

Prepare for exam success: C1 Advanced self-access learning

Reading and Use of English Part 6 (cross text multiple-matching)

Summary

In this lesson you will:

- Review the format of Part 6 of the Reading and Use of English paper.
- Complete a guided exam task.
- Practise strategies for guessing meaning from context.
- Create a SMART study plan.

Top tip: Read! Read! Read!

One of the most effective ways to build vocabulary and improve your reading skills (including your reading speed) is to read widely and often in English. Below are some suggested free online resources that include reviews and opinion pieces with a more formal tone similar to those in Reading and Use of English Part 6.

Try to read one article every day! Independent reading is an excellent opportunity to practise the reading and test strategies explained in this lesson, and will help you to improve your ability to read quickly for the main idea, read for detail to pick out writers' opinions, and to manage unfamiliar vocabulary.

- **1843 magazine** – free magazine from The Economist
- **Sight and Sound magazine** – film reviews
- **The Literary Review** – book reviews
- **New Scientist** – articles on science, technology and the environment
- **The Guardian** newspaper
- **The Independent** newspaper
- **BBC News**

Start with the Facts: Reading and Use of English Part 6

1. Circle the best option to complete these statements. The first one has been done for you.

- ✓ The C1 Advanced Reading and Use of English Paper is **90 / 120** minutes.
- ✓ The C1 Advanced Reading and Use of English Paper has **6 / 8** parts in total.
- ✓ Part 6 consists of four short texts, on **a related / a different** theme.
- ✓ The texts in Reading Part 6 are **academic / informal** in tone.
- ✓ In total, there are **4 / 6** questions.
- ✓ Candidates must **read carefully / read quickly** across texts to match statements about the writers' **opinions** and **attitudes** with the correct text.
- ✓ It's **possible / not possible** to match a text more than once. ¹

Check your answers in the at the end of this document.

¹ Adapted from **C1 Advanced Handbook for Teachers**

Prepare: Introduction to the lesson

In this lesson, you will be guided through a Part 6 exam task step-by-step with four test strategies for you to try. The example task in this lesson requires you to read four different reviews of the same book. So, let's start by thinking about reading and book choices.

Imagine you are choosing a book to take on holiday. Make notes on your ideas in your notebook.

1. How do you decide what you want to read? Do you:
 - a. read book reviews?
 - b. ask for recommendations from friends?
2. What kind of books do you prefer to read?
3. Make a list of as many genres of books as you can e.g. thrillers ...

Bonus task: Why not practise your writing with this bonus task. Write a short blog and review a book you have read. Imagine the people who might read your blog, and recommend the best strategies for choosing a good holiday read. Give examples of successful and disappointing book choices that you have made.

Now let's turn our attention to Reading Part 6 and consider the first steps in how you might approach it.

Test strategy 1: Identify the task and topic

Top Exam Tip! Always start by reading the question and the headings

The question and the heading include useful information about the topic of the text. Knowing what a text is about before you start reading can help you understand it better. It is also important to read the instructions to each task carefully. The exam includes many different task types, so it is better not to assume you know what to do.

1. Read the instructions below to the Part 6 task. What additional information do you learn about the topic of the book that is being reviewed?
2. Underline or make a note in your notebook of the two instructions for completing the task.

Part 6

You are going to read four reviews of a book about how architecture can affect the emotions. For questions 1 – 4 choose from the reviews A – D. The reviews may be chosen more than once.

3. Reading Part 6 texts are on a related theme. Text types include reviews or extracts from academic journals. Reread the Part 6 instructions. What type of text will you read here? Make a note of anything you think you might know about the topic in your notebook, and that you think could appear in the text.

The Architecture of HappinessFour reviewers comment on philosopher Alain De Botton's book²**Test strategy 2: Read quickly****Top tip! Just read quickly the first time.**

This reading strategy is useful for Part 6 of the Reading Paper as it gives you a general understanding of whether each writer's attitude to the topic is generally positive, negative or neutral.

