



**Cambridge Assessment  
English**

**Discover our  
qualifications, training  
and support for schools**



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**We are Cambridge Assessment English. Part of the University of Cambridge, we help millions of people learn English and prove their skills to the world. For us, learning English is more than just exams and grades. It's about having the confidence to communicate and access a lifetime of enriching experiences and opportunities.**



# For every learner, every step of the way

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Working with Cambridge Assessment English means access to a comprehensive range of exams and support. With the right support, learning a language is an exhilarating journey.



Our in-depth exams, Cambridge English Qualifications, support students to develop their language skills and improve their English step by step. Each of these qualifications targets a particular level of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) and provides a clear focus for study programmes. The topics and tasks in the exams are designed to reinforce the learning your students do in class, and have a positive impact on teaching and learning.

80%

of learners say that as a result of preparing for their exam, their English has improved

Spain\*

## Better progression

We offer a seamless journey from Pre A1 Starters to C2 Proficiency. As language learning can be a long process, it's important to have regular milestones to aim for – our exams provide focus and pace to keep your students motivated, every step of the way.

## Giving students real-life communication skills

Our exams are based on authentic situations and test all four skills – speaking, writing, reading and listening – so preparing for their exams helps students develop the skills they need inside and outside the classroom. Our exams are full of motivating topics and tasks that make learning enjoyable, effective and rewarding.

## Accepted and valued worldwide

Cambridge English Qualifications are recognised by thousands of universities, employers and governments around the world. They trust our qualifications as secure and reliable proof of English language ability. Our qualifications are a mark of excellence and open doors to higher education and employment opportunities.

## You can rely on our assessments

To make the right decisions for your students, help them progress and prove their skills to the world, you need assessments that are highly accurate and reliable. Developing high-quality assessment is a complex process requiring careful research, checking and trialling. With the largest dedicated research team of its kind, we have unparalleled expertise.

Our qualifications help you to:

- *Develop your students' skills and confidence* – each exam is carefully designed to consolidate the skills developed at the previous level, and lay the foundations for future success.
- *Structure your language-learning curriculum* – we provide a detailed specification of the skills to be mastered at each level, so you have a clear idea of how best to prepare your students.
- *Evaluate your students' progress* – the Cambridge English Scale is used across all our exams to provide feedback on student performance, allowing you to track progress within an individual CEFR level and from one exam to the next. This means you can take action on problem areas and set new learning goals.
- *Help your students prepare for higher level exams* – preparing for our exams, students will develop their study skills and learn how to approach tests with greater confidence.

Each of our exam papers has its own team working on it, and involves the collaboration of up to 500 people. Our focus on quality, and the consistency and comparability of all our exams, is what sets us apart – helping you to give your students the very best support and chance of success.

Assessment helps schools and students to reach the highest standards. Our exams are used by schools around the world to:

- provide an external verification of the progress that students are making
- support the ongoing process of school development, evaluation and improvement
- maintain test standards over time, enabling comparison with students in previous years
- help students prove their skills and gain internationally recognised certification of their achievements
- motivate students by giving them recognised goals to aim for and pride in their achievements
- provide schools, parents and students with an assurance of quality.

