# CAMBRIDGE BENCHMARKING TEST

# TEST INFORMATION

# READING

## TEST OVERVIEW

The Reading Test is taken using a computer. It is an adaptive test, so there is not a fixed number of questions, and candidates will not all see the same questions. Each question helps the computer to understand the candidate's level better. The test finishes when the candidate has answered enough questions to identify their level accurately. For this reason, candidates might finish the test at different times.

The Reading Test assesses candidates across all levels from below A1 to C1.

The table below gives the test details for each age group.

**Cambridge Benchmarking Reading Test (11-13)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Candidates read a range of texts and answer a variety of questions. | ▪ Approximately 30 minutes<br>▪ Reporting from 'Below A1' to 'B2 or above' |

**Cambridge Benchmarking Reading Test (14-17)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Candidates read a range of texts and answer a variety of questions. | ▪ Approximately 45 minutes<br>▪ Reporting from 'Below A1' to 'C1 or above' |

**Cambridge Benchmarking Reading Test (adult)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Candidates read a range of texts and answer a variety of questions. | ▪ Approximately 45 minutes<br>▪ Reporting from 'Below A1' to 'C1 or above' |

## TEST CONTENT

A variety of Reading questions assess the different levels. The Sample Reading Test shows all the possible question types. However, candidates will probably not see all the question types in their Reading Test. (The Sample Reading Test is not adaptive).

The table below gives details of each question type.

**Multiple choice (1 question)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Candidates read a notice, message or short text, or look at a picture, and answer one multiple-choice question. | ▪ 1 question<br>▪ 3 options for the question |

**Multiple choice (2 questions)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Candidates read a text and answer two multiple-choice questions. | ▪ 2 questions<br>▪ 4 options for the question |

**Multiple choice (5 questions)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Candidates read a text and answer five multiple-choice questions. | ▪ 5 questions<br>▪ 3 or 4 options for the question |

**Completing sentences**

| Candidates read a sentence with a gap and choose the correct word to fill the gap. | ▪ 1 or 2 sentences |
| | ▪ 1 gap |

**Matching pictures**

| Candidates look at five pictures and match a word to each picture. | ▪ 5 pictures |
| | 7 words |

**Matching words**

| Candidates look at five sentences and match a word to each picture. | ▪ 5 sentences |
| | ▪ 7 words |

**Matching sentences**

| Candidates read a text with gaps and match a sentence to each gap. | ▪ 1 text |
| | ▪ 5 gaps |
| | ▪ 8 sentences |

**Matching paragraphs**

| Candidates read a text with gaps and match a paragraph to each gap. | ▪ 1 text |
| | ▪ 5 gaps |
| | ▪ 6 paragraphs |

**Matching texts**

| Candidates read four texts and four questions and match a text to each question. | ▪ 4 texts |
| | ▪ 4 questions |

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**SAMPLE TEST**

The Sample Test can be found here:

[Reading Sample Test](Reading Sample Test)

(If you close the test, it will reopen at the same place. If you have any issues reopening the test once it has been finished, clear the computer's cache and try again.)

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**READING TEST ADVICE FOR CANDIDATES**

**Before the Reading Test**

▪ Review the Sample Test so you understand the different question types and how to move through the test.

**During the Reading Test**

▪ Remember, the Benchmarking Reading Test (but not the Sample Test) is adaptive. Some questions might be easy and some will be more difficult. The computer chooses the questions based on your previous answers.
▪ You can change your answer to any question on the same screen, but you cannot go back to a previous screen.
▪ Click on the forward arrow to move to the next screen.
▪ To see you how much of the test you have completed, look at the progress bar on screen.

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