



THE FCE EXAM

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

* Here is the structure of the FCE exam:

Paper	Part	Task type and format	Task focus	Number of questions
Reading & Use of English 1 hr 15 mins.	USE OF ENGLISH			
	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	Multiple-choice cloze	The main focus is on vocabulary, in particular the use of affixation, internal changes and compounding in word formation.	8
	4	Key word transformation	Grammar, vocabulary, collocation.	6
	READING			
	5	Multiple choice	Detail, opinion, attitude, tone, purpose, main idea, gist, meaning from context, implication, text organisation features (exemplification, reference).	6
	6	Gapped text	Cohesion, coherence, text structure.	6
	7	Multiple matching	Detail, opinion, specific information, implication.	10
	Writing 1 hr 20 mins.	1	Compulsory task: Essay 140-190 words	Writing an essay giving opinion and providing reasons for the opinion.
2		One task to be selected from a choice of three. 140-190 words	Questions 2-4. Writing one from a number of possible text types based on a contextualised writing task: article, email/letter, report or review	1
Listening 40 mins.	1	Multiple choice	The focus is on genre, identifying speaker feeling, attitude, topic, opinion, purpose, agreement between speakers, gist and detail.	8
	2	Sentence completion	The focus is on detail, identifying specific information and stated opinion.	10
	3	Multiple matching	The focus is on identifying attitude, opinion, gist, purpose, feeling, main points and details.	5
	4	Multiple choice	The focus is on identifying opinion, attitude, detail, gist, main idea and specific information.	7
Speaking 14 mins.	1	A conversation between the interlocutor and each candidate (spoken questions).		2 minutes
	2	An individual, 'long turn' (1 minute) by each candidate with a response from the second candidate (30 seconds). In turn, the candidates are given a pair of photographs to talk about.		4 minutes
	3	A two-way conversation between the candidates. The candidates are given spoken instructions with written stimuli which are used in discussion and decision-making tasks.		4 minutes
	4	A discussion on topics related to the Part 3 collaborative task.		4 minutes