

Pretesting Calendar 2025

Practice with a Pretest

Pretesting is a free service offered by Cambridge English where students can practise for exams using real Cambridge English materials.

Procedure

To request pretests please contact the Pretesting Team with an estimate of the number of pretests required, via the online request form located at cambridgeenglish.org/pretesting. The username is `esolpretester` and the password is `practice`. The deadlines for requesting pretests with fixed session windows can be found in the Session Windows table. On demand pretests* must be requested four weeks before the date you wish to participate.

We try to accommodate all requests but cannot guarantee to send the full number of all components you request, especially if the number is large. Please note if we are able to satisfy a large request, you may receive different versions of the same component; this means that for Listening tests you cannot conduct the pretest for all candidates in the same room simultaneously. Requests will be confirmed approximately one month before the start date of the session window.

Timing of pretests

The Pretesting Papers table shows the usual length of time for each paper, in minutes. You must also allow 20 minutes at each administration for the standard 'Anchor test' (writing tests do not require Anchor tests).

Score return times

Raw scores for each pretest candidate are sent back to institutions by email within three weeks of our receiving the completed pretests. Writing papers are sent to examiners for individual comments, and scores are returned to institutions within four weeks of receipt of the papers. You may administer the pretests at any time within the window, but please note that the earlier you send back the completed pretests, the sooner you will receive the scores.

Contacts

For more information about pretesting, please visit cambridgeenglish.org/about-pretesting or contact us at Pretesting@CambridgeEnglish.org.

For any IELTS related queries please contact IELTSPretesting@CambridgeEnglish.org.

2025 Session Windows:

Cambridge English Qualifications, Mainsuite – A2 Key/Key for Schools (KET/KETfS), B1 Preliminary/Preliminary for Schools (PET/PETfS), B2 First/First for Schools (FCE/FCEfS), C1 Advanced (CAE), C2 Proficiency (CPE)			
Session	Requests Open	Requests Close	Session Dates
February	9th September 2024	13th December 2024	3rd February – 28th February 2025
March - April	28th October 2024	24th January 2025	10th March – 18th April 2025
May	30th December 2024	14th March 2025	5th May – 23rd May 2025
August - September	14th April 2025	20th June 2025	4th August – 19th September 2025
October	9th June 2025	15th August 2025	29th September – 24th October 2025
November	7th July 2025	19th September 2025	3rd November – 14th November 2025

*The following exams are available on demand, meaning they can be requested at almost any time of year: TKT Modules 1–3, TKT Young Learners and TKT CLIL; A2 Key, A2 Key for Schools, B1 Preliminary and B1 Preliminary for Schools

Cambridge English Qualifications Digital for young learners

Pretesting sessions for Cambridge English Qualifications Digital for young learners Pretests for Pre A1 Starters Digital and A1 Movers Digital will be running in 2025. We will be in touch with all centres when requests for these sessions have opened.

Pretesting Papers:

Paper	Approximate length in minutes			
	Reading	Listening	Writing	Other
A2 Key/Key for Schools	50–55	35	n/a	n/a
B1 Preliminary/Preliminary for Schools	50	35	n/a	n/a
B2 First/First for Schools	75 (Reading and Use of English)	45	n/a	n/a
C1 Advanced	50–60	40	45	40–45 (Use of English)
C2 Proficiency	40 (Parts (1–4)) 60 (Parts (5–7))	40	n/a	n/a
TKT (Modules 1–3, Young Learners and CLIL)	n/a	n/a	n/a	70 (All papers)

Sessions and on demand
 Sessions only
 On demand only