This also means that when you go back and look for more specific opinions, you already have some knowledge of the text and they will be easier to find.

1. Read this review of Alain de Botton's book. In this example, you can see the phrases that give the reviewer's opinions and attitudes have all been underlined. In your opinion, are these phrases positive, negative or neutral?

The Architecture of Happiness

Four reviewers comment on philosopher Alain De Botton's book

A

Alain de Botton is a brave and highly intelligent writer who writes about complex subjects, clarifying the arcane for the layman. Now, with typical self-assurance, he has turned to the subject of architecture. The essential theme of his book is how architecture influences mood and behaviour. It is not about the specifically architectural characteristics of space and design, but much more about the emotions that architecture inspires in the users of buildings. Yet architects do not normally talk nowadays very much about emotion and beauty. They talk about design and function. De Botton's message, then, is fairly simple but worthwhile precisely because it is simple, readable and timely. His commendable aim is to encourage architects and society more generally, to pay more attention to the psychological consequences of design in architecture: architecture should be treated as something that affects all our lives, our happiness and well-being.

2. Now look at the rest of the **Practice Exam task TEXT: The Architecture of Happiness** in the practice materials at the end of the lesson. Follow the steps below for reviewers **B, C and D**.

- ✓ Read the texts quickly – don't spend more than 2 to 3 minutes on this.
- ✓ Underline words and phrases in each text that gives the writer's opinion in each text.
- ✓ Reflect on the words and phrases you have underlined and decide whether the reviewers' attitudes are positive or negative.

Test strategy 3: Underline key words in the questions

1. Now look at the **Practice Exam task QUESTIONS: The Architecture of Happiness**. For each of the 4 questions consider:

² The full practice test, from which this question is taken, is available on the **Cambridge English website**

- Should I be looking for a similar opinion or a different one?
- What opinion am I looking for?
- Who am I comparing with?

Underline the key words that give you the answers to each of these questions. The first one has been done for you in the example below:

Need help? Example

Which reviewer

1. has a a) different opinion from c) the others on b) the confidence with which b) de Botton discusses architecture?

- Should I be looking for a similar opinion or a different one?
a different one
- What opinion am I looking for?
how confident does the writer think de Botton is when he discusses architecture
- Who am I comparing with?
I need to compare all 4 texts to find the odd one out

Now repeat the steps for Questions 2 to 4 below.

Practice Exam task QUESTIONS: The Architecture of Happiness

Which reviewer

- has a different opinion from the others on the confidence with which de Botton discusses architecture?
- shares reviewer A's opinion about whether architects should take note of de Botton's ideas?
- expresses a similar view to reviewer B regarding the extent to which architects share de Botton's concerns?
- has a different view to reviewer C on the originality of some of de Botton's ideas?

Test strategy 4: Identify the writers' opinions in each text

Top tip! Read the texts VERY carefully

The texts are complex and the writers often express mixed opinions on the topic in each text, so it is easy to miss important points if you only read the texts for gist.

- ✓ Use a wide context in the text to help you find answers. Do not read narrowly or just a few lines

- before and after the point where you find your answer.
- ✓ Use paraphrasing of ideas rather than individual words in the questions to help you identify the answer in the text.
 - ✓ Check that your selected answer fully answers the question and not only in part.

 - ⊗ Don't use your world knowledge or personal opinions to answer the questions.
 - ⊗ Don't select an answer after reading only one or two of the texts. ³

Independent reading – Read! Read! Read!

Choose an article that interested you from one of the recommended websites at the start of the lesson. As you read, look for and highlight the writer's opinions in the text. What are your thoughts? Do you agree or disagree? Are you surprised? You could take this idea a step further with a study partner.

Study partner

- Find an article you think looks interesting.
- Ask a friend who is at around your level, perhaps with similar interests to you, to read it as well.
- Read, and then discuss the opinions expressed by the writer in the text.
- You can discuss ideas using video conferencing tools such as Skype, Zoom or Teams, where you can share your screen and look at the article together.
- This is not only a great opportunity to develop your reading skills but also to practise your speaking.

