

# FCE

## **Reading and Use of English – 1 hour 15 minutes – 7 parts**

1. A text with some multiple-choice questions. Each question has four options (A, B, C or D) – you have to decide which is the correct answer.
2. A text in which there are some gaps, each of which represents one missing word. You have to think of the correct word for each gap.
3. A text containing eight gaps. Each gap represents a word. At the end of the line is a 'prompt' word which you have to change in some way to complete the sentence correctly.
4. Each question consists of a sentence followed by a 'key' word and a second sentence with a gap in the middle. You have to use this key word to complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence.
5. A text with some multiple-choice questions. For each question, there are four options and you have to choose A, B, C or D.
6. A single page of text with some numbered gaps which represent missing paragraphs. After the text there are some paragraphs which are not in the right order. You have to read the text and the paragraphs and decide which paragraph best fits each gap.
7. A series of statements followed by a text divided into sections or several short texts. You have to match each statement to the section or text in which you can find the information.

## **Writing – 1 hour 20 minutes – 2 parts**

1. You're given an essay title and two ideas clearly linked to the title. You write an essay giving your opinions about the title, using the ideas given. You must also add a third, different idea of your own linked to the title. The title will be a subject of general interest – you won't need any specialised knowledge. You have to write 140 – 190 words.
2. You write a text from a choice of text types – article, email/letter, report or review. To guide your writing, you'll be given information about context, topic purpose and target reader.  
- You have to write 140 – 190 words.

## **Listening – 40 minutes – 4 parts**

1. Eight short extracts from monologues or conversations between interacting speakers. There is one multiple-choice question for each extract, and you have to choose A, B or C.
2. A monologue (which may be introduced by a presenter) lasting approximately 3 minutes. You have to complete the sentences on the question paper with the missing information which you hear on the recording.
3. A series of five themed monologues of approximately 30 seconds each. On the question paper, you have to select five correct options from a list of eight possible answers.

4. A conversation between two or more speakers of approximately 3–4 minutes. You have to answer some multiple-choice questions by choosing the correct answer from three options (A, B or C).

### **Speaking – 14 minutes per pair of candidates – 4 parts**

1. Conversation with the examiner. The examiner asks questions and you may have to give information about your interests, studies, career, etc.
2. The examiner gives you two photographs and asks you to talk about them. You have to speak for 1 minute without interruption and the interlocutor then asks the other candidate to comment on your photographs for about 30 seconds.  
The other candidate receives a different set of photographs and you have to listen and comment when they have finished speaking. The question you have to answer about your photographs is written at the top of the page to remind you what you should talk about.
3. Conversation with the other candidate. The examiner gives you some material and a task to do. You have to talk with the other candidate and make a decision.
4. Further discussion with the other candidate, guided by questions from the examiner, about the topics or issues raised in the task in Part 3.

### **Grammar you need:**

- Articles – a/an, the, the zero article
- Conditionals
- Countable and uncountable nouns
- Gerunds and infinitives
- Past habit : used to, would, past simple
- Be used to ..+ ing
- Hypothetical meaning: wish, if only, It's time, would rather, suppose/what if, as if/as though
- Indirect speech, reported questions
- Passives
- Verb tenses: Present s/c, Present Perfect s/c, Past s/c, Past Perfect, The future
- Modal verbs : present, past tense
- Agreeing and disagreeing: Neither, either
- Although/ despite/ in spite of
- As/ like, such/as
- Prefer/Rather

# WRITING

## What's tested

In Part 1 of the Writing Paper, you must write an **essay** in response to a statement or question. You are given a set of notes telling you what aspects of the topic you must write about. Two of the notes are specific aspects that you must discuss in your essay, and the third is an aspect that you must think of yourself. Your essay must include these three aspects. You must give reasons for the opinions that you express in the essay.

