



C2

C1

B2

B1

A2

A1

Pre A1

Cambridge English Qualifications

Pre A1 Starters, A1 Movers and A2 Flyers

Information for candidates and parents

For exams from 2018



Information for candidates and parents

Dear Parent,

In the next eight pages you will find all the information you need to help your child prepare for Pre A1 Starters, A1 Movers and A2 Flyers.

You will find out about what is in the exams and what your child needs to be able to do. There is also advice on how to prepare for the exam and tips for the day of the exam. There is information about what happens after the exam, too.

Please read this information and share it with your child. You can print this document, but it is better to use it online, because there are links to tests, videos and other useful information.



Best wishes,

Cambridge Assessment English



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About Pre A1 Starters, A1 Movers and A2 Flyers

Pre A1 Starters, A1 Movers and A2 Flyers are three exams produced by Cambridge Assessment English (part of the University of Cambridge). They are part of the range of Cambridge English Qualifications. Cambridge English Qualifications are designed so that each exam builds on the skills learners develop at the previous level.

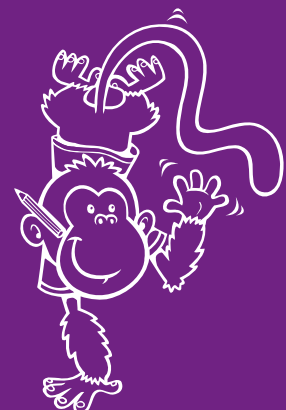
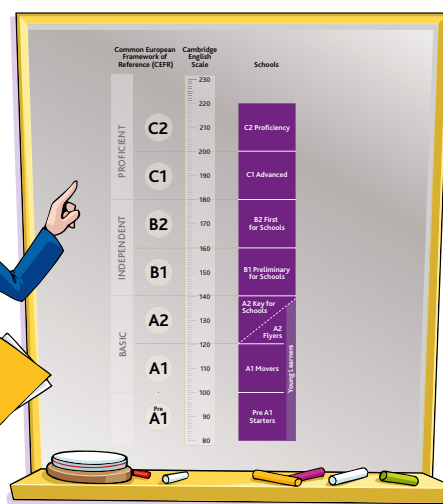
➔ View the range of Cambridge English Qualifications

Pre A1 Starters, A1 Movers and A2 Flyers, designed for young learners aged 6–12, provide a reliable and consistent measure of how well a child is doing in learning English. The exams are designed to make learning fun. Children are motivated by working towards certificates and earning the 'shields' that record their progress.

Many children take these exams at their school. Your local Cambridge Assessment English exam centre can give you all the information you need about registering children for the exams, including entry costs and dates.

➔ Find your nearest exam centre

Cambridge English Qualifications
















About the exams

Here is a summary of the three exams:

Pre A1 Starters

Total length = approximately 45 minutes
















Skill	Part	Task	Action
Listening about 20 minutes	1	Match names outside a picture with the people that are inside a picture.	Draw lines. 
	2	Answer questions about a child or an animal.	Write names or numbers. <i>Alex</i> 
	3	Choose the picture with the correct information.	Tick boxes. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 
	4	Choose an object in a picture and a correct colour.	Colour objects in a picture. 
Reading and Writing 20 minutes	1	Decide if pictures match the words next to them.	Put ticks or crosses. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 
	2	Decide if a picture matches sentences about it.	Write yes or no. <i>yes</i> 
	3	Use given letters to name objects in pictures.	Spell words. <i>spelling</i> 
	4	Choose correct words to fill gaps in a short text.	Copy words. <i>copy copy</i> 
	5	Answer questions about a picture story.	Write words or numbers. <i>12</i> 
Speaking 3–5 minutes	1	Find things in a big picture. Choose correct object cards and understand prepositions.	Point to objects. Place object cards. 
	2	Give short answers to questions about a big picture.	Name objects, colours and say numbers. 
	3	Give short answers to questions about objects.	Name objects, colours and say numbers. 
	4	Answer questions about you.	Give short answers. 

