



# **BRAYS**

## **FCE Reading and Use of English for Schools**

*How to pass the Cambridge FCE Reading and Use of English Paper*



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## 1. Introduction: Who is this book for?

This book is for **you** if you want success in the Reading and Use of English paper of the Cambridge First Certificate Exam (FCE) for Schools. It is also useful for *any* Upper Intermediate student who would like to improve his or her skills.

It is also for **teachers**. Please use it exactly as you like. Forward it to students. Print it out. Use it in class. It's completely up to you.

I hope you find it useful.

Enjoy your English and every success with your exams.

Alan Bray

Santander, July 2016.

P.S. You can find other free materials and pdf ebooks to help you prepare for the B2 First Certificate Exam at the following website, [brays.es](http://brays.es)

To buy a Complete FCE or FCE for Schools Online Course with 100 – 150 hours of Listening, Reading, and Use of English practise (including over 50 Exam Practice Papers) [click here](#). Simply practise and take the mock exams until you are sure of exam success.

Spanish speakers can [access this page](#).

## 2. What's in the FCE Reading and Use of English paper?

Students need to be able to understand a range of texts, including how they are organised and the opinions and attitudes expressed in them. The texts will be from sources familiar to school-aged learners, such as magazines, articles, fiction and advertisements, but targeted at the interests of students.

The Cambridge English: First Reading and Use of English paper is in seven parts and has a mix of text types and questions.

**For Parts 1 to 4**, you read a range of texts and do grammar and vocabulary tasks.

**For Parts 5 to 7**, you read a series of texts and answer questions that test your reading ability and show that you can deal with a variety of different types of texts.

## Summary

**Time allowed:** 1 hour 15 minutes

**Number of parts:** 7

**Number of questions:** 52

**Marks:** 40% of total

**Length of texts:** About 2,200 to read in total.

**Texts may be from:** Newspapers and magazines, journals, books (fiction and non-fiction), promotional and informational material.

### Part 1 (Multiple Choice Cloze)

**What's in Part 1:** A text in which there are some missing words or phrases (gaps). After the text there are four possible answers for each gap and students have to choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

**What do students have to practise?** Vocabulary – words with similar meanings, collocations, linking phrases, phrasal verbs, etc.

**How many questions are there?** 8

**How many marks are there?** 1 mark for each correct answer.

### Part 2 (Open-cloze)

**What's in Part 2:** There are some missing words (gaps). Students have to think of the correct word for each gap.

**What do students have to practise?** Grammar and Vocabulary.

**How many questions are there?** 8

**How many marks are there?** 1 mark for each correct answer.

### Part 3 (Word formation)

**What's in Part 3:** A text containing eight gaps. Each gap represents a word. At the end of the line is a 'prompt' word which the student has to change in

some way to make the correct missing word and complete the sentence correctly.

**What do students have to practise?** Vocabulary – word-building: the different words which the student can make from a ‘base’ word, e.g. ‘compete’ becomes ‘competition’, ‘competitor’, ‘competitive’, ‘competitively’ or ‘uncompetitive’.

**How many questions are there?** 8

**How many marks are there?** 1 mark for each correct answer.

#### **Part 4 (Key word transformations)**

**What’s in Part 4:** A sentence followed by a key word and a second sentence which has a gap in it. Students have to use the key word to complete the second sentence so that it is similar in meaning to the first sentence.

**What do students have to practise?** Grammar and vocabulary – rewriting sentences with different words so that they mean the same thing.

**How many questions are there?** 6

**How many marks are there?** Up to 2 marks for each correct answer.

#### **Part 5 (Multiple choice)**

**What’s in Part 5:** A text with some multiple-choice questions. Each question has four options (A, B, C or D), and students have to decide which is the correct answer.

**What do students have to practise?** How to understand the details of a text, including opinions and attitudes.

**How many questions are there?** 6

**How many marks are there?** 2 marks for each correct answer.

#### **Part 6 (Gapped text)**

**What's in Part 6:** A text with some empty spaces (gaps). After the text there are some sentences taken from the text. Students have to choose the correct sentence for each gap.

**What do students have to practise?** How to understand the structure and development of a text.

**How many questions are there?** 6

**How many marks are there?** 2 marks for each correct answer.

### **Part 7 (Multiple Matching)**

**What's in Part 7:** A series of questions and a long text or several short texts to read. For each question, students have to decide which text or part of the text mentions this.

