



EnglishScore

# EnglishScore Writing Test Guide

# Welcome to the British Council EnglishScore Writing Test Guide

This is a step-by-step guide to help you to prepare for the EnglishScore mobile English Writing Test and get a Professional Certificate to support your future career and education opportunities.

## The EnglishScore test is:



**Accessible** take the test in your mobile device from anywhere, at any time, with results available within 24 hours.



**Affordable** our mobile test is up to 3x cheaper than alternatives; you can get a certificate for as low as US\$20.



**Accurate** our mobile test is designed by academic experts to accurately test and certify your English level.



**Trusted** a global standard of English proficiency, recognised by employers and education institutions around the world.

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# 1 Getting started

# 1 | Getting started

## About the test

The British Council EnglishScore Writing Test is a recognised mobile English test and certificate that measures language accuracy (including spelling), range and organisation, as well as overall writing ability (including comprehensibility).

Test results are available within 24 hours and are reported using the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), the global standard used by other international tests such as TOEFL ITP, TOEIC and IELTS.

## Where is EnglishScore accepted?

The EnglishScore Writing Test is used as proof of English proficiency by institutions and employers around the world. It is recognised by thousands of employers and universities in over 150 countries.

Our trusted and affordable Professional Certificate is valid for two years and can be shared with an unlimited number of organisations.

Visit our [online directory](#) to see where the test is accepted:

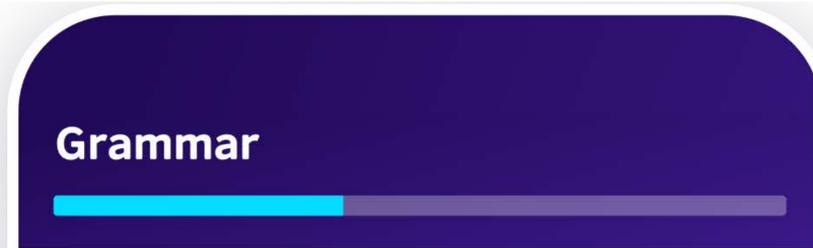


Check with your university or employer to understand their English proficiency requirements before you get your certificate.

# 1 | Getting started

## Download the app

To get started, you will need to go to the Google Play Store or Apple App Store to download the EnglishScore app. Once you have downloaded the app to your mobile device, you are ready to create an account.



### Regional Manager



We've been wondering for some time when the new regional manager is going to come.

I heard she's coming next month.



We've been wondering

We had wondered



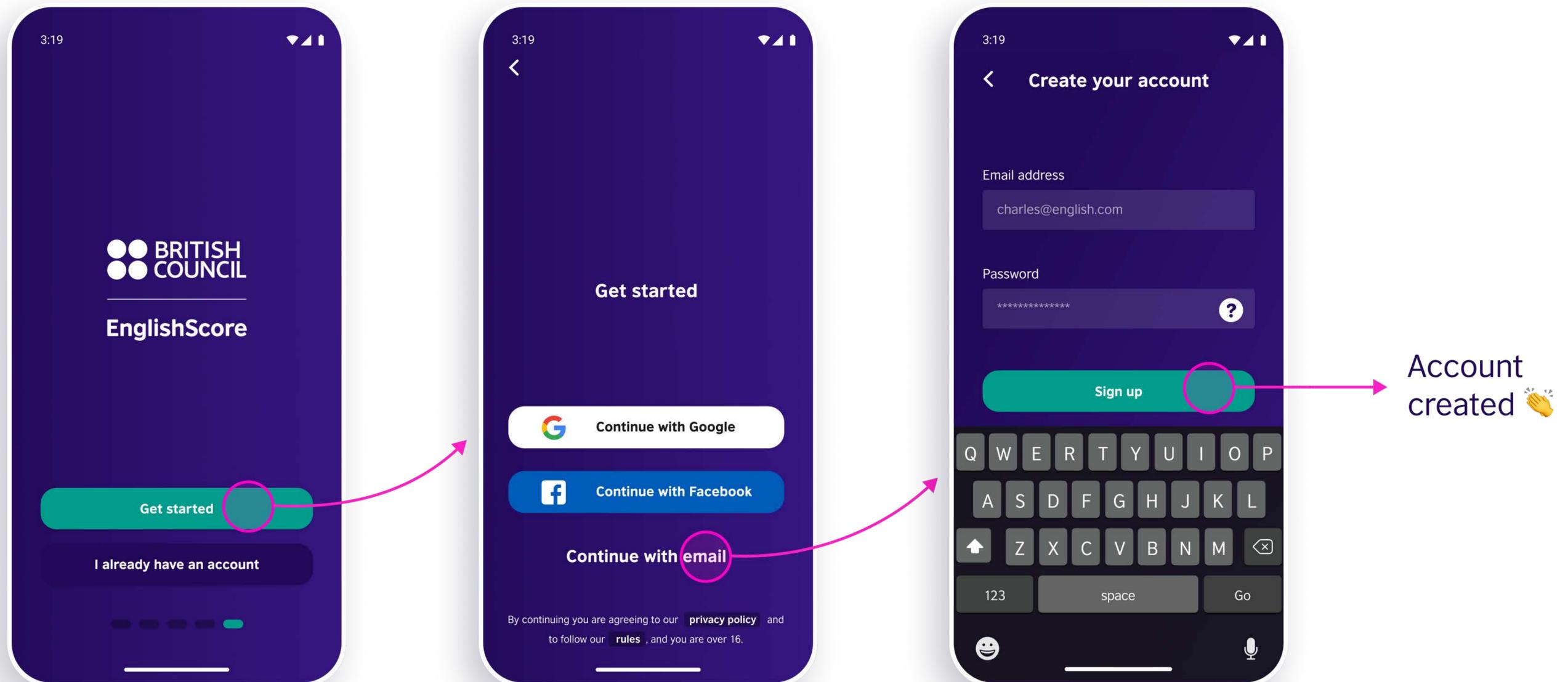
[bit.ly/escoregoogle](https://bit.ly/escoregoogle)

# 1 | Getting started

## Create an account

You can create an EnglishScore account using your email and a password, or you can use your existing Facebook or Google login to create an account.

(The app only supports email and password on iPhone.)