Now let's go back to the exam question and work through **Question 1** in steps.

Which reviewer:

1. has a different opinion from the other on the confidence with which de Botton discusses architecture?

1. Look at the **Practice Exam task TEXT: The Architecture of Happiness** again.
2. Underline the opinions expressed by each writer in each text about the confidence with which de Botton discusses architecture.
3. Use your answers from the **Test Strategy 3** exercise to help you.

Need more help?

Look at the opinions about de Botton's confidence from texts A – D below. Which of these opinions do you think is *different* from the others? Why?

³ Adapted from **C1 Advanced FAQs**

Text A Now, with typical **self-assurance**, he has turned to the subject of architecture.

Text B **Yet one is left with the feeling** that he **needed the help and support** of earlier authors on the subject to walk him across the daunting threshold of architecture itself.

Text C ... making **bold** and amusing judgements about architecture

Text D ... he **makes the most of this theme** on his jolly trip through the world of architecture. De Botton certainly **writes with conviction**

It can help to make notes with your ideas in your notebook, for example:

- The odd one out is ___ because [write your reason]
- It can't be ___; ___; and ___ because [write your reason]

You should now have your answer for Question 1. You can check your answer in the Answer Key to the Practice Exam Task once you have completed all 4 questions.

First, think about how you approached this task. What did you find difficult? How helpful were the test strategies?

Before we move on to answer Questions 2 to 4, let's look at some ways to deal with a common difficulty: unknown vocabulary.

Vocabulary 1: Dealing with unknown vocabulary

It's not always possible to guess all of the meanings of unknown words or phrases in a text but it is often possible to work out some information about them e.g. part of speech (nouns, verbs, adjectives etc.) or connotation (is the word positive or negative).

1. Look at the following sentences from Text A.

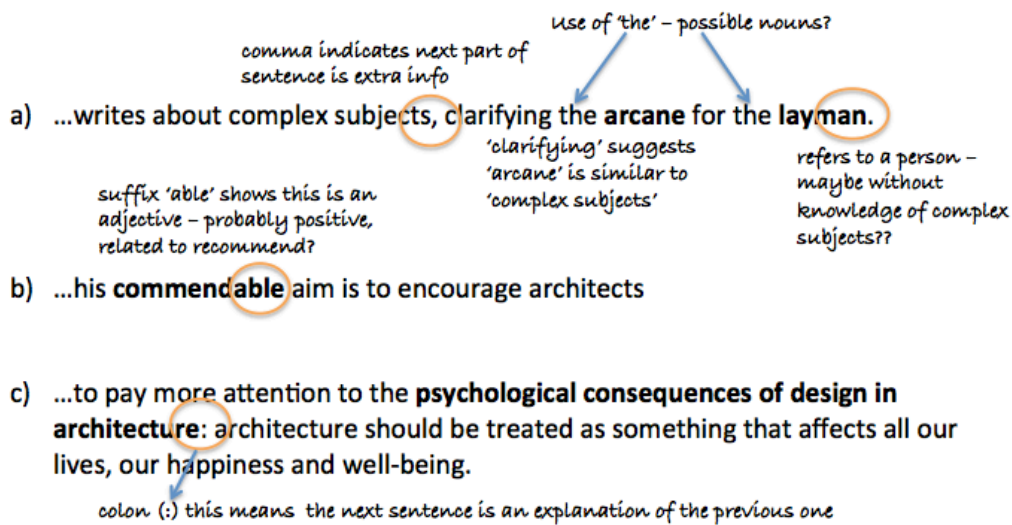
- a) ...writes about complex subjects, clarifying the **arcane** for the **layman**.
- b) ...his **commendable** aim is to encourage architects
- c) ...to pay more attention to the **psychological consequences of design in architecture**: architecture should be treated as something that affects all our lives, our happiness and well-being.

2. How much you can understand about the words in bold in sentences a), b) and c). Don't look them up in a dictionary yet! Try the following strategies:

- Guess the **part of speech** (noun, verb, adjective etc.) of individual words by looking at the position of the word in the sentence and the words immediately surrounding it.