Your answer will be marked according to the following categories:

- **Content:** you must include all three of the notes, giving opinions as well as reasons for those opinions.
- **Communicative achievement:** because this is an essay for a teacher, you should write it in an appropriately neutral or formal style. You must make sure that all the points you make are clear to the reader.
- **Organization:** your essay must be logically divided into paragraphs and it should have a clear introduction and conclusion. Points, opinions and reasons must be clearly linked by the use of suitable words and phrases so that the essay flows well.
- **Language:** you should use a range of grammatical structures and vocabulary appropriately and accurately.

## Tips

- Make sure that you include everything you are required to include. Read the opening instruction and the statement/question very carefully, and make sure that you include all of the three notes.
- Make sure that your essay fully addresses the topic and the statement/question, and that everything is relevant to what you have been asked to write about.
- Make sure that your answer follows a logical sequence, with one point following another clearly. It may be a good idea for your essay to follow the same order as the notes.
- Make sure that you include a clear introduction and conclusion – these can both be short.
- Make sure that you support your opinions and points with reasons for them.
- Try to use a variety of structures and vocabulary appropriate for the different areas and aspects you discuss in your essay as well as to express your opinions and the points that you make. Don't keep repeating the same words and phrases.

The following exercises will help you to write your answer for this part of the test. When you have completed all of the exercises, write your answer.

## Question 1 Essay

### Getting ideas and planning your answer

- 1 Here are some things that your essay **might** include when you are talking about notes 1 and 2 or for your own idea for note 3. Decide which ones you are going to include.
  - people who think that money is the most important thing in life
  - the advantages of having a lot of money
  - the disadvantages of not having money
  - the disadvantages of being rich
  - the difficulties of getting money
  - things that are more important in life than money
  - things that money does not give you
  - your personal attitude to money in comparison with other things in life

Money is money.

Everyone wants expensive comfort.

Society and people realize this. Furthermore, love, affection

In conclusion, many things are a nice feature



## What's tested

In Part 2 of the Writing Paper, you must write **one of the** following:

- **an email/a letter:** this may be informal (to a friend or colleague) or formal (to someone in authority, e.g. a possible employer, a magazine editor, a college principal, or any kind of official). It may require you to give information, express opinions and/or feelings, apply for something, etc.
- **a review:** this is written for a publication (e.g. a magazine or website). It requires you to describe something (e.g. a film, book, play, concert, place visited, product, etc) and to give clear opinions on it.
- **a report:** this is written for someone in authority (e.g. a teacher), or for people who belong to the same group as the writer (e.g. other members of a class or club). It should be in sections and each section should probably have a heading. It will include facts and information and may also involve recommending or suggesting something.
- **an article:** this is written for a publication (e.g. a magazine) and should be as interesting and entertaining as possible. It must include your opinions and it requires you to make points effectively.

Your answer will be marked according to the same categories as for Part 1:

- **Content:** you must include everything you have been told to include in the instructions.
- **Communicative achievement:** your answer must be appropriately neutral, formal or informal, depending on the situation. The reader should fully understand what is in the answer (e.g. your views, the information you give, etc).
- **Organization:** your answer must be organized in a clear and logical way, with appropriate linking.
- **Language:** you should use a range of grammatical structures and vocabulary appropriately and accurately.

In this test, there is further practice and guidance for two of the task types in Part 2 of the Writing Paper - the **email/letter** and the **review**. There is further practice and guidance for the other two task types - the **report** and the **article** - in Test 3 (see page 79).

## Tips

### Letter/Email

- Make sure that your email/letter is appropriately formal or informal, depending on the situation and who the reader will be.
- Read the instructions very carefully and make sure that you include everything that you are told to include.

### Review

- Try to think of a variety of vocabulary for describing the thing you are reviewing, rather than always using simple words.
- Make sure that you explain why you liked/disliked it. A review must include personal opinions as well as description.

The exercises on the following pages will help you to write answers for Questions 2 and 4 in this part of the test. When you have completed all of the exercises for each question, write your answer for that question.