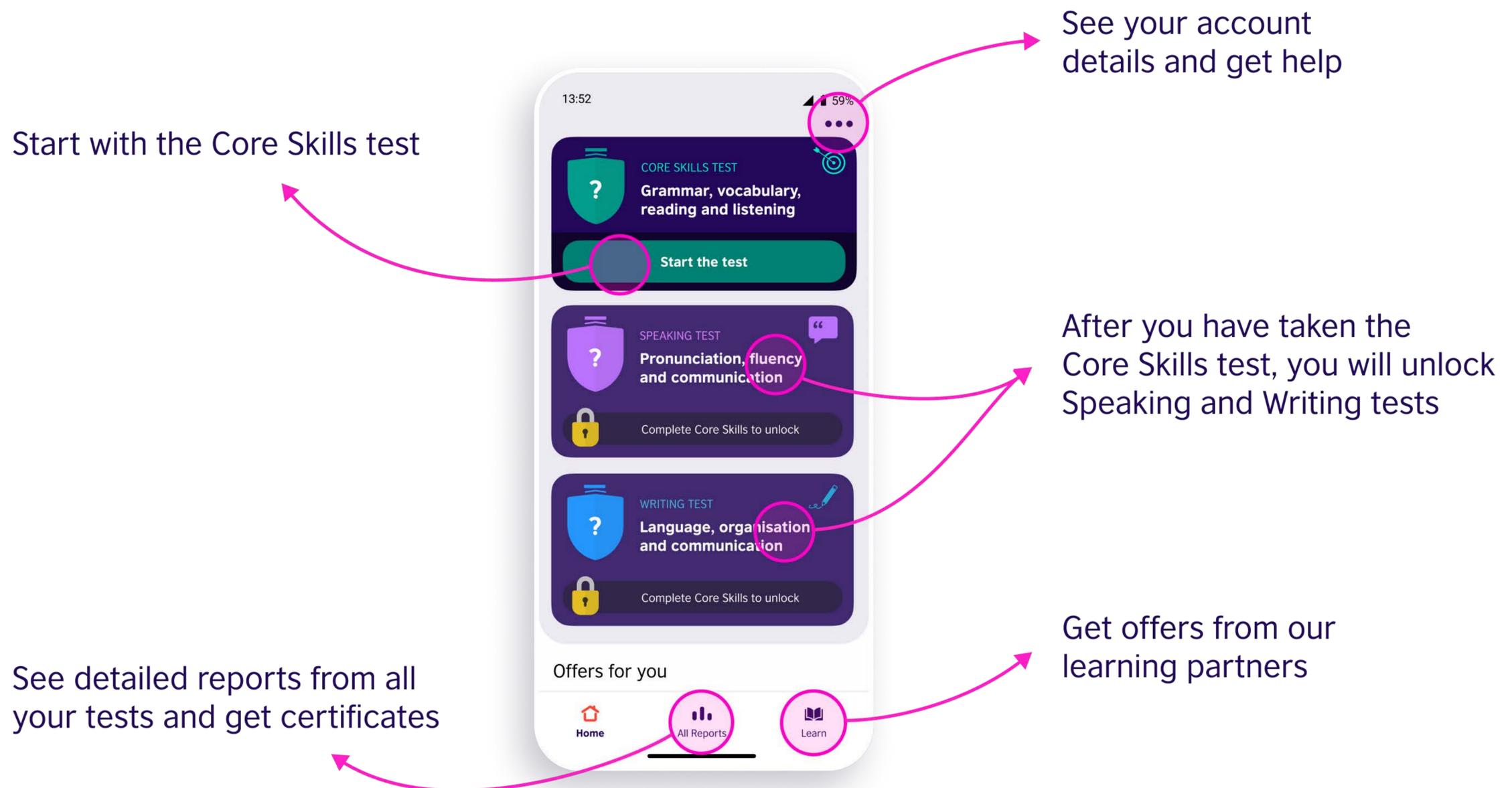


# 1 | Getting started

## Using the EnglishScore app

Once you have created an account, you will see the home dashboard. From the dashboard, you will immediately be able to access the Core Skills Test. You will also be able to see your results, get your certificate and look for great learning offers with our partners. The Writing Test is accessed through the dashboard.

To unlock the Writing Test, you must first complete the EnglishScore Core Skills test and score at least A2. Check our Core Skills Test Preparation Guide [here](#) for further details.



## 2 Preparing for the test

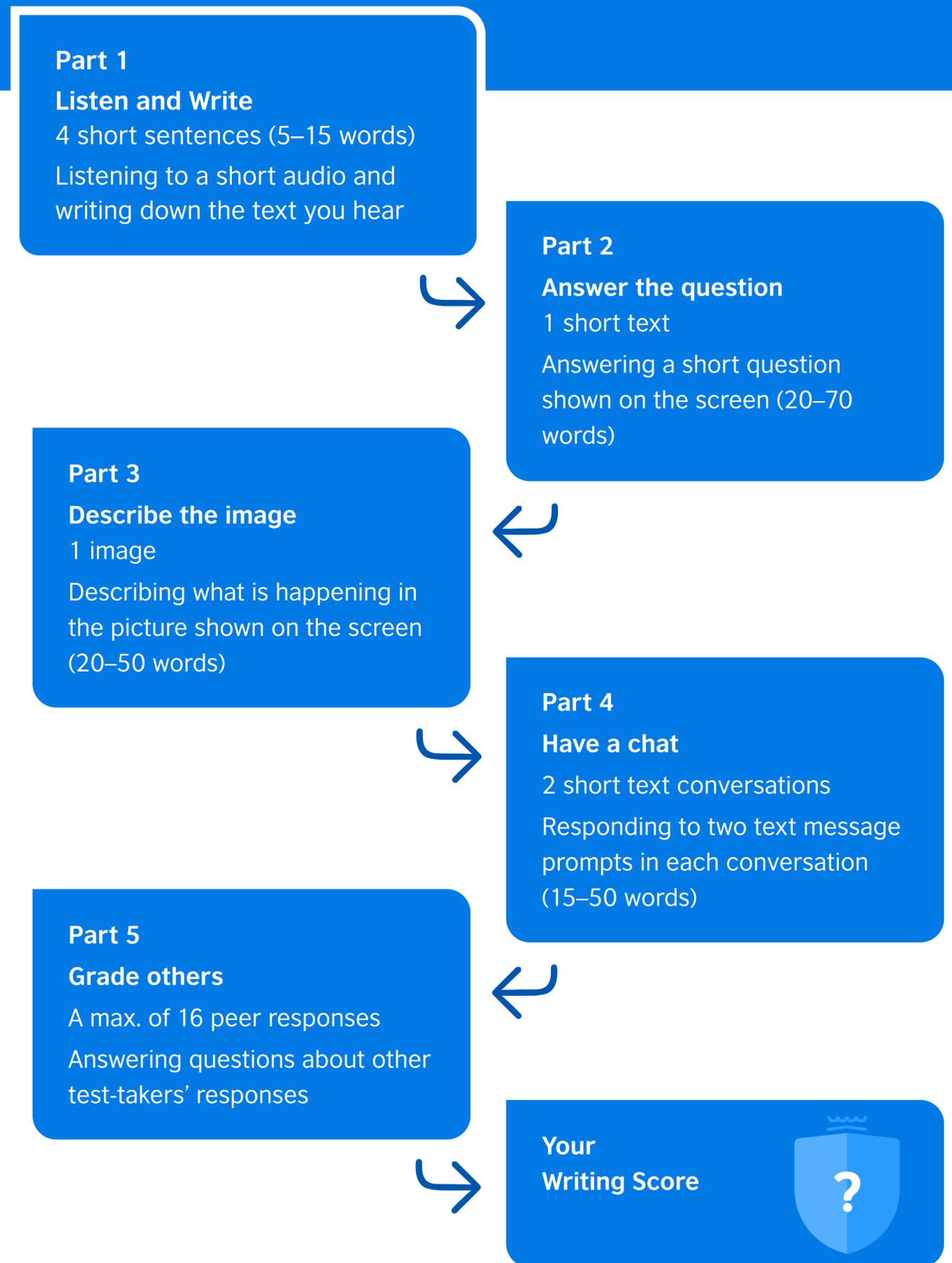
## 2 | Preparation and practice

### Learn how the Writing Test works

The EnglishScore Writing Test tests your English language accuracy (including spelling), range and organisation, as well as overall writing ability (including comprehensibility).

The test is divided into four parts: Listen and Write, Answer the Question, Describe the Image and Have a Chat. Questions are on topics that can be from daily life, e.g. going to the supermarket, or from the workplace, e.g. opinions about work or work-related chat messages. After completing your test, you must also grade others to receive your score. This is the fifth and final part of the Writing Test.

Test-takers are notified via email and through app notifications when their test results are available. Test results are usually available within 24 hours of taking the test.



