

**Global
Communication
in English (GCE)
Assesement
Descriptions**



Introduction to Trinity College London's Global Communication in English (GCE)

Trinity College London's Global Communication in English (GCE) qualifications assess learners' ability to understand, interpret and use English effectively in real-world communicative situations. These qualifications are mapped to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, Teaching, Assessment (CEFR) and help learners track their language learning progress and achievement in English as the language for international communication. Trinity College London's published GCE qualification specification, which clearly states the regulatory basis for the qualifications, can be found [here](#).

Objective of the qualifications

Trinity's Global Communication in English qualifications enable learners to be individually assessed on their language learning progress and achievement. The qualifications provide a structured yet flexible framework for learners to demonstrate their language proficiency for global communication. The qualifications promote enjoyment in using English and give learners a sense of accomplishment, providing proof of what they have achieved.

Who the qualifications are for

The intended GCE candidate is a learner of English as a foreign language who has developed communicative competence through the Kids&Us programme.

Eligibility for entry is restricted to learners enrolled in the corresponding Kids&Us course for that academic year (see table below).

Qualification	CEFR	Kids&Us Course	Typical age range
GCE-A1	A1	Ben&Brenda	8–10
GCE-A2	A2	Animal Planet 2	10–12
GCE-B1	B1	Fairy Tales 2	12–14
GCE-B2	B2	Mysteries 2	14–16
GCE-C1	C1	The Future 2	16–18
GCE-C2	C2	Subscription 2	17+



GCE Test Format

GCE-A1 (CEFR A1)

- **Speaking module:** it consists of 9 main questions, plus 4 warm-up questions.
 - **Warm-up questions:** the aim of these 4 introductory questions is that candidates feel comfortable and can familiarise themselves with both the test format and the examiner. These questions are for warm-up purposes only. They should be asked to all candidates and will not count towards the final mark. The aim of this part is for children to relax and to understand that they must answer using full structures.
 - **Part 1:** Candidates will answer 3 questions about personal information and daily routines worked on during the Kids stage.
 - **Part 2:** Candidates will answer 3 questions that focus on structures and vocabulary worked on during the Kids stage.
 - **Part 3:** Candidates will answer 3 picture-based questions based on content covered during the Kids stage.

GCE-A2 (CEFR A2)

- **Speaking module:** it consists of 3 exercises, and the total duration is not to exceed 8 minutes per candidate. Candidates are expected to:
 1. Describe an animal
 2. Compare different animals
 3. Give a short oral presentation
- **Listening module:** it consists of 3 exercises. Candidates are expected to:
 1. Understand 4 short conversations on different topics and choose the right option from 3 images.
 2. Follow the instructions to reach a place and identify which place it is from 4 possible options.
 3. Understand a conversation and respond to 5 questions by selecting the right answer from 3 possible options.
- **Reading and Use of English module:** it consists of 4 exercises. Candidates are expected to:
 1. Understand 5 sentences related to a picture and decide if they are true or false.
 2. Match 10 words with their meanings.
 3. Put a written conversation in the right order.
 4. In a gap-fill exercise with 9 gaps, choose the most suitable word for each gap from 3 choices.



GCE-B1 (CEFR B1)

- **Speaking module:** it consists of 3 exercises, divided into 2 distinct parts. The total duration is not to exceed 8 minutes per candidate. Candidates are expected to:
 - Part 1: Describe and compare different images about the same topic.
 - Part 2:
 - a) Tell a story based on 3 images.
 - b) Answer some questions related to the same 3 images.
- **Listening module:** it consists of 4 exercises. Candidates are expected to:
 1. Identify key information in 4 short conversations on different topics and choose the right option from 3 images.
 2. Understand specific information and details in a monologue and answer some True or False questions.
 3. Understand the main ideas of a text (monologue) and choose the right answer from 4 possible options.
 4. Complete the missing information in a summary after listening to a conversation.
- **Reading and Use of English module:** it consists of 4 exercises. Candidates are expected to:
 1. Understand general and specific information in a long text and decide if 10 questions are true or false.
 2. Understand 5 short texts and choose the right answer from 3 possible options.
 3. Choose the most suitable word or expression from 4 possible options to complete a text.
 4. Match 10 words or expressions with their meanings.
- **Writing module:** candidates are expected to write either a short story or a letter/email. Candidates can choose which type of text to write but it must have between 100-120 words.
 - Option 1: Story
 - Option 2: Letter / email

GCE-B2 (CEFR B2)

- **Speaking module:** it consists of 3 exercises, divided into 2 distinct parts. Although the task is done **in pairs**, each candidate is assessed individually and receives their own score.
 - Part 1: the total duration of this part is not to exceed 6 minutes (around 3 minutes per candidate). Candidates are expected to:
 - Compare 2 pictures for 1 minute.
 - Make a brief comment in response to a follow-up question.