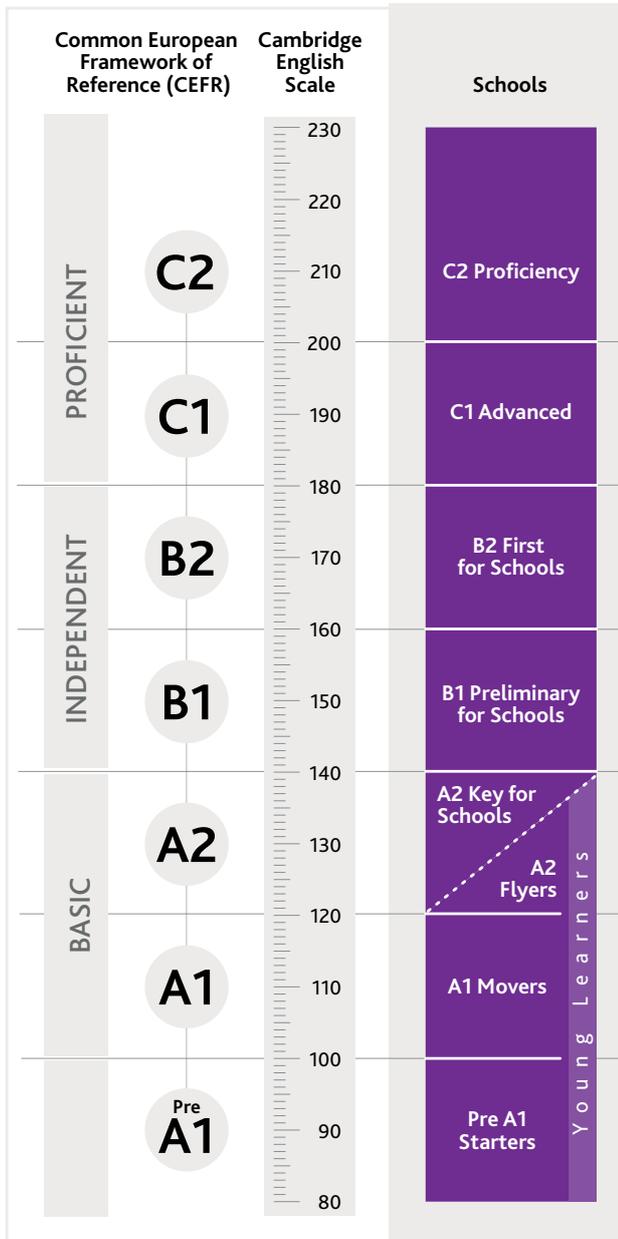
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**“Preparing pupils for Cambridge exams at an early age, with step-by-step progress and in a safe classroom environment, will empower them to succeed in all levels in the future. They soon realise they are able to do it and look forward to preparing for the next exam.”**

**Luciane Calcara**  
English Teacher  
Brazil



# Common European Framework of Reference

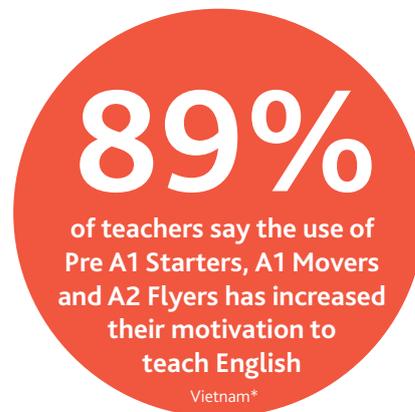


The Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) is the standard used around the world to benchmark language ability.<sup>1</sup>

The CEFR has six levels starting at A1 through to C2. It describes the things that language learners **Can Do** at each level of learning a language, and covers all four key language skills: reading, writing, speaking and listening.

Our international assessments are a reliable and objective way to monitor students' progress and find out their CEFR levels. Our exams informed the original development of the CEFR, and we have been continuously involved in its development and implementation.

See how Cambridge English Qualifications are aligned to the different levels of the CEFR in this table.



\*See full report in *Research Notes* issue 65, February 2017

<sup>1</sup>The CEFR is currently available in 40 different language versions. For more details see: <https://rm.coe.int/16806d8893>



## Case study:

# Cambridge English Qualifications in primary and secondary schools

In Madrid, Cambridge English Qualifications are used by many different schools, both private and government funded. We spoke to Anthony Matthews, a Centre Exams Manager who works closely with many schools in the area, to find out more about their experiences. Here is what he said.

