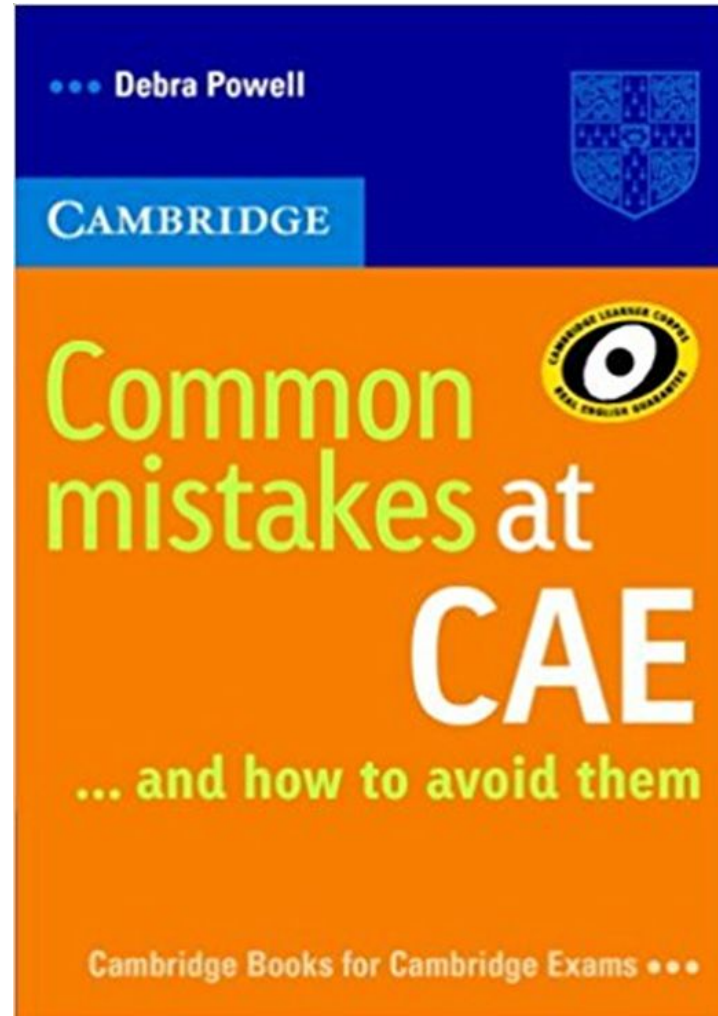
Result	Overall Score	CEFR Level
Pass at Grade C	203 1	C2



- Paper-based or computer-based exams.
- Fees are set by test centres (around 150 euros).
- FCE, CAE, CPE results/certificates do not have an expiry date.
- An online Statement of Results is available to candidates four to six weeks after the paper-based exam and two weeks after the computer-based exam; a certificate – within three months of the paper based exam and within six



Preparation for the Exams



- exam centres;
- free preparation materials on the Cambridge English Language Assessment website;
- preparation materials