- Part 2: the total duration of this part is not to exceed 12 minutes (around 6 minutes per candidate). Candidates are expected to:
 - Discuss a question with a partner with the help of written prompts and negotiate a decision
- **Listening module:** it consists of 3 exercises. Candidates are expected to:
 1. Identify key information in 8 short conversations on different topics and choose the right answer from 3 possible options.
 2. Complete the missing information in a summary after listening to a monologue.
 3. Listen for opinions, attitudes, main ideas and specific information of a text (interview) and choose the right answer from 3 possible options.
- **Reading and Use of English module:** it consists of 4 exercises. Candidates are expected to:
 1. Understand general and specific information in a long text and choose the right answer from 4 possible options.
 2. Follow the development of a long text (on a familiar topic) by deciding from where in the text 6 sentences have been removed. There is 1 extra sentence that does not fit any gap.
 3. Use lexical and grammatical knowledge and understand a text. Candidates must fill in 10 gaps in a text by choosing the right answer from 4 possible options for each gap.
 4. Use lexical and grammatical knowledge to express the same message in a different way by completing 7 sentence transformation items using the key word provided, without changing the original meaning.
- **Writing module:** candidates are expected to write either an article or an essay. Candidates can choose which type of text to write but it must have between 120-180 words.
 - Option 1: Article
 - Option 2: Essay

GCE-C1 (CEFR C1)

- **Speaking module:** it consists of 3 exercises, divided into 2 distinct parts. Although the task is done **in pairs**, each candidate is assessed individually and receives their own score.
 - Part 1: the total duration of this part is not to exceed 6 minutes (around 3 minutes per candidate). Candidates are expected to:
 - a) Compare 2 pictures for 1 minute.
 - b) Make a brief comment in response to a follow-up question.
 - Part 2: the total duration of this part is not to exceed 12 minutes (around 6 minutes per candidate). Candidates are expected to:



- Discuss a question with a partner with the help of written prompts and negotiate a decision.
- **Listening module:** it consists of 3 exercises. Candidates are expected to:
 1. Identify key information in 4 short extracts on different topics and choose the right answer from 4 possible options.
 2. Complete the missing information in a summary after listening to a talk.
 3. Identify key information in 4 short talks and choose the sentence which best fits according to what each speaker says.
- **Reading and Use of English module:** it consists of 6 exercises, 3 per section. Candidates are expected to:
 1. Understand general and specific information in a long text and choose the right answer from 4 possible options.
 2. Follow the development of a long text (on a specific topic) by deciding where 4 sentences have been removed from the text. There are 5 possible options, 1 of which does not fit any gap.
 3. Understand 3 brief texts and decide upon the correct answers for the 3 questions from below each text.
 4. Use lexical and grammatical knowledge and understand a text in order to successfully complete 5 gaps with the missing words from 4 possible options.
 5. Use lexical and grammatical knowledge to complete a text containing 5 gaps with the correct form of the words given.
 6. Use lexical and grammatical knowledge to express the same message in a different way by completing 8 sentence transformation items using the key word provided, without changing the original meaning.
- **Writing module:** candidates are expected to write either a review or an essay. Candidates can choose which type of text to write but it must have around 250 words.
 - Option 1: Review
 - Option 2: Essay

GCE-C2 (CEFR C2)

- **Speaking module:** it consists of 4 exercises, divided into 2 distinct parts. Although the task is done **in pairs**, each candidate is assessed individually and receives their own score.
 - Part 1: the total duration of this part is not to exceed 6 minutes (around 3 minutes per candidate). Candidates are expected to:
 - a) Compare 2 pictures for 1 minute.
 - b) Make a brief comment in response to a follow-up question.
 - Part 2: the total duration of this part is not to exceed 12 minutes (around 6 minutes per candidate). Candidates are expected to:



