

Cambridge English: Advanced revision

Changes to the *Cambridge English: Advanced* examination and ideas for preparing students for the new tasks







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Aims of the revised exams

- user-friendly and accessible
- higher education
- career enhancement
- modern, fresh appeal
- sets the standard for C1 exams





Cambridge English: Advanced

Current exam (pre-2015)	4 hours 40 minutes
Reading	1 hour 15 minutes • 4 parts34 questions
Use of English	1 hour5 parts50 questions
Writing	 1 hour 30 minutes one compulsory question (variety of text types); one from choice of five (including two set texts)
Listening	 40 minutes 4 parts 30 questions
UCLES 2014 Speaking	• 15 minutes • 4 parts





Cambridge English: Advanced

From 2015	3 hours 55 minutes	Pre-2015	4 hours 40 minutes
Reading and Use of English	1 hour 30 minutes8 parts56 questions	Reading	1 hour 15 minutes4 parts34 questions
		Use of English	1 hour5 parts50 questions
Writing	 1 hour 30 minutes one compulsory question (essay); one from choice of three (no set text) 	Writing	 1 hour 30 minutes one compulsory question (variety of text types); one from choice of five (including two set texts)
Listening	• 4 parts Listening •		 40 minutes 4 parts 30 questions
Speaking	• 15 minutes • 4 parts	Speaking	• 15 minutes • 4 parts





Details of the changes to Cambridge English: Advanced

Reading and Use of English paper





Paper 1: Reading and Use of English

- Number of parts: 8
- Number of questions: 56
- Timing: 1 hour 30 minutes
- Task types:
- Part 1: multiple-choice cloze (8 questions)
- Part 2: open cloze (8 questions)
- Part 3: word formation (8 questions)
- Part 4: key word transformation (6 questions)
- Part 5: multiple choice (6 questions)
- Part 6: cross-text multiple matching (4 questions)
- Part 7: gapped text (6 questions)
- Part 8: multiple matching (10 questions)





Details of the changes to Cambridge English: Advanced

Writing paper





Paper 2: Writing

- Number of parts: 2
- Number of questions to answer: 2
- Timing: 1 hour 30 minutes
- Task types:
- Part 1: compulsory essay
- Part 2: one task from a choice of three





Writing Part 2: task types

Which task types do your students prefer to write? Choose from the list below:

- letter
- story
- review
- report
- article
- proposal





Writing Part 2

Possible task types in revised Part 2:

- letter
- proposal
- report
- review





Details of the changes to Cambridge English: Advanced

Listening Paper – no changes





Revised Speaking paper	Current Speaking paper
Part 1	Part 1
Short conversation between the	Short conversation between the
interlocutor and each candidate	interlocutor and each candidate
2 minutes	3 minutes





Revised Speaking paper	Current Speaking paper
Part 2	Part 2
Individual long turn by each candidate,	Individual long turn by each candidate,
based on three pictures (1 minute).	based on three pictures (1 minute).
The listening candidate must then	The listening candidate must then
answer a question (30 seconds).	answer a question (30 seconds).
4 minutes	4 minutes





Revised Speaking paper	Current Speaking paper
Part 3	Part 3
Two-way conversation between candidates, based on instructions with written prompts only. Discussion (2 minutes) followed by decision- making task (1 minute).	Two-way conversation between candidates, based on instructions with written and visual prompts. Decision- making task.
Total time: 4 minutes	4 minutes





Speaking Part 3 task







Revised Speaking paper	Current Speaking paper
Part 4 Three-way discussion with interlocutor on topics related to Part 3.	Part 4 Three-way discussion with interlocutor on topics related to Part 3.
5 minutes	4 minutes





Focusing on key changes Reading and Use of English paper

Part 6: The cross-text multiplematching task





Cross-text multiple matching

Part 6

You are going to read four reviews of a book about how architecture can affect the emotions. For questions 37 - 40, choose from the reviews A - D. The reviews may be chosen more than once.

The Architecture of Happiness

Four reviewers comment on philosopher Alain De Botton's book





Cross-text multiple matching

в

Alain de Botton raises important, previously unasked, questions concerning the quest for beauty in architecture, or its rejection or denial. Yet one is left with the feeling that he needed the help and support of earlier authors on the subject to walk him across the daunting threshold of architecture itself. And he is given to making extraordinary claims: 'Architecture is perplexing ... in how inconsistent is its capacity to generate the happiness on which its claim to our attention is founded.' If architecture's capacity to generate happiness is inconsistent, this might be because happiness has rarely been something architects think about. De Botton never once discusses the importance of such dull, yet determining, matters as finance or planning laws, much less inventions such as the lift or reinforced concrete. He appears to believe that architects are still masters of their art, when increasingly they are cogs in a global machine for building in which beauty, and how de Botton feels about it, are increasingly beside the point.