## 2 | Preparation and practice

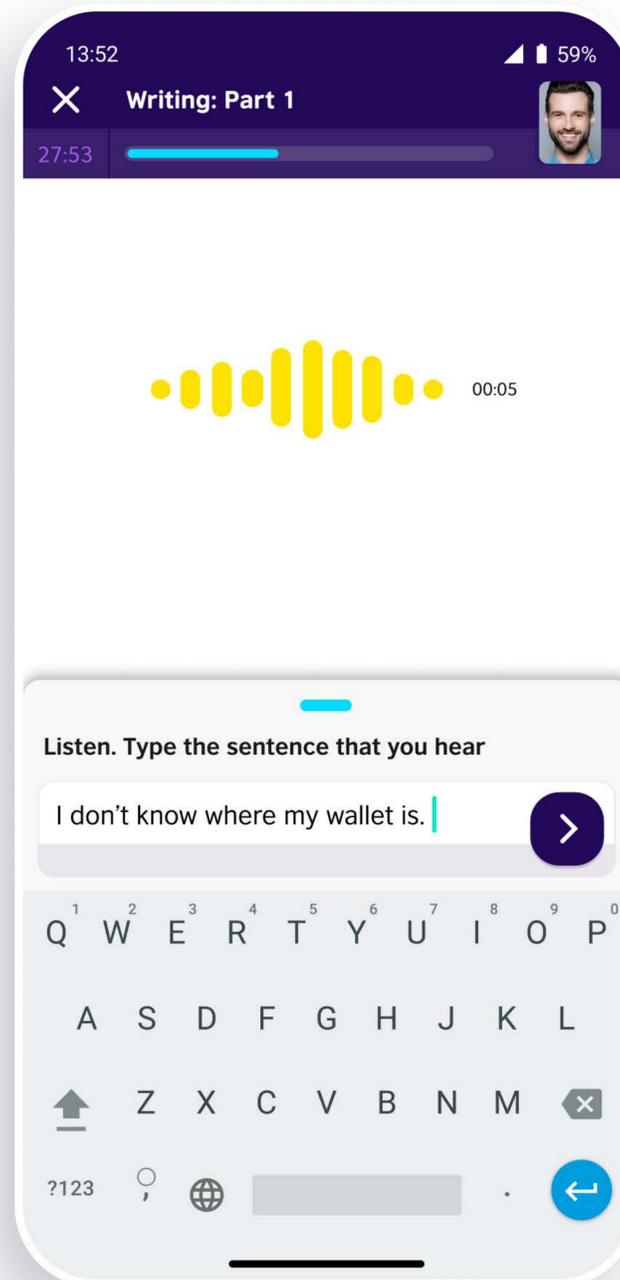
### Part 1: Listen and Write

In this part, you will listen to a sentence (5–15 words).

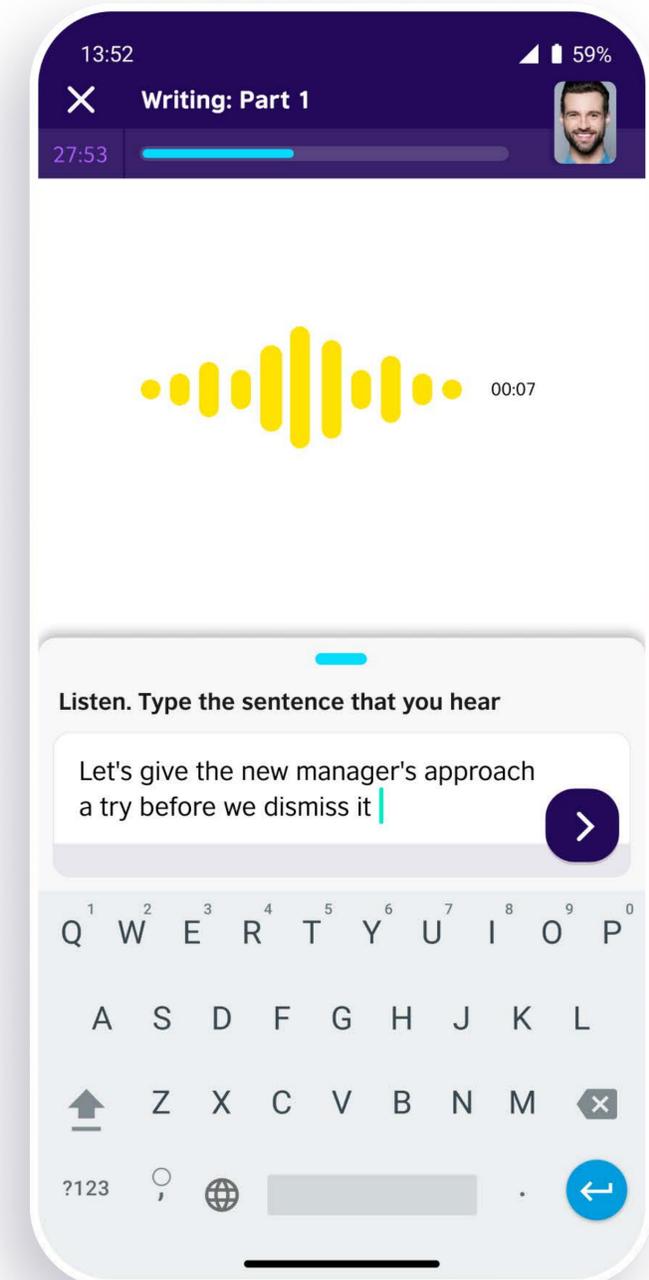
You must type the sentence into the box shown on the screen. You can only start typing after you have listened to the sentence, but you can listen to the sentence twice.

You have 90 seconds to complete this task.

#### A2 | Example



#### B2 | Example



## 2 | Preparation and practice

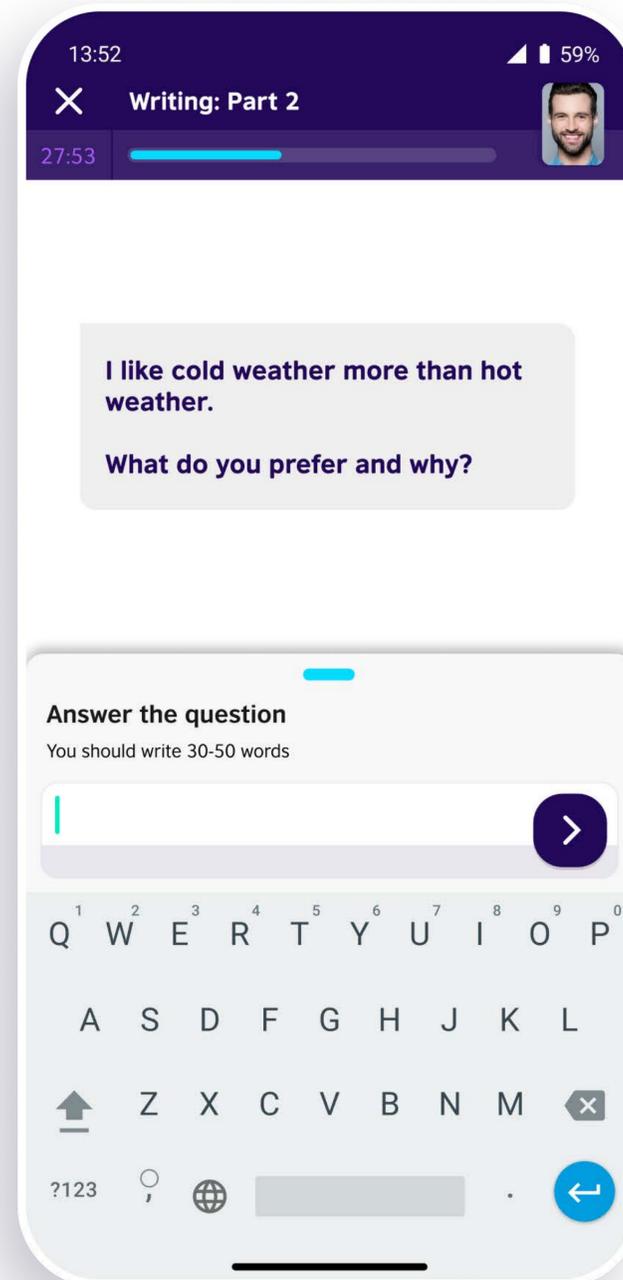
### Part 2: Answer the Question

In this part, you will read a statement about a topic, which also includes a question.

