

Cambridge ESOL's First Certificate in English deals with Intermediate level students, at level B2 of the Council of Europe's Common Framework of Reference for Languages.

The Linguatime preparation course for the Cambridge First Certificate in English involves 3 daily sessions, of 90 minutes:

- **Two General English sessions in a group (maximum 12 students) in the morning** to help students polish their English;

The General English Group sessions aim to help you improve your English language skills effectively in everyday situations.

The course, with a provided course book, helps with the development of:

- ✓ The four basic skills: speaking, listening, writing and reading
- ✓ Grammatical accuracy (according to your current level)
- ✓ A good range in vocabulary (according to your current level)
- ✓ More accurate pronunciation
- ✓ Social English skills and useful language
- ✓ Learning skills to encourage self-study

- **1 session in a mini-group (from 1 to a maximum of 4 students) in the afternoon**, to prepare students specifically for the exams.

Each student is provided with a personal study programme to maximise study time.

The Certificate is divided into 4 parts:

- Reading and Use of English (2015 update)
- Writing
- Listening
- Speaking

FCE Paper 1: Reading and Use of English (2015 update)

Students are trained for pre-reading comprehension, allowing students to develop essential prediction techniques which stimulate interest in several topics; written and verbal reviews, increasing comprehension skills; and the cause and effect of dates and names as linguistic devices, amongst others. Moreover, students also practise different reading techniques such as reading for detail, skimming, scanning and comprehension.

The paper is 1 hour and 15 minutes long, and is divided into 8 parts:

- Multiple Choice Cloze
- Open Cloze
- Word Formation
- Key Word Transformation
- Multiple Choice
- Cross Text Multiple Matching
- Gapped Text
- Multiple Matching

Length of texts: Approximately 2200-2500 words in total.

FCE Paper 2: Writing (2015 update)

To prepare for this section, students learn how to organise ideas in a logical sequence, carefully considering different context and complexities. Furthermore, students improve their spelling and punctuation.

The paper typically deals with targeting a number of language focuses such as advising, apologising, comparing, describing, explaining, expressing opinions, justifying, persuading, recommending and suggesting. Students will learn how to apply these functions.

The paper is 1 hour and 20 minutes long, and is divided into two parts:

- Discursive Essay, 140-190 words;
- Article, Email/Letter, Report, Review 140-190 words.

FCE Paper 3: Listening

In order to train for the listening section, students are exposed to a vast range of audio materials varying in terms of voices, accents, styles and delivery – in order to learn and identify word stress and improve listening comprehension to practice during classroom discussions.

The paper is approximately 40 minutes long, and contains four parts including:

- Multiple choice: A series of extracts with one or more speakers lasting around 30 seconds each.
- Sentence completion
- Multiple matching
- Multiple choice: A three to four minute dialogue between interacting speakers.

Each listening article is heard twice and consists of multiple choice questions, sentence completion and phrase matching – all relating to a specific listening piece.

FCE Paper 5: Speaking

Students learn to initiate conversation, respond, speak clearly and describe themselves through role-playing, idea exchanges, debating opinions and negotiation. Such practice is made through group discussions and speaking at length individually – allowing students to learn how to connect words when speaking.

The paper is approximately 15 minutes long, and contains four parts including:

- An interview section
- Individual speaking
- A collaborative task/conversation
- A discussion.

TEST DATES AND FEES

Test Dates	Closing Dates for Applications
10 th March 2017	3 rd February 2017
3 rd June 2017	21 st April 2017
24 th August 2017	21 st July 2017
9 th December 2017	27 th October 2017
Examination Prices	
Registration Fee	€170
Stage 1 Late Entry Fee	€40 (up to 15 days after closing)
Stage 2 Late Entry Fee	€70 (as from the 16th day after closing)

Students need to register for the exam session directly with the test centre. All papers will be held on the same day except for the Speaking exam, which may be held before *or* after the written papers.

COURSE DETAILS

Hours per week	22.5
Timetable	9:00am – 12:30pm & 13.00pm - 14.30pm or 14.45pm - 16.15pm (subject to change)
Minimum Age	18 years
Start Date	Any Monday
Course Length	Minimum 5 weeks is recommended
Levels Available	Upper-Intermediate Advanced
Additional Charges	Standard Registration Fee / Course Materials
Maximum Class Size	12/4
Average Class Size	10-12