**What do students have to practise?** How to find specific information in a text or texts.

**How many questions are there?** 10

**How many marks are there?** 1 mark for each correct answer.

## **3. Advice and Practice Materials**

### **General Advice**

Reading is an excellent way to acquire a language. As your reading level gets better your vocabulary improves, your grammar improves, your reading comprehension improves, your oral and written communication improves and exams become a lot easier. Read a variety of materials; books, articles, poems, lyrics, newspapers. Read anything and read often.

(If you are able to attend one of our academies you will be given access to an online Reading comprehension lab with over 1,000 to 2,000 articles at all levels from Native Reading Age 6 to University level. This is the very best way to improve your reading and use of English skills.)

Below are exam samples for all seven parts. Complete them all and you will see if you are ready to sit the exam. Good luck.

## Part 1 (Multiple Choice Cloze)

**Advice:** Pick an answer that sounds right and don't change it. Your first selection is probably the correct one.

**Practice samples:** [Click here](#) to access a test from *Exam English*. You will find another test from *Exam English* [on this page](#).

[Click here](#) for a FCE sample test from *Flo-Joe*. Another test from *Floe-Joe* [can be found here](#). [Click here](#) for a third test from *Flo-Joe*.

*English Exam Help* provides 2 free FCE 'multiple choice cloze' test papers. The first [can be found here](#) and the second [is here](#).

*English Aula* provides a sample paper [on this page](#). A second sample from *English Aula* [can be found here](#).

ESL Lounge gives you 18 'multiple choice cloze' examples. [Click here](#) for the first one.

For the [second](#), [third](#), [fourth](#), [fifth](#), [sixth](#), [seventh](#), [eighth](#), [ninth](#), [tenth](#), [eleventh](#), [twelfth](#), [thirteenth](#), [fourteenth](#), [fifteenth](#), [sixteenth](#), [seventeenth](#) and [eighteenth](#) samples click the appropriate number.

## Part 2 (Open-cloze)

**Advice:** Read all the text carefully.

**Practice samples:** [Click here](#) to access a FCE sample test from *Exam English*. You will find another test from *Exam English* [on this page](#).

[Click here](#) for a test from *Flo-Joe*. Another test from *Floe-Joe* [can be found here](#). [Click here](#) for a third test from *Flo-Joe*.

*English Exam Help* provides 2 FCE 'open-cloze' test papers. The first [can be found here](#) and the second [is here](#).

*English Aula* provides a sample paper [on this page](#). A second sample from *English Aula* [can be found here](#). If you [click here](#) you have a third sample.

ESL Lounge gives you 18 'open-cloze' samples. [Click here](#) for the first one.

For the [second](#), [third](#), [fourth](#), [fifth](#), [sixth](#), [seventh](#), [eighth](#), [ninth](#), [tenth](#), [eleventh](#), [twelfth](#), [thirteenth](#), [fourteenth](#), [fifteenth](#), [sixteenth](#), [seventeenth](#) and [eighteenth](#) samples click the appropriate number.

### Part 3 (Word formation)

**Advice:** Read all the sentence carefully. Decide what type of word you need; noun, adjective, verb, adverb? Positive or negative? Always think like this.

**Practice samples:** [Click here](#) to access a test from *Exam English*. You will find another test from *Exam English* [on this page](#).

[Click here](#) for a test from *Flo-Joe*. Another test from *Floe-Joe* [can be found here](#). [Click here](#) for a third test from *Flo-Joe*.

English Exam Help provides 2 FCE 'word formation' test papers. The first [can be found here](#) and the second [is here](#).

*English Aula* provides a sample paper [on this page](#). A second sample from *English Aula* [can be found here](#). If you [click here](#) you have a third sample.

*ESL Lounge* gives you 18 'word formation' samples. [Click here](#) for the first one.

For the [second](#), [third](#), [fourth](#), [fifth](#), [sixth](#), [seventh](#), [eighth](#), [ninth](#), [tenth](#), [eleventh](#), [twelfth](#), [thirteenth](#), [fourteenth](#), [fifteenth](#), [sixteenth](#), [seventeenth](#) and [eighteenth](#) samples click the appropriate number.

### Part 4 (Key word transformations)

**Advice:** Always give an answer. 2 marks are given for each question so you might get one even if it isn't exactly correct.

Keep the meaning exactly the same.

Note for teachers: This is probably the most difficult part of the Reading and Use of English paper. Give your students plenty of practice from text books or the internet.

**Practice samples:** [Click here](#) to access a test from *Exam English*. You will find another test from *Exam English* [on this page](#).

