

English Solutions for Careers (E4C)

CAMBRIDGE LINGUASKILL CEFR-R ENGLISH TEST: HOW TO SCORE C1 & ABOVE IN YOUR FIRST TRY

24 October 2020

Proud partners of:











"Call me Henry!"



Henry Law

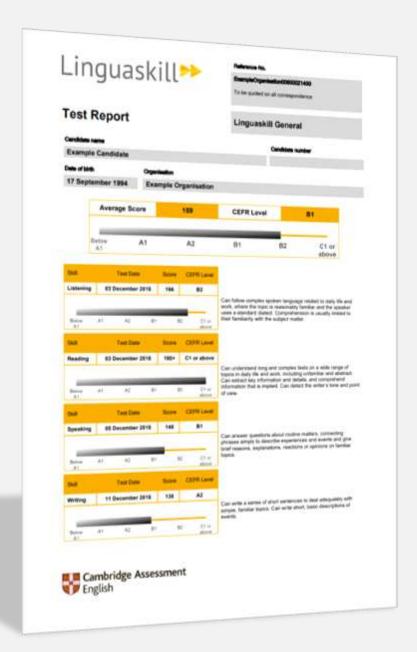
Corporate Strategy Director

- Head of Cambridge Linguaskill Test Operations in Malaysia.
- Providing Linguaskill Training.
- Invigilating Cambridge Linguaskill for about a year.

Scored CEFR C1 & Above. Going for CEFR C2 testing soon.

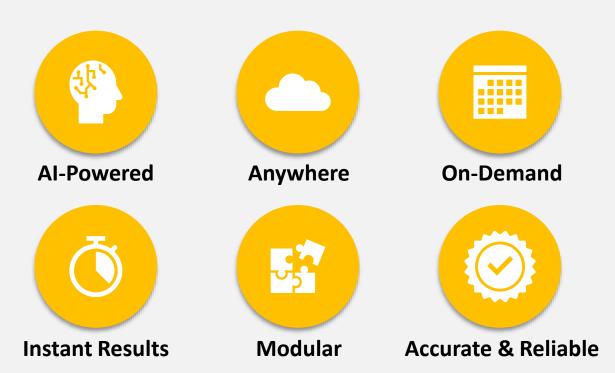


CAMBRIDGE LINGUASKILL-MOE CEFR-READINESS TEST





Cambridge Assessment English's Most Advanced and Accurate English Proficiency Test To-date.





OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT BY MOE @ 5th OCTOBER 2020



Aptis Advanced / C1 Advanced / C2 Proficiency /

IELTS (International English Language Testing System) / MUET (Malaysian University English Test)

TOEFL (Test of English as Foreign Linguaskills /

Tests are aligned to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)



Important Note!

Please determine your proficiency level by

31st December 2020



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Linguaskill

from Cambridge



No need to travel anywhere to take the test.



Can take the test anytime, even on weekends.



It is a professional test, not a university test.



The certification does not expire. Good for life.



Tests your General English, not Academic English.

UNDERSTANDING

HOW TO SCORE CEFR C1 & ABOVE IN LINGUASKILL

Linguaskill

from Cambridge





STEP ONE

UNDERSTAND THE TEST COMPONENTS

Linguaskill

from **Cambridge**



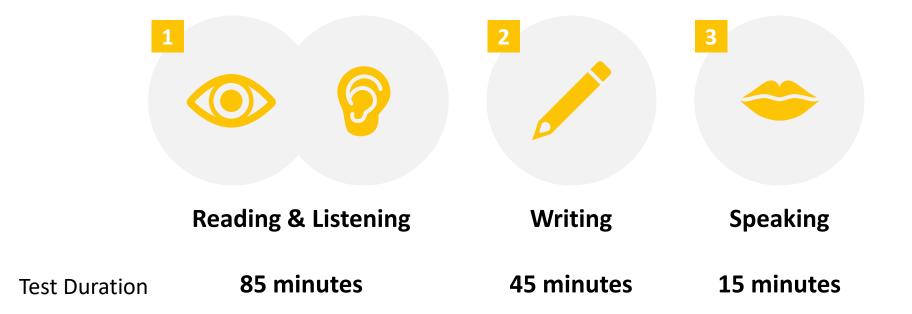
Linguaskill is a test that combines 3 modules together.





The total test duration is 145 minutes (or 2 hours and 25 minutes long).

