

## General questions

### Is Cambridge English: Advanced the same as the Certificate in Advanced English (CAE)?

- Yes, *Cambridge English: Advanced* is just another name for the same globally recognised exam, Certificate in Advanced English, or CAE.

### Who produces CAE? Is it the same organisation that produces IELTS?

- *Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE)* is produced and distributed by University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations (Cambridge ESOL). Cambridge ESOL also produces *IELTS (International English Language Testing System)* which is jointly owned and managed by British Council, IDP: IELTS Australia and Cambridge ESOL.

### When will I receive my exam results?

- Statement of Results which has the Scores and Grades achieved by a candidate, will be published on the Cambridge ESOL website after 14 days of the exams. In some cases, results may be delayed in view of audits, sample monitoring or investigation in which case the candidate will be notified about any delay, by Planet EDU-ExtraExams. In case you do not receive your result you can also get in touch with Planet EDU-ExtraExams by Email: [helpdesk@caeexam.com](mailto:helpdesk@caeexam.com), Call toll free 1800 102 1050 or +91.124.468 4800, SMS 'CAE' to +91 931 102 1050

### What is the valid ID that is required to sit the exam?

- The following are acceptable as valid ID proof to register for the CAE exam:
  - Passport issued by the Government
    - Driving License
    - Additional ID for Indian candidates:
      - Income tax PAN card
      - Voter ID Card
      - Aadhaar card / UID card
  - Additional ID for Nepalese candidates:
    - Nagrikta Patra (National ID)

### How many days before the exam can I book the exam?

- 7 days before an exam date. However, please note that due to limited seats, bookings are accepted and confirmed on a first come first serve basis linked to receiving the completed application form along with exam fee.

### What is the CAE exam fee?

- Bangladesh: BDT 5,500/-
- India: INR 4,380/-
- Nepal: NPR 5,500/-

### How long are the exam results valid for?

- CAE is a qualification approved by Ofqual (UK Government regulator) mapped to the NQF (National Qualifications Framework, UK) and is 'valid for life' and hence there is no expiry of the scores (unlike other tests). However, the receiving organisation, institutions etc. may set their own requirement, which must be checked by the applicant.

### Can I sit the CAE exam more than once and if yes, which score will be considered?

- Yes, you can sit the CAE exam more than once. You will receive your 'Statement of Results' each time you sit the exam. It is upto you to use the best score Statement of Result.

### Will the university I want to apply to have heard of CAE?

- More than 12,000 organisations around the world recognise Cambridge English exams. Universities and colleges recognise *Cambridge English: Advanced* / CAE as proof of being able to study to degree level in an English-speaking environment. If you would like more information about which organisations recognise *Cambridge English: Advanced*, click on the link to view the updated list of recognising institutions, organisation, government, employers etc. [online recognition database](#).

### Can I take the CAE exam when I am in school in Grade 11 or 12?

- Yes, you can take the CAE exam when in grade 11 or 12. In fact if you take the CAE exam when you are in grade 11 or 12 and you are able to receive an 'A' grade, you will also gain 70 UCAS tariff points, which will help you in applying to UK Universities for an Undergraduate / Degree programme, through UCAS.

### Who should take Cambridge English: Advanced?

- Cambridge English: Advanced* is a high-level test of English for people who need to prove their ability to use English for studying to degree level at college or university, or as a professional in an English-speaking or international environment. To find out if you are ready to take *Cambridge English: Advanced*, take Cambridge ESOL's [free online language](#) test now.

### How secure is the Cambridge English: Advanced exam?

- All Cambridge English exams follow a detailed code of practice, which ensures they meet the highest standards of security throughout the testing process. Certificates are printed on security-enhanced paper and include a number of other concealed security features to prevent forgery and malpractice. In addition, colleges, universities and employers can check the authenticity of any Cambridge English certificate by using Cambridge ESOL's free [Online Verification Service](#).

### What are the differences between the Computer-based (CB) and Paper-based (PB) versions of CAE?

- Paper-based (PB) and computer-based (CB) versions of CAE are the same exam, administered under different conditions. They lead to exactly the same certificate and are scored in exactly the same way. The two versions allow candidates more choice in how they take the exam.

