



# Examination Guide 2012

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## Full details of:

PET  
Cambridge First Certificate  
Cambridge Advanced  
Cambridge Proficiency  
BEC  
BULATS  
TOEIC  
TOEFL  
IELTS

## General Guide to Examinations and Levels at Frances King

		TOEIC PET (Preliminary)	TOEIC PET (Preliminary)	TOEIC TOEFL IELTS BEC Vantage FCE (First Certificate)	TOEIC TOEFL IELTS BEC Higher CAE (Advanced)	TOEFL IELTS BEC Higher CPE (Proficiency)
<b>A</b> Beginners	<b>B</b> Elementary					
<b>C</b> Intermediate						
<b>D</b> Upper Intermediate 1						
<b>E</b> Upper Intermediate 2						
	<b>F</b> Advanced 1					
						<b>G</b> Advanced 2

**Note:** For more detailed information about levels and examinations (and their scores), please see the last two pages of this booklet.



## PET Cambridge Preliminary English Test

### What kind of examination is it?

PET is an intermediate level exam, set at level B1 of the Council of Europe's Common European Framework for modern languages. It recognises the ability to cope with everyday written and spoken communications.

### How will it help me?

This provides evidence of your ability to use English at intermediate level. It is a useful first step before moving on to try the First Certificate (FCE) examination.

### What does the examination consist of?

There are three papers:

- |                               |               |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>A.</b> Reading and Writing | 1 hour 30 min |
| <b>B.</b> Listening           | 30 min        |
| <b>C.</b> Speaking            | 10-12 min     |

### How can I prepare for this exam?

There is not a special course for this examination, but you can use practice tests in the study centres at each school.

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### Examination Details

Level to take examination	Intermediate / Upper Intermediate
Frances King Course	No special course, but you can prepare in our study centres
Last day to register and pay for exam	Eight weeks before date of examination
Examination board	Cambridge ESOL
Examination dates	Every month except December
Examination fee	£60
Results arrive	6 weeks after the examination 10 weeks for certificates

Frances King is an official examination centre for the PET computer-based exam. However, we need a minimum of four students in order to run an exam. Otherwise, the examination takes place at central London locations.

More information at: <http://www.cambridgeesol.org/exams/pet.htm>



## **FCE** Cambridge First Certificate in English

### **What kind of examination is it?**

This examination tests general language competency at Upper Intermediate level. It tests your reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. FCE is a good step before attempting the Cambridge Advanced (CAE) examination.

### **How will it help me?**

This is one of the most well known English language examinations and is widely accepted by employers worldwide.

### **What does the examination consist of?**

There are 5 papers, taken on two separate days; papers 1-4 are taken one day and paper 5 on another day:

Paper 1: Reading	1 hour
Paper 2: Writing	1 hours and 20 min.
Paper 3: Use of English	45 min
Paper 4: Listening	40 min
Paper 5: Speaking	14 min

### **How can I prepare for this exam?**

There are special closed courses, no 17 & 20, where students can prepare at Frances King for this exam, after successfully completing an entry test. You can also use practice tests in each of the study centres.

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### Examination Details

Level to take examination		Upper Intermediate
Frances King course		No. 17, 20
Frances King course starts	4-week	July 2, July 30, Sept 3
	12-week	January 3, March 19, September 17
Last day to register and pay for exam		4-week: First day of the course. 12-week: Third week of the course.
Examination board		Cambridge ESOL
Examination dates	4-week	July 27, August 23, September 28*
	12-week	March 24*, June 9, December 8
Examination fee		£110
Results arrive		6 weeks after the examination or 12 weeks for certificates

Frances King is an official examination centre for FCE computer-based examinations. Computer-based examinations will take place at the school.

More information at: <http://www.cambridgeesol.org/exams/fce.htm>

**\*Computer based exam, all other exams are paper based**



## CAE Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English

### What kind of examination is it?

This examination tests your ability to communicate at an advanced level with a practical emphasis. It tests reading, writing, listening and speaking skills.

### How will it help me?

A number of universities and higher education colleges regard this as proof of adequate language skills for courses taught and assessed in English. This examination indicates to employers your ability to use fluent and effective English. For more see: <http://www.cambridgeesol.org/recognition/search.php>

### What does the examination consist of?

There are five papers, taken on two separate days. Papers 1-4 are taken one day and paper 5 on another.

