

Cambridge English: First for Schools 1

WITH ANSWERS

*Official examination papers
from University of Cambridge
ESOL Examinations*



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Introduction

This collection of four complete practice tests comprises papers from the *Cambridge English: First for Schools* examination; students can practise these tests on their own or with the help of a teacher.

The *Cambridge English: First for Schools* examination is part of a suite of general English examinations produced by Cambridge ESOL. This suite consists of five examinations that have similar characteristics but are designed for different levels of English language ability. Within the five levels, *Cambridge English: First for Schools* is at Level B2 in the Council of Europe's *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, teaching, assessment*. It has also been accredited by the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual) in the UK as a Level 1 ESOL certificate in the National Qualifications Framework. *The Cambridge English: First for Schools* examination is widely recognised in commerce and industry and in individual university faculties and other educational institutions.

Examination	Council of Europe Framework Level	UK National Qualifications Framework Level
Cambridge English: Proficiency <i>Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE)</i>	C2	3
Cambridge English: Advanced <i>Certificate in Advanced English (CAE)</i>	C1	2
Cambridge English: First for Schools <i>First Certificate in English (FCE) for Schools</i>	B2	1
Cambridge English: Preliminary <i>Preliminary English Test (PET)</i>	B1	Entry 3
Cambridge English: Key <i>Key English Test (KET)</i>	A2	Entry 2

Cambridge English: First for Schools follows exactly the same format as *Cambridge English: First* and the level of the question papers is identical. The only difference is that the content and treatment of topics in *Cambridge English: First for Schools* have been particularly targeted at the interest and experience of school pupils. *Cambridge English: First for Schools* candidates who achieve Grade C or higher in the exam, receive a *Cambridge English: First* certificate.

Further information

The information contained in this practice book is designed to be an overview of the exam. For a full description of all of the above exams, including information about task types, testing focus and preparation, please see the relevant handbooks which can be obtained from Cambridge ESOL at the address below or from the website at: www.CambridgeESOL.org

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The structure of *Cambridge English: First for Schools*: an overview

The *Cambridge English: First for Schools* examination consists of five papers.

Paper 1 Reading 1 hour

This paper consists of **three parts**, each containing a text and some questions. Part 3 may contain two or more shorter related texts. There are **30 questions** in total, including multiple-choice, gapped-text and multiple-matching questions.

Paper 2 Writing 1 hour 20 minutes

This paper consists of **two parts** which carry equal marks. In Part 1, which is **compulsory**, candidates have to write either a letter or an email of between 120 and 150 words. In Part 2, there are four tasks from which candidates **choose one** to write about. The range of tasks from which questions may be drawn includes an article, an essay, a letter, a report, a review and a short story. The last question is based on the set books. These books remain on the list for two years. Look on the website or contact the Cambridge ESOL Local Secretary in your area for the up-to-date list of set books. The question on the set books has two options, from which candidates **choose one** to write about. In this part, candidates have to write between 120 and 180 words.

Paper 3 Use of English 45 minutes

This paper consists of **four parts** and tests control of English grammar and vocabulary. There are **42 questions** in total. The tasks include gap-filling exercises, word formation and sentence transformation.

Paper 4 Listening 40 minutes (approximately)

This paper consists of **four parts**. Each part contains a recorded text or texts and some questions, including multiple-choice, sentence completion and multiple-matching. Each text is heard twice. There is a total of **30 questions**.

Paper 5 Speaking 14 minutes

This paper consists of **four parts**. The standard test format is two candidates and two examiners. One examiner takes part in the conversation while the other examiner listens. Both examiners give marks. Candidates will be given photographs and other visual and written material to look at and talk about. Sometimes candidates will talk with the other candidate, sometimes with the examiner, and sometimes with both.

Introduction

Grading

The overall grade is based on the total score gained in all five papers. Each paper is weighted to 40 marks. Therefore, the five papers total 200 marks after weighting. It is not necessary to achieve a satisfactory level in all five papers in order to pass the examination. Certificates are given to candidates who pass the examination with grade A, B or C. Exceptional candidates sometimes show a level beyond B2 level. If you have achieved a grade A in your exam, you will receive the *Cambridge English: First* stating that you demonstrated ability at Level C1. If you have achieved grade B or C in your exam, you will be awarded the *Cambridge English: First* at Level B2. If your performance is below Level B2, but falls within Level B1, you will receive a Cambridge English certificate stating that you demonstrated ability at B1 level. On the back of your certificate you find additional information about your exam and Can Do statements for CEFR Levels C1, B2 and B1. All candidates are sent a Statement of Results which includes a graphical profile of their performance in each paper and shows their relative performance in each one.

For further information on grading and results, go to the website (see page 5).