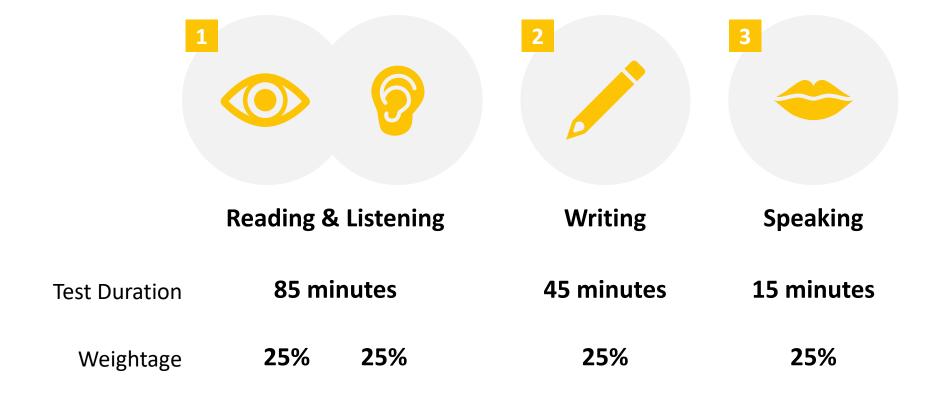






Your overall CEFR level will be the average score of all 4 skills.

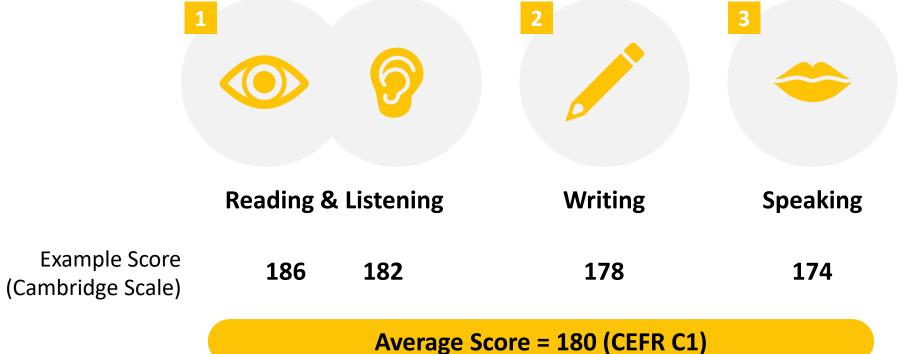






Example of how the scoring works:



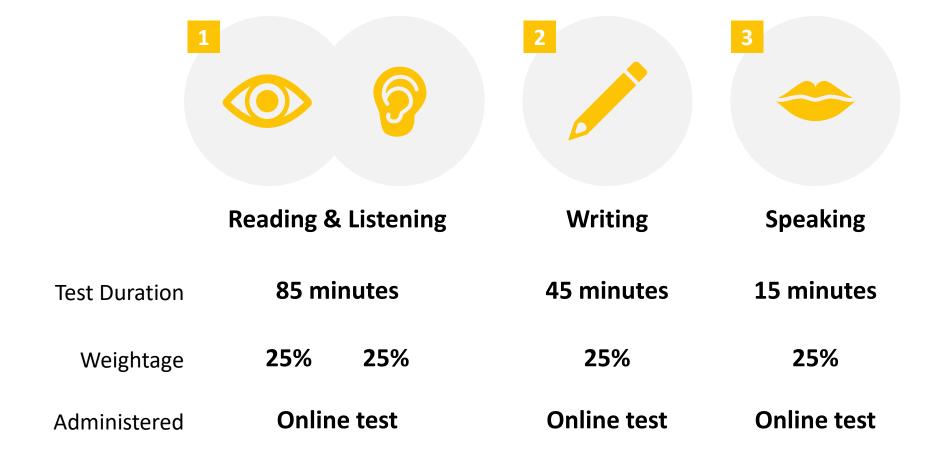


180 is the minimum mark you need to achieve CEFR C1



All 3 modules are taken online, even the Speaking module.







You will need these equipment to take the test at home.





Laptop or PC with Webcam

(If you don't have a webcam, you will need to use a smartphone's camera.)



Internet Connection + Google Chrome Browser



Headset

(You can use your headphone with mic that came with your phone.)



STEP TWO

UNDERSTAND THE TEST FORMAT

Linguaskill

from Cambridge





The Reading & Listening test has 7 Question Types in total:



Reading & Listening

Listening Test Starts First

- Listen and select
- 2. Extended listening

Reading Test Starts Next

- 3. Read and select
- 4. Extended reading
- 5. Gapped sentences
- 6. Multiple-choice gap-fill
- 7. Open gap-fill

Hard

Hard

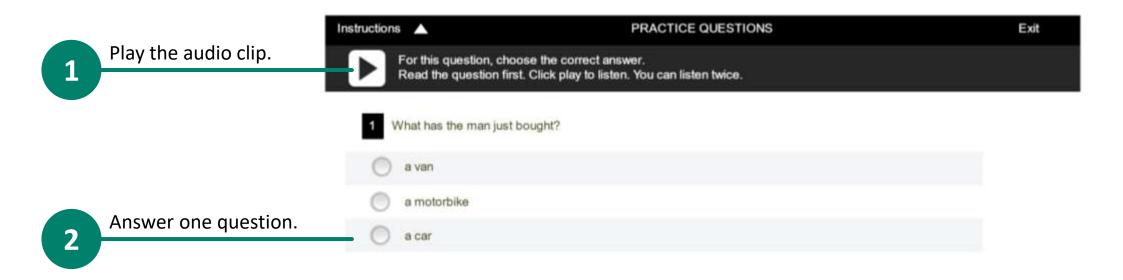


Random number of questions.

