



UNIVERSITY *of* CAMBRIDGE
ESOL Examinations

Cambridge English **First** *for Schools*

First Certificate in English (FCE) for Schools
CEFR Level B2

Ready for success in the real world

Cambridge English: First for Schools

Cambridge English: First, commonly known as *First Certificate in English (FCE)*, is a popular upper-intermediate English exam.

It shows that a learner is becoming skilled in English and has the abilities to:

- start working in an English speaking environment
- study at an upper-intermediate level – such as foundation or pathway courses

This exam is now available in a new version, with exam content and topics specifically targeted at the interests and experience of **school-aged learners**.

www.CambridgeESOL.org/FirstForSchools

The same exam – but for school-aged learners

- follows exactly the same format and level as *Cambridge English: First*
- leads to exactly the same internationally recognised Cambridge English certificate as *Cambridge English: First*
- follows on from the successful *Cambridge English: Preliminary for Schools*, commonly known as *Preliminary English Test for Schools (PET for Schools)*
- is recognised around the world by higher education institutions, businesses and government bodies as proof of a learner's language abilities

For a full list of the organisations that officially recognise *Cambridge English: First*, search our online database at:

www.CambridgeESOL.org/Recognition



Cambridge English: First for Schools –
Ready for success in the real world

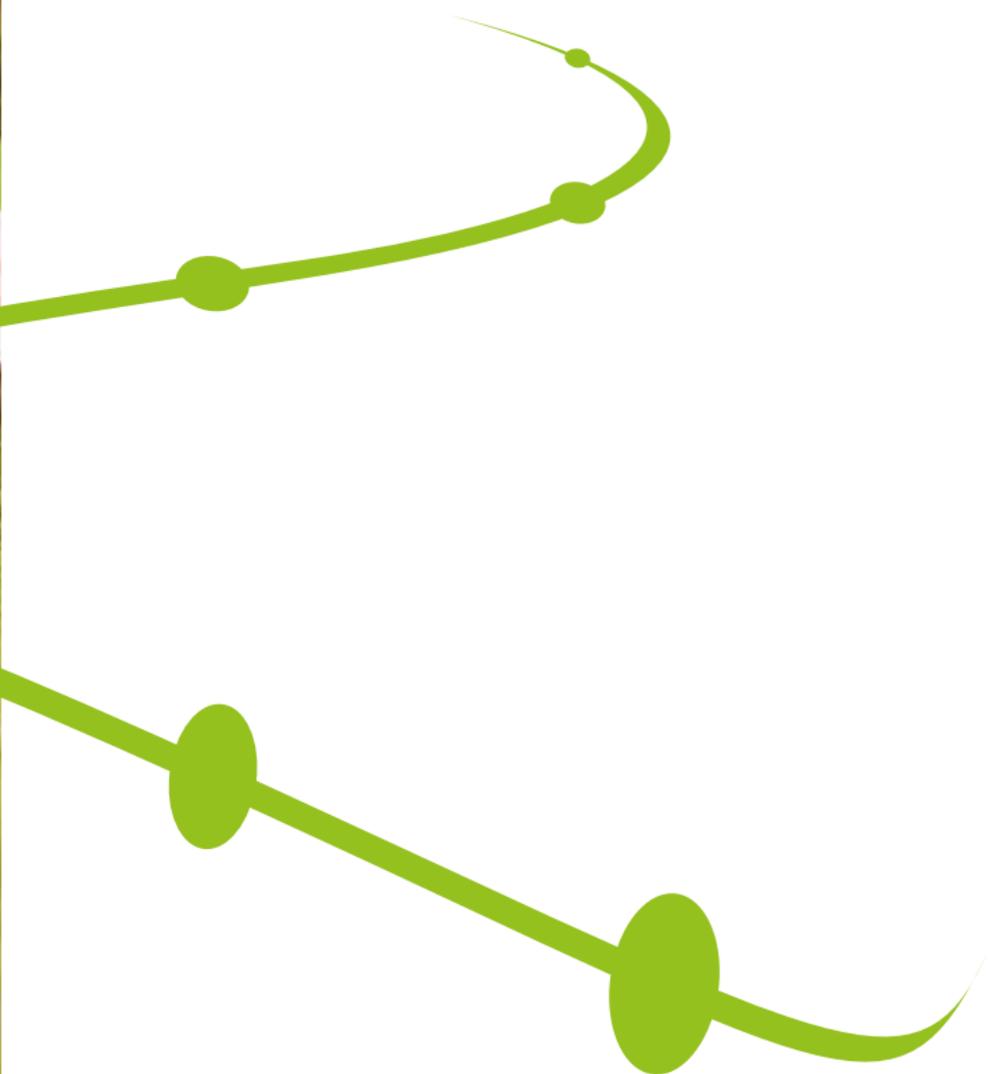


Real-life language skills for work and study

Cambridge English: First for Schools is developed in accordance with the approaches and principles of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) – the internationally recognised system for describing language ability.

The exam is set at Level B2 – at this level learners can use language independently for working and studying at an upper-intermediate level. At Level B2, learners can be expected to:

- keep up a conversation on a fairly wide range of topics
- make notes while someone is talking, or write a letter including non-standard requests
