



Test day photos for Cambridge English exams

Information for candidates

Cambridge English exams – Mandatory test day photos

Candidates taking most Cambridge English exams from now on will have their photo taken on the day of the exam. This increases the security of the test and will help organisations such as universities, employers and immigration authorities to confirm your results quickly and easily. No-one will be able to access your picture unless you give them access to it.

Before the test day

Your centre will ask you to sign a document, such as a registration form, where you agree to have your photo taken on the test day. If you are under 18, your parents or legal guardian will need to sign this document.

On the test day

Your photo can be taken on either the day of the speaking test or the day of the written test.

Your centre will tell you when to arrive at the test venue. Make sure you get there on time. When you get to the venue, follow the instructions of the centre staff.

They will take a passport-style photo of you. See the guidance on the right for advice about what you should and shouldn't do in the photo.

What you should and shouldn't do:

Do:

- Face forward
- Look straight at the camera
- Make sure your head is not covered (unless for religious or medical reasons)
- Keep your mouth closed

Don't:

- Cover your face (for example, with your hair)
- Smile, laugh or frown
- Wear a hat or cap (unless for religious or medical reasons)
- Wear dark glasses

Example photos



What happens to your photo?

Don't worry, your photo is treated as confidential, like all your other personal information. Your photo is stored by Cambridge ESOL, and is only visible on the secure Results Verification website. This website is used by universities, immigration authorities and other professional organisations to verify a candidate's result.

You choose which of these organisations can see your photo, by giving them your ID number and secret number which are on your Confirmation of Entry.