



## THE CPE EXAM

\* The CPE exam consists of four components, reading & use of English, writing, listening and speaking.

\* Here is the structure of the CPE exam:

Paper	Part	Task type and format	Task focus	Number of questions
<b>Reading &amp; Use of English</b> 1 hr 30 mins.	<b>USE OF ENGLISH</b>			
	1	Multiple choice cloze	The main focus is on vocabulary, e.g. idioms, collocations, fixed phrases, complementation, phrasal verbs, semantic precision.	8
	2	Open cloze	The main focus is on awareness and control of grammar with some focus on vocabulary.	8
	3	Word formation	The main focus is on vocabulary, in particular the use of affixation, internal changes and compounding in word formation.	8
	4	Key word transformations	The focus is on grammar, vocabulary and collocation.	6
	<b>READING</b>			
	5	Multiple choice	Understanding of detail, opinion, attitude, tone, purpose, main idea, implication, text organisation features (exemplification, comparison, reference).	6
	6	Gapped text	Understanding of cohesion, coherence, text structure, global meaning.	7
	7	Multiple matching	Understanding of detail, opinion, attitude, specific information.	10
	<b>Writing</b> 1 hr 30 mins.	1	Compulsory Task: Essay 240-280 words	Writing an essay with a discursive focus.
2		One task to be selected from a choice of four 280-320 words	Questions 2-5 For questions 2-4 writing one of the following: an article, a letter, a report or a review. For question 5 writing one of the following, based on reading one from a prescribed list of two books: an article, an essay, a letter, a report or a review.	1
<b>Listening</b> 40 mins.	1	Multiple choice	The focus is on gist, detail, function, purpose, topic, speaker, feeling, attitude, opinion, etc.	6
	2	Sentence completion	The focus is on detail and stated opinion.	9
	3	Multiple choice	The focus is on opinion, gist, detail, inference and agreement.	5
	4	Multiple matching	The focus is on gist, attitude, main points and interpreting context.	10
<b>Speaking</b> 16 mins.	1	Conversation between the interlocutor and each candidate (spoken questions).		2 minutes
	2	A two-way conversation between the candidates. The candidates are given instructions with written and visual stimuli, which are used in a decision-making task.		4 minutes
	3	An individual long turn from each candidate followed by a discussion on topics related to the long turns. Each candidate in turn is given a written question to respond to. The interlocutor leads a discussion to explore further the topics of the long turns.		10 minutes