- Check for **common prefixes or suffixes** – these often reveal information about the meaning or part of speech of a word. You can find a list of the most common prefixes **here** and suffixes **here**.
- Look for any clues to meaning in the surrounding words and phrases – in particular look for **linking words or punctuation** that indicate **contrasts, comparisons, examples or explanations**.
- Is the **connotation** positive or negative? You may need to refer back to what you learned about the writer's general attitude to help you.

Need help? The notes below show a student's thought process as they worked out the examples. Did you have any of the same ideas?



Top tip: Independent reading is a great opportunity to practise dealing with unknown words

The more regularly you read, the more exposure you have to new and interesting words and phrases to explore, record and practise. This will be a great help in your speaking and writing where you can demonstrate how much language you know and can use.

Select and read an article from one of the websites recommended at the start of the lesson. Underline a selection of unfamiliar words and phrases. Before checking the dictionary, try and work out the meaning using the strategies described in **Vocabulary 1**.

Test strategy 5: Match the answers to the questions

1. Now answer the remaining questions 2 to 4. Remember to use the strategies above:

- look at the words you underlined in the question
- underline the relevant parts of each text
- choose the text A – D that matches best

d) guess the meaning of unknown words.

2. Allow yourself about 10 minutes to complete these questions. Do not use a dictionary. Check your answers in the Answer Key to the practice exam task at the end of this document.

Practice Exam task QUESTIONS: The Architecture of Happiness

Read the four reviews on the next page and answer the following questions.

Which reviewer:

1. has a different opinion from the others on the confidence with which de Botton discusses architecture?
2. shares reviewer A's opinion about whether architects should take note of de Botton's ideas?
3. expresses a similar view to reviewer B regarding the extent to which architects share de Botton's concerns?
4. has a different view to reviewer C on the originality of some of de Botton's ideas? ⁴

⁴ The full practice test from which this extract is taken is available on the **Cambridge English website**

Practice Exam task TEXT: The Architecture of Happiness

The Architecture of Happiness

Four reviewers comment on philosopher Alain De Botton's book

A
Alain de Botton is a brave and highly intelligent writer who writes about complex subjects, clarifying the arcane for the layman. Now, with typical self-assurance, he has turned to the subject of architecture. The essential theme of his book is how architecture influences mood and behaviour. It is not about the specifically architectural characteristics of space and design, but much more about the emotions that architecture inspires in the users of buildings. Yet architects do not normally talk nowadays very much about emotion and beauty. They talk about design and function. De Botton's message, then, is fairly simple but worthwhile precisely because it is simple, readable and timely. His commendable aim is to encourage architects, and society more generally, to pay more attention to the psychological consequences of design in architecture: architecture should be treated as something that affects all our lives, our happiness and well-being.

B
Alain de Botton raises important, previously unasked, questions concerning the quest for beauty in architecture, or its rejection or denial. Yet one is left with the feeling that he needed the help and support of earlier authors on the subject to walk him across the daunting threshold of architecture itself. And he is given to making extraordinary claims: 'Architecture is perplexing ... in how inconsistent is its capacity to generate the happiness on which its claim to our attention is founded.' If architecture's capacity to generate happiness is inconsistent, this might be because happiness has rarely been something architects think about. De Botton never once discusses the importance of such dull, yet determining, matters as finance or planning laws, much less inventions such as the lift or reinforced concrete. He appears to believe that architects are still masters of their art, when increasingly they are cogs in a global machine for building in which beauty, and how de Botton feels about it, are increasingly beside the point.

C
In *The Architecture of Happiness*, Alain de Botton has a great time making bold and amusing judgements about architecture, with lavish and imaginative references, but anyone in search of privileged insights into the substance of building design should be warned that he is not looking at drain schedules or pipe runs. He worries away, as many architects do, at how inert material things can convey meaning and alter consciousness. Although he is a rigorous thinker, most of de Botton's revelations, such as the contradictions in Le Corbusier's theory and practice, are not particularly new. However, this is an engaging and intelligent book on architecture and something everyone, professionals within the field in particular, should read.