### At which stages in the curriculum are Cambridge English Qualifications used?

Cambridge English Qualifications are used as benchmarks, typically every two years. When the exams were first introduced, most schools used the following curriculum framework:

- Primary Years 1–2: Pre A1 Starters
- Primary Years 3–4: A1 Movers
- Primary Years 5–6: A2 Flyers
- Secondary Year 1: A2 Key
- Secondary Years 2–3: B1 Preliminary
- Secondary Years 4–5: B2 First
- Secondary Years 6–7: C1 Advanced.

### Has there been any change in student achievement?

Students' levels of English have improved significantly as a direct result of introducing Cambridge English Qualifications and the accompanying teaching materials.

Students are making faster progress and reaching each level at earlier ages. For example, in some cases A1 Movers is now studied in Year 2 as well as Year 3, instead of Year 4. A2 Key is typically studied in primary school, rather than secondary school,

and so on. The original curriculum framework is still recognisable, but is no longer the only one.

### What impact have these exams had on student motivation?

It seems clear to me as a teacher that preparation for these exams, from the earliest stages in the curriculum, enhances the efforts of teachers and motivates students to strive harder.

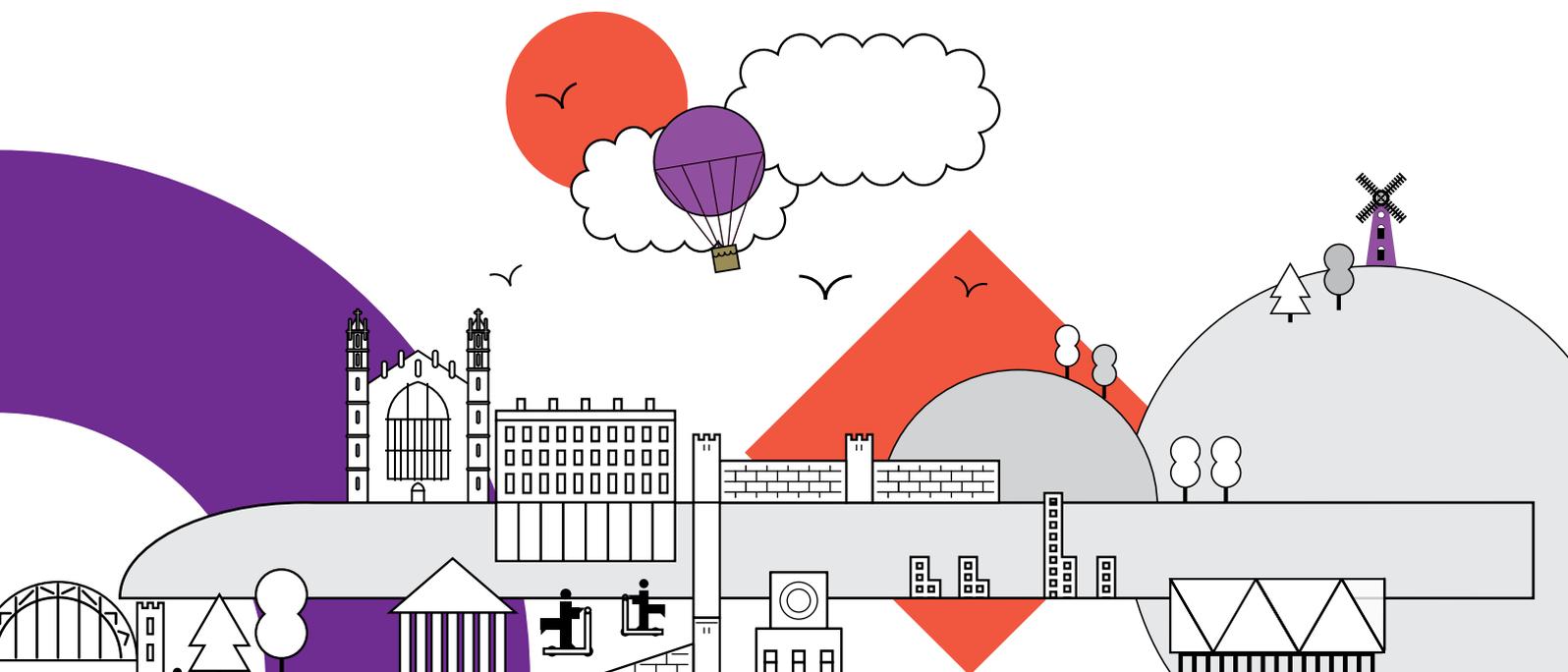
Strong students work harder, at earlier ages, to reach these external milestones. Students who previously struggled suddenly see that they can develop these skills and reach their goals.

