

PREPARATION COURSES FOR THE **CAMBRIDGE FCE EXAM**

What is the Cambridge First Certificate Exam?

This exam is for people who can use everyday written and spoken English to Upper-Intermediate level (CEF level B2/B2+)

The exam caters for students who can understand/write written texts and can speak about a variety of topics at Upper-Intermediate level.

What will I gain from doing the exam?

If you successfully pass the exam, you will get a Cambridge FCE certificate that is valid for life. This is an internationally recognised intermediate qualification, recognised by employers and universities throughout the world.

The FCE exam gives you the confidence to progress to the IELTS exam (First Certificate in English)

What does the FCE involve?

There are five papers in the FCE exam:

Reading: 1 hour

This section involves being able to understand information in fiction and non-fiction books, journals, newspapers and magazines etc..

Writing: 1 hour 20 minutes

This section involves writing short story, a letter, an article, a report, a review or an essay.

Use of English: 45 minutes

This involves tasks relating to grammar and vocabulary.

Listening: 40 minutes

This section will involve listening to spoken material for e.g news programmes, speeches, stories and anecdotes and public announcements.

Speaking: 14 minutes

The speaking section will involve conversing with another candidate or in a group of three. The examiner will test you on your ability to interact and work with the other candidate and on your own.

How do I know if I am Upper-Intermediate level?

In DBL College, we test your level of English before commencing the course. You can also look at your CEF level (Common European Framework) on the following website

<http://www.cambridgeesol.org/what-we-do/europe/cefr.html>

Upper-Intermediate level is classed as B2/B2+. These are the “Can Do’s” of FCE English.

To book a placement test please contact edos@dblcollege.com.

If you would like to come and see our Director of Studies, please come to 33 Gardiner Place or contact edos@dblcollege.com to arrange a suitable time.

Starting dates for FCE preparation classes 2009 in DBL College:

April 21st

May 18th

July 8th

August 24th

October 12th

November 30th

"Minimum length of course should be 4 weeks.

20-26 weeks (15 hours tuition per week) is required to fully prepare for the FCE exam.

Please note: Extra study outside of class is required whilst doing this course.

After I take my FCE course in DBL College, where will I do the exam?

You can sit the exam in one of Dublin’s main universities; UCD.

Exams are held in June, August and December 2009 (see link below)

<http://www.cambridgeesol.org/exams/timetables/2009/fce.html>

