

Collins

English for Exams

Cambridge English

Key

Four Practice Tests

for Cambridge English: Key (KET)

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NHÀ XUẤT BẢN TỔNG HỢP
THÀNH PHỐ HỒ CHÍ MINH

Collins Cambridge English: Key (KET)
Four Practice Tests

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Introduction

About this book

Who is this book for?

This book will help you to prepare for the *Cambridge English: Key* test. The test is also known as the *Key English Test* or *KET*. This book will be useful if you are preparing for the test for the first time or taking it again. The book has been written so that you can use it to study on your own. You can also use the book if you are preparing for the test in a class.

Content

The book contains:

- **Tips for success** – important advice to help you to do well in the test
- **Overview of *Cambridge English: Key*** – a guide to the test
- **Quick guides** – easy-to-read guides to the different parts of each paper and summaries of what you need to know in order to answer the questions correctly
- **Challenges and solutions** – advice to help you with common problems in each paper
- **Practice tests** – four complete practice tests
- **Mini-dictionary** – definitions of difficult words from the practice tests in this book (the definitions are from Collins COBUILD dictionaries)
- **Audio script** – the texts of what you hear in the Listening and Speaking papers
- **Sample answer sheets** – make sure you know what the answer sheets for the Reading and Writing paper and Listening paper look like
- **Answer key** – the answers for the Reading and Writing papers and the Listening papers
- **Model answers** – examples of good answers for Part 9 of the Reading and Writing papers as well as the Speaking papers
- **CD** – MP3 files with all the recordings for the practice tests as well as model answers for the Speaking papers

Tips for success

Make a plan to succeed, and start by following these tips.

- **Register for the test early.** If you are studying on your own, use the Cambridge English website to find your local exam centre. Register as early as you can to give yourself lots of time to prepare.
- **Start studying early.** The more you practise, the better your English will become. Give yourself at least one month to revise and complete all the practice tests in this book. Spend at least one hour a day studying.
- **Time yourself when you do the practice tests.** This will help you to feel more confident when you do the real test.
- **Do every part in each practice test.** Do not be afraid to make notes on the book. For example, writing down the meaning of words you do not know on the book will help you to remember the words later on.
- For Part 9 of the Reading and Writing paper, **keep practising until you can write a full answer** within the time limit.

Using the book for self-study

If you have not studied for *Cambridge English: Key* before, it is a good idea to do all the tests in this book in order. If you have a teacher or friend who can help you with your speaking and writing, that would be very useful. It is also a good idea to study with other students who are preparing for the test or who want to improve their English. Having a study partner will help you to keep studying.

Begin preparing for *Cambridge English: Key* by getting to know the different parts of each paper, what each part tests, and how many marks there are for each part. Use the information in this introduction as well as the *Quick guides* to find out all you can. You can also find out more information from the Cambridge English website. There is a link to the website at the end of this introduction. (See page 7.)

You need to know how to prepare for each of the papers in the best way possible. The *Challenges and solutions* section of this book will be useful. Try to follow the advice in it as it will help you to develop the skills you need.

When you are ready to try the practice tests, make sure you do Part 9 in the Reading and Writing paper as well as the Speaking paper. You can only get better if you practise a lot. Practise writing to a time limit. If you find this difficult at first, start by writing a very good answer of the correct length without worrying about time. Then try to write your answer faster until you can finish within the time limit. Study the model answers at the back of the book. This will give you an idea of what your answer should be. Do not try to memorise answers to the questions in the Speaking paper. If you do all the tests in this book, you should learn the language you need to give good answers in the real test.

Finally, read as much as possible in English; this is the best way to learn new vocabulary and improve your English.

About *Cambridge English: Key*

Who is *Cambridge English: Key* for?

Cambridge English: Key is a pre-intermediate-level English exam run by Cambridge English, also known as Cambridge ESOL. It is for people who need to show that they can use English to communicate in simple situations. In other words, you have to:

- understand simple written and spoken English
- communicate with English speakers in everyday situations.

There is a version of the exam for younger learners: *Cambridge English: Key for Schools*. The level of this version is the same as the level of *Cambridge English: Key*. The only difference is that the topics are more suitable for younger teenage students.