Use about 45 minutes in Listening.
You may speed up.

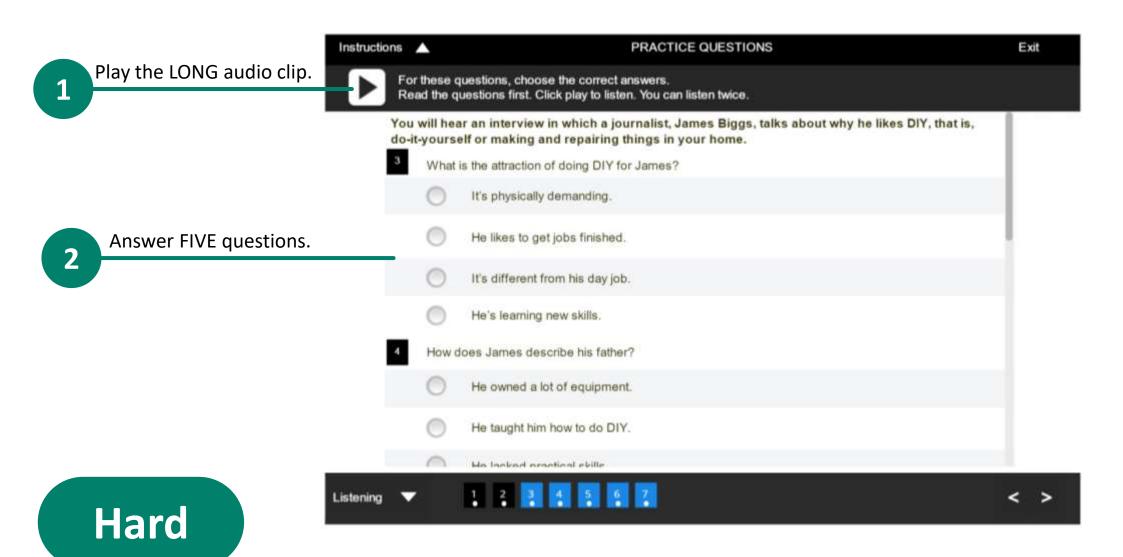


Listening Question Type 1: Listen and select





Listening Question Type 2: Extended Listening

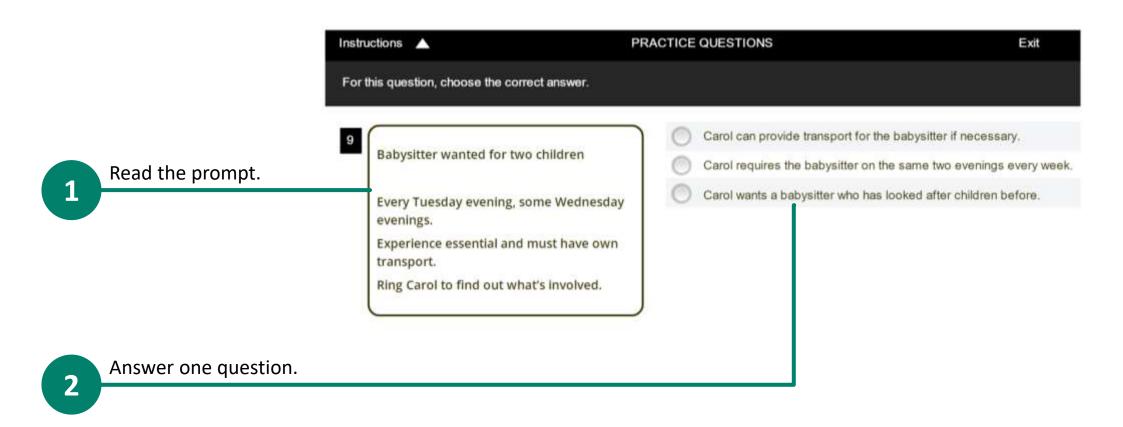


The Strategy to use for Extended Listening questions.



