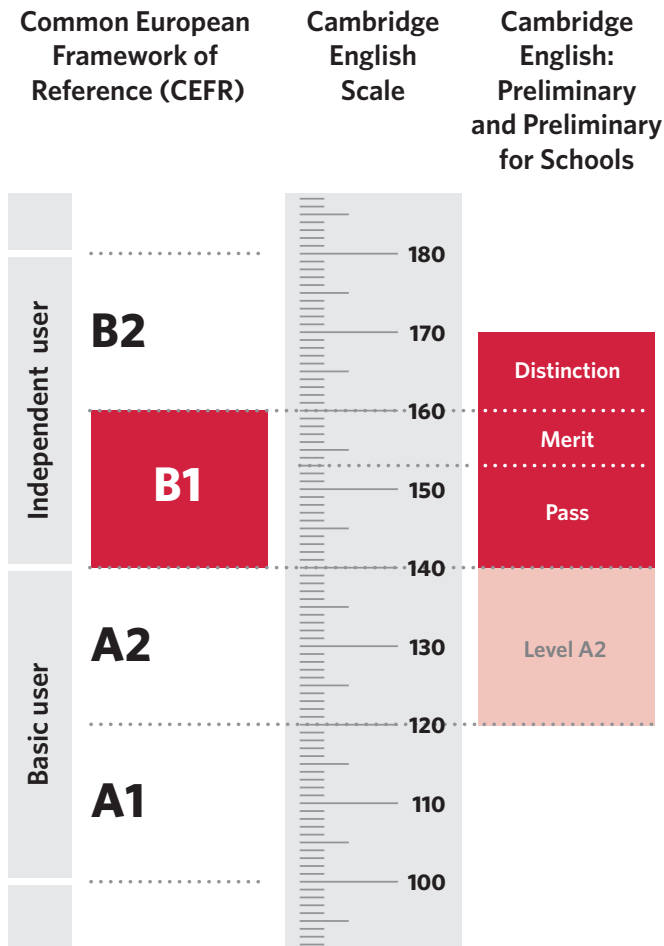


Cambridge English

The Cambridge English Scale explained

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



Cambridge English: Preliminary and *Preliminary for Schools* are now reporting results on the Cambridge English Scale. For these exams, candidates receive an individual score for each of the four skills – reading, writing, listening and speaking. In the live exams, each of the skills are equally weighted, and a candidate's 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. 137-143 for Level B1. 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 Preliminary

Cambridge English Preliminary *for Schools*

Reading

The Reading section consists of Parts 1-5 of the Reading and Writing paper. Correct answers in Parts 1-5 are worth 1 mark each. There are 35 possible marks in the Reading section.

Practice test score	Cambridge English Scale score	CEFR Level
32	160	Level B2
25	140	Level B1
15	120	Level A2
7	102*	-

*minimum score reported for *Preliminary*

Writing

The Writing section consists of Parts 6-8 of the Reading and Writing paper. Candidates' answers in the Writing paper are marked by trained examiners who are certificated to mark at the level. Correct answers in Part 6 are worth 1 mark each. Part 7 is marked using a short answer mark scheme and the total number of possible marks is 5. Part 8 is marked using assessment scales which are linked to the Common European Framework of Reference. 0-5 marks are given for each of the following criteria: Content; Communicative Achievement; Organisation; and Language. Whole marks only are awarded; there are no half marks given. Marks for each of the criteria are combined to give 20 possible marks for this part, weighted to 15. There are 25 possible marks for writing.

Practice test score	Cambridge English Scale score	CEFR Level
23	160	Level B2
17	140	Level B1
11	120	Level A2
6	102*	-

*minimum score reported for *Preliminary*

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	160	Level B2
18	140	Level B1
11	120	Level A2
5	102*	-

*minimum score reported for *Preliminary*

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; Discourse Management; Pronunciation; and Interactive Communication. The interlocutor gives a mark of 0-5 for Global Achievement and this mark is doubled. Examiners may award half marks. Marks for all criteria are then combined, meaning there are 30 marks available in the Speaking test.

Practice test score	Cambridge English Scale score	CEFR Level
27	160	Level B2
18	140	Level B1
12	120	Level A2
7	102*	-

*minimum score reported for *Preliminary*