

NEW EDITION | We know
books
for the 2015 exam specifications

Cambridge English Advanced

Practice Tests

Plus 2 with Key

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TEACHING NOT JUST TESTING

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Guidance: Parts 1–4

About the paper

The Reading and Use of English paper lasts for one hour and thirty minutes. It contains eight parts, and has a total of fifty-six questions.

There are texts of varying lengths, with a range of text type and style of writing, for example extracts from newspapers, magazines, websites and novels, as well as other short texts.

Part 1

In Part 1, you read a short text and complete a multiple-choice cloze task. Eight words or phrases have been removed from the text. For each gap, you have to choose from four options the word or phrase which fits best.

Part 2

In Part 2, you read a short text and complete an open cloze. Eight words have been removed from the text. You have to complete the gaps.

Part 3

In Part 3, you read a short text and complete a word formation task. Eight words have been removed from the text. You are given the base form of each missing word and you have to create the correct form of the base word to fit the gap.

Part 4

In Part 4, you read six pairs of sentences and complete a key-word transformation task. The pairs of sentences have the same meaning, but are expressed in different ways. Three to six words have been removed from the second sentence, and one of these words, the key word, is given as a prompt. You have to complete the second sentence, using the key word.

How to do the paper

Part 1

- Read the text, ignoring the gaps, to get a general understanding.
- Only one of the options (A–D) fits the gap.
- Check the words before and after the gap, e.g. some words can only be followed by one preposition.
- Some questions focus on linking words and require an understanding of the whole passage.
- If you are not sure which word to choose, eliminate the options you know are wrong.
- When you have finished, read your completed text again and check that it makes sense.

Part 2

- Read the text, ignoring the gaps, to get a general understanding.
- Think about the missing words. Each gap only needs one word, usually a grammatical word, e.g. pronoun, linker or preposition, rather than topic vocabulary.
- Carefully read the text around each gap and think about what type of word is missing, e.g. dependent preposition or part of a fixed expression.
- When you have finished, read your completed text again and check that it makes sense.

Part 3

- Read the text, ignoring the gaps, to get a general understanding.
- Decide which type of word is needed in each gap, e.g. noun, adjective, adverb. Look at the whole sentence, not just at the line including the gap.
- Look at the word in capitals on the right of the gap. You may need to add a prefix or suffix, or make other changes. More than one change may be required.
- Check to see if nouns should be singular or plural.
- When you have finished, read your completed text again and check that it makes sense.

Part 4

- Look at the key word. What type of word is it? What usually follows it, e.g. an infinitive, a preposition, or could it be part of a phrasal verb?
- Think about the other words that need to change in the new word order, e.g. an adjective may become a noun or vice versa.
- Your answer may include words or expressions not used in the first sentence, but these must express exactly the same idea.
- Remember that contracted words count as two words, e.g. won't = will not.

Guidance: Parts 5–8

About the paper

Part 5

In Part 5, there is one long text to read. You have to answer six four-option, multiple-choice questions, which follow the order of the text.

Part 6

In Part 6, there is a set of four short texts on the same topic. There are four prompts which report the opinions and views of the writers of the four texts. You have to match each prompt to the correct text or writer.

Part 7

In Part 7, there is one long text from which six paragraphs have been removed. These are placed in jumbled order after the text, along with an extra paragraph that does not fit into any of the gaps. You have to use your knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, referencing and text structure in order to reconstruct the text.

Part 8

In Part 8, there is either one long text that has been divided into sections, or a series of short texts on the same topic. There are also ten prompts which report information and ideas from the text(s). You have to match each prompt to the correct text or section of text.

How to do the paper

Part 5

- Read the text quickly to get a general understanding of what it's about and how it's organised.
- Read through the questions or question stems without looking at the options (A–D), and underline keywords in the question stem.
- The questions follow the order of the text. Find the piece of text where a question is answered and read it carefully, underlining keywords and phrases.
- Try to answer the question. Then read the four options (A–D) and choose the one that is closest to your own answer. Look for the same meaning expressed in different ways.
- Check that the other options are all clearly wrong. If you're still unsure, see which of the options can be ruled out, and why.

