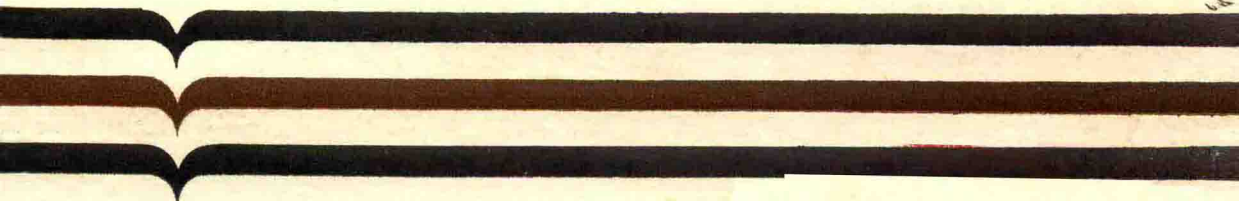


Cambridge First Certificate

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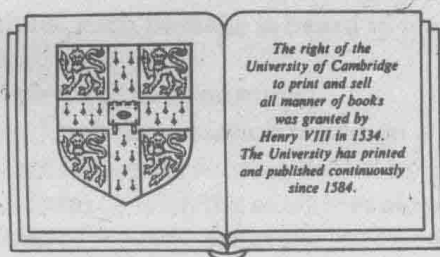
Examination Practice 2

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Cambridge University Press

Cambridge First Certificate Examination Practice 2

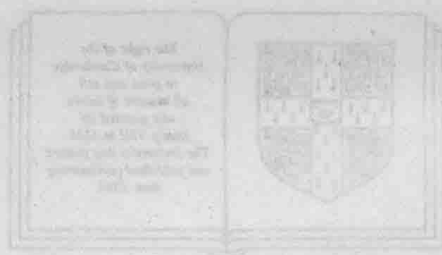
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To the student

This book is for candidates preparing for the University of Cambridge First Certificate in English examination and provides practice in all the written and oral papers. It contains 5 complete tests, based on the First Certificate examinations set in 1984 and 1985, and incorporates the modifications made to Paper 5 (the Interview) in December 1985. The examination consists of 5 papers, as follows:

Paper 1 Reading Comprehension (1 hour)

Section A consists of 25 multiple-choice items in the form of a sentence with a blank to be filled by 1 of 4 words or phrases.

Section B consists of 15 multiple-choice items based on 3 or more reading passages of different types.

Paper 2 Composition (1½ hours)

There are 5 topics from which you choose 2. Each composition must be between 120 and 180 words in length. (In these practice tests the questions based on optional reading are set on the kind of books that are prescribed each year. These are *not* the actual books prescribed for any particular year: they are just given as examples.)

Paper 3 Use of English (2 hours)

There are exercises of various kinds which test your control of English usage and grammatical structure and a directed writing exercise where you extract information from a text and present it in a coherent form.

Paper 4 Listening Comprehension (20 to 30 minutes)

You answer a variety of questions on recorded passages (normally 3) from English broadcasts, interviews, announcements; phone messages and conversations. Each passage is heard twice.

Paper 5 Interview (15 to 20 minutes)

You take part in a conversation based on a photograph, passage and other material from authentic sources linked by theme, either with a group of other candidates or with the examiner alone. The exercises in these tests include some of the type set in the examination on optional reading.

Practice Test 1

PAPER 1 READING COMPREHENSION (1 hour)

Answer all questions. Indicate your choice of answer in every case on the separate answer sheet already given out, which should show your name and examination index number. Follow carefully the instructions about how to record your answers. Give **one answer only** to each question. Marks will not be deducted for wrong answers: your total score on this test will be the number of correct answers you give.

SECTION A

In this section you must choose the word or phrase which best completes each sentence. On your answer sheet indicate the letter A, B, C, or D against the number of each item 1 to 25 for the word or phrase you choose.