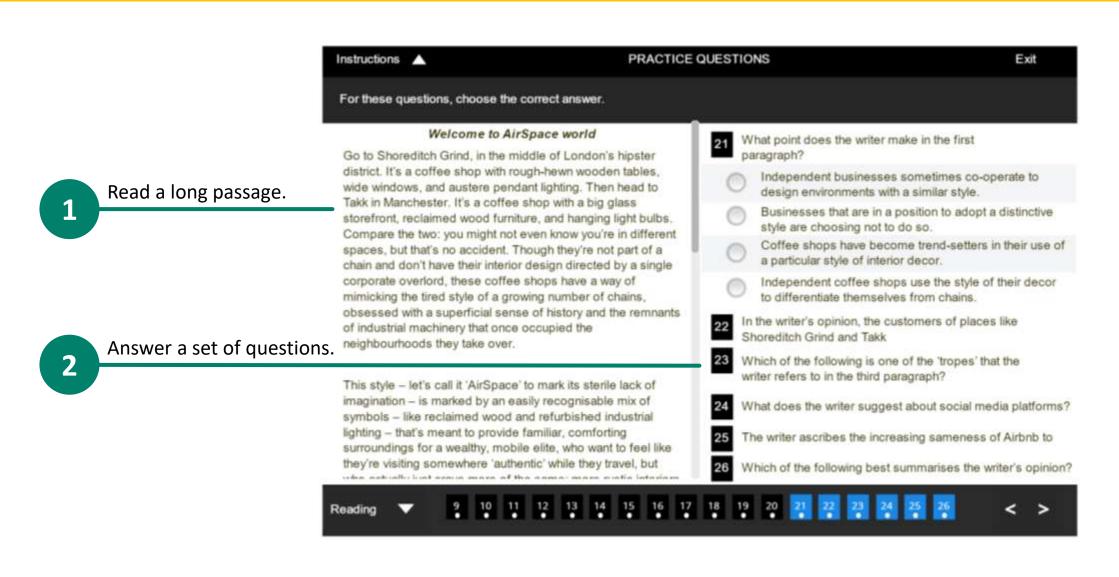
- Read all the questions to understand what you need to listen out for.
- Remember this: The answers to the questions appear in sequence in the audio recording.
- Answer the question as you listen. Don't try to remember everything until the end.

Reading Question Type 3: Read and select





Reading Question Type 4: Extended reading



Reading Question Type 5: Gapped sentences



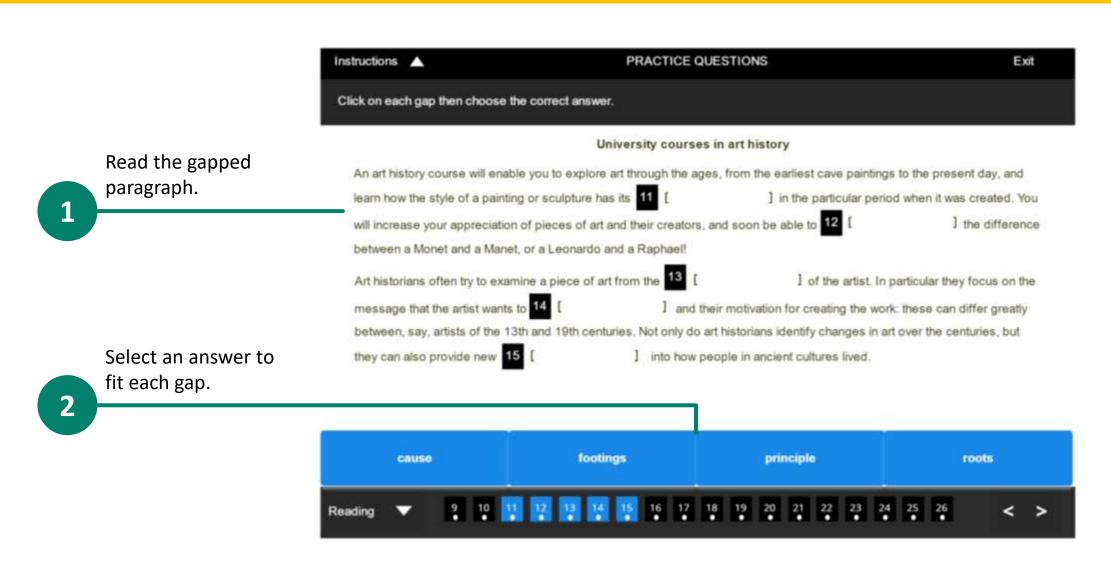
Read the gapped question.

The amount that local businesses have raised so far to fund a football team for young people 9 [at over £5,000.