Part 6

- Read the prompts (37–40) first, underlining key words and ideas. There are two main types of question. In most questions you are told which piece of text to read and which idea you are looking for. Do these questions first. In these questions:
 - Read through the section of text mentioned in the question prompt and find the relevant topic or idea. Read this carefully to make sure you understand what the writer thinks about it.
 - The question prompt then asks you to compare the writer's ideas on the topic with those of the other three writers. It may ask you who has the same ideas and opinions, or who expresses different ones.
 - Now read the other three texts quickly to locate references to the topic or idea. Then read these sections carefully to make sure you have found the writer who has the same or different ideas.
- In the other type of question, you are told the topic or idea and asked to find the writer who has a different opinion from the others on that topic. Do this question last. In this question:

- Read all the texts quickly to locate references to the topic or idea mentioned in the question prompt.
- Read these sections of text carefully to see which writer has different ideas on the topic to the other three.

Part 7

- Read the base text first, ignoring the gaps, to get a general understanding of what it's about and how it's organised.
- Next, carefully read the text around each gap and think about what type of information might be missing.
- Read paragraphs A–G. Check for topic and language links with the base text. Highlight words that relate to people, places, events and any time references. This will help you follow the development of the argument or narrative.
- Choose the best option to fit each gap. Make sure that all the pronouns and vocabulary references are clear.
- Once you've finished, re-read the completed text to be sure that it makes sense with the answers in the gaps.

Part 8

- In Part 8, you don't need to read the whole text or texts first. The text is long and contains information that you don't need to answer the questions.
- Read the prompts (47–56) first, underlining keywords and ideas.
- Read through the text(s) quickly and find information or ideas that are relevant to each question.
- For each question, when you find the relevant piece of text, read it very carefully to make sure it completely matches the meaning of the prompt.
- The ideas in each prompt are likely to occur in more than one section of the text, but only one text exactly matches the idea. You need to read all these sections carefully.

LEAP IS

Tip Strip

Question 3: These words all have a similar meaning, but which one is used to refer to a precise location?

Question 5: These are all linking phrases, but only one of them tells you that another surprising thing will follow.

Question 8: Only one of these verbs is usually used together with the noun 'opportunity'.

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Part 1

For questions 1–8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

In the exam, mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Example:

0 A hit B knocked C banged D beat

0	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>
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The Mysterious Isle

In the early morning of 23 January, 2009, the most powerful storm for a decade (0) western France. With wind speeds in (1) of 120 miles per hour, it flattened forests, (2) down power lines and caused massive destruction to buildings and roads. But it also left behind an extraordinary creation. Seven miles out to sea at the (3) where the Atlantic Ocean meets the estuary of the River Gironde, a small island had (4) out of the water. Locals soon gave it the name The Mysterious Isle. What was so remarkable, (5) its sudden apparition, was the fact that the island (6) intact in what is often quite a hostile sea environment. It could well become a permanent (7)

Scientists quickly realised that the island's appearance (8) a unique opportunity to study the creation and development of a new ecosystem. Within months, it had been colonised by seabirds, insects and vegetation.

- 1 A surplus B advance C excess D put
- 2 A fetched B brought C carried D sent
- 3 A scene B mark C stage D point
- 4 A risen B grown C lifted D surfaced
- 5 A in spite of B instead of C apart from D on account of
- 6 A prolonged B remained C resided D persevered
- 7 A item B issue C matter D feature
- 8 A delivered B awarded C proposed D offered

Tip Strip

Question 9: Which preposition is used with the verb to 'invest'?

Question 11: Which word completes the common expression that tells you that another point is going to be made?

Question 12: You need a possessive pronoun here.

Part 2

For questions **9–16**, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only **one** word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning **(0)**.

In the exam, write your answers **IN CAPITAL LETTERS** on the separate answer sheet.

Example:

0	G	R	E	A	T														
---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Choosing Binoculars

For independent travellers, a good pair of binoculars often represents an essential piece of kit. Unless you're planning to do a **(0)** deal of bird-watching or other specialist activities, however, there's no need to invest **(9)** a full-size pair. Compact binoculars are fine when **(10)** comes to general all-purpose viewing in good light. What's **(11)**, they are certainly easier to carry round.

Everyone has **(12)** own idea of what makes a comfortable pair of binoculars. When you're considering **(13)** of the many brands and models on the market you should choose, don't base your decision on price alone. A better idea **(14)** to pop down to your local photographic store and **(15)** those that fall within your price range a test run.

(16) you might like the look of a particular pair, you may not find the handling and viewing position comfortable. Finally, make sure the binoculars come with a decent case and a comfortable neck strap. These details can make all the difference when you're out in the field.