

Exam Courses: Description

Who is this course for?

Exam classes are for students over the age of 16 who want to study for an internationally recognised exam such as the Cambridge University First Certificate (FCE), Cambridge Advanced (CAE), Proficiency (CPE) or IELTS.

Students may want to take an exam in order to enter university, to improve their professional qualifications or simply because they want to study intensively and perhaps get an internationally recognised certificate. However, you don't have to take an exam to join an exam class.

If you want to study in an exam class, but you are not sure which exam to study for, you can talk to Vicky, our Exam Adviser.

There are three kinds of exam class:

- **the IELTS class**, which is available throughout the year
- **the Summer Exam Preparation Course**, which is available during the summer months
- **FCE, CAE or CPE classes** which are available three times a year, beginning in January, March or September, and providing a period of continuous study leading up to the date of the exams.

Homework is given every night, and you must be prepared to work hard, come to class every day and do the homework your teacher gives you.

There are 20 or 28 lessons (15 or 21 hours) of exam classes. Exam classes work very hard, and students are advised to follow 28 lessons per week if

possible, as otherwise they may miss too much of the syllabus.

What will this course teach me?

Exam classes cover all aspects of academic English, with particular attention paid to the specific needs of each exam.

Students are helped to improve all aspects of English, but as these are academic exams, particular attention is given to improving reading and writing skills. Grammar is completely revised, more vocabulary is learnt and there is special help with preparing for the listening and speaking parts of each exam. We give you lots of practice and try to help you perform very well in your chosen exam.

Exam classes are hard work, but many students prefer them because everyone is motivated and eager to improve their English

What level are the classes?

Students who wish to join an exam class must first take the **GEOS exam course entrance test**. This test shows us what level you are, and whether you are likely to pass your chosen exam. If your level is too low to join an exam class, we will advise you on the best course of study to follow.

IELTS – you need to be at least Level 5

FCE – you need to be Level 6 or 7

CAE – you need to be Level 7 or 8

CPE – you need to be Level 8 or 9