➔ [Download sample papers](#)

➔ [Download the Pre A1 Starters word list](#)

A1 Movers


Total length = approximately 1 hour

Skill	Part	Task	Action
Listening About 25 minutes	1	Match names outside a picture with the people that are inside a picture.	Draw lines. 
	2	Answer questions about a place, trip, party etc.	Write words and numbers. <i>12</i> 
	3	Match people or objects in one set with pictures of objects in another set.	Write letters in boxes. 
	4	Choose the picture with the correct information.	Tick boxes. 
	5	Choose the right parts of a picture and understand colouring and writing instructions.	Colour parts of a picture. Write something. 
Reading and Writing 30 minutes	1	Match pictures/words with describing sentences.	Copy words. <i>copy copy</i> 
	2	Choose the right answer to questions.	Circle a letter.  (A) apple B banana C carrot
	3	Choose correct pictures/ words to fill gaps in a short story and the correct title for the story.	Copy words and tick a box. <i>copy copy</i> 
	4	Choose the right words to fill gaps in a short text.	Copy words. <i>copy copy</i> 
	5	Find words in a story to complete sentences.	Write one, two or three words. <i>write</i> 
	6	Complete sentences, answer questions and write sentences about a picture.	Write words and sentences. <i>write write</i> 
Speaking 5–7 minutes	1	Find differences between two pictures (objects, colours, numbers, positions etc.).	Say what is different. 
	2	Talk about pictures that tell a story.	Say short sentences. 
	3	Choose a picture that is different from three others.	Say how it is different. 
	4	Answer questions about you.	Give short answers. 


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➔ [Download the A1 Movers word list](#)

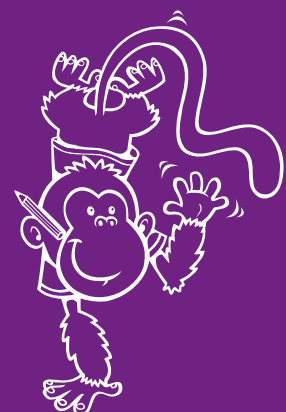


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A2 Flyers

Total length = approximately 1 hour 14 minutes


Skill	Part	Task	Action
Listening About 25 minutes	1	Match names outside a picture with the people that are inside a picture.	Draw lines. 
	2	Answer questions about a place, trip, party etc.	Write words and numbers. <i>12</i> 
	3	Match people or objects in one set with pictures of objects in another set.	Write letters in boxes. <i>b</i> 
	4	Choose the picture with the correct information.	Tick boxes. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 
	5	Choose the correct parts of a picture and understand colouring and writing instructions.	Colour parts of a picture. Write something. 
Reading and Writing 40 minutes	1	Match words with describing sentences.	Copy words. <i>copy copy</i> 
	2	Choose the correct missing parts of a conversation.	Write a letter. <i>a</i> 
	3	Choose correct words to fill gaps in a short story and the correct title for the story.	Copy words and tick a box. <i>copy copy</i>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	4	Choose the right word to fill gaps in a short text.	Copy words. <i>copy copy</i> 
	5	Find words in a story to complete sentences.	Write one, two, three or four words. <i>write</i> 
	6	Think of words to complete a diary or message text.	Write words. <i>write</i> 
	7	Write a short story based on three pictures.	Write sentences. <i>write</i> 
Speaking 7–9 minutes	1	Find differences between two pictures (objects, colours, numbers, positions, actions etc.).	Say what is different. 
	2	Ask for and give information about two similar situations.	Ask and answer questions. 
	3	Talk about pictures that tell a story.	Say sentences. 
	4	Answer questions about you.	Give short answers. 


- ➔ [Download sample papers](#)
- ➔ [Download the A2 Flyers word list](#)

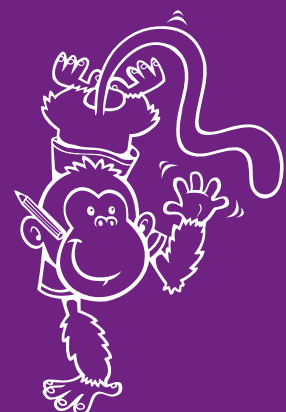


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Preparing for Pre A1 Starters, A1 Movers and A2 Flyers

Here are some things that your child should practise doing to prepare for Pre A1 Starters, A1 Movers and A2 Flyers.

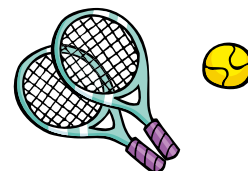
At all levels (Pre A1 Starters, A1 Movers and A2 Flyers) candidates need to be able to:

- understand the words on the word list for their exam
 - ➔ [Download the Pre A1 Starters word list](#)
 - ➔ [Download the A1 Movers word list](#)
 - ➔ [Download the A2 Flyers word list](#)

Aa	Bb	Cc	Dd	Ee	Ff	Gg
Hh	Ii	Jj	Kk	Ll	Mm	Nn
Oo	Pp	Qq	Rr	Ss	Tt	Uu
Vv	Ww	Xx	Yy	Zz		

- spell the words on the word list correctly
- use present simple and continuous tenses (e.g. 'I go' and 'I am going')
- understand descriptions of people (what someone is doing, what they are wearing and what they look like)
- understand prepositions (for example, to understand where people and objects are in pictures)
- write words that are spelled for them and other words that they hear
- copy words to complete texts
- understand sentences that describe pictures and also speak about what they see in pictures
- follow colouring instructions
- ask and answer simple questions.

tennis



At Pre A1 Starters, they also need to be able to:

- look at some jumbled letters, and put them in order to make a word that matches a picture.

