

# A guide to hybrid marking of Writing



## Same accuracy, faster results.

We have introduced hybrid marking of Writing for Levels B1 and B2 of Cambridge English Qualifications Digital.

Hybrid marking means that an automarker is used alongside human examiners. This approach combines the benefits of technological efficiency and human expertise to deliver faster results with the same level of accuracy as fully human-marked exams. Each of our automarkers is trained on tens of thousands of exam-specific candidate responses as marked by certified Cambridge English Qualifications examiners.

## Which levels?

Hybrid marking is currently used for the following exams:

<b>B1</b>	<b>B1</b>	<b>B2</b>	<b>B2</b>
Preliminary Digital	Preliminary for Schools Digital	First Digital	First for Schools Digital

Automarkers for A2 Key, A2 Key for Schools and C1 Advanced are in development. Hybrid marking is expected to begin in early 2025 for these levels.



### A hybrid approach: benefit from technological efficiency and human expertise

Each exam has its own automarker, which is trained on tens of thousands of candidate responses marked by certified Cambridge English Qualifications examiners. They are designed to complement human markers, not replace them.

Automarker scores are only released after passing several quality control checks. These checks include a confidence score model that identifies automarked responses that should be reviewed by a human marker. These checks also include systems that look for unusual answers to catch possible malpractice, which are also reviewed by human markers.

As an additional quality procedure, humans mark a percentage of responses. These are selected at random to monitor the performance of the automarker. This hybrid approach combines the efficiency of technology with the expertise and judgment of human markers. It means that candidates can receive either an automarker score or an examiner's score, and that any automarker score will be as reliable as that of a certified Cambridge English Qualifications examiner.



### Prepare the same way

Preparation for both the digital and paper-based exams remains unchanged. The test construct is the same and candidates should write for the person indicated by the task. We have ensured the technology aligns with the established assessment criteria for Writing.



### Receive results more quickly

We are committed to the fairness, quality and reliability of our assessments. Automarking provides the same results, but even more quickly.

## What is the enquiry process for automarked results?

The process remains unchanged. If a candidate believes that their exam result is not fair, they must contact their exam centre immediately.

For a deeper dive into automarking, read our full white paper, '**Automarking in language assessment: Key considerations for best practice**'.



To learn more about Cambridge English Qualifications Digital in general, go to

[cambridge.org/qualifications-digital](https://cambridge.org/qualifications-digital)