С

In *The Architecture of Happiness*, Alain de Botton has a great time making bold and amusing judgements about architecture, with lavish and imaginative references, but anyone in search of privileged insights into the substance of building design should be warned that he is not looking at drain schedules or pipe runs. He worries away, as many architects do, at how inert material things can convey meaning and alter consciousness. Although he is a rigorous thinker, most of de Botton's revelations, such as the contradictions in Le Corbusier's theory and practice, are not particularly new. However, this is an engaging and intelligent book on architecture and something everyone, professionals within the field in particular, should read.

Cross-text multiple matching

Which reviewer

architecture?

shares reviewer A's opinion whether architects should take note of de Botton's ideas?

has a different opinion from the others on the confidence with which de Botton discusses

expresses a similar view to reviewer B regarding the extent to which architects share de Botton's concerns?

has a different view to reviewer C on the originality of some of de Botton's ideas?

















 Which reviewer has a <u>different</u> view to reviewer <u>C</u> on <u>the originality of some of de</u> <u>Botton's ideas</u>?





C ... He worries away, as many architects do, at how inert material things can convey meaning and alter consciousness. Although he is a rigorous thinker, most of de Botton's revelations, such as the contradictions in Le Corbusier's theory and practice, are not particularly new. However, this is an engaging and intelligent book ...





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Skills required in new Part 6	Already tested in current Reading paper (Paper 1)?
Skim and scan for specific information	
Understand opinion and attitude	\checkmark
Compare and contrast attitudes across a number of texts	X





Classroom idea for cross-text multiple-matching task (1)

- Students discuss a film/movie they have seen
- Elicit opinions, highlighting similarities and differences
- For homework, students find reviews of the film
- Students identify, compare and contrast reviewers' opinions
- Groups of students write exam-style questions





Classroom idea for cross-text multiple-matching task (2)

- Choose topic of interest to students
- You and/or students bring texts to class (e.g. reviews, well-written articles)
- Identify opinions in texts and what the opinions are about
- Compare and contrast reviewers'/writers' opinions
- Groups of students write exam-style questions





Focus on Part 1 essay task

	Part 1			
	nswer this question. Write yo answer sheet.	our answer in 220 – 260 words in an appropriate	style on	
1	lass has attended a panel d uthorities. You have made t	discussion on facilities which should receive mon he notes below:	ey from	
	Which facilities shoul authorities? • museums • sports centres	Id receive money from local		
	public gardens	Some opinions expressed in the discussion: "Museums aren't popular with everybody!" "Sports centres mean healthier people." "A town needs green spaces – parks are great for everybody."		

Write an essay discussing two of the facilities in your notes. You should explain which facility it is more important for local authorities to give money to, giving reasons in support of your answer.

You may, if you wish, make use of the opinions expressed in the discussion, but you should use your own words as far as possible.





Focus on Part 1 essay task

- candidates write an essay based on two out of three bullet points
- explain which of the two points is more important
- give reasons for opinion





Tips for Part 1 essay task

Students should:

- read all input and instructions carefully
- select two bullet points only
- use their own words if they use the opinions in the input to develop the essay





Focus on Part 1 essay task

• "Museums aren't popular with everybody!"

• "Sports centres mean healthier people."

 "A town needs green spaces – parks are great for everybody."





Classroom idea for Part 1 essay task – paraphrasing opinions

- Divide students into groups
- Each group chooses a topic
- Write brief opinion on piece of paper
- Pass paper to next group, who paraphrase the opinion and write it down, folding paper over to cover first opinion
- Pass paper on to next group, etc.





Focus on Part 1 essay task

Characteristics of a good essay




Focus on Part 1 essay task

Characteristics of a good essay

- Well-organised
- Clear introduction, development, conclusion
- Topic-related vocabulary and language
- Language for opinions and explanations





Assessment criteria

- Content
- Communicative achievement
- Organisation
- Language





Classroom idea for Part 1 essay task – linking ideas

- Whole class brainstorm linking words
- Choose a topic
- Pairs of students write short sentences (ideas and opinions related to the topic)
- Students link the ideas in the sentences using the linking words





Summary

- Overview of the *Cambridge English:* Advanced exam
- Detailed look at the changes
- Teaching ideas
- Key dates and more information





Key dates and further support

These changes will come into effect in

January 2015





Teaching Support website

- Information about all Cambridge English Language Assessment examinations and teaching qualifications
- Teaching resources for each part of each exam
- Lots more features to support teachers



www.cambridgeenglish.org/teachingsupport





New microsite for revised exams

- Information about all the changes
- Videos, specifications, sample papers, teaching tips, classroom activities



teachingsupport.cambridgeenglish.org



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Cambridge English: Advanced



April 2014

May 2014

September 2014

June 2014





Practice and Supplementary

	Cambridge English: Advanced
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Further information

Introducing the new Cambridge English Teaching Framework 28th & 30th April 2014

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Keep up to date with what's new via the Cambridge English Language Assessment website: www.cambridgeenglish.org

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