- express opinions and give reasons
- answer predictable or factual questions.



The exam format

Cambridge English: First for Schools has five papers – each carries 20% of the total marks.

Reading: 1 hour

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 students such as magazines, articles, reports, fiction and advertisements but targeted at the interests of students.

Writing: 1 hour 20 minutes

Students are required to produce two pieces of writing. The first piece is compulsory and will be a letter or an email of between 120-150 words. For the second, they may choose from an article, an essay, a letter, a report, a review, or a short story of between 120-180 words.

Use of English: 45 minutes

Students' use of English will be tested by tasks which show how well they can control their grammar and vocabulary.

Listening: 40 minutes

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 students.

Speaking: 15 minutes

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

Download sample papers

www.candidates.CambridgeESOL.org

More than just a certificate

Successful *Cambridge English: First for Schools* exam takers receive a certificate indicating the language level they have demonstrated:

- Grade A
- Grade B
- Grade C

The certificate is the same as that achieved by taking the standard version of *Cambridge English: First*. It is accredited by Ofqual, the regulator of qualifications, examinations and assessments in England.

In addition to a certificate, the exam takers also receive a statement of results.

This outlines their grade in the exam, their score indicated as a number between 0-100, and a profile indicating performance on each paper. This information is helpful for candidates and their teachers in understanding the learner's strengths and weaknesses.



Quick, easy certificate verification

Organisations that accept Cambridge English exams for recruitment or admissions purposes can verify certificates quickly and easily with our secure online Results Verification Service.

verification.CambridgeESOLonline.org

Cambridge English: First for Schools –
An internationally recognised certificate
within the reach of younger learners