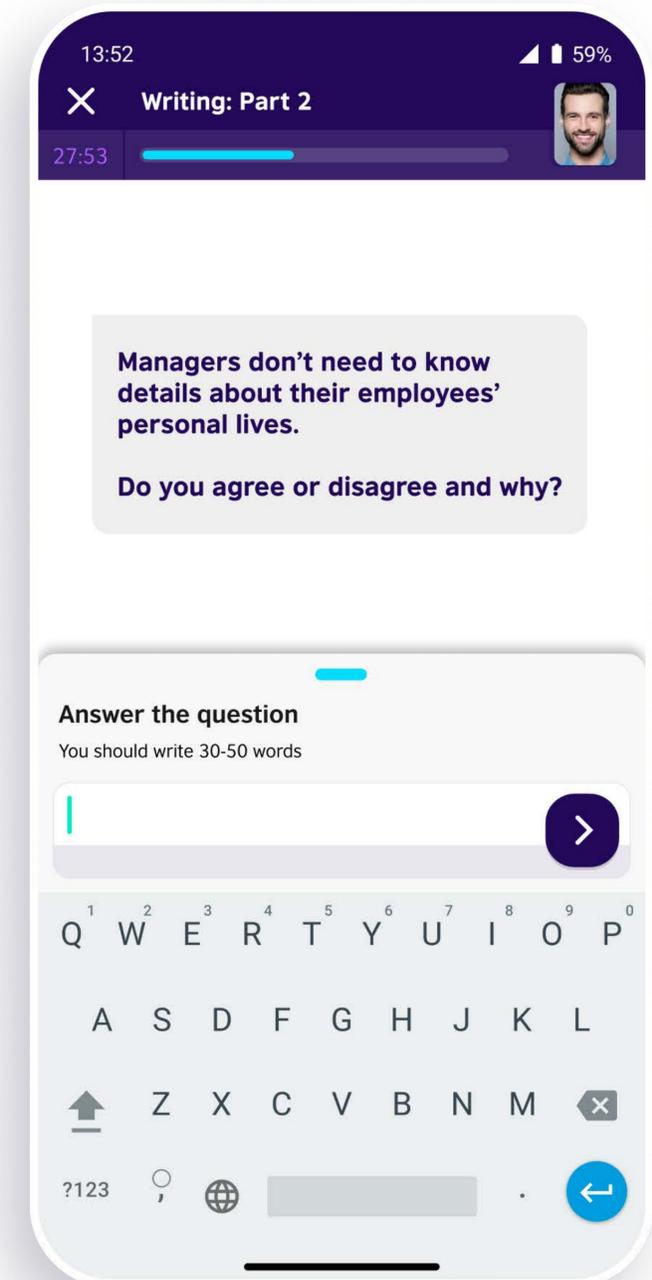
You must answer the question shown on the screen. Your answer should be between 20 and 40 words at A2 and B1 levels and 50 and 70 words at B2 and C1 levels.

Note that while shorter answers may lead to lower scores, you won't be penalised if you go over the word count. However, it's still important to stay as close to the recommended range as possible. A current word count will be displayed on the screen as you type.

#### B1 | Example



#### C1 | Example





## 2 | Preparation and practice

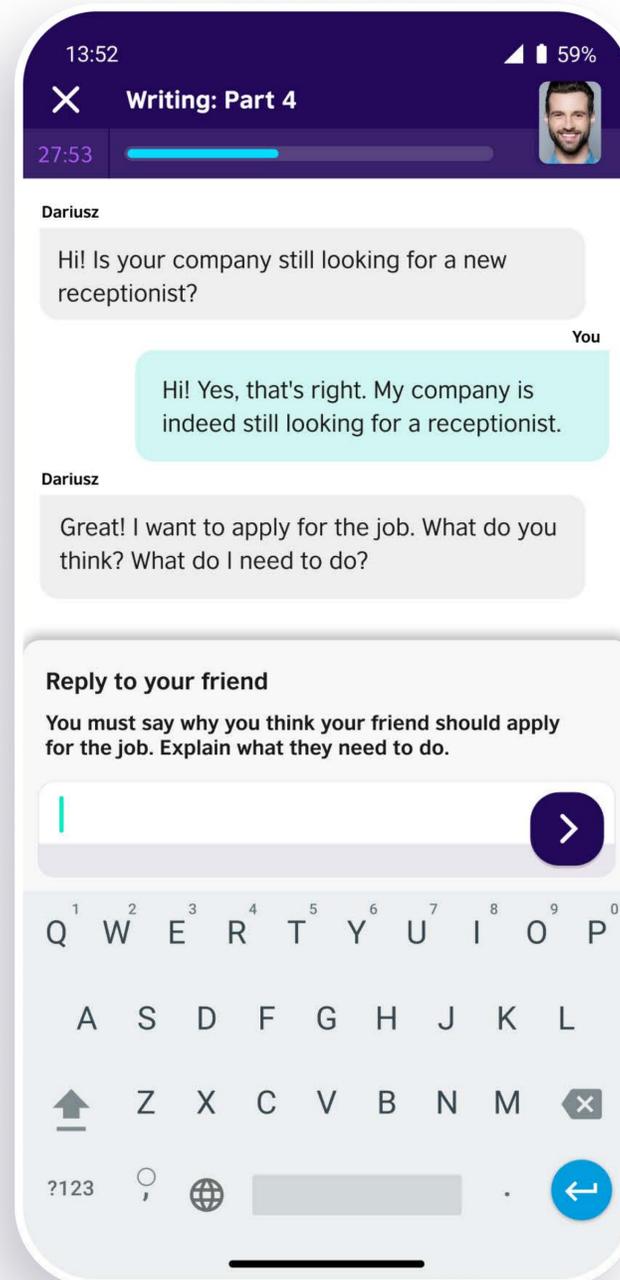
### Part 4: Have a chat

This part is divided into two turns. In the first turn, you will see a text message on the screen, together with instructions on what to add to your reply. Your answer should be between 10 and 20 words.

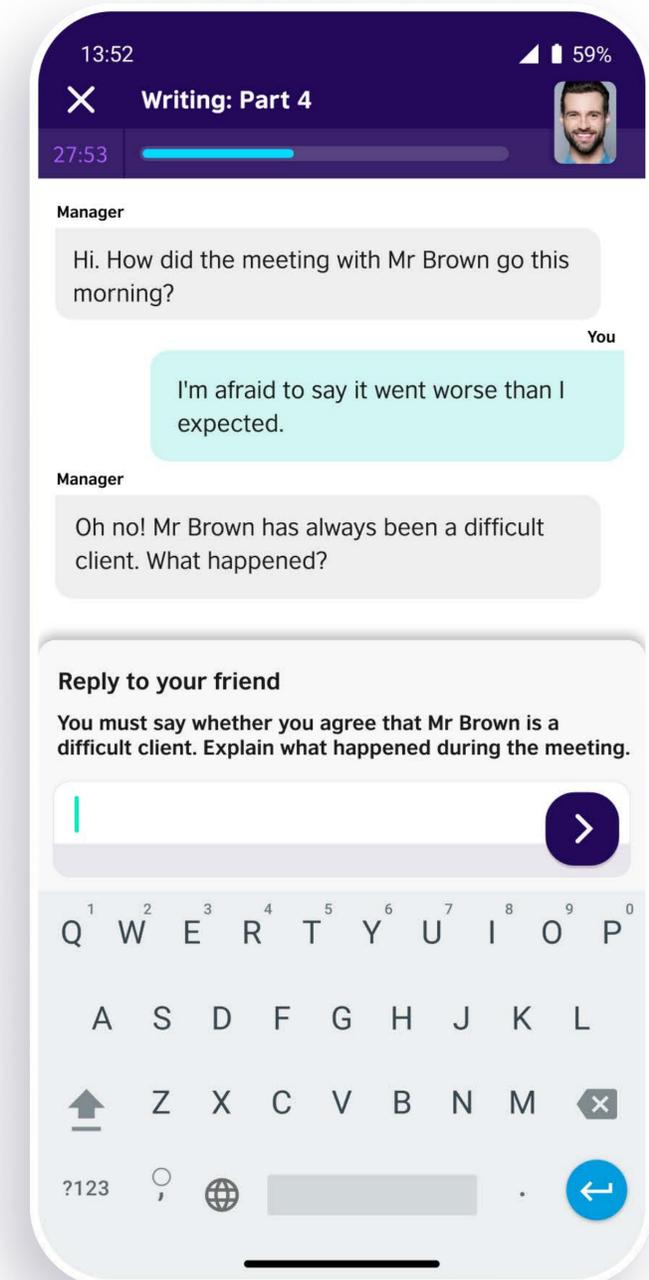
You will then see a second text message answering to you, together with instructions again. Your answer should be between 15 and 30 words at A2 level, between 15 and 40 words at B1 level and between 30 and 50 words at B2 and C1 levels.