- 1 It's a good idea to see your doctor regularly for
A a revision B a control C an investigation D a check-up
- 2 I lost too much money betting at the races last time, so you won't me to go again.
A convince B impress C persuade D urge
- 3 Last year the potato harvest was very disappointing, but this year it looks as though we shall have a better
A product B outcome C amount D crop
- 4 The shop assistant was helpful, but she felt he could have given her more advice.
A entirely B exactly C quite D totally
- 5 When the starter gave the all the competitors in the race began to run round the track.
A signal B warning C shot D show
- 6 It's an awful your wife couldn't come. I was looking forward to meeting her.
A harm B sorrow C shame D shock
- 7 from Bill, all the students said they would go.
A Except B Only C Apart D Separate

- 8 The new manager explained to the staff that she hoped to new procedures to save time and money.
A manufacture B establish C control D restore
- 9 There is a fault at our television station. Please do not your set.
A change B adjust C repair D switch
- 10 He was an writer because he persuaded many people to see the truth of his ideas.
A ordinary B influential C unlimited D accurate
- 11 The meal was excellent; the pears were particularly
A flavoured B delicious C tasteful D desirable
- 12 Workers who do not obey the safety regulations will be immediately.
A refused B rejected C disapproved D dismissed
- 13 He was in of a large number of men.
A management B leadership C charge D direction
- 14 goes the bus; now we will have to walk!
A On time B At once C There D Early
- 15 When he retired from his job the directors him with a clock.
A offered B pleased C satisfied D presented
- 16 He had to leave his family when he went abroad to work.
A at a loss B behind C out D at all costs
- 17 I am very in the information you have given me.
A concerned B surprised C interesting D interested
- 18 When I went to talk to the manager, he told me he could only me a few minutes.
A provide B spare C hear D let
- 19 I saw a thief take Norman's wallet so I ran him, but I didn't catch him.
A into B after C over D near
- 20 If it's raining tomorrow, we shall have to the match till Sunday.
A put off B cancel C play D put away
- 21 It is usually better not to things, in case they are not returned.
A lend B offer C borrow D lose

- 22 He opened the letter without to read the address on the envelope.
A worrying B caring C fearing D bothering
- 23 There was a big hole in the road which the traffic.
A-held up B kept down C stood back D sent back
- 24 The boy fell into the river and was along by the fast current.
A caught B swept C thrown D swung
- 25 The old sailing boat was without trace during the fierce storm.
A lost B crashed C disappeared D vanished

SECTION B

In this section you will find after each of the passages a number of questions or unfinished statements about the passage, each with four suggested answers or ways of finishing. You must choose the one which you think fits best. On your answer sheet, indicate the letter A, B, C or D against the number of each item 26-40 for the answer you choose. Give one answer only to each question. Read each passage right through before choosing your answers.

FIRST PASSAGE

Frances Wingate had not been to Tockley for many years – she could not remember how many. Her grandfather had died when she was fourteen. Her grandmother had died ten years later, but she had been out of the country at the time and had not gone to the funeral. In fact, after her grandfather's death she had hardly visited Tockley at all, she now remembered guiltily: the place had begun to depress her. She could no longer stand the slow pace, the quietness, the emptiness, the very things that had charmed her as a small child, and her grandmother had turned odd and difficult to live with, even more bad-tempered than she had been when younger, even more given to sudden bursts of anger and long silences.

She thought of it, then as now, as 'going to Tockley', but the house wasn't really in Tockley: it was about six miles out, a distance that had then seemed enormous, as it had to be travelled by bus. The town was a medium-sized ordinary town, with much light industry; it was easy enough to get to, but it was the kind of place one goes through, rather than stops at. Frances had booked a room at the Railway Hotel, because it was next to the station, and because her guide-book said it was well run and that the food was quite good. She looked out of the window of the train and wondered what she remembered of the town. Little, she thought. It hadn't meant much to her grandparents: they went there once a fortnight to shop, depending otherwise on the shop in the nearest village and on what they produced in their

own garden. There was a famous church, rising out of the flat plain, which could be seen for miles: her guide-book described it with some excitement, but she didn't remember that she had ever been in it. She remembered the wool shop, the shoe shop, the grocer's a little. It had probably all changed by now.

