



CAMBRIDGE ENGLISH
Language Assessment
Part of the University of Cambridge

Cambridge English Young Learners

Cambridge Young Learners English Tests (YLE)

Information for candidates
and parents



www.cambridgeenglish.org/younglearners

Information for candidates and parents

Dear Parent,

In the next eight pages you will find all the information you need to help your child prepare for the *Cambridge English: Young Learners* tests: *Starters*, *Movers* and *Flyers*.

You will find out about what is in the tests and what your child needs to be able to do. There is also advice on how to prepare for the test and tips for the day of the test. There is information about what happens after the test, too.

Please read this information and share it with your child. You can print this document, but it is better to use it online, because there are links to tests, videos and other useful information.



Best wishes,

Cambridge English
Language Assessment

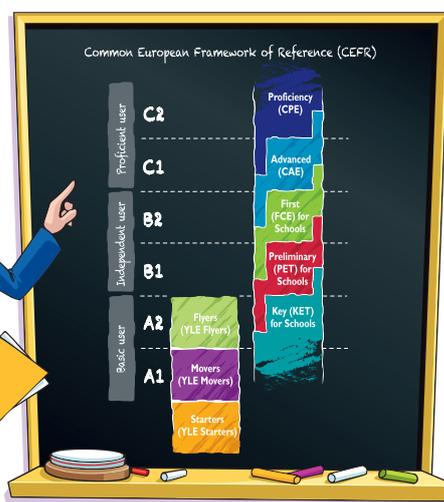
About the Cambridge English: Young Learners tests

The *Cambridge English: Young Learners* tests are produced by Cambridge English Language Assessment (part of the University of Cambridge). These tests are for learners in primary and lower secondary education. *Starters*, *Movers* and *Flyers* are part of the range of Cambridge English exams.

➔ View the range of Cambridge English exams

The tests are designed to make a child's early language learning experience positive and fun. Parents can therefore think of the *Cambridge English: Young Learners* tests as a way to help their children enjoy learning as well as increase their self-confidence and language skills.

Many children take *Cambridge English: Young Learners* tests at their school. Your local Cambridge English exam centre can give you all the information you need about registering children for the test, including entry costs and dates.



➔ Find your nearest exam centre

➔ Visit our website for information on taking Cambridge English: Young Learners on computer or selected tablets

About the tests

Here is a summary of the three tests:

Starters

Total length = approximately 45 minutes

Skill	Part	Task	Action
Listening 20 minutes	1	Match objects outside a picture with the place they should go inside a picture.	Draw lines. 
	2	Answer questions about a child or an animal.	Write names or numbers. <i>Alex</i> 
	3	Choose the picture with the correct information.	Tick boxes. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 
	4	Choose an object in a picture and a correct colour.	Colour objects in a picture. 
Reading and Writing 20 minutes	1	Decide if pictures match the words next to them.	Put ticks or crosses. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 
	2	Decide if a picture matches sentences about it.	Write yes or no. <i>yes</i> 
	3	Use given letters to name objects in pictures.	Spell words. <i>spelling</i> 
	4	Choose correct words to fill gaps in a short text.	Copy words. <i>copy copy</i> 
	5	Answer questions about a picture story.	Write words or numbers. <i>12</i> 
Speaking 3-5 minutes	1	Find things in a big picture.	Point to objects. 
	2	Choose correct object cards and understand prepositions.	Place object cards. 
	3	Give short answers to questions about a big picture.	Name objects, colours and say numbers. 
	4	Give short answers to questions about objects.	Name objects, colours and say numbers. 
	5	Answer questions about you.	Give short answers. 