The level of *Cambridge English: Key*

The exam is one of five offered by Cambridge English:

- Cambridge English: Proficiency (CPE)
- Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE)
- Cambridge English: First (FCE)
- Cambridge English: Preliminary (PET)
- **Cambridge English: Key (KET)**

The table below shows how *Cambridge English: Key* fits into the Cambridge English Main Suite examinations. The level of *Cambridge English: Key* is described as being at A2 on the Common European Framework of Reference.

Proficient User	C2	CPE
	C1	CAE
Independent User	B2	FCE
	B1	PET
Basic User	A2	KET
	A1	

The papers of Cambridge English: Key

There are three papers in the test.

- Paper 1: Reading and Writing (1 hour and 10 minutes)
- Paper 2: Listening (about 30 minutes, including 8 minutes for transferring answers to the answer sheet)
- Paper 3: Speaking (8–10 minutes)

Timetabling

Papers 1 and 2 are on the same day. You do Paper 1 first and then Paper 2. You can do Paper 3 a few days before or after the other papers, or sometimes on the same day. If you are studying on your own, you should contact your exam centre for dates. You can take the exam on a computer or as a paper-based test.

Marking

Paper 1: Reading and Writing has nine parts. Parts 1–8 have 55 questions and there is one mark for each question. Part 9 has only one question but it has five marks. There are 60 marks for Paper 1. This paper gives 50% of the score for the test.

Paper 2: Listening has five parts. There are 25 questions and there is one mark for each question. There are 25 marks for Paper 2. This paper gives 25% of the score for the test.

Paper 3: Speaking has two parts. This paper gives 25% of the score for the test.

These are the grades that can be awarded.

Pass: 70% (approximately)

Pass with Merit: 85% (approximately)

Pass with Distinction: 90% (approximately)

If you get a Pass with Distinction, you will be given a certificate that says you can work at B1 level. If you score below 70%, you could be given a certificate at Level A1.

For more information on how the test is marked, go to: <http://www.cambridgeenglish.org>

Guide to *Cambridge English: Key*

READING

Quick guide

What is it?

The Reading section of *Paper 1: Reading and Writing* tests how well you understand general English texts. It includes simple sentences, dialogues and different types of texts about different subjects.

Skills needed

In order to do well in the Reading section, you must:

- be able to read real-world texts such as emails, messages, signs and articles and understand the main ideas and details
- be able to understand the English used in everyday life and recognise the correct responses in a dialogue
- have a good knowledge of A2-level vocabulary and grammar
- be able to answer questions within the given time.

The Reading section

The Reading section has five parts.

Part 1 has five sentences and eight short texts, for example, notices, messages, emails and signs. You have to match each sentence with the right text. (Total marks: 5)

Part 2 has five sentences with gaps. The sentences are all on a topic or tell a story. You have to fill the gaps by choosing the correct word from three options, A, B or C. (Total marks: 5)

Part 3 has two sections.

The first section has five statements or questions. You have to choose the correct response from three options, A, B or C.

The second section has a longer dialogue with five gaps and eight responses. You have to fill each gap with the correct response. (Total marks for both sections: 10)

Part 4 has a text and seven statements. You have to decide if the statements are correct ('Right'), incorrect ('Wrong') or if the text does not give any information about it ('Doesn't say'). (Total marks: 7)

Part 5 has a short text with eight gaps. You have to fill the gaps by choosing the correct word from three options, A, B or C. (Total marks: 8)

Challenges and solutions

» **CHALLENGE 1: 'I don't know a lot of the words that I see in the texts or in the questions.'**

SOLUTION: Build your vocabulary. Start by downloading the *Cambridge English: Key English Test Vocabulary List* from the Cambridge English website. This is a list of words that you should understand. Look through the list and make a note of the words you do not know. Then look up their meaning in a dictionary. If you know these words, you will do better in the exam.