At A1 Movers and A2 Flyers, they also need to be able to:

- use past simple tenses (e.g. 'I went')
- talk about what is happening in a picture story
- talk about the differences between two pictures.

At A2 Flyers, they also need to be able to:

- use the past continuous (e.g. 'I was going') and future forms ('going to' and 'will').



Our parents' newsletter

Sign up for our free newsletter to receive tips and activities to help your child learn English.

➔ [Sign up here](#)



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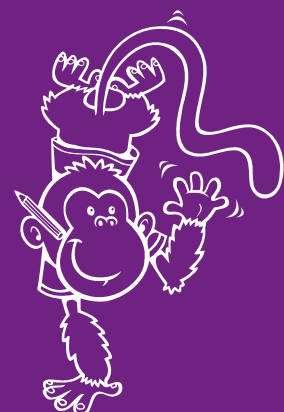
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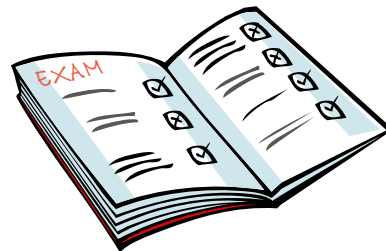
After the exam



Preparing to take the exam

You want your child to feel as confident as possible on the day of the exam. What can you do to help?

- Make sure your child knows the important information in this document, looks at the pictures that show what to do in the exam and tries the sample exam papers. When children know what to expect, they will feel more confident and prepared.
- Most candidates will probably prepare for their exam in English classes at school, but they can also practise at home. This can help them feel more confident. With your help, your child can find answers to their questions about the exam or think of questions to ask their teacher about the exam. You can also help them learn and perhaps give them short tests to encourage them.



In the Listening test:

- The recordings are played twice. If candidates miss something the first time they listen, there will be another chance to hear the answers.
- It isn't important how well candidates colour parts of a picture. They just need to find the right part of the picture and use the right colour.



In the Reading and Writing test:

- It will be helpful to make sure your child can write clearly.
- Answers are generally very short and words can most often be copied from a word box or from parts of the text, so candidates don't need to write complete sentences apart from the last part of Movers and Flyers.



In the Speaking test:

- Examiners are helpful and friendly. They are experienced and encouraging people. Candidates should try to relax and enjoy this part of the exam. Suggest they try to use phrases that they know for communicating, for example, 'Good morning', 'Pardon?', 'Yes please', and 'Thank you'.
- If candidates don't understand something, they can ask the examiner to repeat what they said. Use expressions such as: 'Sorry, can you say that again?'

Good morning

Visit our website for

- ➔ [More about Cambridge English Qualifications](#)
- ➔ [More information for parents](#)
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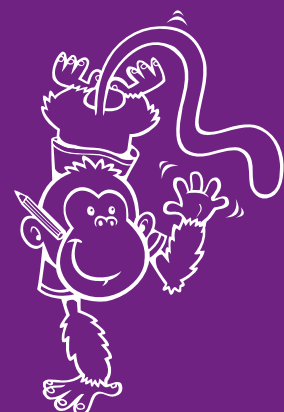
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The day of the exam

On the day of the exam, your child will probably be excited and nervous. Remember that the exam is designed to reward what your child can do in English and to be enjoyable – nobody fails the exam.