The cottage, too, had probably changed. She remembered it in great detail. It had been the one fixed point in her childhood; for her parents had always been moving from one house to another as her father had been promoted from one academic post to the next; five years here, three years there, had been the pattern. Granny Ollerenshaw, in the cottage, had been immovable, unchanged and unchanging. They called it Eel Cottage: over the doorway there was a square sign which announced EEL 1779. For years Frances had thought that this meant the fish which lived in muddy ditches; only later, looking more closely, did she realise that the mysterious word must have been the builder's or owner's initials. The cottage was a basic cottage, the kind that small children draw: low, a door in the middle, two windows downstairs, two windows upstairs. It was built of red brick, the brick of the district, with a red-tiled steep roof.

- 26 Why didn't Frances remember very much about Tockley?
 - A There was nothing special in the town.
 - B She had only been there once or twice.
 - C She had been abroad for a long time.
 - D The town had changed a great deal since her childhood.
- 27 Where was Frances' grandparents' house?
 - A on the edge of Tockley
 - B near the shops in Tockley
 - C in a village on a bus route from Tockley
 - D in the countryside some miles from Tockley
- 28 Why was Frances' grandparents' house called "Eel Cottage"?
 - A Eels used to be common in the area.
 - B Someone's initials had spelt the word 'Eel'.
 - C The first owner had been called Mr Eel.
 - D No-one knew why.
- 29 Why did Frances stop visiting the cottage regularly?
 - A She had been leading a very busy life.
 - B She had quarrelled with her grandmother.
 - C She had come to dislike the place.
 - D She had lost touch with her family.
- 30 Why had her grandparents' house meant a lot to Frances as a child?
 - A She had been brought up happily there.
 - B The shape and colour of the house had attracted her.
 - C She had felt things would never change there.
 - D She had been lonely as a child.

SECOND PASSAGE

Trees should only be pruned when there is a good and clear reason for doing so and, fortunately, the number of such reasons is small. Pruning involves the cutting away of overgrown and unwanted branches, and the inexperienced gardener can be encouraged by the thought that more damage results from doing it unnecessarily than from leaving the tree to grow in its own way.

First, pruning may be done to make sure that trees have a desired shape or size. The object may be to get a tree of the right height, and at the same time to help the growth of small side branches which will thicken its appearance or give it a special shape. Secondly, pruning may be done to make the tree healthier. You may cut out diseased or dead wood, or branches that are rubbing against each other and thus causing wounds. The health of a tree may be encouraged by removing branches that are blocking up the centre and so preventing the free movement of air.

One result of pruning is that an open wound is left on the tree and this provides an easy entry for disease, but it is a wound that will heal. Often there is a race between the healing and the disease as to whether the tree will live or die, so that there is a period when the tree is at risk. It should be the aim of every gardener to reduce that risk of death as far as possible. It is essential to make the area which has been pruned smooth and clean, for healing will be slowed down by roughness. You should allow the cut surface to dry for a few hours and then paint it with one of the substances available from garden shops produced especially for this purpose. Pruning is usually done in winter, for then you can see the shape of the tree clearly without interference from the leaves and it is, too, very unlikely that the cuts you make will bleed. If this does happen, it is, of course, impossible to paint them properly.

- 31 Pruning should be done to
 - A make the tree grow taller.
 - B improve the shape of the tree.
 - C get rid of the small branches.
 - D make the small branches thicker.
- 32 Trees become unhealthy if the gardener
 - A allows too many branches to grow in the middle.
 - B does not protect them from the wind.
 - C forces them to grow too quickly.
 - D damages some of the small side branches.
- 33 Why is a special substance painted on the tree?
 - A to make a wound smooth
 - B to prevent disease entering a wound
 - C to cover a rough surface
 - D to help a wound to dry

- 34 A good gardener prunes a tree
- A at intervals throughout the year.
 - B as quickly as possible.
 - C occasionally when necessary.
 - D regularly every Winter.
- 35 What was the author's purpose when writing this passage?
- A to give practical instructions for pruning a tree
 - B to give a general description of pruning
 - C to explain how trees develop diseases
 - D to discuss different methods of pruning

THIRD PASSAGE

You go to a book stall to choose some books for a long train journey. You pick some up and read what it says about them on the back covers.