Note that while shorter answers may lead to lower scores, you won't be penalised if you go over the word count. However, it's still important to stay as close to the recommended range as possible. A current word count will be displayed on the screen as you type.

#### B1 | Example



#### C1 | Example



## 2 | Preparation and practice

### Part 5: Grade others

In this part, you will read the responses other test-takers gave to Parts 2, 3 and 4.

You must follow the instructions and answer questions about the responses.

Remember that other test takers will also be reading your responses!

#### Example 1

13:52 27:53 59%

Writing: Part 5

I like cold weather more than hot weather.

**What do you prefer and why?**

I prefer warm weather because I enjoy walking around in T-shirts and shorts. In warmer months, I often have picnics on the grass or sunbathe by the sea at the weekend.

**Did they answer the question?**

Yes No

Next

#### Example 2

13:52 27:53 59%

Writing: Part 5

Dariusz: Hi! Is your company still looking for a new receptionist?

You: Hi! Yes, that's right. My company is indeed still looking for a receptionist.

Dariusz: Great! I want to apply for the job. What do you think? What do I need to do?

You: This is a great idea! First of all, put together your CV. Then apply on our website. You will be contacted by my colleagues shortly. Good luck!

**Did they say what their friend needs to do?**

Yes No

Next

#### Example 3

13:52 27:53 59%

Writing: Part 5

You: Hi! Yes, that's right. My company is indeed still looking for a receptionist.

Dariusz: Great! I want to apply for the job. What do you think? What do I need to do?

You: This is a great idea! First of all, put together your CV. Then apply on our website. You will be contacted by my colleagues shortly. Good luck!

**Finally. How well did they do?**

😊

★★★★☆

Next

## 2 | Preparation and practice

### Practice questions

To get familiar with the different types of questions, you can try some here:

Try some [Writing questions](#)



#### Tip !

The best way to practise is to take the test. You can try the test many times in the app. This will help you to get comfortable with the Writing Test and to understand your score and the skills you need to improve on.

Remember, you must wait for your results from one Writing Test before you can start another. This can take up to 24 hours. You can only take the test once in 24 hours and 4 times in 28 days.

## 2 | Preparation and practice

### Tips to prepare for the test

- ✓ **Learn about the test.** Read this test guide!
- ✓ **Understand the rules.** Get familiar with the Writing Test and the rules, download the app and have a go.
- ✓ **Understand the questions.** You can practise in the app, and you can also try some of our [practice questions](#).
- ✓ **Study and prepare in advance.** You will feel more confident and relaxed when you come to take the test.
- ✓ **Plan ahead and set a time to take the test.** This will allow you to get your environment and equipment ready in advance.
- ✓ **Find a quiet space for the test.** Background noise such as traffic, the TV or other people Writing near you can affect the quality of your recorded answers.
- ✓ **Don't leave the test once you start.** Have a glass of water next to you and go to the bathroom beforehand.
- ✓ **Have a good internet connection.** You need to be online to complete the test.
- ✓ **Don't get distracted.** Find a place without any distractions.
- ✓ **Watch the time.** You have 30 minutes to complete the test.
- ✓ **Answer every question.** You cannot skip questions, so always submit an answer even if you are unsure.
- ✓ **Make sure you meet the word counts.** A current word count will be displayed on the screen as you type.

You can also check out our [blog](#) for further help to prepare for the Writing Test.

# 3 Taking the test

## 3 | Taking the test

### Preparing your environment and equipment

Here is some advice and tips to help you succeed when taking the test:



Find a quiet place with no background noise.



You must be alone.



Make sure you have good lighting.



Check you have a good internet connection.



Make sure your device is charged.



Have your **Connect Code** ready to enter (if you have been given one by your organisation).



Check the volume of your device so you can hear clearly for Part 1 of the assessment (Listen and Write)



You will need to do a camera security check – you must be alone and show your whole face clearly.