We find that students work more enthusiastically and efficiently when they have a goal.

### How easy are the exams to integrate into the curriculum?

The clear structure of the exams makes them very easy for teachers to use. They are really useful for reinforcement. They give a reliable measure of how students are doing, while ensuring they are practising all the skills they will need in the future.

By working with Cambridge English, schools have been able to demonstrate, particularly to parents, that their hard work is producing results for students at all stages in the curriculum.



# Support for teachers and learners

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We have developed a huge variety of learning materials, based on research into how children learn best, so your students can improve their English both inside and outside the classroom.

## Expert support

We can help your teachers keep up to date with the latest developments in English language teaching and learning, and find out everything they need to know about our exams. Our popular seminars and webinars, attended by thousands of teachers worldwide, offer lots of opportunities to ask questions and explore ideas to use in the classroom.

## Official Cambridge English exam preparation materials

We offer a wide range of official support materials, jointly developed by Cambridge Assessment English and Cambridge University Press. This unique working relationship brings together exam expertise, research insights and an extensive history of global publishing.

Many of our English language teaching texts and courses are available in printed format as well as mobile apps and online resources. They are all developed using the Cambridge English Corpus – a multi-billion-word collection of written and spoken English, plus a unique bank of exam candidate papers. This helps students avoid mistakes, and means that the language taught from our materials is useful, natural and fully up to date.

## Classroom resources

Our extensive range of resources help teachers give students the best possible preparation. We provide lesson plans, classroom activities, sample papers and teacher handbooks, and a monthly newsletter full of new tips, activities and exam preparation ideas.

## Information and resources for parents

We also support parents in their child's learning journey by providing activities, tips and advice they can easily use at home, or when they are out and about.

## Online learning activities

Our free activities are used by approximately 10 million learners every year. Activities are divided into levels taken from the CEFR, and help students to practise the skills we test in our exams – reading, writing, listening and speaking.

## Games and quizzes

Our games and quizzes are designed to help students improve their English in a fun way. They are completely free and created by our language-learning experts.

## Social media

Our social media channels have millions of followers and our Facebook pages are one of the world's top 10 in the education category. We have a high level of engagement with our fans and lots of interesting facts, quizzes, activities, games, learning tips and videos.



Teachers can also discover more about teaching with technology with our website: [thedigitalteacher.com](https://www.thedigitalteacher.com)



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**“While preparing for the exams, students can enhance their real-life communication skills. I think that's what makes Cambridge English Qualifications outstanding. Tasks are age appropriate and fun enough for young learners to forget that they are being assessed.”**

**Ji Young Kim**  
English Teacher  
South Korea



Try these resources and discover more at:  
[cambridgeenglish.org/my/learning-english/](https://cambridgeenglish.org/my/learning-english/)  
[cambridgeenglish.org/my/teaching-english/](https://cambridgeenglish.org/my/teaching-english/)

# Teacher training and development

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We support teachers every step of the way, helping them build the skills and confidence they need to teach effectively, and providing qualifications that prove what they can do.

From time spent teaching in the classroom and years spent researching developments in effective pedagogy, our teams bring an unrivalled level of expertise and experience to our work around the world.

## Teaching qualifications

Created by experts in teacher development and assessment, all our qualifications are backed by research and are designed to promote the development of theoretical knowledge and practical skills for a variety of teaching contexts. We also offer language development courses specially designed for teachers, to help them improve their own English language skills for use in the classroom.