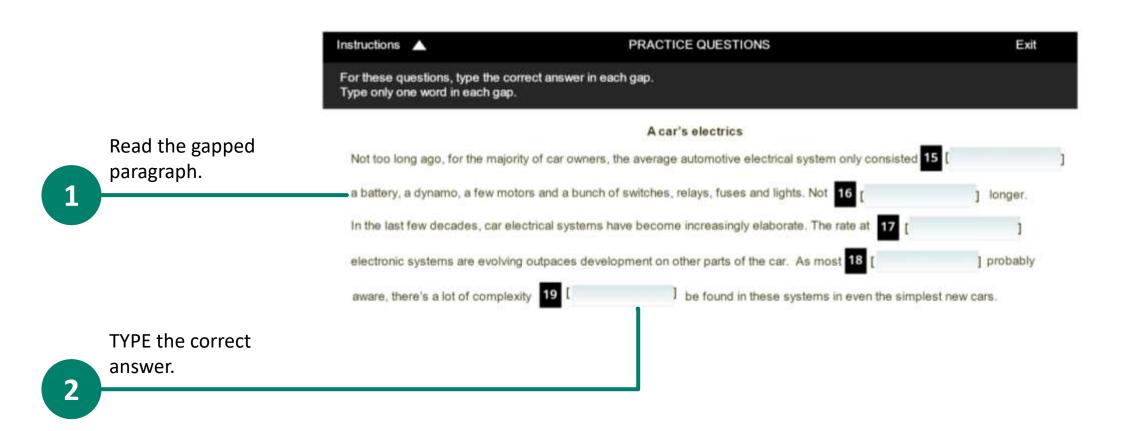
Select an answer to fit the gap.



Reading Question Type 6: Multiple-choice gap-fill



Reading Question Type 7: Open gap-fill







The Strategy to use for Open Gap Fill questions.





- The answer will fall into one of two groups: grammar words (e.g. articles, prepositions, conjunctions, etc.) and collocations.
- Collocations are words that are commonly juxtaposed together in the English language. For example, "good choice", "save time", "deep pockets", "cash flow" etc.
- They are like a form of idiom or metaphor that is commonly used in English.



The Writing test has 2 Question Types:





Writing

Writing Test

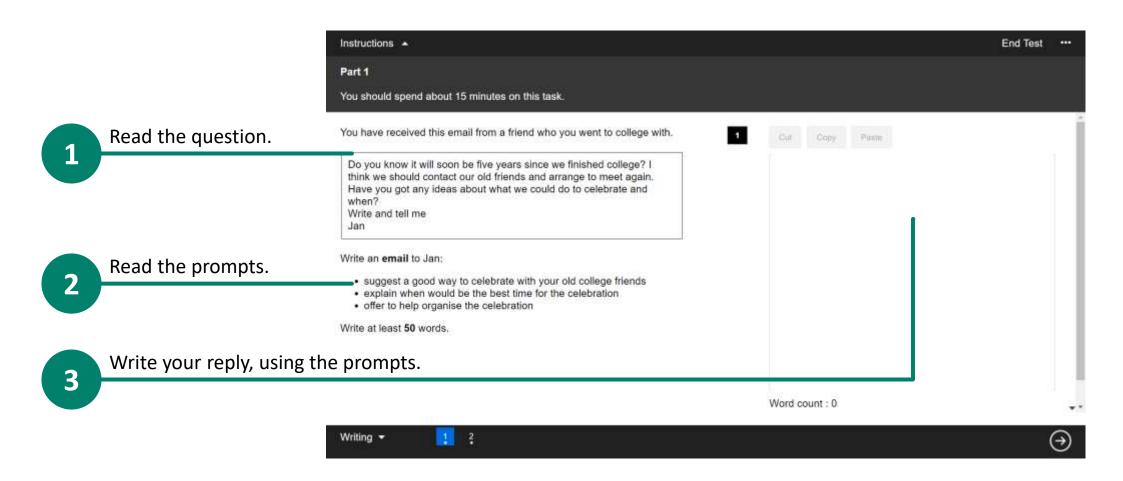
- 1. Write an email (minimum 50 words)
- 2. Write an essay (minimum 180 words)

Two questions only.

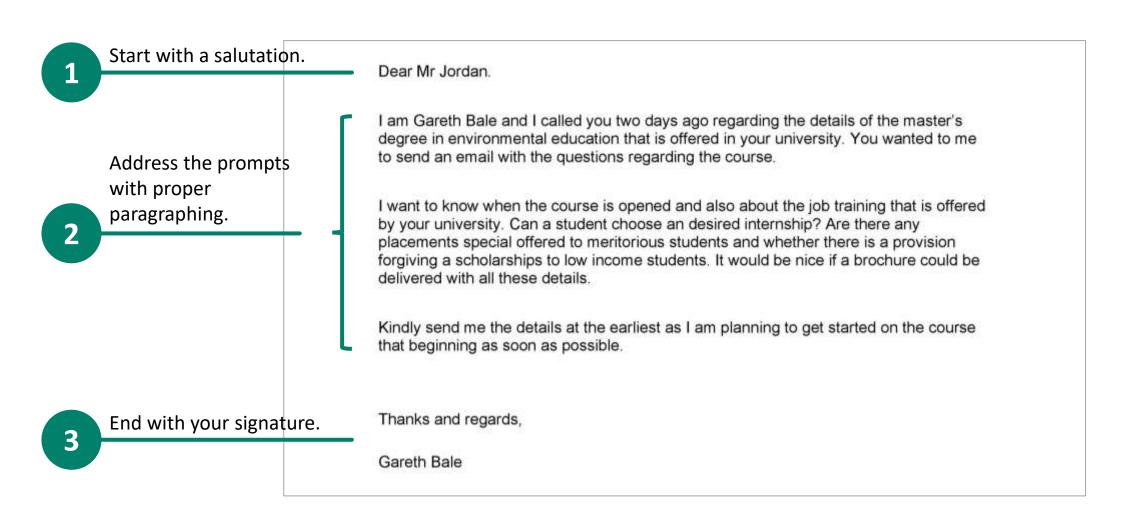
You should spend 15 minutes on the email You should spend 30 minutes on the essay



