

OPEN BADGE: LEVEL C1

TO PASS THE EXAM, YOU MUST GET 60% OVERALL (72/120) AND A MINIMUM OF 15 IN EACH INDIVIDUAL TEST.

LISTENING (30 marks)

- PART 1: This is a talk by one speaker on a general topic. This means that you listen to one person giving information about a public event, a service provided, etc. The focus is on listening for specific factual information.
- PART 2: You hear two, three or four people talking about an academic topic. They may be students or teachers. They could be talking about a particular course assignment or project, or a more general academic topic, such as study skills.
- PART 3: This is a lecture or talk by one speaker on an academic or study-related topic. This means that you listen to a person giving a lecture, a talk, etc. The focus is on listening for main ideas, specific factual information, attitude and speakers' opinions.

READING (30 marks)

The Reading component of the C1 Open Badge includes two reading passages with 30 questions. The questions will test your ability to understand main ideas and detailed factual information, ability to understand the opinions and attitudes of the author, and the ability to follow the development of ideas. The topics of the readings are of general interest to university students.

You will have 40 minutes to complete the Task.

WRITING (30 marks):

You will be asked to write two texts:

1. A visual representation of information will be provided and you will have to summarise the key features of the information you see, writing a minimum of 150 words.
2. Here, you will be presented with two quotations relating to an argument, or problem. The topics can range from the environment to science, culture, and technology. You might be asked to, agree or disagree with a point of view, discuss two opposing views, write about the advantages or disadvantages of a topic, or the cause of a problem and offer a solution. Your response will need to be in an academic essay format, with a minimum of 250 words.

Responses must be in a formal style and use appropriate paragraphing. If you write fewer than the minimum number of words for each section, you will be penalized.

You will have 60 minutes to complete the Task.

SPEAKING (30 marks):

The Speaking test consists of TWO parts:

Task 1: You will be given a card and you will be asked to talk about a particular topic. You will have one minute to prepare before speaking for up to two minutes.

Task 2: You will be asked further questions connected to the topic in Part 2. These questions give you an opportunity to discuss more abstract issues and ideas. This part lasts between four and five minutes.