Exam day tips: paper-based exams
(Not including Pre A1 Starters, A1 Movers and A2 Flyers)

Before the exam

Register for the Online Results Service using your Candidate ID and Candidate Reference Number from your Confirmation of Entry.

Check the date, time and address of your exam. Your centre will send you this information.

Check with your centre if there is food or drink available at the venue or nearby. You may need to bring your own refreshments.

Find out how to get to the venue and ensure you arrive before the start time of the exam. Follow the directions to the exam room or ask at reception.

You cannot bring your mobile phone/electronic items inside the exam room. Your centre will tell you if they can store your electronic items securely. If they can't, you should consider leaving your electronic items at home.

If you have any questions, contact your centre before the exam day.

What to bring to the exam

Bring your identification (ID), for example a passport or national ID card. It must be the original document with your photo and it must be valid on the day of your exam.

Bring pens (black or dark blue), pencils (B or HB) and erasers. Your centre will give you extra pens and pencils if you need them.

Do not bring food or drink to your desk in the exam room (apart from a clear plastic bottle of water).

You cannot have your personal belongings at your desk or keep your mobile phone/electronic items inside the exam room.

Please check with your exam centre regarding their Covid-19 guidelines and the measures they have put in place for you to take your exam.

On the exam day

Your centre will tell you where to put your personal belongings and mobile phone/electronic items. You are not allowed to access these including during breaks until after the last written component has ended. There will be a clock or timer in the exam room.

Your centre will take your photo on the test day for B2 First, C1 Advanced and C2 Proficiency exams and in some cases will note your passport or ID number in our systems. These steps are very important if you want to use your result for immigration or higher education purposes in future. If you are taking C1 Advanced in Asia, Australasia or Africa your centre must upload a test day photo or you will not receive a result.

Listen carefully to the instructions which the invigilator will read out and make sure you follow the instructions on your screen. If you have any questions, need help or want to leave the room, raise your hand to ask for help.

Do not talk to other people, or try to see what they are writing.

For your Listening test, raise your hand immediately if you cannot hear the recording.

Stop writing immediately when the invigilator tells you.

Give all papers to the invigilator, including question papers, answer sheets, notes, etc.

Stay in your seat until the invigilator tells you to leave the room.

If you have any questions or problems, tell the invigilator immediately.

Remember you will not be able to access your mobile phone/electronic items during the breaks.

If you have registered for the Online Results Service, we will email you when your result is available.

Good luck with your exam!