



# Preliminary English Test *for schools*



## ***Level B1***

An ***intermediate-level*** school test for everyday written and spoken English.

*A head start in English*

## What is Preliminary English Test (PET) for Schools?

PET for Schools is a certificate that shows a pupil can deal with everyday written and spoken English at an intermediate level.

### Why PET for Schools?

- PET for Schools is specially tailored to suit the interests of pupils, so it increases their **motivation** to learn English.
- Because it is based on familiar topics and situations, PET for Schools gives pupils the **confidence** to use their English.
- Passing PET for Schools inspires **enthusiasm** in pupils to move on to further qualifications (see chart).
- A Cambridge ESOL qualification gives pupils a head start in life. Our qualifications are **recognised** by colleges, universities, employers and governments around the world.

### PET or PET for Schools?

There are two versions of PET available: PET and PET for Schools. Both follow exactly the same format and the level of the question papers is identical. The only difference is that the content and treatment of topics in PET for Schools have been particularly targeted at the interests and experience of school pupils.

## What level is PET for Schools?

PET for Schools is at Level B1 of the Council of Europe's Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) – an internationally recognised framework.

At B1 level, typical users can:

- understand the main points of straightforward instructions or public announcements
- understand instructions on classes and homework given by a teacher or lecturer
- ask simple questions and take part in factual conversations in school and study environments
- write a description of an event, for example a school trip.

Preparation for PET for Schools will give a pupil these kinds of practical language skills.

CEFR	General English		
Mastery C2	CPE Certificate of Proficiency in English		
Effective Operational Proficiency C1	CAE Certificate in Advanced English		
Vantage B2	FCE First Certificate in English		
Threshold B1	PET for Schools	PET Preliminary English Test	
Waystage A2	YLE Flyers	KET for Schools	KET Key English Test
Break-through A1	YLE Movers		
	YLE Starters		
Common European Framework of Reference for Languages	Cambridge Young Learners English Tests		

## Marks and results

Cambridge ESOL examinations reward the individual abilities of all pupils.

Successful candidates receive a certificate marked with one of the two passing grades – Pass with Merit or Pass.

Those who do not achieve a PET passing grade (Council of Europe Level B1), but have demonstrated ability at the Council of Europe level below this are awarded a certificate for Level A2.

Only pupils with a score below Council of Europe Level A2 receive a Fail grade.

## What does PET for Schools involve?

PET for Schools has three papers:

### **Reading and Writing: 1hr 30 min**

Candidates need to be able to read texts from signs, journals, newspapers and magazines and understand the main points. They will need to show they can use vocabulary and structure by completing tasks such as producing a short message, and writing a story or letter of around 100 words.

### **Listening: 30 min (approx)**

Candidates need to show they can understand the meaning of a range of recorded spoken material, including announcements, interviews and discussions about everyday life. They will also need to be able to understand the attitudes and intentions of the speakers.

### **Speaking: 12 min**

Candidates take part in a conversation, asking and answering questions, and talking freely about their likes and dislikes. They take the Speaking test with another candidate or in a group of three.

## Support for teachers and schools

At Cambridge ESOL, we are committed to providing a range of support. We offer a variety of seminars designed for teachers, administrators, school directors or education authorities. For further details of events near you, visit [www.CambridgeESOL.org/events](http://www.CambridgeESOL.org/events)

Our comprehensive teaching resource website can be found at [www.CambridgeESOL.org/teach](http://www.CambridgeESOL.org/teach)

## Next steps

Find out more about PET for Schools by visiting:  
[www.CambridgeESOL.org/PETforSchools](http://www.CambridgeESOL.org/PETforSchools)

## Contact the Cambridge ESOL Helpdesk

If you have any questions on PET for Schools exams, you can submit your query online at  
[www.CambridgeESOL.org/contact.html](http://www.CambridgeESOL.org/contact.html)

Alternatively, contact us directly at:

ESOL Helpdesk  
University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations  
1 Hills Road  
Cambridge  
CB1 2EU  
UK

**Tel:** +44 1223 553997

**Email:** [ESOLhelpdesk@CambridgeESOL.org](mailto:ESOLhelpdesk@CambridgeESOL.org)

## Find your nearest Cambridge ESOL centre

PET for Schools exams are administered by authorised centres all over the world. There are over 2000 Cambridge ESOL centres in 130 countries. A full list is available at [www.CambridgeESOL.org](http://www.CambridgeESOL.org). Your local centre will be able to advise you about exams provided in your area.

Cambridge ESOL examinations are taken by over two million people a year in more than 130 countries.

PET for Schools is the intermediate-level English test that:

- increases the **motivation** of pupils to learn
- gives pupils the **confidence** to use all four skills
- inspires **enthusiasm** to carry on learning
- is **recognised** around the world.

[www.CambridgeESOL.org](http://www.CambridgeESOL.org)



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