

Complex Language Proficiency Exam
for students studying for a degree in Teaching English as a Foreign
Language
(MAT 1900, MATL 1900 & TNA 3900)

at Károli University of the Reformed Church, Budapest

General Information

This exam is designed to test candidates' command of English at C1-C2 level, as defined in the Council of Europe's "Common European Framework of Reference" (CEF) standards.

The exam consists of two parts: a written **Use of English** paper, and an **Oral part** in which candidates are expected to give a 10-minute PowerPoint presentation on a given controversial topic, followed by questions.

The Use of English paper focuses mainly on grammatical, lexical and discursal accuracy, and contains 50 questions based on *continuous texts* (several questions in each text) or *single sentences* (one or two questions in each sentence). The oral test requires candidates to speak fluently and accurately giving a pre-prepared presentation (see below for sample tasks).

In terms of the TVSZ (Tanulmányi és Vizsga Szabályzat), this exam is a "*Komplex nyelvi alapvizsga*", which means that the two parts are marked separately. In order to pass the whole exam, candidates need to reach the pass-mark (60%) in both parts, and the final grade is based on the aggregate of both marks.

Please note that passing the exam is an essential prerequisite for starting the school-based teaching practice in the MA TEFL programme.

1. Sample task types (Use of English)

Task type 1: Sentence transformation

Complete each unfinished sentence so that it means the same as the sentence before it. Include all the information from the original sentence.

I suggest that you take a seat; don't stand for the whole journey.
Wouldn't you prefer

Task type 2: Word formation

In the following text, the underlined words are in the wrong form for their context. Decide what the right forms for the context are, and write them on the numbered lines on the right.

Lt. Commander John J. Ross provided the medical (1 <u>attend</u>) for Gardner's experiment. He monitored the youth's vitals and physical reactions. The outcome of this test met with general (2 <u>belief</u>).	1..... 2.....
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Task type 3: Multiple choice

In each group of four expressions, there is only ONE that fits the context. Mark the letter of this expression.

If you never save any money, you live from hand to

- A/ mouth B/ purse C/ hunger D/ pocket

Key: 1. Wouldn't you prefer to take a seat rather than stand / instead of standing?
2/1.. attendance, 2/2. disbelief 3. A

2. Sample Topics for the Oral Presentation

Possible controversial/educational topics for the presentation:

- Genetic Engineering: a blessing or a curse?
- Alternative Energy Resources – the future?
- Learning Disorders: how can educators help?
- Health concerns in the 21st century
- Social Media and the Internet

3. Criteria for Evaluation (Oral Presentation)

- Content and Visuals
- Organisation
- Delivery
- Language (Accuracy & Fluency)

Total: 50 points

4. Practice Materials

Among others the following books may help students prepare for the exam:

Brook-Hart, G., and Haines, S. (2009). *Cambridge Complete CAE*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English 1-3 (Practice tests) (2009). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (Practice tests) (2005). Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English.

Hewings, M. (2009). *Cambridge Grammar for CAE and Proficiency*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Side, R., and Wellman, G. (2013). *Grammar and Vocabulary for Cambridge Advanced and Proficiency*. Harlow: Longman.

Swan, M. and Walter, C. (2011). *Oxford English Grammar Course - Advanced*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (not actually a course, but explanations + examples)

Vince, M. (2004, 2009). *Advanced Language Practice*. London: Macmillan.

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