### Where can I take the exam?

- Planet EDU – ExtraExams offers the CAE exam at many locations, throughout Bangladesh, India and Nepal. In addition, 'Special Sessions' on fixed exam dates can also be organised at institutions, universities, schools, colleges and corporates or at cities that are not listed below (subject to a minimum of 25 candidates). As of now the CAE exams are available in the following locations:

#### **Bangladesh:**

Dhaka	Syllhet
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#### **India:**

Ahmedabad	Amritsar	Bengaluru	Baroda / Vadodra	Chandigarh	Chennai
Coimbatore	Delhi	Dehradun	Gurgaon	Hyderabad	Jalandhar
Kochi	Kottayam	Ludhiana	Navsari	Mumbai	Patiala
Pune	Rajkot	Surat			

#### **Nepal**

- Kathmandu

### How can I register for the exam?

- Registering for the CAE exam with Planet EDU-ExtraExam is easy:
  - On-line registration: with payment by credit card – Log on to [www.CAEexam.com](http://www.CAEexam.com) and click on to "Apply online" tab.
  - Paper application: Log on to [www.CAEexam.com](http://www.CAEexam.com), go to 'Download' section, download the application form, complete it, attach the fee by way of Demand draft drawn in favour of "Planet EDU", payable at New Delhi and send the completed form to the nearest Planet EDU office or courier it to "Planet EDU-ExtraExam, 304 (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor), Park Centra, NH-8, Gurgaon – 122001, Haryana". If you want you can pay the fee to the nearest HDFC bank branch by using the special Bank Deposit Slip, which will be downloaded as part of the form. Please attach the copy of the bank deposit slip with your application in case you have deposited the fee at the HDFC Bank.
  - At our Enrolment Centre: You can visit your nearest 'Enrolment Centre' of Planet EDU-ExtraExams and book your exam there. To view the list of the enrolment centre nearest to you log on to [www.CAEexam.com](http://www.CAEexam.com) and go the link "Contact us" to find a center.
  - By Telephone: You can call our helpdesk number at Toll free 1800 102 1050 or on +91.124.468 4800 between 10 am to 6 pm during Monday to Saturday (except public holidays) and register by providing your details over the phone. You can make the payment separately, or provide your credit card details to the operator.

### What are the Exam dates?

- CAE exams are offered in both Paper based (PB) and Computer base (CB) formats. Log on to [www.CAExam.com](http://www.CAExam.com), and click on the link "Exam dates" to view the dates and cities where the exams are available. You can also call toll free on 1800 102 1050 or +91.124.468 4800. You can also send an SMS "CAE" to +91 931 102 1050.

### How are CAE results presented?

- Every candidate who takes the exam successfully receives two documents, a Statement of Results and a Certificate. The Statement of Results provides a score and a grade the candidate has achieved in the exam. The score is shown as a number on a scale of 0 to 100 and can be compared with IELTS band scores. The grade a candidate is awarded relates to their score. A grade of A, B or C is awarded depending on what score a candidate has achieved. The table below provides an outline of the Scores, Grades and the CEFR level

Score	Grade	CEFR level
80 – 100	A	C2
79 – 75	B	C1
60 – 74	C	
45 – 59	Level B2	B2

## Australia and Australian Student visa related questions

### I want to study in Australia. Can I take the CAE test instead of IELTS?

- Yes. The Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC), Australia accepts Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE) scores for student visa application purposes from 5 November 2011. DIAC will accept all Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE) scores of 32 and higher for exams taken up to two years before the implementation date of 5 November 2011. Exact scores for different visa categories and assessment levels can be checked on the DIAC website [www.immi.gov.au](http://www.immi.gov.au)

### Why is CAE a good test for Australian student visas?

- CAE is a high-quality, established, secure and reliable test aimed specifically at people who want to study and work in a demanding English speaking environment. It gives a much more in-depth assessment of the relevant language skills than most other tests on the market, which means that students and the institutions where they study can be sure that they really have the language skills they need to live and study in Australia. The CAE exam also provides the advantage of 'Average Scoring', which is particularly beneficial for students applying for student visa as the DIAC accepts the overall score of CAE as compared to other exam where a minimum score in each module of the exam is required.