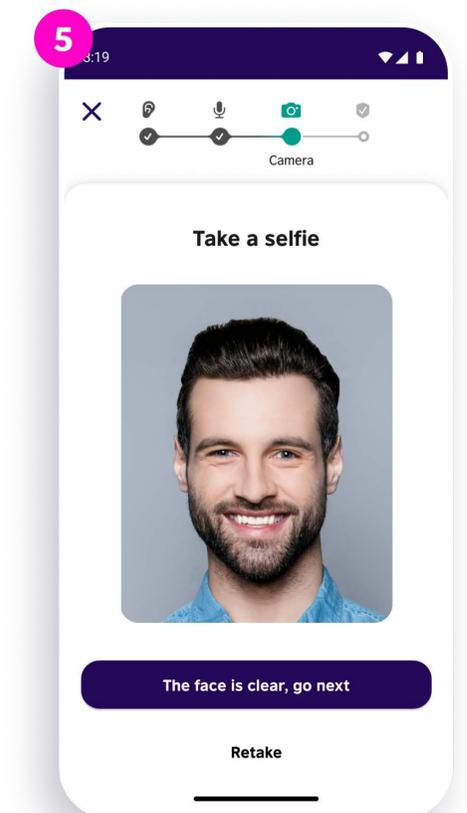
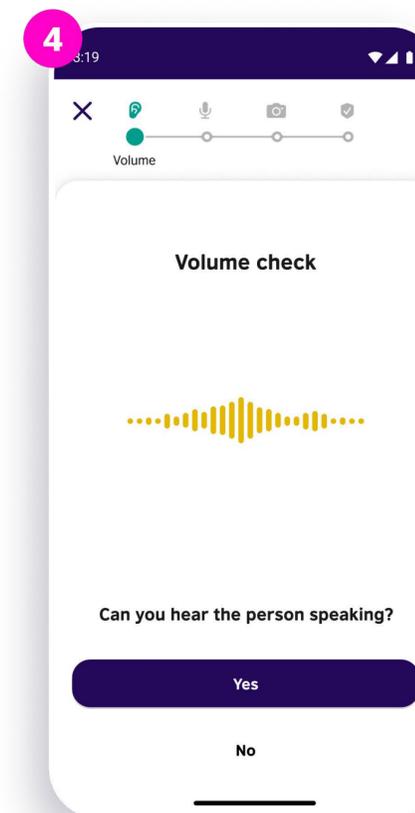
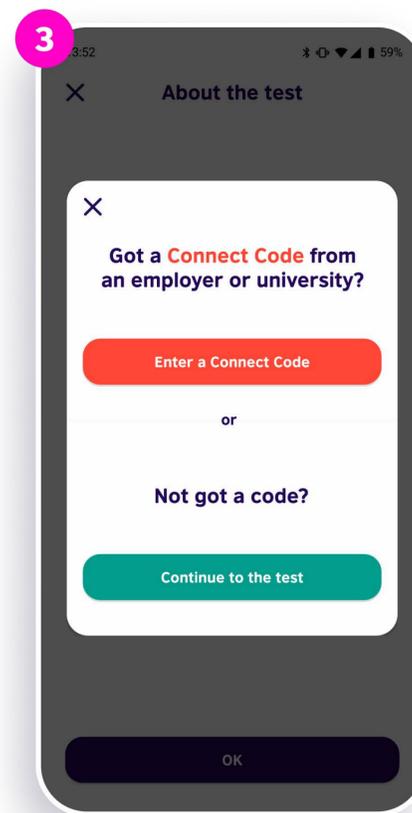
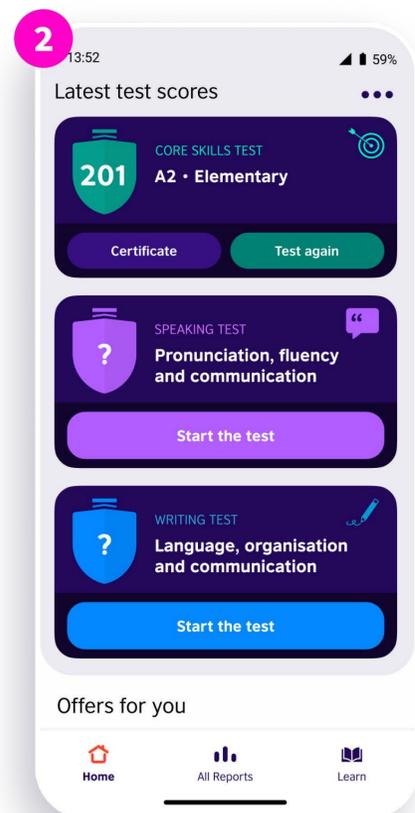
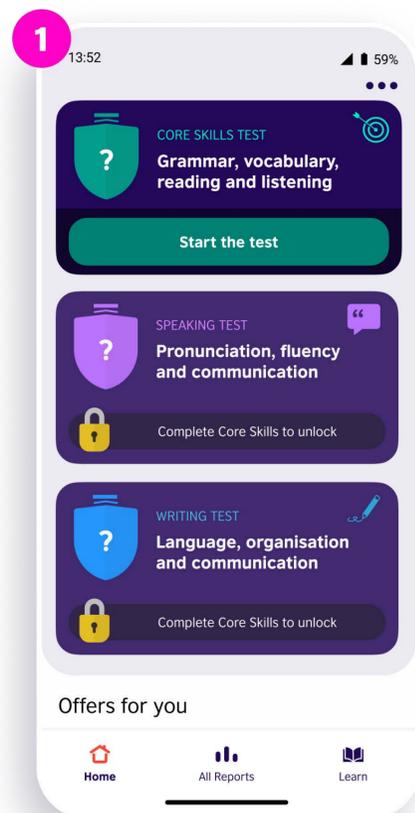


We recommend closing any other apps that may be using the internet if you are having connection issues.

# 3 | Taking the test

## Getting set up

- 1 Complete the Core Skills Test to unlock the Writing Test. You must score at least A2 to access the Writing Test.
- 2 When you are ready, tap 'Start the test' on the dashboard. You can find this below the Speaking Test.
- 3 Have your Connect Code ready to enter (if you have been given one).
- 4 Check the volume on your device. You need sound for Part 1 (Listen and Write).
- 5 The front camera is used to check you are taking the test correctly. Make sure your face is visible and you are alone.



## 3 | Taking the test

### Test rules

These rules help to give you and organisations confidence that your results are accurate and reliable.

#### The main Writing Test rules

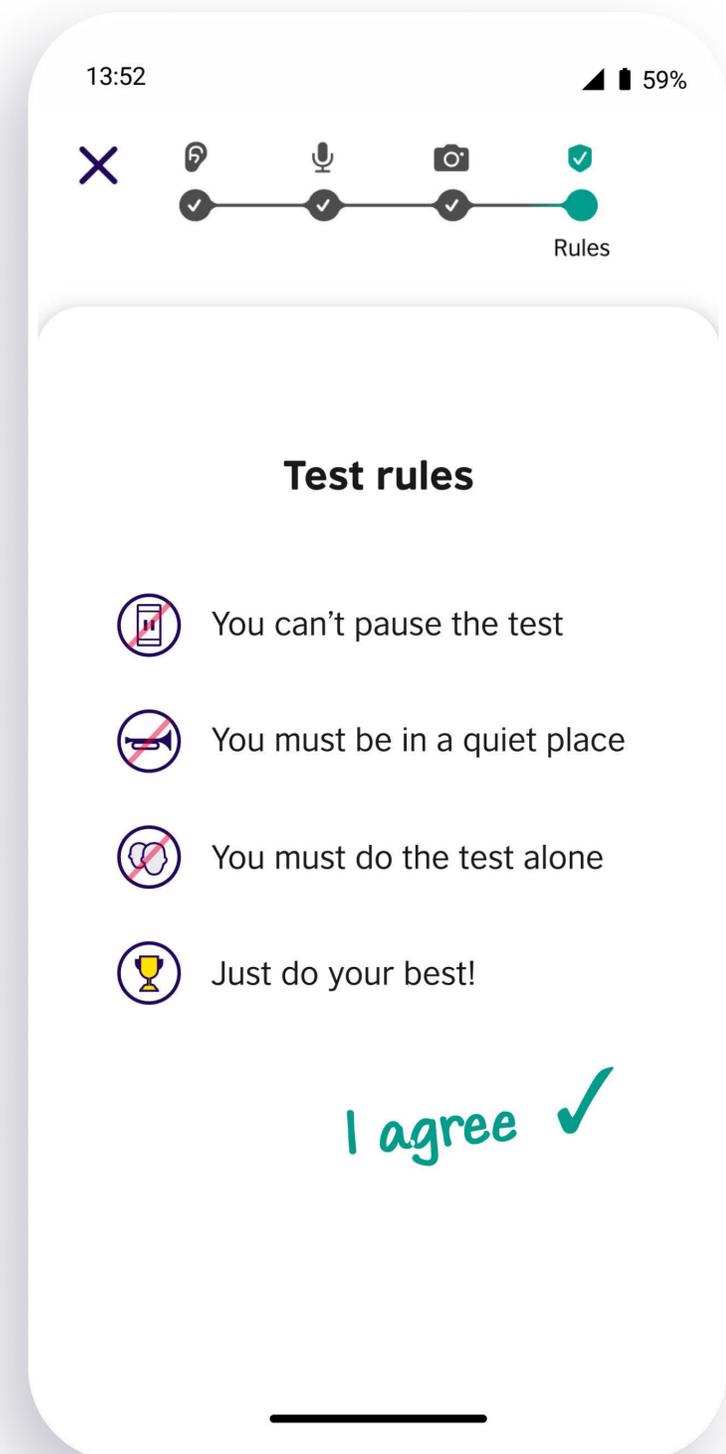
- 1 You can't pause the test.
- 2 You must be in a quiet place.
- 3 You must not get any help.

#### You can't do these things during your test

-  You can't exit the app. If you close the app, it can affect your score or cancel your test.
-  You can't take a screenshot or screen recording during the test, and you can't share your screen.
-  You can't use autocorrect or text suggestions. Both features are automatically disabled during the test.

#### Some final tips

- 1 Double-check your answers before you submit to make sure there are no typos or other errors in your answers.
- 2 Use proper punctuation, spacing and capitalisation.
- 3 Keep in mind that time limits apply for each question. You must type in your answers before the time runs out.
- 4 Both UK English and US English are accepted. You will not be penalised for using any English spelling variant as long as it is correct





# Your EnglishScore explained

## 4 | Your EnglishScore explained

### How is the test scored?

The EnglishScore Writing Test is designed to be an accurate, reliable measure of a test-taker's writing ability in the global workplace. To achieve this, we use a blend of automated scoring and peer rating to calculate a score that reflects how well a test-taker can communicate in written modes with people from a variety of different backgrounds, cultures and English language levels

#### Part 1. [Listen and write](#)

This section is evaluated by automated AI scoring for:

- Language accuracy including spelling, and language range.