Paper 1: Reading	1 hour 15 min
Paper 2: Writing	1 hour 30min
Paper 3: English in Use	1 hour
Paper 4: Listening	40 min
Paper 5: Speaking	15 min

### How can I prepare for this exam?

There are special courses, no 18 & 21, where students can prepare at Frances King for this examination after successfully completing an entry test. You can also use practice tests in each of the study centres.

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### Examination Details

Level to take examination	Advanced	
Frances King course	No. 18, 21	
Frances King course starts	4-week	July 2, July 30, Aug 28
	12-week	January 3, March 19, September 17
Last day to register and pay for exam	4-week : First day of the course. 12-week: Third week of the course.	
Examination board	Cambridge ESOL	
Examination dates	4-week	July 26, August 24, September 22*
	12-week	March 23*, June 13, December 8*
Examination fee	£115	
Results arrive	6 weeks after the examination or 12 weeks for certificates	

Frances King is an official examination centre for CAE computer-based examinations. Computer-based examinations will take place at the school. Paper-based exams at a location in London.

More information at: <http://www.cambridgeesol.org/exams/cae.htm>

**\*Computer based exam, all other exams are paper based**



## **CPE** Cambridge Proficiency Examination

### **What kind of examination is it?**

The Proficiency exam is the highest of the Cambridge ESOL qualifications. It tests your reading, writing, listening and speaking skills at a very advanced level.

### **How will it help me?**

This examination is accepted by many UK universities as proof of applicants having a suitable level of English to follow courses. It is also recognised by some countries as a qualification for teaching English in schools. Many employers recognise this qualification, see:

<http://www.cambridgeesol.org/recognition/search.php>

### **What does the examination consist of?**

There are 5 papers, taken on two separate days. Papers 1-4 are taken one day, and paper 5 on another.

Paper 1: Reading	1 hour 30 min
Paper 2: Writing	2 hours
Paper 3: Use of English	1 hour 30 min
Paper 4: Listening	40 min
Paper 5: Speaking	19 min

### **How can I prepare for this exam?**

There is a special closed course, no 19, where students can prepare at Frances King for this examination after successfully completing an entry test. You can also use practice tests in the study centres at both schools.

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### **Examination Details**

Level to take examination	Advanced
Frances King course	No. 19
Frances King course starts	September 17
Last day to register and pay for exam	December Examination – October 9
Examination board	Cambridge ESOL
Examination dates	December 6
Examination fee	£120
Results arrive	6 weeks after the examination or 12 weeks for certificates

All CPE exams are paper-based and examinations take place at locations in London.

More information at: <http://www.cambridgeesol.org/exams/cpe.htm>



## **BEC** Cambridge Business English Certificates

### **What kind of examination is it?**

These exams are designed to test English language ability used in the context of business. They are suitable for adults (aged 16 and over) who are either preparing for a career in business or already in work.

### **How will it help me?**

The exams can help provide you with greater confidence in working in an international business environment. BEC Higher is accepted for entry to some US and UK universities for business-related degrees.

### **What does the examination consist of?**

There are 4 papers:

Reading	1 hour for Vantage & Higher
Writing	45 min for Vantage, 1 hour 10 min for Higher
Listening	40 min for Vantage & Higher
Speaking	14 min for Vantage & 16 min for Higher

### **How can I prepare for this exam?**

There is no special course to prepare for the BEC examinations, however it may be useful to follow business English courses to improve your business English skills. There are also practice materials in the study centres.

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### **Examination Details**

Level to take examination	Upper Intermediate (Vantage) Advanced (Higher)
Frances King course	No. 2, 31 & 34 are useful but not specifically for this exam.
Last day to register and pay for exam	8 weeks before the examination date
Examination board	Cambridge ESOL
Examination dates	Vantage: March 20; June 4, December 5 Higher: March 18; June 2; November 21
Examination fee	£105 (Vantage) or £110 (Higher)
Results arrive	8 weeks after the exam 14 weeks for certificates

The examination takes place in central London locations.