D
Do we want our buildings merely to shelter us, or do we also want them to speak to us? Can the right sort of architecture even improve our character? Music mirrors the dynamics of our emotional lives. Mightn't architecture work the same way? De Botton thinks so, and in *The Architecture of Happiness* he makes the most of this theme on his jolly trip through the world of architecture. De Botton certainly writes with conviction and, while focusing on happiness can be a lovely way to make sense of architectural beauty, it probably won't be of much help in resolving conflicts of taste.

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⁵ The full practice test from which this extract is taken is available on the **Cambridge English website**

Reflect 1: review your answers**Answer Key to Test Strategies 2 and 3**

1. First look carefully at the underlined information in the questions. Did you underline the same things?

Answer Key Test Strategy 2: Underline key words in the questions

Which reviewer

1. has a different opinion from the others on the confidence with which de Botton discusses architecture?
2. shares reviewer A's opinion about whether architects should take note of de Botton's ideas?
3. expresses a similar view to reviewer B regarding the extent to which architects share de Botton's concerns?
4. has a different view to reviewer C on the originality of some of de Botton's ideas?

2. Now check the extracts from the texts highlighted below. These are the key parts of the text that will help you answer the question.

Answer Key Test Strategy 3: Identify the opinions in each text

Question 2: opinions on whether architects should take note of de Botton's ideas:

- A. His commendable aim **is to encourage architects**, and society more generally, **to pay more attention** to the psychological consequences of design in architecture
- B. He appears to believe that architects are still masters of their art, when increasingly they are cogs in a global machine for building in which beauty, and how de Botton feels about it, are increasingly **beside the point**.
- C. something everyone, **professionals within the field** in particular, **should read**.
- D. not mentioned

Question 3: opinions on the extent to which architects share de Botton's concerns:

- A. **Yet architects do not normally talk nowadays very much about emotion and beauty.** They talk about design and function.
- B. this might be because **happiness has rarely been something architects think about.**
- C. **He worries away, as many architects do,** at how inert material things can convey meaning and alter consciousness.
- D. not mentioned

Question 4: opinions on the originality of de Botton's ideas:

- A. not mentioned
- B. Alain de Botton raises important, **previously unasked,** questions
- C. most of de Botton's revelations, such as the contradictions in Le Corbusier's theory and practice, **are not particularly new.**
- D. not mentioned

Answer Key to Practice Exam task: The Architecture of Happiness

When preparing for an exam, it's important not only to know which answers are correct and which are incorrect, but also **why** they are correct or incorrect.

For each item below, check your answers and take some notes on **why** the answers below are correct.

#	Answer	Why is this correct?
1	B	
2	C	
3	A	
4	B	

Reflect 2: Make an Action Plan for further study

Top tip! Make a S.M.A.R.T. action plan

Making an action plan is a good way to manage your study time and keep yourself motivated. S.M.A.R.T. stands for:

Specific: it isn't enough to say 'I will read more' – **what** will you read, **when** and **how often**?

Measurable: can you track how you have improved or what you have learned?

Achievable: how much time do you have for study? What resources are available to you?

Relevant: reflect on what you found difficult in this lesson – what do you need to focus on to improve?

Time-based: set yourself deadlines e.g. I will read 3 articles online and do one practice exam task by [date].

1. Use the template below to write your S.M.A.R.T. Action Plan.

I need to work on...	I will...	By [date]
<p>Example: Learning vocabulary about topics I am less familiar with</p>	<p>Use the links in this lesson to find articles about science topics e.g. Physics and Space. Read one article each day. Write 5 new words from each article in my notebook.</p>	<p>Read 5 articles by the end of this week.</p>

Bonus task

Practice the strategies we have covered in this lesson by trying the additional practice activity on the following page.

Check your answers in the Key at the end of this document.

