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**JANUARY 2015**

**Your guide to the updated  
Cambridge English:  
Advanced (CAE).**

# Guide to the updated Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE).

**JANUARY 2015**

Your at-a-glance guide to the changes to Paper 1: Reading and Paper 3: Use of English (now combined)

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## Specifications up to December 2014 Reading Paper PAPER FORMAT

4 Parts in total

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### TASKS

#### Part 1: Multiple choice (6 questions)

Three themed texts, each followed by two multiple-choice questions with four options: A, B, C or D.

#### Part 2: Gapped text (6 questions)

A text with six missing paragraphs; candidates choose the correct paragraph order from a list of seven paragraphs (A-G).

#### Part 3: Multiple choice (7 questions)

A text followed by seven multiple-choice questions with four options: A, B, C or D.

#### Part 4: Multiple matching (15 questions)

One or several texts with fifteen prompt questions; candidates match the prompt to the relevant section of the text(s).

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### TIMING

1 hour 15 minutes.

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### NUMBER OF QUESTIONS

34 questions.

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### MARKS

Parts 1, 2 and 3 receive 2 marks per correct answer. Part 4 receives 1 mark per correct answer.

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### LENGTH OF TEXTS

550-850 words per text.  
Approximately 3000 words in total.

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## Specifications up to December 2014 Use of English Paper PAPER FORMAT

5 Parts in total

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### TASKS

#### Part 1: Multiple choice cloze (12 questions)

A text with twelve gaps. Candidates choose the correct missing words by answering twelve multiple-choice questions with four options: A, B, C or D.

#### Part 2: Open cloze (15 questions)

A text with fifteen gaps. Candidates fill in the missing words.

#### Part 3: Word formation (10 questions)

A text with ten gaps. Candidates form the missing words from the given stem words.

#### Part 4: Gapped sentences (5 questions)

Each question consists of three separate sentences, with a gapped word in each. Candidates write one word which is appropriate in all three sentences.

#### Part 5: Key word transformations (8 questions)

Eight separate questions, each containing a lead-in sentence, followed by a 'key word' and a second (gapped) sentence. Candidates complete the second sentence in three to six words, and must include the 'key word'.

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### TIMING

1 hour.

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### NUMBER OF QUESTIONS

50 questions.

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### MARKS

Parts 1, 2 and 3 receive 1 mark per correct answer. Part 4 receives 2 marks per correct answer. Part 5 receives up to 2 marks per correct answer.

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# Guide to the updated Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE).

**JANUARY 2015**

Your at-a-glance guide to the changes to Paper 1: Reading and Paper 3: Use of English (now combined)

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## Specifications from January 2015 Reading and Use of English Paper PAPER FORMAT

8 Parts in total

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### TASKS

#### Part 1: Multiple choice cloze (8 questions)

A text with eight gaps. Candidates choose the correct missing words by answering eight multiple-choice questions with four options: A, B, C or D.

#### Part 2: Open cloze (8 questions)

A text with eight gaps. Candidates fill in the missing words.

#### Part 3: Word formation (8 questions)

A text with eight gaps. Candidates form the missing words from the given stem words.

#### Part 4: Key word transformations (6 questions)

Six separate questions, each containing a lead-in sentence, followed by a 'key word' and a second (gapped) sentence. Candidates complete the second sentence in three to six words, and must include the 'key word'.

#### Part 5: Multiple choice (6 questions)

A text followed by six multiple-choice questions with four options: A, B, C or D.

#### Part 6: Cross-text multiple matching (4 questions)

Four short texts with multiple matching prompts; candidates match a prompt to the relevant sections of the text(s).

#### Part 7: Gapped text (6 questions)

A text with six missing paragraphs; candidates choose the correct paragraph order from a list of seven paragraphs (A-G).

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### TASKS (CONTINUED)

#### Part 8: Multiple matching (10 questions)

One or several short texts with ten prompt questions; candidates match the prompt to the relevant section of the text(s).

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### TIMING

1 hour 30 minutes.

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### NUMBER OF QUESTIONS

56 questions.

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### MARKS

Parts 1, 2, 3 and 8 receive 1 mark per correct answer. Part 4 receives up to 2 marks per correct answer. Parts 5, 6 and 7 receive 2 marks per correct answer.

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### LENGTH OF TEXTS

Approximately 3000-3500 words in total.

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# Guide to the updated Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE).

**JANUARY 2015**

Your at-a-glance guide to the changes to Paper 2: Writing

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## Specifications up to December 2014

### Writing Paper

#### PAPER FORMAT

2 Parts in total.

Part 1 is compulsory;

Part 2 is a choice of one out of five tasks.

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#### TASKS

##### Part 1: (Question 1)

A writing task where candidates read input information of up to 150 words (for example, adverts, letter extracts, emails, postcards, diaries, short articles, etc.) and write their answer based on the input.

Tasks types are: Article, Report, Proposal or Letter.

##### Part 2: (Questions 2-4)

A contextualised writing task described in no more than 80 words. Task types are: Article, Competition entry, Contribution to a longer piece, Essay, Information sheet, Letter, Proposal, Report or Review.

##### Question 5

Question 5 has two options and is based on one of two set reading texts. Task types are: Article, Essay, Report or Review.

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#### TIMING

1 hour 30 minutes.

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#### NUMBER OF WORDS

Part 1: 180-220 words; Part 2: 220-260 words.

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#### MARKS

Each question is worth equal marks.

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## Specifications from January 2015

### Writing Paper

#### PAPER FORMAT

2 Parts in total.

Part 1 is compulsory;

Part 2 is a choice of one out of three tasks.