More information at: <http://www.cambridgeesol.org/exams/bec.htm>



## **BULATS** Cambridge Business Language Testing Service

### **What kind of examination is it?**

These exams have been developed and are jointly run by Cambridge ESOL, the Alliance Française (France), Goethe-Institut (Germany) and the Universidad de Salamanca (Spain). The BULATS examinations are designed to provide employers with an easy means of assessing the standard of English. As such, they assesses the type of language that is used in the workplace. Results are received rapidly after taking the computer-based examinations.

### **How will it help me?**

BULATS is helpful for improving the appearance of your CV. It is increasingly used by employers to assess the language abilities of their employees.

### **What does the examination consist of?**

There are 3 papers:

Reading & Listening	1 hour (computer-based)
Writing	45 minutes (computer-based)
Speaking	12 minutes (not computer-based)

The papers are modular, so one paper may be taken without taking the other papers. This means that this examination is very flexible. Each paper has its own certificate.

### **How can I prepare for this exam?**

There is no special course to prepare for the BULATS examinations, however, it may be useful to follow courses that relate to business English, such as courses 2, 31 or 34. One-to-one tuition is also useful in preparing for these exams. There are practice materials in the study centres.

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### **Examination Details**

Level to take examination	Intermediate and above
Frances King course	No. 2, 31 & 34 are useful but not specifically for this exam.
Last day to register and pay for exam	1 day before the examination
Examination board	Cambridge ESOL
Examination dates	On demand for computer-based. Weekly for speaking.
Examination fee	Around £40
Results arrive	Immediately following the exam if computer-based. Speaking results may take a few days.

Computer-based examinations are held at the school. The speaking exam is held at a central London location.

For more information see: [www.bulats.org](http://www.bulats.org)



## TOEFL Test of English as a Foreign Language

### What kind of examination is it?

This American examination tests general competence in academic English between levels E-G on a scale between 0 and 120; there is no pass or fail. Questions include multiple-choice, written composition, integrated task and speaking.

### How will it help me?

It is accepted for entry to all US and some UK universities. Generally universities ask for a score within the range of 60-100.

### What does the examination consist of?

There are 4 papers, taken on the same day on a computer:

Paper 1: Listening	60 - 90 min
Paper 2: Speaking	20 min
Paper 3: Reading	60 - 100 min
Paper 4: Writing	2 tasks, 55 min in total

### How can I prepare for this exam?

There are special courses, no. 27 & 28, in which students can prepare at Frances King for this exam. You can also use practice tests at the study centres at each school.

### Examination Details

Level to take examination	Upper Intermediate / Advanced / Proficiency
Frances King course	No. 27 & 28
Frances King course starts	January 3, February 6, March 5, April 2, May 8, June 5, July 2 & 30, August 28, September 26, October 22, November 19.
Last day to register and pay for exam	During the first week of the course <sup>1</sup>
Examination board	ETS
Examination dates	Please check at: <a href="http://www.ets.org/toefl">www.ets.org/toefl</a>
Examination fee	US\$185
Results arrive	Approximately 3 weeks after the exam
Other information	Students will need a passport or EU identity card to take the examination in the UK. The examination fee must be paid by credit card. TOEFL is valid for two years.

<sup>1</sup> Places are not guaranteed for any particular date. You can register earlier on [www.ets.org/toefl](http://www.ets.org/toefl) or by telephone on + 31 320 239 540.



## **TOEIC** Test of English for International Communication

### **What kind of examination is it?**

TOEIC is a 200-item multiple choice test with students being awarded a score between 10 and 990; there is no pass or fail. It measures English language proficiency in the work environment.

### **How will it help me?**

Multi-national corporations, government agencies, and other public and private organisations use TOEIC for purposes such as: recruitment, assignment to overseas posts requiring English language proficiency, assignments or promotion within a department where English is needed or desirable, and to identify employees who know English sufficiently well to benefit from corporate training programmes abroad.

### **What does the examination consist of?**

There are 2 sections; Listening Comprehension and Reading. Each section contains 100 questions.

### **How can I prepare for this exam?**

There is a special closed course, no 29, in which students can prepare at Frances King for this exam. You can also use practice tests in the study centres at both schools.