[Click here](#) for a test from *Flo-Joe*. Another test from *Floe-Joe* [can be found here](#). [Click here](#) for a third test from *Flo-Joe*.

*English Exam Help* provides 2 FCE 'key word transformation' test papers. The first [can be found here](#) and the second [is here](#).

*English Aula* provides a sample paper [on this page](#). A second sample from *English Aula* [can be found here](#).



ESL Lounge gives you 28 'key word transformation' samples. [Click here](#) for the first one. For the [second](#), [third](#), [fourth](#), [fifth](#), [sixth](#), [seventh](#), [eighth](#), [ninth](#), [tenth](#), [eleventh](#), [twelfth](#), [thirteenth](#), [fourteenth](#), [fifteenth](#), [sixteenth](#), [seventeenth](#), [eighteenth](#), [nineteenth](#), [twentieth](#), [twenty-first](#), [twenty-second](#), [twenty-third](#), [twenty-fourth](#), [twenty-fifth](#), [twenty-sixth](#), [twenty-seventh](#) and [twenty-eighth](#) samples click the appropriate number.

## Part 5 (Multiple choice)

**Advice:** Keep a little plan of the passage in your head and don't reject options before you check them against the text.

**Practice samples:** [Click here](#) to access a test from Exam English. You will find another test from Exam English [on this page](#).

[Click here](#) for a test from *Flo-Joe*. Another test from *Floe-Joe* [can be found here](#). [Click here](#) for a third FCE sample test from Flo-Joe.

*English Exam Help* provides 2 FCE 'multiple choice' test papers. The first [can be found here](#) and the second [is here](#).

*English Aula* provides a sample paper [on this page](#). A second sample from *English Aula* [can be found here](#).

ESL Lounge provides 2 'multiple choice' samples. [Click here](#) for the first one and [here](#) for the second one.

## Part 6 (Gapped text)

**Advice:** Read a lot. Don't spend too much time on each answer.

**Practice samples:** [Click here](#) to access a test from *Exam English*. You will find another FCE sample test from *Exam English* [on this page](#).

[Click here](#) for a test from Flo-Joe. Another test from Floe-Joe [can be found here](#). [Click here](#) for a third test from *Flo-Joe*.

*English Exam Help* provides 2 FCE 'gapped text' test papers. The first can be [found here](#) and the second [is here](#).

*English Aula* provides a sample paper [on this page](#). A second sample from *English Aula* [can be found here](#).

## Part 7 (Multiple Matching)

**Advice:** Read a lot. Don't spend too much time on each answer.

**Practice samples:** [Click here](#) to access a test from *Exam English*. You will find another test from *Exam English* [on this page](#).

[Click here](#) for a FCE sample test from *Flo-Joe*. Another test from Floe-Joe [can be found here](#). [Click here](#) for a third test from *Flo-Joe*.

*English Exam Help* provides 2 FCE 'multiple matching' test papers. The first [can be found here](#) and the second [is here](#).

*English Aula* provides a sample paper [on this page](#). A second sample from *English Aula* [can be found here](#).

*ESL Lounge* gives you 3 'multiple matching' samples. [Click here](#) for the first one, [here](#) for the second and [here](#) for the third.

## 4. Finally

### To your success

We at Brays hope that the information you have read helps you pass the Cambridge First Certificate Exam (FCE). There are many websites that will help you and the ebooks give you the best materials from these sites.

We intend to constantly add to our pdf collection. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter or LinkedIn to receive notice of new publications.

If you live in Santander, Cantabria or Getafe, Madrid you are very welcome to attend our small B2 First Certificate or APTIS classes where we mainly concentrate on speaking and correction of writings.

If you are unable to attend an academy, then online tutoring with Sarah is another possibility.

### Online tutoring



Sarah is a Management graduate from Warwick University, England, with a Masters from Cranfield University. She also has an 'A' grade Cambridge CELTA certificate and is very highly rated in the English teaching field. [This link](#) will take you to her Linked In profile. She can be contacted by phone (00 34) 916 823977 or by email [sarah@brays.es](mailto:sarah@brays.es)

### **Online Course**

If you intend taking the FCE exam you can find an excellent online course, with 100-150 hours of practice covering all sections of the exam, and including over 50 exam papers, [on this page](#). The course is a collaboration between Macmillan publishers and Brays Online and is completely free for students of Brays.

The Spanish version of the page [can be accessed here](#).

Every success with your exams and in life,

Enjoy your English,

Alan Bray

July, 2016