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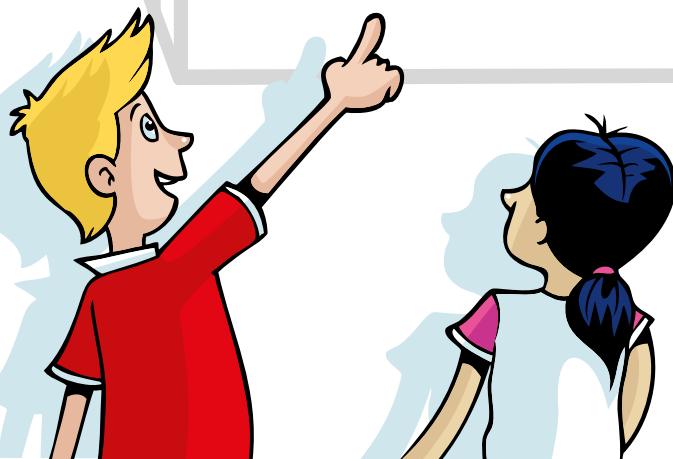


After the exam

EXAM DAY TIPS

Candidates should:

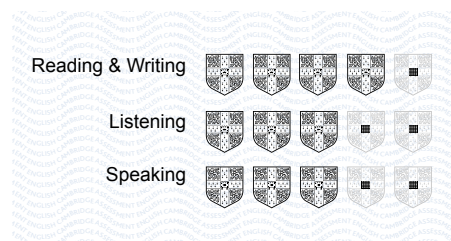
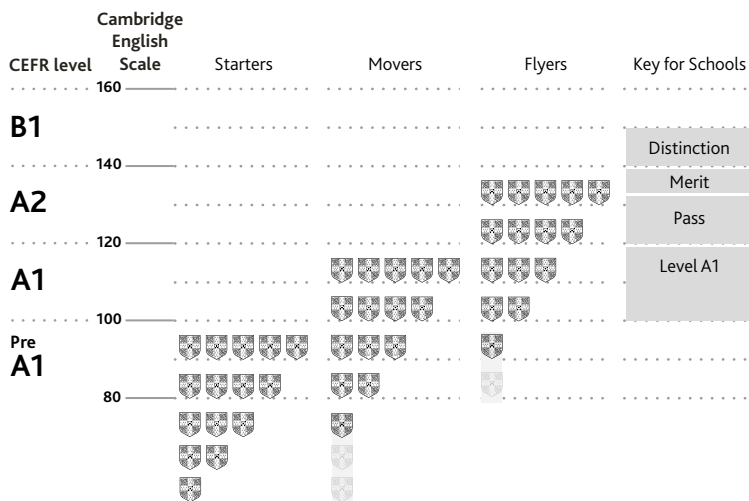
- ✓ go to bed early the night before the exam
- ✓ have lots of time to get ready so they don't need to hurry
- ✓ have a good, healthy breakfast
- ✓ not try too hard to study, at home or at school, just before the exam – try to keep the atmosphere calm
- ✓ go to the toilet before the exam
- ✓ take some water to drink
- ✓ listen carefully to the examiner's instructions and to the recordings
- ✓ read all the instructions and questions carefully before they start each part of the exam
- ✓ know they must not talk to the other candidates during the exam
- ✓ know they can raise their hand in silence if they need to ask a question
- ✓ know they must not ask questions during the Listening test
- ✓ remember to check their work and spellings when they have finished
- ✓ try to write an answer to all the questions, even if they don't know the right one
- ✓ remember this exam has the same types of questions as their practice exams, so there will be no surprises.



After the exam

There is no pass or fail in Pre A1 Starters, A1 Movers and A2 Flyers. All children receive a certificate which shows how many shields they receive in each skill (speaking, listening, reading and writing). The maximum score is five shields for each skill.

Certificates usually arrive three to four weeks after the exam. If you need to check when your certificate will arrive, contact the exam centre.



What happens next?

Cambridge English Qualifications are for every stage in learning English. Pre A1 Starters, A1 Movers and A2 Flyers exams are just the first steps. A2 Key for Schools is at Level A2, like A2 Flyers, but it is for learners in secondary education, and it tests slightly different skills (for example, candidates need to write more in A2 Key for Schools). The next exams are B1 Preliminary for Schools and B2 First for Schools, then learners can go on to take C1 Advanced and C2 Proficiency.



“

I've taken the Pre A1 Starters and A1 Movers exams and won many little shields. My English has become better and better, and I love Cambridge English!

Huang Yaozu
Dongguan Nancheng Mingshiyuan
Training School, China

”



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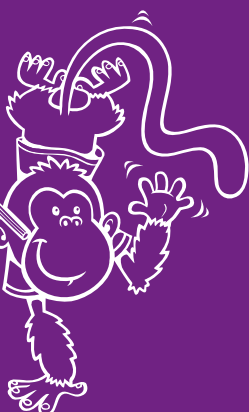
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A few facts and figures about us:

- 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



We help people learn English and prove their skills to the world

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.

With the right support, learning a language is an exhilarating journey. We're with you every step of the way.

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