SOLUTION: Use a learner's dictionary when you study. Dictionaries such as the *Collins COBUILD Illustrated Intermediate Dictionary of English* have clear definitions, example sentences, information about grammar and illustrations to help you to build your vocabulary. At the back of this book, there is a mini-dictionary with definitions of difficult words. The definitions come from *Collins COBUILD* dictionaries.

SOLUTION: Use 'key' words and phrases (e.g. *for instance, but*) that come before and after unknown words to help you guess their meaning. Read the sentence with the unknown word carefully. In the table below there are some ideas for how key words and phrases can help you to understand a word. The unknown word is underlined.

Guessing the meaning of unknown words		
Ideas	Key words and phrases	Examples
Pay attention to examples near the unknown word. If you understand the examples, you can use them to guess the meaning of the unknown word.	<i>such as</i> <i>including</i> <i>like</i> <i>for instance</i> <i>for example</i>	<i>We went on lots of different <u>excursions</u>. For instance, we went walking in the mountains, we visited a famous castle and we went on a boat trip.</i>
Look for key words that show the writer is contrasting two ideas. The unknown word might have the opposite meaning to the idea in the sentence before or after it.	<i>but</i> <i>However, ...</i> <i>Unlike X, Y ...</i> <i>On the other hand, X ...</i>	<i>They wanted to have the barbecue <u>outdoors</u> but it was raining so they had lunch inside the house.</i>

SOLUTION: Prefixes and suffixes can help you to guess the meaning of unknown words. A prefix is one or more letters, e.g. *un-*, *dis-*, that go at the beginning of a word, e.g. *unhappy*, *disorganised*. A suffix is one or more letters, e.g. *-ful*, *-ation*, *-y*, *-ment*, that go at the end of a word, e.g. *useful*, *enjoyment*. If you learn the meanings of common English prefixes and suffixes, you will be able to guess the meaning of many unknown words. For example, the prefixes *un-* and *dis-* give a word a negative meaning.

» **CHALLENGE 2: 'I need a long time to find all the answers in Part 4.'**

SOLUTION: Read the text quickly using skimming and scanning skills to find the answers. Skimming is when you read a text quickly, paying attention only to the most important ideas. In this way, you can often quickly find the part of the text that gives you the answer. This will save you a lot of time. In the table below there is some information on where to find important ideas.

Part of the text	Skimming strategy
Title	Read the title; this sometimes gives you an idea of what the text is about.
Introduction	Read the last one or two sentences of the introductory paragraph. They often include the main idea of the text.
Main paragraphs	Read the first and last sentence of a paragraph. They usually include the main idea of the paragraph.

Scanning is when you read a text quickly in order to find specific key words or ideas. After you have read a question, make a note of any key words or ideas such as names or numbers. Then scan the text, looking for those key words or ideas.

You do not need to understand every word when you skim or scan a text. The most important thing is to find the information you need in order to answer the questions quickly and correctly. To practise skimming and scanning, find an article in a newspaper or magazine. First, skim the article and write down the most important ideas on a piece of paper. Then scan it for key words or ideas such as names or numbers. The more you practise skimming and scanning, the better you will become so try to practise every day.

SOLUTION: Time yourself when you do practice tests. You should not spend more than 40 minutes on Parts 1–5 of the Reading and Writing paper. While you work on the questions, make sure you look at your watch occasionally. Do not spend too long on any one question; if you cannot answer it, carry on to the next question and go back to it later. This will help you not to get stuck on a question and waste your time.

» **CHALLENGE 3: 'None of the multiple choice answer options "feel" right.'**

SOLUTION: Make sure you understand the question types in each part of the paper and the skills you need to answer them. The same question types appear in every Reading and Writing paper. If you know what each part of the paper tests, you will be able to answer the questions with more confidence.

SOLUTION: Decide which answer options are clearly incorrect. If you have to choose between only two options, and not three, you have a greater chance of being right.

SOLUTION: If you find that you are spending too much time on one question and you are not sure of the answer, move on to the next question or the next part. If you have time, you can return to it later. Some people find it easier to answer difficult questions once they have had time to think about them.