Cambridge English for Schools

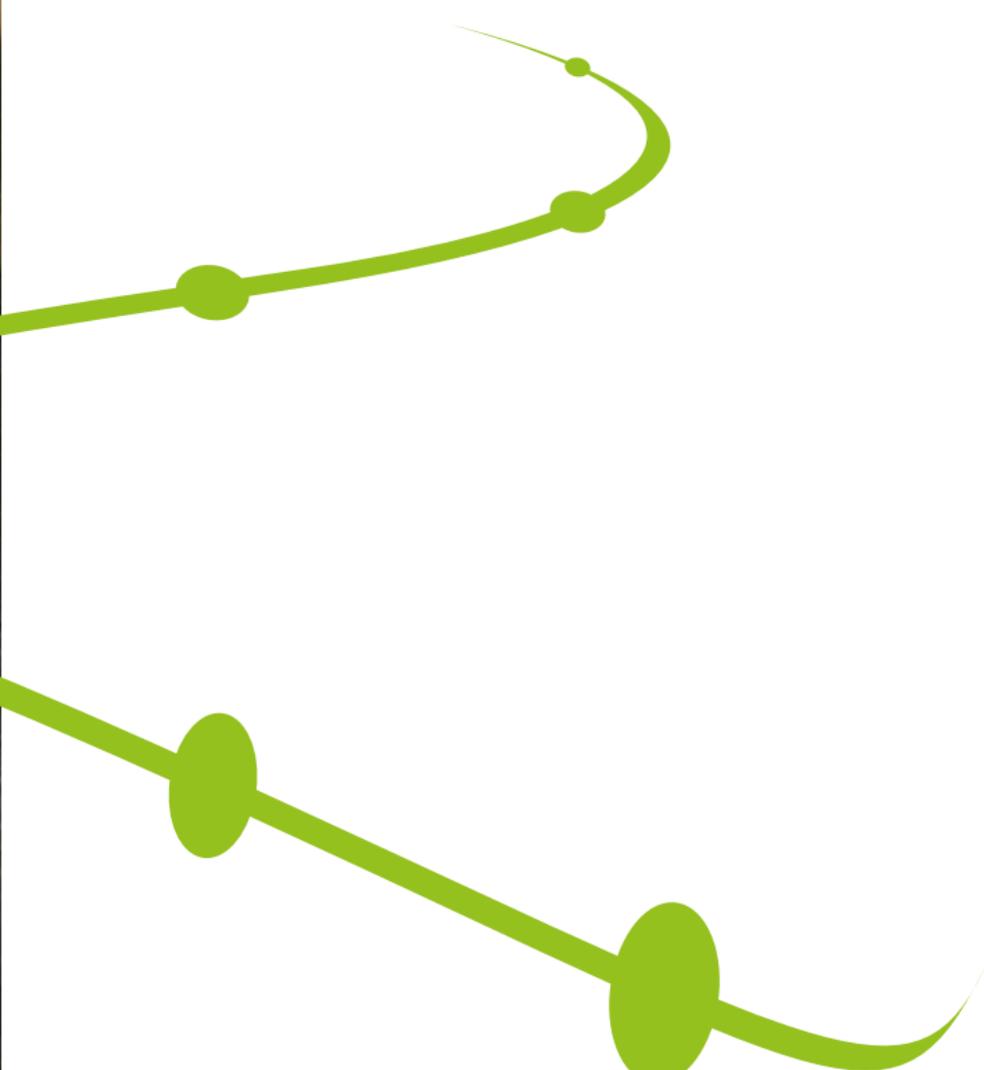
Cambridge ESOL offers even the youngest learners the chance to learn real language skills in a way that is enjoyable and encourages progress.

Cambridge English: First for Schools (Level B2)

Cambridge English: Preliminary for Schools (Level B1)
Preliminary English Test for Schools (PET for Schools)

Cambridge English: Key for Schools (Level A2)
Key English Test for Schools (KET for Schools)

Cambridge Young Learners English (YLE) (up to Level A2)





What's next?

Step 1

Contact your child's school or language teacher to find out about:

- how to register your child
- exam dates
- practice materials
- preparation courses.

Alternatively, you may wish to contact your local Cambridge ESOL exam centre. Find a centre near you at: **www.CambridgeESOL.org/Centres**

Step 2

Access a wide range of support and preparation tips at **www.candidates.CambridgeESOL.org**

Cambridge ESOL is here to help students every step of the way. They can download sample papers and other resources to help them in their exam preparation. Many international publishers have also produced a variety of books and materials to support *Cambridge English: First* and *Cambridge English: First for Schools*.

Step 3

Take the test!

Once a student has decided to take *Cambridge English: First for Schools*, they are taking an important step towards improving their English language skills.

Step 4

Pass the exam!

Successful students can further develop their skills by taking one of our Level C1 qualifications:

- *Cambridge English: Advanced*
www.CambridgeESOL.org/Advanced
- *Business English Certificate: Higher (BEC Higher)*
www.CambridgeESOL.org/BEC

Cambridge English

noun /'keɪm.brɪdʒ 'ɪŋ.gəlɪʃ/

- An international language including the world's major varieties of English
- English that is understood and used globally for business, study and everyday living
- The English spoken in the real world - not just the classroom
- The most valuable range of English qualifications in the world

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Cambridge English: First for Schools is developed by Cambridge ESOL - one of three major exam boards which form the Cambridge Assessment Group (Cambridge Assessment). Cambridge Assessment, a not-for-profit department of the University of Cambridge, assesses more than 8 million people in 150 countries every year.

www.CambridgeESOL.org/FirstForSchools