Writing Question Type 1: Write an email

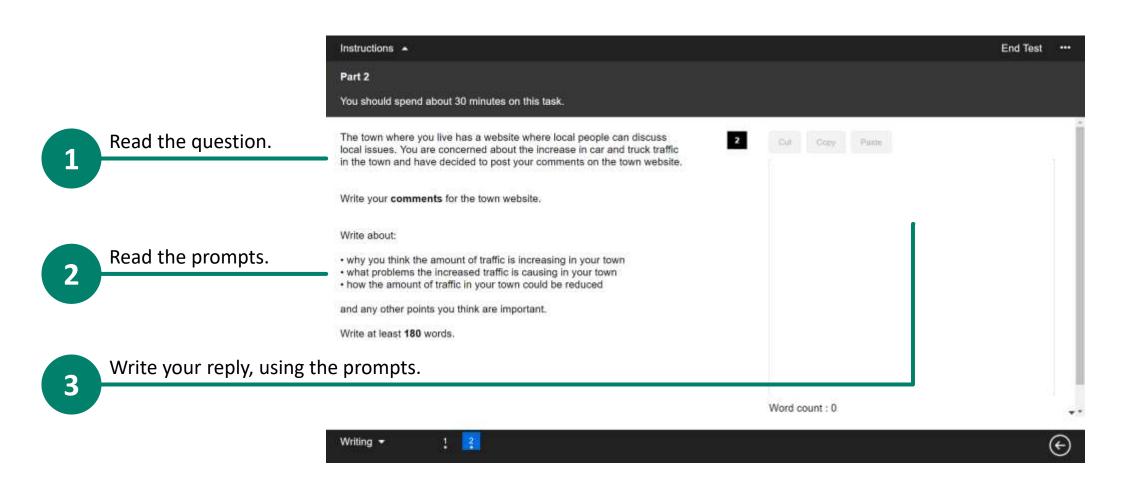


Key: Write according to the email format





Writing Question Type 2: Write an essay



Strategy for Writing: Remember your best practice in writing!

Stay on topic. Answer the prompts. Reach the word limit.



- Have a beginning, middle, and end.
- Use paragraphs properly. Each paragraph should start with a topic sentence, followed by supporting sentences.
- Grammar is important. Try to use different vocabulary or expressions.
- 5 Spelling and punctuations matter.
- 6 Use "flowery" language sparingly. Don't overdo it!



Let's look at the example given and see the examiner's comments.

Part 2 C1 Writing

Part 2

You should spend about 30 minutes on this task.

The town where you live has a website where local people can discuss local issues. You are concerned about the increase in car and truck traffic in the town and have decided to post your comments on the town website.

Write your comments for the town website.

Write about:

- why you think the amount of traffic is increasing in your town
- what problems the increased traffic is causing in your town
- how the amount of traffic in your town could be reduced

and any other points you think are important.

Write at least 180 words.



I am writing this comment to complain about the worrying increase in car and lorry traffic in our town lately.

As far as I am concerned, the main reason for this issue is that a 40-block building is being constructed in our neighborhood. Lorries need to function at full speed to carry necessary material for the construction. Moreover, the main road that leads to the center of the city is banned for decoration of the coming festival. People whose workplaces are located in the center have no choice but to drive through our town to their work everyday. Therefore, our town, which used to be quiet and peaceful, has become noisier. The citizens in the town not only endure the syren that is made by the vehicles, but also suffer from illnesses caused by airpolluted, especially the elderly. They cannot sleep well at night since the lorries works 24 hours per day. Everything is dusty because of carelessly covered containers of the lorries. We cannot let our children play at the playground of the town for the fear that they can put themselves in danger. Futhermore, we are usually late for work and school because of traffic jams in crush hours.

As a citizen of the town, I think the authority should take action to reduce the amount of traffic that travels to our town every day. Lorries must be banned in crush hours. Moreover, the container of lorries should be covered carefully in order not to drop any material that they are carrying. Last but not least, people should be shown other ways that lead to the center so that they do not put pressure on our frastructure.

I hope that my complain can be taken into consideration so that our town can become an enjoyable place to live again.

Hover over this box to see comments on Part 2: C1 level script

Word count: 301



No penalty for exceeding the minimum number of words.