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### **Examination Details**

Level to take examination	Intermediate or above
Frances King course	No. 29
Frances King course starts	January 23; February 20, March 26, May 28, June 25, July 23, August 20, September 24, October 22, November 26.
Last day to register and pay for exam	One week before the examination date
Examination board	ETS
Examination dates	January 28, February 25, March 30, June 1,29, July 27, August 24, September 28, October 26, November 30.
Examination fee	£75 (with certificate)
Results arrive	10 days after exam

Frances King is an official examination centre for TOEIC and the complete examination is held at the school.



## IELTS International English Language Testing System

### What kind of examination is it?

It tests academic skills required for studying at university level in the UK, though students should always check with their intended place of study about entry requirements for specific courses.

### How will it help me?

British universities require IELTS scores ranging from 4.5 for foundation courses to 7.5 / 8 for subjects such as Law, as proof of applicants having a sufficient level of English to follow courses.

### What does the examination consist of?

There are four papers, taken on the same day:

Paper 1: Reading	60 min
Paper 2: Writing	60 min
Paper 3: Listening	30 min. + 10 min. to write answers
Paper 4: Speaking	12-15 min

### How can I prepare for this exam?

There are special closed courses, no 26, 27 or 28 where students can prepare at Frances King for this exam. You can also use the practice tests in the study centres at both schools.

### Examination Details

Level to take examination	Upper Intermediate / Advanced
Frances King course	No. 24, 25 & 26
Frances King course starts	<b>8 WEEK:</b> January 3; March 5; May 8, July 2, August 28, October 22 <b>4 WEEK:</b> July 2, 30
Last day to register and pay for exam	Six weeks before the examination date
Examination board	Cambridge ESOL
Examination dates	<b>8 WEEK:</b> February 25, April 28, June 30, August 25, October 13, December 15. <b>4 WEEK:</b> July 28, August 25
Examination fee	£115
Results arrive	2 weeks after the exam
Other Information	IELTS is valid for two years for university entry. A passport or EU national identity card is required to take the exam.

The examination takes place in central London locations.

More information at: <http://www.ielts.org/>



## Comparative Guide to Examinations and Frances King Levels

Please Note: These Comparisons are approximate.

Level of English			General English		English for Academic Purposes			English for Business	
Council of Europe Level	Stage	FK Level	Cambridge ESOL		IELTS	TOEFL (New iBT)	TOEFL (Old format)	BEC	TOEIC
C2/ALTE 5	Advanced 2	G	CPE	A	9.0	120	300		
				B	8.5	119	295		
				C	8.0	114	280		
C1/ALTE 4	Advanced 1	F	CAE	AB	7.5	106	263	BEC	900
				BC	7.0	100	250	Higher	800
B2/ALTE 3	Upper Intermediate	E	FCE	A	6.5	90	232	BEC	700
				B	6.0	80	213	Vantage	600
				C	5.5	71	196		
B1/ALTE 2	Intermediate	D	PET	merit	5.0	61	173		
				pass	4.5	53	152		
A2/ALTE 1	Pre Intermediate	B	KET	merit	4.0	45	133		
				pass	3.5	38	113		



## Approximate Level Equivalents

Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR)	Frances King (FK) Class Level	Level Name on FK Certificate	UCLES	IELTS	TOEFL (iBT)	BULATS	BEC	TOEIC
High C2	G+			8.5 – 9.0	120	97 - 100		975
C2	G	Advanced 2	CPE	8.0 – 8.5	115	90 - 96		850
C1	F	Advanced 1	CAE	6.5 – 8.0	100	75 - 89	Higher	750
High B2	E	Upper Intermediate 2	FCE	5.5 – 6.5	85	68 – 74	Vantage	600
Low B2	D	Upper Intermediate 1		5.0 – 5.5	75	60 – 67		450
B1	C	Intermediate	PET	3.5 – 5.0	60	40 – 59	Preliminary	400
A2	B	Elementary	KET	2.5 – 3.5	45	20 – 39		300
High A1	A	Beginner		1.5 – 2.5	25	10 – 19		250
Low A1	A-			0 – 1.5	15	0 - 9		100