### What CAE scores are accepted by DIAC, Australia?

- DIAC accepts all *Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE)* scores of 32 and higher for exams taken up to two years before a candidate's application. Exact scores for different visa categories and assessment levels must be checked on the DIAC website [www.immi.gov.au](http://www.immi.gov.au). The table below provides the CAE with IELTS comparison as approved by DIAC.

IELTS Band score	4.0	4.5	5.0	5.5	6.0	6.5	7.0	7.5	8.0	8.5	9.0
Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE) scores	32	36	41	47	52	58	67	74	80	87	93

### For student visa applications, in addition to the minimum overall CAE score, does DIAC also require minimum scores in the five papers (Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening and Use of English)?

- At this stage, DIAC does not require a minimum score for each of the five CAE papers for student visas. As specified in the Migration Regulations, where evidence of an English language test is required for student visa applicants, the applicant must meet the overall CAE score required for the relevant Student visa subclass and Assessment Level.

### What does the candidate need to provide DIAC with to assist them in result verification?

- DIAC has updated the Paper and eVisa application forms for Student visa to allow candidates to provide details about CAE exam and its score. Applicants who want DIAC to view and verify their results must provide DIAC with two pieces of information.
  - Their ID Number (a sequence of 9 letters and numbers)
  - Their Secret Number (a four digit number)

Both of these pieces of information can be found on the Confirmation of Entry, which every candidate receives on the day of the exam from Planet EDU - ExtraExams. If the candidate has lost their Confirmation of Entry, please get in touch with the Planet EDU-ExtraExams helpdesk by Email: [helpdesk@caeexam.com](mailto:helpdesk@caeexam.com), Call toll free 1800 102 1050 or +91.124. 468 4800 or send an SMS 'CAE' to +91 931 102 1050

### How long does DIAC, Australia accept a CAE result as valid for Student Visa?

- The Migration Regulations state that an English language proficiency test score is valid for two years from the date of the test. If an applicant takes CAE up to two years before their application and achieves the required overall score, then they will be able to meet the evidentiary requirements prescribed in migration legislation for Student Visa.

### Will the CAE exam score be acceptable for any other visa subclasses apart from Student visas?

- No. The CAE exam scores currently, only apply to Student visa applications. DIAC, Australia, will be reviewing acceptance of CAE scores for other visa categories after 12 months.

### How will DIAC verify CAE results?

- Like all recognising organisations, DIAC, Australia will use Cambridge ESOL's Online Results Verification Service to verify CAE results. They will use the Results Verification Service, as it's the only wholly authoritative source of information for verifying results for immigration purposes since it is completely secure and cannot under any circumstance be tampered with.

## UK and UK Border Agency related questions

### I am planning to study in UK. Can I take the CAE exam?

- Yes. The UK Boarder Agency has approved the CAE exam for the new Tier 4 visa and also for other visa categories e.g. Tier 1 and Tier 2

### How will I gain UCAS tariff points for admissions in UK University?

- If you secure an 'A' grade in the CAE exam, UCAS will award you with 70 UCAS tariff points that will be very helpful when applying for admission in a University or College in the UK for an Undergraduate / Degree course.

### Is there a validity of the scores in UK as in Australia? How long are the CAE scores valid?

- No. The UK Boarder Agency (UKBA) recognises the CAE scores as 'valid for life'. Click on this link to view the updated list from the UKBA. <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/applicationforms/new-approved-english-tests.pdf>

### Exam format, Training & Resources related questions

#### What all is covered in the CAE exam?

- The CAE exam has a total of 5 papers. These are Listening, Reading, Writing, Speaking and a new paper called Use of English.