- ➔ [Download sample Cambridge English: Starters exam papers](#)
- ➔ [See the Speaking test video](#)
- ➔ [Read an examiner's comments on the Speaking test](#)
- ➔ [Download the Cambridge English: Starters Word List Picture Book](#)

 About the tests

 20 Preparing

 Test day

 After the test

Movers

Total length = approximately 65 minutes

Skill	Part	Task	Action
Listening 25 minutes	1	Match names outside a picture with the people that are inside a picture.	Draw lines. 
	2	Answer questions about a place, trip, party etc.	Write words and numbers. 
	3	Match days of the week with different activity pictures.	Draw lines. 
	4	Choose the picture with the correct information.	Tick boxes. 
	5	Choose the right parts of a picture and understand colouring and drawing instructions.	Colour parts of a picture. Draw something. 
Reading and Writing 30 minutes	1	Match pictures/words with describing sentences.	Copy words. 
	2	Decide if a picture matches sentences about it.	Write yes or no. 
	3	Choose the right answer to questions.	Circle a letter. 
	4	Choose correct pictures/ words to fill gaps in a short story and the correct title for the story.	Copy words and tick a box. 
	5	Find words in a story to complete sentences.	Copy 1, 2 or 3 words. 
	6	Choose the right words to fill gaps in a short text.	Copy words. 
Speaking 5-7 minutes	1	Find differences between two pictures (objects, colours, numbers, positions etc.).	Say what is different. 
	2	Talk about pictures that tell a story.	Say short sentences. 
	3	Choose a picture that is different from three others.	Say how it is different. 
	4	Answer questions about you.	Give short answers. 

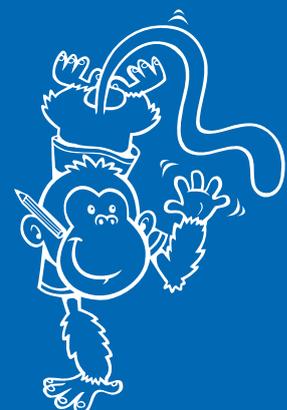
- ➔ [Download sample Cambridge English: Movers exam papers](#)
- ➔ [See the Speaking test video](#)
- ➔ [Read an examiner's comments on the Speaking test](#)
- ➔ [Download the Cambridge English: Movers word list](#)

 About the tests

 20 Preparing

 Test day

 After the test



Flyers

Total length = approximately 75 minutes

Skill	Part	Task	Action
Listening 25 minutes	1	Match names outside a picture with the people that are inside a picture.	Draw lines. 
	2	Answer questions about a place, trip, party etc.	Write words and numbers. 
	3	Match people or objects in one set with pictures of objects in another set.	Write letters in boxes. 
	4	Choose the picture with the correct information.	Tick boxes. 
	5	Choose the correct parts of a picture and understand colouring, drawing and writing instructions.	Colour parts of a picture. Draw and write something. 
Reading and Writing 40 minutes	1	Match words with describing sentences.	Copy words. 
	2	Decide if a picture matches sentences about it.	Write yes or no. 
	3	Choose the correct missing parts of a conversation.	Write a letter. 
	4	Choose correct words to fill gaps in a short story and the correct title for the story.	Copy words and tick a box. 
	5	Find words in a story to complete sentences.	Copy 1, 2, 3 or 4 words. 
	6	Choose the right word to fill gaps in a short text.	Copy words. 
	7	Think of words to complete a diary or message text.	Choose and write words. 
Speaking 7-9 minutes	1	Find differences between two pictures (objects, colours, numbers, positions, actions etc.).	Say what is different. 
	2	Ask for and give information about two similar situations.	Ask and answer questions. 
	3	Talk about pictures that tell a story.	Say sentences. 
	4	Answer questions about you.	Give short answers. 

- ➔ [Download sample Cambridge English: Flyers exam papers](#)
- ➔ [See the Speaking test video](#)
- ➔ [Read an examiner's comments on the Speaking test](#)
- ➔ [Download the Cambridge English: Flyers word list](#)

Preparing for Cambridge English: Young Learners

Here are some things that your child should practise doing to prepare for *Cambridge English: Young Learners*.