#### Part 2. [Answer the question](#)

#### Part 3. [Describe the image](#)

#### Part 4. [Have a chat](#)

These sections are evaluated for:

- Language – accuracy, including spelling, and language range (AI scoring)
- Organisation (AI scoring)
- Task achievement and overall comprehensibility (peer rating).

## 4 | Your EnglishScore explained

### How is the test scored?

Using each scoring method where it works best means we can provide accurate results within 24 hours – much faster than traditional English writing tests and exams.

In your certificate, you will receive an overall score, as well as individualised scores for:

- **Language** – how well you use grammar and vocabulary (both in terms of accuracy and range), as well as spelling
- **Organisation** – how you connect and arrange ideas
- **Communication** – how clear and easily understood your written answers are and how well you completed the tasks

# 4 | Your EnglishScore explained

## Understanding your EnglishScore

You can score up to 599 points on the Writing Test. Each hundred-point band on the EnglishScore scale correlates to the international standard Common European Framework of Reference for Languages [\(CEFR\)](#).

CEFR is used to describe language proficiency levels. There are six main levels, from A1 to C2, ranging from beginner to advanced. The EnglishScore Writing Test assesses from A2 to C1.

The EnglishScore point-based scale helps you to understand your proficiency within a CEFR level.

## Compare your EnglishScore to other tests

### Score Comparison\*

CEFR	EnglishScore	TOEIC	TOEFL ITP	IELTS
C1	599	990	677	8
B2	500	945	627	7
B1	400	785	543	6
A2	300	550	460	5
A1	200	225	337	4
Pre A1	100	120		
	0	0		

\*These charts can only be used as approximate comparisons and cannot be considered evidence of actual or expected scores.



**5**

Getting your certificate

# 5 | Getting your certificate

## About the certificate

The British Council EnglishScore Professional Certificate is a global standard of English proficiency, recognised by leading employers and institutions around the world.

Our Professional Certificate includes special features to validate your English level to an employer or education institution.

- 1 Your name
- 2 EnglishScore and CEFR level
- 3 Skills breakdown
- 4 Valid for two years
- 5 Your photo
- 6 Photo-check security
- 7 Employer verification ID
- 8 Cando statements

**Verifying the certificate holder**

These images were taken at random intervals during the user's test session.

6

For further verification of this certificate holder, please visit [englishscore.com/verify](https://englishscore.com/verify) and enter this certificate's **unique code** 1234567

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**Understanding the EnglishScore**

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EnglishScore

Pre-A1	A1	A2	B1	B2	C1
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CEFR level

0	4	4.5	5	5.5	6	6.5	7	7.5	8
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Compare CEFR to IELTS \*\*

**At this CEFR level you:**

- Can understand enough to be able to meet needs of a concrete type provided speech is clearly and slowly articulated.
- Can understand phrases and expressions related to areas of most immediate priority (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment), provided speech is clearly and slowly articulated.
- Can understand short, simple texts on familiar matters of a concrete type which consist of high frequency everyday or job-related language.
- Can understand short, simple texts containing the highest frequency vocabulary, including a proportion of shared international vocabulary items.

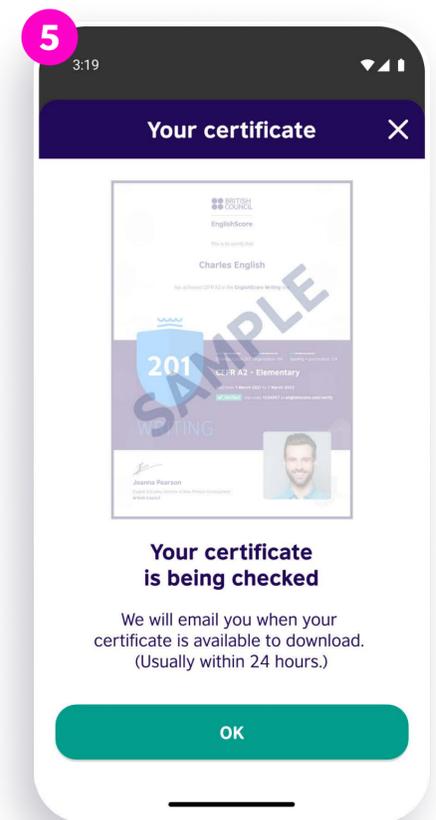
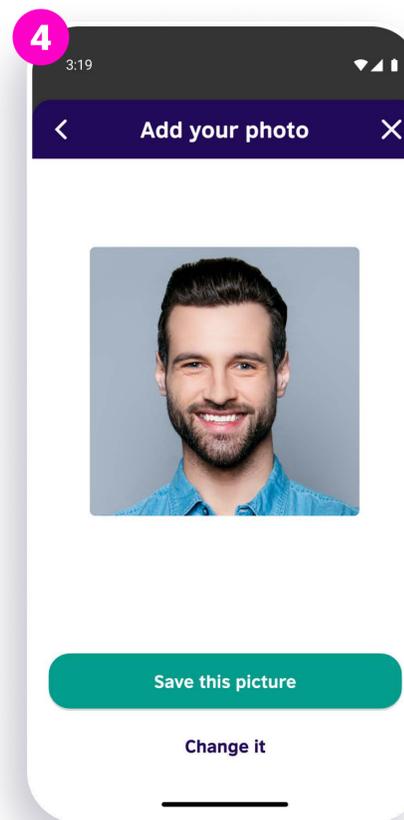
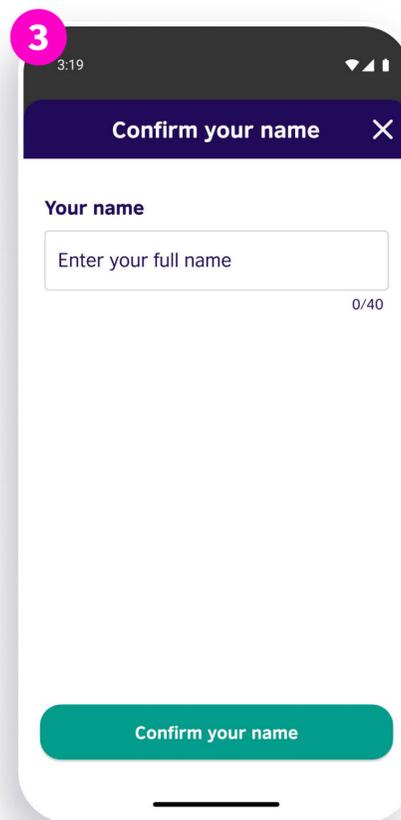
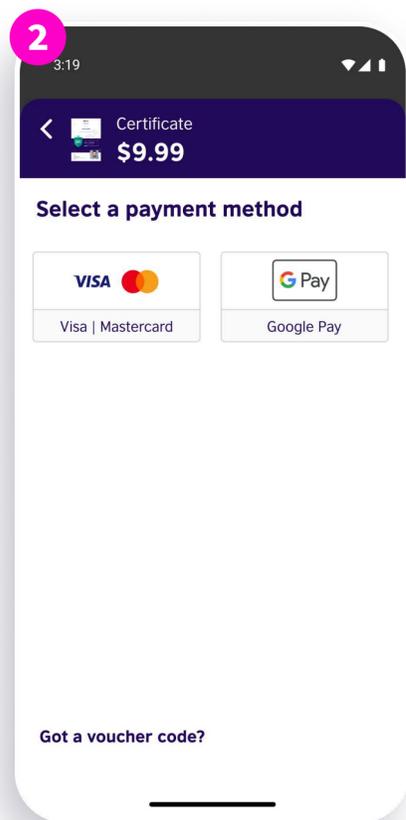
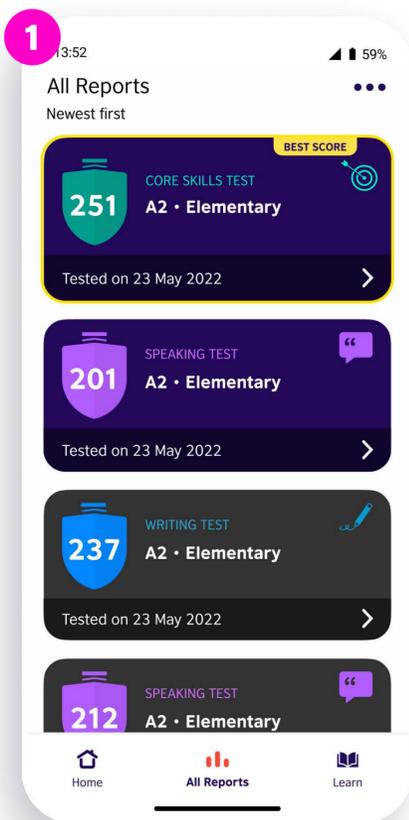
\*\*These charts can only be used as approximate comparisons and cannot be considered evidence of actual or expected IELTS scores.

