



# Cambridge Examinations

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You may have enrolled for General English full-time, or you may have selected General English with Business, Academic, or Legal English.

In either case, you may be interested in taking one of the Cambridge English as a Foreign Language Examinations:

**First Certificate in English (FCE)**  
**Certificate in Advanced English (CAE)**  
**Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE)**

If you are interested in sitting an exam but are not sure which one, please read the brief description of the various exams below. You should be able to obtain more information about the exams from the British Council in your country. You can sit FCE, CAE or CPE in Edinburgh in June or December. You can also sit FCE or CAE in March.

## **FIRST CERTIFICATE IN ENGLISH (FCE)**

This exam tests reading, writing, speaking, listening and grammar. It is for students with English of a high intermediate/upper-intermediate standard, who have studied English for 6 or 7 years at school, for example.

## **CERTIFICATE IN ADVANCED ENGLISH (CAE)**

This exam also tests reading, writing, speaking, listening and grammar. CAE is much more difficult than FCE and requires a high level of competence in English. It is recognised by some British Universities as indicating a sufficient level of English to embark on a degree course. The format is similar to that of FCE.

## **CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH (CPE)**

CPE is much more difficult than CAE - it is an exam for students at a very advanced level. It is recognised as indicating a sufficient level of English to study at a British University, and in a number of countries is accepted as indicating a sufficient level of English to be a teacher.

It also tests reading, writing, speaking, listening and grammar, and candidates can be tested on their knowledge of a set book in the oral and composition papers if they so request. The set books are usually modern works of fiction.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

All students take a written and oral placement test on arrival here at the Institute. We place students in classes according to the results, whether or not they wish to enrol for an exam. An **exam skills class** runs **from week 3 or 4, IF THERE ARE SUFFICIENT NUMBERS**. If there is no exam skills class, students taking an exam will still receive help in preparing for it.

We advise students about which exam, if any, is suitable for them. Some students decide to take an exam even if their level is not considered appropriate, and they may enrol for the exam at the Institute. However, it may not be possible for them to attend the exam skills class.

Exam candidates join non-exam candidates in other classes to develop general language proficiency. The exam skills class focuses on specific skills for the exams. Past exam papers are also available for self-study from the beginning of the term.

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| <b>Section A</b><br><b>(9.15am - 10.45am)</b>  | <b>Grammar, Reading Skills,</b><br><b>Exam Skills (from week 3/4)</b> | <b>Monday to Friday</b>                   |
| <b>Section B</b><br><b>(11.15am - 12.45pm)</b> | <b>Listening Skills, Writing Skills</b>                               | <b>Monday to Friday</b>                   |
| <b>Section C</b><br><b>(2.00pm - 3.40pm)</b>   | <b>General English Options</b>  | <b>Monday, Tuesday</b><br><b>Thursday</b> |

The Exam Skills class is usually held at 9.15am but may be held at 11.15am or 2.00pm

## Enrolment for Exams

- If you wish to enrol for a Cambridge exam, please let us know as soon as possible. You must pay the enrolment fee **before** we can enrol you for the exam. The fee is around £65+ (to be confirmed).
- If you will be coming to IALS on the first day of term, you can enrol for the exam when you arrive. The deadline is usually in the second week of term.
- If you will not be at IALS on the first day of term but are arriving later than the second week, and want to sit the exam here, you must enrol for the exam **before you arrive here**. Please send payment in advance. IALS cannot accept any responsibility for late or lost enrolments.