At all levels (*Starters, Movers and Flyers*) candidates need to be able to:

- understand the words on the word list for their test
 - ➔ [Download the Starters word list](#)
 - ➔ [Download the Movers word list](#)
 - ➔ [Download the Flyers word list](#)

Aa	Bb	Cc	Dd	Ee	Ff	Gg
Hh	Ii	Jj	Kk	Ll	Mm	Nn
Oo	Pp	Qq	Rr	Ss	Tt	Uu
Vv	Ww	Xx	Yy	Zz		

- spell the words on the word list correctly
- use present simple and continuous tenses (e.g. 'I go' and 'I am going')
- understand descriptions of people (what someone is doing, what they are wearing and what they look like)
- understand prepositions (for example, to understand where people and objects are in pictures)
- write words that are spelled for them and other words that they hear
- copy words to complete texts
- understand sentences that describe pictures and also speak about what they see in pictures
- follow colouring instructions
- ask and answer simple questions.

tennis



At *Starters*, they also need to be able to:

- look at some jumbled letters, and put them in order to make a word that matches a picture.

At *Movers and Flyers*, they also need to be able to:

- use past simple tenses (e.g. 'I went')
- talk about what is happening in a picture story
- talk about the differences between two pictures.

At *Flyers*, they also need to be able to:

- use the past continuous (e.g. 'I was going') and future forms ('going to' and 'will').



Our Parents' Newsletter

The Cambridge English Parents' Newsletter has activities, tips and articles to help you help your child learn English.

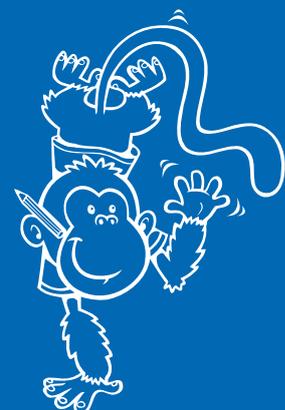
➔ [Sign up here](#)

 About the tests

 Preparing

 Test day

 After the test



Preparing to take the test

You want your child to feel as confident as possible on the day of the test. What can you do to help?

- Make sure your child knows the important information in this document, looks at the pictures that show what to do in the exam and tries the sample test papers. When children know what to expect, they will feel more confident and prepared.
- Most candidates will probably prepare for their test in English classes at school, but they can also practise at home. This can help them feel more confident. With your help, your child can find answers to their questions about the test or think of questions to ask their teacher about the test. You can also help them learn and perhaps give them short tests to encourage them.



In the Listening test:

- The recordings are played twice. If candidates miss something the first time they listen, there will be another chance to hear the answers.
- It isn't important how well candidates colour or draw parts of a picture. They just need to find the right part of the picture, use the right colour and make a drawing recognisable.



In the Reading and Writing test:

- It will be helpful to make sure your child can write clearly.
- Answers are generally very short and words can most often be copied from a word box or from parts of the text, so candidates don't need to write complete sentences.



In the Speaking test:

- Examiners are helpful and friendly. They are experienced and encouraging people. Candidates should try to relax and enjoy this part of the test. Suggest they try to use phrases that they know for communicating, for example, 'Good morning', 'Pardon?' 'Yes, please', and 'thank you'.
- If candidates don't understand something, they can ask the examiner to repeat what they said. Suggest they say: 'Sorry, can you say that again?'

Good morning

Visit our website for

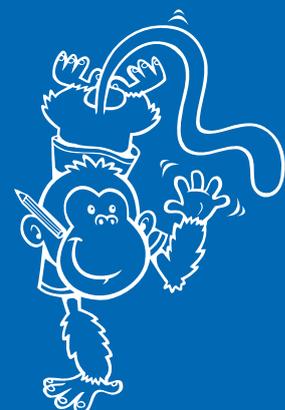
- ➔ [more about Cambridge English: Young Learners exams](#)
- ➔ [more information for parents](#)
- ➔ [free online learning games](#)

 About the tests

 Preparing

 Test day

 After the test



The day of the test

On the day of the test, your child will probably be excited and nervous. Remember that the test is designed to reward what your child can do in English and to be enjoyable - nobody fails the test.