Let's look at the example given and see the examiner's comments.

Part 2 C1 Writing

Part 2

You should spend about 30 minutes on this task.



At this level candidates can write clear, well-structured expositions of complex subjects, underlining the relevant salient issues. They can expand and support points of view at some length with subsidiary points, reasons and relevant examples. The candidate here provides evidence of her ability to do this.

The text is well organised; it is cohesive and uses a straightforward organisational pattern to good effect. The writer uses a number of expressions to signal her purpose for writing and to make clear her stance (I am writing this comment to complain about the worrying increase; As far as I am concerned; As a citizen of the town, I think the authority should; I hope that my complain can be taken into consideration). The writer sets out the causes of the increase in traffic, and then details the effect this has on residents, overtly signalling the transition between these two parts of the text (Therefore, our town, which used to be quiet and peaceful, has become noisier). Solutions to the problems are then put forward in a new paragraph, with this stage of the discussion also clearly signposted (I think the authority should take action to reduce the amount of traffic...). There is a slight over-reliance on a limited number of linking words, which are deployed a little formulaically for writing at this level (Morever; Therefore; Futhermore). For example, Therefore, could be replaced by a phrase such as 'As a result of these developments, ...' which would provide a smoother means of transitioning from given to new information at this point in the text.

Some complex grammatical forms have been used to underline the principal causes of the increased congestion (the main reason for this issue is that a 40-block building is being constructed in our neighborhood; People whose workplaces are located in the center have no choice but to drive...). Similarly, a variety of structures is used with a good degree of control to outline the various ways in which residents are affected by the congestion (The citizens in the town not only endure the... but also suffer from..., especially the elderly). A limited range of structures is used to put forward solutions (Iorries must be banned; the container of Iorries should be covered carefully in order not to; people should be shown other ways...so that they...) although these are not expanded upon.

The writer has used a reasonable range of vocabulary relevant to the topic, including some complex noun phrases (necessary material for the construction; carelessly covered containers) and collocations (put themselves in danger; take action). Although the meaning is clear, there are imprecisions in the use of a fair number of lexical items (40-block buildina: svren that is made: air-polluted: plavaround of the town: crush hour: frastructure; my complain). The candidate should receive credit for attempting to use this lexis; greater accuracy would contribute to a higher score.

Good structure, paragraphing, topic sentences, supporting sentences

Linking words are important!

Complex grammar usage

Variety of vocabulary, grammar

Minimise spelling, lexical errors



The Speaking test has 5 Parts:





Speaking

Speaking Test

- 1. Interview 8 questions
- 2. Reading Aloud 8 questions
- Long Turn 1 − 1 question Hard
- 4. Long Turn 2 1 question Hard
- 5. Communication Activity 5 questions

5 parts, 23 questions in total.

Hard

Why is the Speaking Test hard?



The speaking test is the only test that does not let you control your own pacing. 2

The speaking test forces you to "think on your feet", like in a real conversation.

3

Not only do you have to think about what to say, you have to think about how you say it.

NOTE: The speaking test does not evaluate your accent.



Speaking Part 1: Interview

You will be asked a series of 8 questions about yourself.

Thinking Time

0 seconds

Speaking Time

10-20 seconds

Read or Listen?

You will have to listen to the questions.

Example questions:

- What is your name?
- How do you spell your family name?
- Where are you from?



Use up the timer, try not to give simple answers

The examiner is not evaluating your "facts"



Speaking Part 2: Reading Aloud

You will be asked to read 8 sentences on the screen.

Thinking Time

0 seconds

Speaking Time

10 seconds

Read or Listen?

You will read the questions.

Example questions:

- The library is closed for staff training until 11am.
- How easy will it be for students to find accommodation near the university?



Avoid contracting words, unless shown.

Pronounce and Enunciate your words correctly



Speaking Part 3: Long Turn 1

You will be asked to talk about a topic presented on screen.

Thinking Time

40 seconds

Speaking Time

60 seconds



Read or Listen?

You will read the question.

Example question:

Talk about a practical skill you would like to learn. You should say:

- What practical skill you would like to learn
- why you would like to learn this practical skill
- how difficult you think it would be to learn this skill

You are allowed to jot down notes to prepare.

Answer all questions in the prompt!



Speaking Part 4: Long Turn 2

You will be asked to talk about a graphic presented on screen.

Thinking Time

60 seconds

Speaking Time

60 seconds



Read or Listen?

You will read the graphic and question.

Your English-speaking friend wants to buy a cycling jacket and has asked for your advice.

This table shows product reviews for two cycling jackets.

Look at the table and then leave a message for your friend, recommending which cycling jacket to buy.

	Be Seen Jacket	Stay Dry Jacke
Waterproof fabric	****	****
Colour	****	***
Comfort	***	****
Price	\$75	\$110
Overall rating	7/10	9/10

Use all the facts in the graphic.

