Exam day tips: Cambridge English paper-based exams

Here are some tips so you know what to expect on the exam day. These tips are for your written, paper-based exams (not including the Speaking test or Young Learner exams). For more information, go to www.CambridgeESOL.org



Before the exam

Check the date, time and address of your exam. Your centre will send you this information. If you have any questions, contact your centre before the exam day.

Remember to check how long it will take you to travel to the exam, especially if your exam is at a weekend or on a holiday.

Get to the exam early! Follow the direction signs to find the exam room or go to the reception of the building and ask for directions.



Bring your identification, for example a passport. It must be an original (not a copy) and must have a photo of you.

Bring pens and pencils. Your centre will also give you pens and pencils if you need them.

You cannot have a bag at your desk, your centre will show you where to put any bags you have.

Do not bring food or drink to your desk in the exam room (except a bottle of water).

You cannot bring your phone or any other electronic devices to your desk in the exam. Your centre will tell you where to put them during the exam.



During the exam

Do not bring bags, phones, etc. to your desk.

Listen carefully to the instructions which the invigilator will read out.

Do not talk to other people, or try to see what they are writing.

Make sure you follow the exam instructions. If you have any questions, need help or want to leave the room, raise your hand to ask for help.

There will be a clock in the exam room to help you with your timing.

If you are doing a Listening test, check that you can hear the test properly. Raise your hand immediately if you cannot hear the recording.



At the end of each paper

At the end of each paper (e.g. the Writing paper, the Reading paper, etc.), the invigilator will tell you to stop writing. **Stop immediately.**

Give all papers to the invigilator, including question papers answer sheets, rough paper, etc.

Always **stay in your seat** until the invigilator gives you permission to leave the room.

If you have any questions or problems, tell the invigilator immediately.

Good luck with your exam!