Read the following extracts from the book descriptions and then answer the questions.

Book A

...The Roman Emperor Claudius writes the inside story of his public life. Men classed him as a pitiful fool. But the actions he describes are far from foolish. Reluctantly crowned Emperor, he appears as a man whose errors came from good nature and innocence. It is the common people and the common soldiers who help him to repair the damage done by the Emperor Caligula by conquering Britain, and who stand by him in his final hard judgement on his unfaithful wife, Messalina.

This is one of the finest historical reconstructions published this century...

Book B

...A fortune-teller once told Mary (as the author calls herself in this book): "You are going to be loved by people you've never seen and never will see".

That statement came true when she published her delightful and exact record of country life at the end of the last century - a record in which she describes the fast-dissolving England of farm-worker and country tradesman and colours her picture with the cheerful courage and the rare pleasures that marked a self-sufficient world of work and poverty...

Book C

..."Leave it to my man, Johnson," Cecil used to say, whether the problem was the colour of a shirt, the shape of a hat, the style of a coat. What did it matter if Johnson tended to take charge of his life and that without his approval his employer could not even grow a moustache? Was he not always there for him to lean on in moments of difficulty?

And such moments were frequent in the leisured life of Cecil and his friends in the London of the first motor buses.

Book D

...The novel is the story of a man for whom both real life and university research have lost their meaning. Separated from his over-emotional wife, Gerald Middleton is painfully aware that the centre of his life is empty. But the world is reaching out for him again...

Gerald is the only person still alive who was present when Bishop Eorpwald's grave was opened and the strange wooden figure found which has offended, puzzled and fascinated students of early English history for years. But he also keeps another even worse secret...

- 36 Which book will probably be light and humorous?
- A Book A
 - B Book B
 - C Book C
 - D Book D
- 37 Which book seems to be set in the present day?
- A Book A
 - B Book B
 - C Book C
 - D Book D
- 38 From the information given here, the Emperor Claudius appears to have been
- A a foolish ruler.
 - B an ambitious man.
 - C a successful general.
 - D a forgiving husband.
- 39 Gerald Middleton appears to be a
- A professor of history.
 - B private detective.
 - C writer of crime stories.
 - D university student.
- 40 What was the relationship between Johnson and Cecil?
- A Johnson ordered Cecil to do things.
 - B Johnson never questioned orders.
 - C Cecil depended on Johnson.
 - D Cecil paid Johnson well.

PAPER 2 COMPOSITION (1½ hours)

Write **two only** of the following composition exercises. Your answers must follow exactly the instructions given and must be of between 120 and 180 words each.

- 1 You came to London a month ago to study English. Write a letter to your parents, telling them about the course you are taking and some of the difficulties you have encountered.
- 2 The students in your college think the food and service in the canteen are very poor. The Principal of the college has agreed to listen to your complaints and to discuss suggestions for improvement. Write what you would say to him.
- 3 You were visiting some friends in their flat late one evening when you heard someone shout 'Fire'! Describe what happened next.
- 4 Unemployment, especially among young people, is a serious problem in many countries today. What can be done about it? Do you think traditional ideas about work should be changed?
- 5 Based on your reading of any one of these books, write on *one* of the following.

JANE AUSTEN: *Sense and Sensibility*

Who is Colonel Brandon, and what part does he play in the novel?

G. B. SHAW: *Arms and the Man*

When Bluntschli leaves after hiding in Raina's bedroom, she gives him her father's old coat to disguise him. Explain what happens to the coat after that.

GRAHAM GREENE: *The Third Man*

There are two funerals in this story and both are for Harry Lime. Explain how this came about.