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# 5 | Getting your certificate

## Getting a certificate

- 1 Choose the score you want to certify. You can do this on the Dashboard or the All Reports screen.
- 2 To purchase a certificate, choose a payment method or use a voucher code if you have been given one. We support Visa and Mastercard worldwide, plus many local payment methods. Please check the app in your country.
- 3 Add your name as you would like it to appear on the certificate.
- 4 Take a photo of yourself. This will be shown on the front of your certificate.
- 5 Your details and your test photos will be reviewed by a security team. You will get an email when your certificate is ready, usually within 24 hours.



# 5 | Getting your certificate

## Share your EnglishScore

You can use an EnglishScore Professional Certificate to help to advance your career and education, including applying for a job or scholarship programme, or to enhance your CV.

We give you access to your report and certificate and the ability to share it in one click, so it is quick and easy to prove your level to an employer or organisation.



Share your EnglishScore certificate with your professional network on LinkedIn to advance your career.

[Find out how to share your Certificate here.](#)



# Frequently asked questions

## 6 | Frequently asked questions

We have an [online help desk](#) to answer any questions you have about the EnglishScore test. Below is a list of common questions we are asked.

If you're having any technical difficulties or need to speak to customer support, please [submit a request form](#) online from the email address you registered with on EnglishScore.

### Taking the test

#### How should I prepare before taking EnglishScore?

The best way to prepare is to have a go at the test. You can also read the Writing Test Guide and Practice Test Materials and watch our videos for more advice and tips.

#### Why can't I take the Writing Test?

You must take the Core Skills Test first to unlock the Writing Test. You must score at least A2 in the Core Skills Test.

#### How many times can I take the test?

You can take the Writing Test multiple times. However, you may only start the test 4 times in 28 days. Additionally, you must wait until your test has been scored before you can take it again.

#### Can I see the answers?

#### How do I improve my English?

We do not share answers to our test, but we do have some practice papers available. We also have a range of options to help users improve their English.

[LearnEnglish](#) is free. There are also online [group classes](#) available (for a fee).

For more personalised instruction, we offer 1–1 online tutoring services at [EnglishScore Tutors](#). Book your first session for just US\$1!

[Find more questions and answers about the assessment.](#)

## 6 | Frequently asked questions

### Technical requirements

#### What are the device requirements for EnglishScore?

#### Can I take the test on a tablet or computer?

To access EnglishScore on your mobile device, your operating system version must be Android 6.0 or above or iOS 16 or above. You need a microphone to take the Writing Test. You will also need a working camera on your device if you want to purchase a certificate.

You may find EnglishScore available to download on some tablets, but the app has not yet been optimised for this, so we recommend using a mobile device where possible.

[Find more questions and answers about technical requirements.](#)

### Exam security

#### Why do you need my camera enabled?

While you take the Writing Test, our technology will check to see you are alone and visible at all times. This helps to prevent cheating and misconduct.

We will also take photos at random during the test to be used on your certificate, so make sure you are in a well-lit place, you are alone and you can see your whole face clearly in the frame.

We ask for your permission before turning this feature on.

#### How do you prevent cheating?

We prevent cheating by using face detection technology and taking photos of you during the test to ensure you are alone and visible at all times. Also, during the test, you cannot take a screen capture or video of the test.

If you purchase a Professional Certificate, your photos will be reviewed by a security team and placed on your certificate. If you have used a Connect Code, the photos will also be shared with your organisation.

[Find more questions and answers about Exam Security.](#)

## 6 | Frequently asked questions

### Certificate

#### How can my certificate be verified?

The certificate Verification ID number can be found in the middle of an EnglishScore Professional Certificate.

Please enter the ID [here](#) to confirm the certificate's authenticity. If a valid certificate ID is entered, the certificate PDF is loaded directly from EnglishScore servers and presented for review. This can then be matched to the test-taker and/or the original certificate presented

#### Can I change the security photos taken during the test sitting?

For security reasons, you cannot change the images from your test sitting. However, if you would like to take the test again and create a new certificate, you can do so at no extra cost by [contacting us](#).

#### What photos are included on the Professional Certificates?

We require you to take an up-to-date photo of yourself after you have finished the test. This will appear on the front page of the certificate. To make sure the photograph is

recent, photo uploads are not accepted. Please make sure you are in a well-lit room, your whole face is clearly in the frame and you are presentable.

For security reasons, in exam mode, you will have your photo taken at random during the test. These photos should appear on the back page of the certificate.

[Find more questions and answers about the certificate](#)

#### Can I change my photo/name on my certificate?

If you have not yet purchased a certificate, you will be asked to take a new photo and confirm your name once you have made a successful payment.

If you have already purchased a certificate and need to change your name or photo, please [contact us](#).

Please note, you cannot upload your own photo for the certificate, but we can allow you to retake it in the app. We recommend making sure you are in a well-lit room, your whole face is clearly in the frame and you are presentable.



# Appendix

### EnglishScore levels A2 to C1

#### At pre-A1 level, you can:

- use short, simple phrases to give basic personal information about yourself (e.g. name, address, age, family).

#### At A1 level, you can:

- use short, simple phrases and sentences to talk about yourself, where you live, and your family and friends.

#### At A2 level, you can:

- use simple phrases and sentences to write about simple personal topics such as family and friends, education background and past and present employment
- write simple descriptions of everyday situations and scenes
- write short, simple notes and messages, such as deciding and confirming plans with friends, sharing news and talking about likes and dislikes.

#### At B1 level, you can:

- use a range of everyday expressions and phrases to write straightforward texts on a range of topics related to your interests
- write detailed descriptions of everyday situations and scenes
- ask about or explain problems, ask for and give important information and share simple opinions with some relevant detail if needed.

#### At B2 level, you can:

- give and justify opinions on a range of concrete and abstract topics
- use a wide range of expressions and phrases to write detailed descriptions of different situations
- express news and views effectively in writing and relate to those of others
- adjust communication appropriately according to the context.

### EnglishScore levels A2 to C1

#### At C1 level, you can:

- use written language flexibly and effectively for social and professional purposes, including the formulation of complex ideas and opinions, and expertly adjust communication to the context
- discuss complex subjects using a variety of idiomatic expressions and complex structures to develop particular points and offer appropriate conclusions
- expertly manage written discourse in a range of media channels (e.g. email, text messages, forums).



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EnglishScore

[englishscore.com](https://www.englishscore.com)