

Complex Language Proficiency Exam
for students studying for an MA in English Studies (MAD)
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" (CEFR) standards.

The exam consists of two parts: a written **Use of English** paper (60 mins), and an **Oral part** in which candidates are expected to give a 10-minute PowerPoint presentation on a topic, followed by questions.

The Use of English paper is completed on site (in the university building) in Moodle without access to the internet. It focuses mainly on grammatical, lexical and discoursal 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 earning a degree in the MA programme.

1. Use of English: Sample task types

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 attend) for Gardner's experiment. He monitored the youth's vitals and physical reactions. The outcome of this test met with general (2 belief).	1.
	2.

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. Oral Presentation

'MAD' students are required to give an oral presentation on a selected topic area within their disciplinary MA studies (e.g. literary, linguistic, cultural, etc.). The presentation is required to be an academic one, professionally presented, preferably based on individual research.

Criteria for Evaluation (Oral Presentation)

The presentation	Content – 5p Structure – 5p Delivery – 5p Visual Aids – 5p
Use of English (in the oral part)	Vocabulary – range and accuracy – 10 p Grammar – range and accuracy – 10 p Pronunciation – 5 p Fluency – 5 p
	TOTAL: 50 points

3. Practice Materials:

Among others the following books may help students prepare for the written 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: Cambridge University Press.

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.

Compiled by Andrea Fischer, Réka Hajner and Zsófia Menyhei
2023