Then, remember to answer the question.



Speaking Part 5: Communication Activity

You will be asked to share your opinion on 5 questions.

Thinking Time

40 seconds

Speaking Time

20 seconds
Per guestion



Read or Listen?

You will read some prompts on the screen, then listen to the question.

A journalist is writing a magazine article about people's attitudes to technology and the internet. He wants to find out your opinion about technology and the internet.

He will ask you questions about:

- useful technology in daily life
- having the newest technology
- social media
- online advertising
- depending on technology

Again, the examiner is not assessing your knowledge/facts.

If you don't understand the question, use your best guess.



Strategy for Speaking:



Try to say as much as you can, but make sure you stay on-topic.



- Use the prompts in the question to plan what you need to say.
- Where possible, add extra details to your answers.
- Remember to expand your answer by giving supporting facts, examples, details, and/or reasons.
- Use the planning time given to jot down some notes.
 This is especially useful to tackle complex questions.

Strategy for Speaking:



Use a range of grammar and different vocabulary.



- Use different tenses and modal verbs appropriately.
- Use different words (vocabulary) and language expressions appropriately.
- Speak using well pronounced sentences and sentence structures.
- Speak in full sentences as much as possible.
- Use comparisons and conditionals appropriately.
- Where appropriate, using complex sentences or grammar structure will score higher marks.
- Focus on pronunciation and enunciation, and avoid contracting words as much as possible.

Strategy for Speaking:

- 3
- Take note of the timer when you speak.



- Give full answers to all parts of the question.
- Avoid short or single words answers.
- Use up the timer. If you get cut-off mid-sentence, you will not be penalized.



Strategy for Speaking:



For questions with multiple parts, you must respond clearly to all of them.



- The speaking test does not evaluate the whether your facts and statements are true or false.
- The speaking test does evaluate whether you can respond to the questions that are being asked, and whether you understand what is being asked.

Strategy for Speaking:



Respond to all questions.



- Sometimes, you may get a question that you do not know the answer to.
- Do not stay silent, as you will not get any marks.
- In such cases, try to respond to the question fully based on what you do understand from the question.

QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

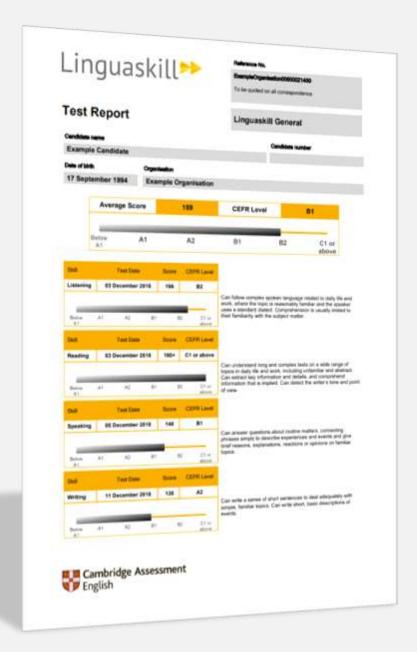
Linguaskill

from Cambridge





WHAT'S NEXT: YOU WILL RECEIVE A COPY OF TODAY'S CLASS





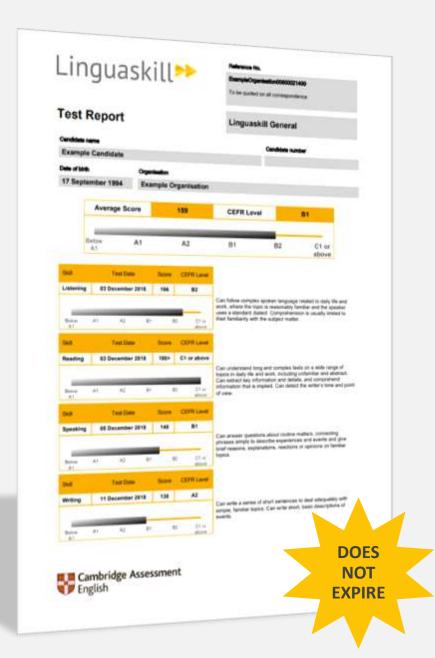
Today's online class video will be emailed to you.



You will also receive the slides I presented.



WHAT'S NEXT: REGISTER FOR CAMBRIDGE LINGUASKILL CEFR-R TEST



How to take the Linguaskill CEFR-R Test?

- Complete the Linguaskill CEFR-R Test online registration form @ e4c.sasbadi.com/cefr_r
- Prepare yourself with Linguaskill's free prep materials and sample tests @ e4c.sasbadi.com/cefr_r
- An invigilator will invite you to an online test session using Google Meet or Zoom.
- A test link will be shared with you, along with your username and password.
- Complete the Linguaskill CEFR-R test. Results are available within 48 hours or less.



English Solutions for Careers

BETTER ENGLISH FOR BETTER CAREERS.

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