The environment**Exam task****1**

You are going to read four extracts from articles in which experts give their views on banning single-use plastic products such as shopping bags and drinks bottles. For questions 1–4, choose from the experts A–D. The experts may be chosen more than once.

Which expert

- shares B's views regarding how easy it would be to implement any ban or restrictions? **1**
- has a different view to the others about adding charges to the prices of single-use plastic products? **2**
- shares A's views on the environmental impact of imposing a ban? **3**
- expresses a different view to D about the economic effects of introducing a ban? **4**

Banning single-use plastic products**A Doran Yusef**

There has been little debate as to whether it actually makes ecological sense to ban single-use plastic products. I find this troublesome, given that the paper and glass, which would presumably replace the plastic used in bags and bottles respectively, use more energy than plastic in their production, therefore contributing more to global warming. Changing the material that these products are created from will have minimal financial impact, as income and employment losses in plastics and packaging would be absorbed into the manufacturing of whichever material takes its place. Costs imposed on consumers at the point of sale for plastic bags have been highly successful in reducing how many are used, so now is the moment to enforce these on other items packaged in disposable plastic. Any outright ban may be challenging to police and would have to be instigated gradually, in order to make it workable.

B Hideko Suzuki

Customers have little or no direct control over what packaging a company sells its products in. It's therefore unfair to inflict additional expenses on buyers for decisions made by the producer. Along similar lines, if shops want to sell their goods, they should provide and pay for the means of carrying it home. I think the financial implications of a ban on the products are more far-reaching than anyone has predicted. You can't just remove an entire industry from a nation and expect no repercussions. What's driving the call for a ban, of course, are the catastrophic consequences to the planet of avoiding this issue. I wholeheartedly go along with the view that it needs to be addressed, but perhaps not so quickly that we end up creating more problems than we solve. These sorts of transitions take time, especially as the regulation of such a ban is likely to be extraordinarily complex.

C Radislav Kovac

The majority of those calling for stopping short of a ban on throwaway plastics claim that it would be

absurdly complicated to introduce and supervise. I would beg to differ. Is it really such an effort to visit a supermarket to see which manufacturers still use plastic packaging, and whether customers are being provided with plastic bags? There's no reason why they should be, as schemes worldwide whereby customers pay for these have been immensely effective and should now encompass other single-use products. Having said that, although plastic is undoubtedly a major pollutant, it would be wrong to completely ignore the likely impact of producing other more energy-intensive materials that might replace it. However, I believe these would be the lesser of two evils. Also, although the focus has largely been on packaging and bags, there needs to be a widening of the net to include other everyday items like drinking straws.

D Joanna Muller

Even though sustainable industries are relatively new, there are already sufficient examples where any reductions in revenue caused by the termination of a more traditional product are in effect cancelled out by the success of its replacement. That said, imposing an immediate ban on plastic bags may well be a step too far especially if it were too sudden for consumers to cope with. However, I'm all for an obligatory raising of prices worldwide for products sold in environmentally-unfriendly packaging, in effect an extension of the highly fruitful policy of making plastic bags prohibitively expensive. This pricing strategy has been generally straightforward to monitor and oversee, as spot checks on retailers can quickly establish whether or not any legislation is being followed. Another case for gradually implementing controls is that replacing plastics, which create physical pollution, with materials that produce excessive harmful emissions during their manufacture doesn't currently make sense. Greener alternatives need to be found.

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Answer key**Start with the Facts: Reading and Use of English Part 6 – Exercise 1**

- ✓ The C1 Advanced Reading and Use of English Paper is **90** minutes.
- ✓ It has **8** parts in total.
- ✓ Part 6 consists of four short texts, on a **related** theme.
- ✓ The texts in Reading Part 6 are **academic** in tone.
- ✓ In total, there are **4** questions.
- ✓ Candidates must **read carefully** across texts to match statements about the writers' **opinions** and **attitudes** with the correct text.
- ✓ It's **possible** to match a text more than once.

Bonus Task

1. A 2. B 3. D 4. B