#### What is the Use of English paper? What does it cover?

- To provide in-depth assessment of language at the levels tested by CAE, candidates have to demonstrate that they have sufficient understanding of vocabulary, grammar and the other aspects of the use of English to be able to communicate in non-routine and unpredictable education or employment situations. The CAE Use of English paper requires candidates to demonstrate their ability to apply their knowledge of English vocabulary and grammatical structures appropriately at the kinds of levels needed for work and study. This is simple objective type, multiple choice, gap filling test and can allow candidates to gain extra marks which can help in increasing their overall scores, which will be especially helpful when applying for student visa to Australia

#### What is the Exam format for the CAE and what are the advantages when comparing with the IELTS test?

- The CAE exam format, its modules, duration, highlights and advantages are listed in the table below:

Module / Paper	Duration	Content / Highlights	Advantages when compared with IELTS
Reading	1 hr. 15 mins.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 4 Sections</li> <li>▪ 34 questions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 15 min. extra time</li> <li>▪ Lesser number of questions (40 questions in IELTS)</li> </ul>
Writing	1 hr. 30 mins.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2 Tasks</li> <li>▪ Task 1: Compulsory – Candidates write and article, a report, a proposal, or a letter based on material upto 150 words</li> <li>▪ Task 2 is choice based: Candidates must complete one task from a choice of 5. Two of the 5 questions are based on set reading texts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 30 min. extra time</li> <li>▪ No graph in Task 1</li> <li>▪ Choice in Task 2</li> </ul>
Use of English	1 hr.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 50 questions spread over 5 parts</li> <li>▪ Covers Grammar and Vocabulary</li> <li>▪ Comprises of Multiple choice, Gap-fill, Word formation, Key word transformation, Gapped sentences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provides opportunity to get extra marks on the knowledge of grammar and vocabulary</li> <li>▪ Helps in increasing the average scores, which in turn helps achieve the required overall scores as required by DIAC, for Student Visa to Australia</li> </ul>
Listening	40 mins.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 4 sections (<i>including transfer time</i>)</li> <li>▪ 30 questions</li> <li>▪ Recording is played twice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lesser number of questions</li> <li>▪ Recording played twice. Helps in scoring better.</li> </ul>
Speaking	15 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Face-to-face interview</li> <li>▪ Paired format. This means there are 2 candidates with 2 Examiners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pairing helps in better performance</li> <li>▪ Use of pictures as part of the test helps candidates perform better</li> </ul>

#### What happens if in the Speaking test one candidate is better than the other?. Will be weak candidate suffer?

- The paired format is designed to allow better performance and output from the candidate. It does not disadvantage a weak candidate. The Examiners ensure that equal opportunity is provided to both candidates. A candidate trying to overshadow another candidate may be penalised. Candidates can benefit from each other by getting the support of the other.

### Where can I get Study material, Resources etc. to prepare?

- Adequate resources, study material, books, past papers, Speaking packs, Top Tips etc. for Candidates and Trainers are available at discounted price. Log on to [www.CAEexam.com](http://www.CAEexam.com) and click on the link 'Study Material' to view the list of material available and its price. You can also order material online and pay by credit card. Material is normally couriered within 24 hours of receipt of the order with payment. However, in case the material requested is out of stock it may take a bit longer, in which case you will be informed.

### Is there any training programme available?

- Planet EDU-ExtraExams has specially designed International training programme with CAE exam focus available, which are delivered through their authorised Learning Centres. The course includes Work book for students, Assignments which are marked by trained experts and candidates are provided inputs. This course also gets the candidate a Certificate, which may be of help as well. To find the nearest Learning Centre, log on to [www.CAEexam.com](http://www.CAEexam.com) and go the 'Contact Us' section and click on the link 'Learning Centres'.

### Is there any training programme available for Trainers?

- Planet EDU-ExtraExams has specially designed training programme for Trainers. The training programme includes; how best to prepare students for the CAE exam, using Planet EDU course which includes teacher handbook, PowerPoint presentations, activities, assignments etc. The trainers also receive a certificate of Participation. For details Email: [helpdesk@CAEexam.com](mailto:helpdesk@CAEexam.com), or Call Toll free 1800 102 1050 or +91.124.468 4800 or SMS 'CAE' to +91 931 102 1050

For more information and registration please contact:



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