- a) Discuss a question with a partner with the help of written prompts and negotiate a decision.
 - b) Answer some questions related to the topic presented in the discussion part.
- **Listening module:** it consists of 3 exercises. Candidates are expected to:
 1. Identify key information in 4 short extracts on different topics and choose the right answer from 4 possible options.
 2. Complete different sentences with the missing information after listening to a talk.
 3. Identify key information in 6 short talks and choose the sentence which best fits according to what each speaker says.
- **Reading and Use of English module:** it consists of 6 exercises. Candidates are expected to:
 1. Understand general and specific information in a medium-length text and complete the gaps by choosing the right answer from 4 possible options.
 2. Use lexical and grammatical knowledge and understand a text about a general topic. Candidates have to fill in 5 gaps in the text by coming up with a suitable word for each gap. Context is essential to figure out what type of word is missing.
 3. Use lexical and grammatical knowledge to express the same message in a different way by completing 8 sentence transformation items using the key word provided, without changing the original meaning.
 4. Understand 4 brief texts and identify which text mentions the information asked for in the given questions.
 5. Understand an extract from an authentic text and decide upon the correct answers for the 4 questions given.
 6. Understand and follow the development of an extract from an authentic text by deciding which 4 sentences in the text have been removed out of 5 possible options. There is 1 extra sentence that does not fit any gap. There is also 1 which has already been used as an example.
- **Writing module:** candidates are expected to write either an essay or an article. Candidates can choose which type of text to write but it must have around 300 words.
 - Option 1: Essay
 - Option 2: Article



Assessment and Marking

The GCE qualifications assess communicative competence using a combination of dichotomous (right/wrong) scoring (for Listening, Reading and Use of English modules) and rating scales (for Speaking and Writing).

The result for each module is calculated by converting the raw score into a standardised reporting score.

- A1 candidates must achieve a minimum of 60% in the overall result in order to pass the qualification.
- A2-B1-B2-C1-C2 candidates must achieve a minimum of 50% in the overall result in order to pass each qualification.

The weighting of each module for each qualification is as follows:

- GCE-A1:
 - Speaking module: 100%
- GCE-A2:
 - Speaking module: 40%
 - Listening module: 30%
 - Reading and Use of English module: 30%
- GCE-B1, GCE-B2, GCE-C1, GCE-C2:
 - Speaking module: 25%
 - Listening module: 25%
 - Reading and Use of English module: 25%
 - Writing module: 25%

When candidates have completed all modules of a GCE qualification, they will receive:

- a report and/or diploma from Kids&Us that will include:
 - the candidate's score for each module
 - the candidate's overall score for the qualification
 - feedback about their performance (for each module and overall)

Candidates that pass the GCE qualification will also receive a Trinity certificate with the CEFR level (A1-C2) of the corresponding qualification.



Where the GCE qualifications could lead

While for some learners, the GCE qualifications represent personal goals and objectives, they are designed to support decisions that rely on a general, CEFR-aligned description of English language proficiency across speaking, listening, reading and writing.

GCE qualifications may therefore be used to provide evidence of English proficiency for certain educational, professional and mobility-related purposes.

Appropriate use and limitations of interpretation

GCE results provide evidence of English-language communicative competence as defined by the learning outcomes of each qualification and aligned to the CEFR.

Misuse may arise where results are applied outside this scope, for example by using the qualification with candidates whose age or learning context is not aligned with the intended test population, by treating results as evidence of specialist professional competence or non-linguistic abilities or by extending interpretations beyond those set out in Trinity's published qualification specification and guidance.

Complaints and Appeals Process

Students who disagree with a GCE result, or their legal representatives in the case of minors, may request a review of the mark awarded. The request must first be submitted in writing to the school where the examination was taken, within 15 calendar days of receiving the results report. The school will provide an initial response within two working days and a full response within 14 days. If the school's response is not considered satisfactory, the complaint may be escalated to Kids&Us HQ by emailing gce.qualifications@kidsandus.com within 15 calendar days of receiving the school's response. The Kids&Us HQ team will respond within a maximum of 15 calendar days of receiving the request. Appeals are reviewed by specialists at Kids&Us HQ, and the outcome is communicated in writing to the candidate or their family.

