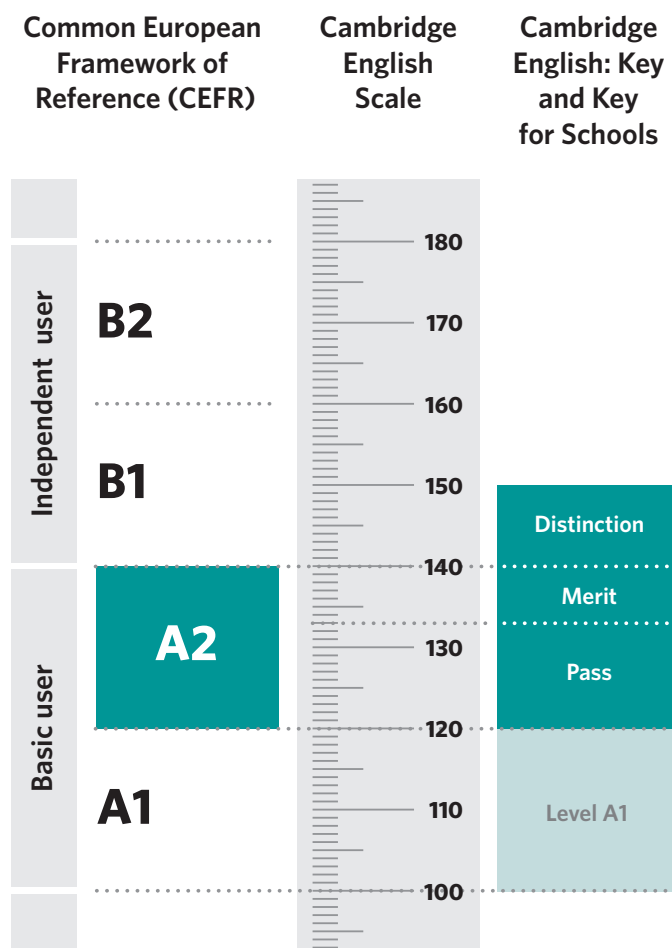


Cambridge English

The Cambridge English Scale explained

A guide to converting *Cambridge English: Key* and *Key for Schools* practice test scores to Cambridge English Scale scores



Cambridge English: Key and *Key for Schools* are now reporting results on the Cambridge English Scale. For these exams, candidates receive an individual score for each of the three papers - Reading and Writing, Listening and Speaking. In the live exams, the Reading and Writing paper tests two skills, so the score is doubled. The overall score is calculated by adding all of the individual scores together and dividing by four (and then rounding to the nearest whole number). A candidate's grade and CEFR level are based on their performance across the whole test, and there is no requirement to achieve a minimum score in each paper.

The following tables can be used as guidance to help you convert practice test scores to Cambridge English Scale scores.

Please note that these only apply when using official Cambridge practice tests.

The conversion tables are intended to help you provide an indication of your students' readiness to take the relevant exam. The scores you provide may not always reflect the results the students may achieve in a Cambridge English live exam. They should not be used to try to predict precise scores in the live exam, but can be a useful diagnostic tool, indicating areas of relative strength and weakness.

The scores needed on any given test to achieve the scores on the Cambridge English Scale shown in the tables below will vary due to a number of factors, so borderline scores need to be reviewed carefully. The borderline is approximately three Cambridge English scale score points above and below the score needed to achieve the level, e.g. 117-123 for Level A2. Students who achieve only slightly higher than the Cambridge English Scale score for a given level on a practice test may not achieve that level in the live exam, and we recommend that they continue working to improve so that they reach the desired level.



Cambridge English Key

Cambridge English Key for Schools

Reading and Writing

The Reading and Writing paper consists of 9 parts. Correct answers in Parts 1–8 are worth 1 mark each and Part 9 is worth 5 marks. There are 60 possible marks in the Reading and Writing paper.

Practice test score	Cambridge English Scale score	CEFR Level
55	140	Level B1
40	120	Level A2
25	100	Level A1
13	82*	-

*minimum score reported for Key

Listening

Correct answers in the Listening paper are worth 1 mark each. There are 25 possible marks in the Listening paper.

Practice test score	Cambridge English Scale score	CEFR Level
23	140	Level B1
17	120	Level A2
11	100	Level A1
6	82*	-

*minimum score reported for Key

Speaking

Candidates take the test in pairs, but are assessed on their individual performance by trained examiners certificated to examine at the level. Candidate speaking performances are assessed using scales which are linked to the Common European Framework of Reference. The assessor gives 0–5 marks for each of the following criteria: Grammar and Vocabulary; Pronunciation; and Interactive Communication. Marks for each of these criteria are doubled. The interlocutor gives a mark of 0–5 for Global Achievement. This mark is then multiplied by three. Examiners may award half marks. Marks for all criteria are then combined, meaning there are 45 marks available in the Speaking test.

Practice test score	Cambridge English Scale score	CEFR Level
41	140	Level B1
27	120	Level A2
18	100	Level A1
10	82*	-

*minimum score reported for Key