Find which teaching qualification is right for your teachers:  
[cambridgeenglish.org/my/teaching-english/](https://cambridgeenglish.org/my/teaching-english/)

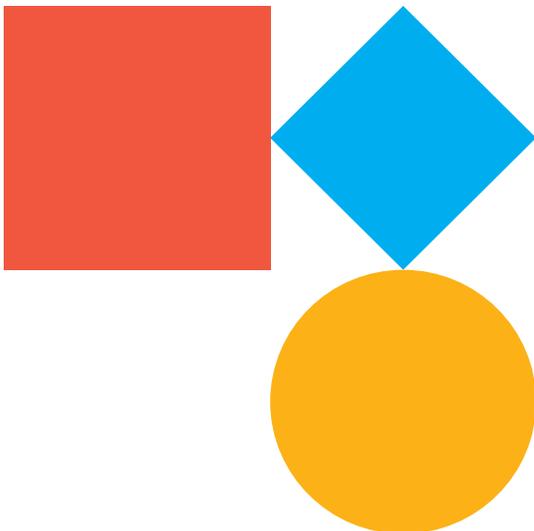
Join Penfriends today:  
[penfriends.cambridgeenglish.org](https://penfriends.cambridgeenglish.org)

## Cambridge English Teaching Framework

Our teaching framework for professional development supports teachers at every stage of their career. By mapping our qualifications and professional development to individual competencies, knowledge and skills, our framework helps establish teachers' current skill levels and provides a clear progression route to get them where they need to be.

## Join our international community

With access to our webinars, seminars and social media channels, your teachers can connect with education professionals from around the world, share ideas and combine expertise. Your school can also join Penfriends, where thousands of schools are already connecting with each other and helping students to practise English together.



**"I believe we have received the best support from Cambridge English – we have learnt a lot. Everything that has been offered is delivered to the highest standard of quality and professionalism."**

Sandra Lee  
Colegio Viktor Frankl  
Mexico

# Working together

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When your teachers prepare and enter students for our exams, your school automatically becomes a Cambridge English preparation centre and joins our global community. We work with over 50,000 preparation centres in more than 130 different countries.

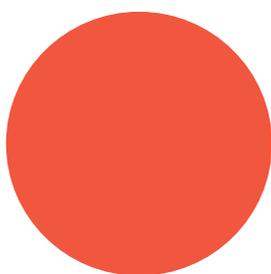
It's easy to start working with us – there are no long registration forms. Simply contact your nearest authorised exam centre. They will give you all the information you need to get started and tell you about the useful resources you can access on our websites.

## What you get from us:

- **teaching and learning materials**
- **exam preparation tips and resources**
- **teacher training and support**
- **opportunities to connect with other professionals around the world**
- **news and updates** – stay up to date with all the latest information, resources and events with our Preparation Centre Newsletter
- **marketing materials for parents and students** – an official certificate to display in your offices, a logo showing you prepare students for Cambridge English Qualifications, videos, presentations and lots of other useful downloads.

## Your exam centre will help you with:

- **exam information** – find out about offering our exams at your school and the exam dates available
- **exam results** – get your students' results faster with our Online Results Service
- **marketing support** – access printed materials to display at your school.



## Next steps

Find your nearest authorised exam centre at:

[cambridgeenglish.org/my/find-a-centre](https://cambridgeenglish.org/my/find-a-centre)

If you need help choosing an authorised exam centre, contact one of our 27 offices around the world:

[cambridgeenglish.org/about/international-offices](https://cambridgeenglish.org/about/international-offices)

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### A few facts and figures about us:

- 5.5 million assessments taken every year
- Accepted by over 20,000 organisations worldwide
- 2,800 exam centres in 130 countries
- Over 50,000 preparation centres
- Providing English language assessment since 1913

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