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#### TASKS

##### Part 1: (Question 1)

A writing task where candidates read input notes about a topic, including three bullet points.

Candidates write an essay based on two of the bullet points: they will explain which of the two points is most important and give reasons for their opinion.

Task type: Discursive Essay.

##### Part 2: (Questions 2-4)

A contextualised writing task with a clear context, topic, purpose and target reader.

Task types are: Letter, Proposal, Report, Review.

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#### TIMING

1 hour 30 minutes.

---

#### NUMBER OF WORDS

Part 1: 220-260 words; Part 2: 220-260 words.

---

#### MARKS

Each question is worth equal marks.

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# Guide to the updated Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE).

**JANUARY 2015**

Your at-a-glance guide to the changes to Paper 4: Listening

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## Specifications up to December 2014

### Listening Paper

#### PAPER FORMAT

4 Parts in total.

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#### TASKS

##### Part 1: Multiple choice (6 questions)

Three short extracts between interacting speakers, heard twice. Candidates answer two three-option multiple-choice questions on each exchange. Questions focus on feeling, attitude, opinion, purpose, function, agreement, course of action, gist, detail, etc.

##### Part 2: Sentence completion (8 questions)

A three-minute monologue, heard twice. Candidates answer questions on specific information and stated opinion.

##### Part 3: Multiple choice (6 questions)

A conversation between two or more speakers, lasting around four minutes, heard twice. Candidates answer six multiple-choice questions, with four options: A, B, C or D. Questions focus on attitude and opinion.

##### Part 4: Multiple matching (10 questions)

Five 30-second themed monologues, heard twice through. Candidates do two multiple-matching tasks requiring the selection of the five correct options from a list of eight. Questions focus on gist, attitude, main points and interpreting context.

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#### TIMING

Approximately 40 minutes.

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#### NUMBER OF QUESTIONS

30.

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#### MARKS

1 mark per correct answer.

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## Specifications from January 2015

### Listening Paper

#### PAPER FORMAT

4 Parts in total.

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#### TASKS

##### Part 1: Multiple choice (6 questions)

Three short extracts between interacting speakers, heard twice. Candidates answer two three-option multiple-choice questions on each exchange. Questions focus on feeling, attitude, opinion, purpose, function, agreement, course of action, gist and detail.

##### Part 2: Sentence completion (8 questions)

A three-minute monologue, heard twice. Candidates answer questions on specific information and stated opinion.

##### Part 3: Multiple choice (6 questions)

A conversation between two or more speakers, lasting around four minutes, heard twice. Candidates answer six multiple-choice questions, with four options: A, B, C or D. Questions focus on attitude, opinion, gist, detail, speaker feeling, purpose, function and speaker agreement.

##### Part 4: Multiple matching (10 questions)

Five 30-second themed monologues, heard twice through. Candidates do two multiple-matching tasks requiring the selection of the five correct options from a list of eight. Questions focus on gist, attitude, main points, interpreting context, opinion, purpose and speaker feeling.

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#### TIMING

Approximately 40 minutes.

---

#### NUMBER OF QUESTIONS

30.

---

#### MARKS

1 mark per correct answer.

---



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# Guide to the updated Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE).

**JANUARY 2015**

Your at-a-glance guide to the changes to Paper 5: Speaking

## Specifications up to December 2014 Speaking Paper

### PAPER FORMAT

4 Parts in total.

### TASKS

#### Part 1: Conversation between Interlocutor and each candidate (3 minutes)

Candidates take it in turns to answer spoken questions that focus on interactional and social language

#### Part 2: Individual 'long turn' (1 minute) and response from second candidate (30 seconds)

Each candidate is given three pictures and asked to talk about them, using the prompt questions on the page. The second candidate gives a brief response. Tasks focus on discourse organisation, comparing, describing, expressing opinions and speculating

#### Part 3: Two-way conversation between candidates (4 minutes)

Candidates collaborate on a task, using visual and written prompts, with the focus on sustaining the interaction by: sharing ideas, expressing and justifying opinions, agreeing and/or disagreeing, suggesting, speculating, evaluating and negotiating to reach a decision.

#### Part 4: Discussion related to the task in Part 3 (4 minutes)

Candidates answer spoken questions that focus on: expressing and justifying opinions, agreeing and/or disagreeing.

### TIMING

15 minutes.

### ASSESSMENT

Candidates are assessed on their performance throughout.

## Specifications from January 2015 Speaking Paper

### PAPER FORMAT

4 Parts in total.

### TASKS

#### Part 1: Conversation between Interlocutor and each candidate (2 minutes)

Candidates take it in turns to answer spoken questions that focus on interactional and social language

#### Part 2: Individual 'long turn' (1 minute) and response from second candidate (30 seconds).

**Total time 4 minutes.**

Each candidate is given three pictures and asked to talk about them, using the prompt questions on the page. The second candidate gives a brief response.

Tasks focus on discourse organisation, comparing, describing, expressing opinions and speculating

#### Part 3: Two-way discussion between candidates (2 minutes) and decision-making task (1 minute)

**Total time 4 minutes.**

Candidates collaborate on a task, using written prompts, with the focus on sustaining the interaction by: sharing ideas, expressing and justifying opinions, agreeing and/or disagreeing, suggesting, speculating, evaluating and negotiating to reach a decision.

#### Part 4: Discussion related to the task in Part 3 (5 minutes)

Candidates answer spoken questions that focus on: expressing and justifying opinions, agreeing and/or disagreeing.

### TIMING

15 minutes.

### ASSESSMENT

Candidates are assessed on their performance throughout.



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