PAPER 3 USE OF ENGLISH (2 hours)

- 1 Fill each of the numbered blanks in the following passage. Use only **one** word in each space.

Carter was usually able to catch the 6.35 train from Euston. This brought(1) to the town where he lived at 7.12. His bicycle waited(2) him at the station – the ticket-collector always looked(3) it for him. Then he(4) home, changing his route from day to day. He crossed the canal(5), turned(6) the church and up the hill to his small, semi-detached house(7) Queens Road. He had(8) it on his return to England and although he(9) have afforded a much bigger house, he had no wish to draw attention to himself(10) the source of his income. He always arrived home at 7.30, unless he had(11) Sarah, his wife, to say that he would be(12) late. There was just time(13) say goodnight to his baby son and have a whisky or two before dinner at 8.00.

When he(14) the door of his house he saw that the hall was empty, and there was no sound from the kitchen. He noticed at(15) that the whisky bottle was not standing ready on the small table in the living-room. The habit of years had(16) broken and Carter felt anxious. He called, 'Sarah!' but there was(17) reply. He had always,(18) they returned(19) England, known that this moment(20) come, and he tried not to panic.

Practice Test 1

- 2 Finish each of the following sentences in such a way that it means exactly the same as the sentence printed before it.

EXAMPLE: I haven't enjoyed myself so much for years.

ANSWER: It's years since I enjoyed myself so much.

- a) 'Why don't you put a better lock on the door, Barry?' said John.
John suggested
- b) Although both his legs were broken in the crash, he managed to get out of the car before it exploded.
Despite his
- c) I haven't eaten this kind of food before.
This is the first
- d) After fighting the fire for twelve hours the firemen succeeded in putting it out.
The firemen managed
- e) The architect has drawn plans for an extension to the house.
Plans
- f) In Stratford-on-Avon we saw Shakespeare's birthplace.
We saw the house
- g) It isn't necessary for you to finish by Saturday.
You
- h) 'How many survivors are there?' asked the journalist.
The journalist wanted to know
- i) It was such rotten meat that it had to be thrown away.
The meat was
- j) It is essential that Professor Van Helsing is met at the airport.
Professor Van Helsing

- 3 Complete the following sentences with **one** appropriate word connected with the subject of **money**.

EXAMPLE: His *salary* is paid into his bank account every month.

- a) You can't pay by cheque or credit card. They only accept
- b) What is the rate of the pound today?
- c) During the sale the shop will give a 20% on all purchases over £100.
- d) Because of losing his job he can hardly find the money to re-pay his bank
.....
- e) If you invest £100,000 in our bank for one year, we will pay you 10%

- 4 Complete the following sentences with an expression formed from **turn**.

EXAMPLE: They expected two hundred people to come to the meeting but only seventy turned *up*.

- a) The radio is too loud. Turn it
- b) The concert was so popular that people who had not bought tickets in advance were turned at the door.
- c) The large vase in which he had kept his umbrella for many years turned
..... to be a valuable piece of Chinese pottery.
- d) She was standing at the end of the pier looking out to sea and I waited for her to turn so that I could see her face.
- e) Without any warning the dog, which had been lying quietly on the grass, turned the postman and bit him.

Practice Test 1

- 5 Make all the changes and additions necessary to produce, from the following sets of words and phrases, sentences which together make a complete letter. Note carefully from the example what kind of alterations need to be made. Write each sentence in the space provided.

EXAMPLE: I / wonder / why you / not / reply / last letter.

ANSWER: I was wondering why you had not replied to my last letter.

Dear Sir,

I / very surprised / letter / I receive / you this morning.

a)

In it / say / I not pay / book / send / one month ago.

b)

You say / I / send / money immediately.

c)

In fact / I return / book / you / same day / receive.

d)

I not return / because / not want.

e)

But because / book / be / poor condition / several torn pages.

f)

I send / letter / that time / ask you / send / perfect copy / same book.

g)

I hope / you do that and / not have / write / you again / this matter.

h)

Yours faithfully,
Samuel Johnson