About the tests



Preparing



Test day

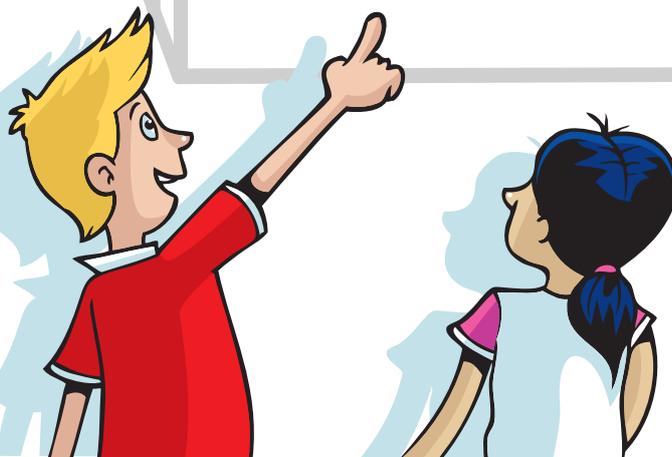


After the test

EXAM DAY TIPS

Candidates should:

- ✓ **go to bed early** the night before the test
- ✓ **have lots of time to get ready** so they don't need to hurry
- ✓ **have a good, healthy breakfast**
- ✓ **not try too hard to study, at home or at school, just before the test** - try to keep the atmosphere calm
- ✓ go to the **toilet** before the test
- ✓ take some **water** to drink
- ✓ **listen carefully** to the examiner's instructions and to the recordings
- ✓ **read all the instructions and questions carefully** before they start each part of the test
- ✓ know they **must not talk** to the other candidates during the test
- ✓ know they can **raise their hand in silence** if they need to ask a question
- ✓ know they **must not ask questions** during the Listening test
- ✓ remember to **check their work** and spellings when they have finished
- ✓ try to **write an answer to all the questions** even if they don't know the right one
- ✓ remember this test has the same types of questions as their practice tests so there will be **no surprises**.



After the test

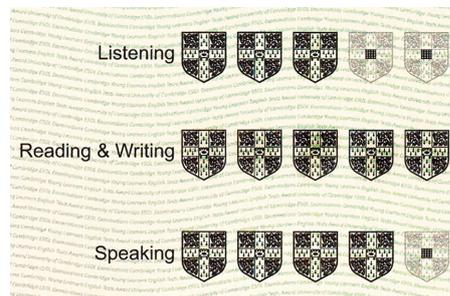
All candidates who complete *Cambridge English: Young Learners* tests receive a certificate. There is no pass or fail result.

Every child who takes the test should feel they have achieved something important.

On their certificate, candidates will see shields for Listening, Reading and Writing, and Speaking. The maximum score for each is five bold shields. One bold shield means that the child took the test but can still improve a lot in this part of the test. Five bold shields mean that the child did very well in this part of the test.

A total score of 10 or more bold shields shows that the child is ready to start preparing for the next Cambridge English test.

Certificates usually arrive three to four weeks after the test or earlier. If you need to check when your certificate will arrive, contact the exam centre.



What happens next?

Cambridge English exams are for every stage in learning English, and the *Cambridge English: Young Learners* exams are just the first steps. *Cambridge English: Key for Schools* is at Level A2, like *Cambridge English: Flyers*, but it is for learners in secondary education, and it tests slightly different skills (for example, candidates need to write more in *Cambridge English: Key for Schools*). The next exams are *Cambridge English: Preliminary for Schools* and *Cambridge English: First for Schools*, then learners can go on to take *Cambridge English: Advanced* and *Cambridge English: Proficiency*.

 About the tests

 Preparing

 Test day

 After the test



“ I’ve taken two of the *Cambridge English: Young Learners* tests and won many little shields. My English has become better and better, and I love Cambridge English!

Huang Yaozu

Champion of the 2010 China YLE speaking competition – *Movers*, Dongguan Nancheng Mingshiyuan Training School, China

”

Cambridge English
Language Assessment
1 Hills Road
Cambridge
CB1 2EU
United Kingdom
www.cambridgeenglish.org/help

 A DIVISION OF
CAMBRIDGE ASSESSMENT

 Association of Language Teachers in Europe