» **CHALLENGE 4: 'I find it hard to decide what the missing word is in Part 5.'**

SOLUTION: Some gaps need a 'grammar' word. These are words such as determiners (e.g. *a, the, much, many*), prepositions (e.g. *on, at, in*) and conjunctions (e.g. *and, but, because*). Make a list of all the types of grammar words you find in practice tests and make sure you understand how they are used.

SOLUTION: Some gaps need words that are part of an expression. For example, a text might need the expression *spend time*, and the word *spend* is missing. Focus on the words around a gap and decide if the missing word is part of an expression. Learn expressions and phrases, not just single words.

WRITING

Quick guide

What is it?

The Writing section of *Paper 1: Reading and Writing* tests how well you can use vocabulary and structure or grammar words to complete simple texts, and how well you can write a short message to a friend.

Skills needed

In order to do well in the Writing section, you must be able to:

- spell simple words correctly
- complete a short text correctly
- write a simple message to a friend, for example, a postcard, letter, note or email
- understand the instructions for a writing task and include all the necessary information in your answer
- use a good range of A2-level vocabulary and grammar
- write your answers within the given time
- write the correct number of words.

The Writing section

The Writing section has four parts: Parts 6–9 of *Paper 1: Reading and Writing*.

Part 6 has five definitions. You have to find the word for each definition. (Total marks: 5)

Part 7 has a short text with ten gaps. The text is often a letter, note or email. You have to fill each gap with one correctly spelled word. (Total marks: 10)

Part 8 has two short texts, for example, emails, notes, adverts. You have to read and understand the two texts and use the information in them to complete some notes. There are five gaps in the notes. (Total marks: 5)

In **Part 9** you have to read and understand the instructions for the task as well as a short text. Then you have to write a short message such as a note, email or postcard to a friend and give him/her three pieces of information or answer three questions. (Total marks: 5)

Challenges and solutions

» **CHALLENGE 1: 'I'm afraid that I won't know the words in Part 6 or how to spell them.'**

SOLUTION: Remember that the words in Part 6 will all be on a particular topic. In the *Cambridge English: Key Vocabulary List* on the Cambridge English website you will find some common topics that are tested in the exam. Learn as many words as you can for these topics and revise their spelling as often as possible.

SOLUTION: Practise your spelling by testing yourself or by asking a friend or a family member to test you. Use a good dictionary to look up new words.

» **CHALLENGE 2: 'I can't think of the right words in Part 7.'**

SOLUTION: Read the whole text for the main idea and think about the meaning of each sentence. Then read the text carefully, line by line, and try to understand what kind of word is missing, for example, noun, verb, adjective, adverb, linking word, determiner. For a few gaps, there may be more than one correct answer. When you have filled the gaps, read the text again. Check that it makes sense and that it is grammatically correct.

» **CHALLENGE 3: 'I sometimes write the wrong information in Part 8.'**

SOLUTION: You do not need all the information in the two short texts to complete the notes. Read the notes carefully and try to understand what kind of information is missing. Then scan the texts for this information. For most gaps, only one or two words are needed, or a number.

» **CHALLENGE 4: 'I don't know how to write good notes, emails or postcards.'**

SOLUTION: It is easy to begin and end an informal note, email or postcard. You can usually begin with *Dear ...* or *Hi/Hello ...*. You can usually end with *Write soon* or *See you soon*. But the most important thing is to communicate the three messages or pieces of information.

SOLUTION: Do not write fewer than 25 words or more than 35. Count the words when you finish writing and read your message carefully. Check your spelling, punctuation and grammar.

» **CHALLENGE 5: 'I'm not sure how much time to spend on each question.'**

SOLUTION: You will have about 30 minutes for Parts 6–9. On the day of the exam, wear a watch. While you work, keep an eye on the time. You can use this guide while you write.

Part 6: 3 minutes	
Time	What you should do
30 seconds	Read the instructions and make sure you understand what kinds of words you are looking for.
2 minutes and 30 seconds	Read each definition carefully. Then complete the word. (The first letter is given and each short line represents a letter.) You must spell the words correctly. You should not spend more than 30 seconds on each question in this part.
Part 7: 7 minutes	
1 minute	Read the instructions. Then read the text quickly to get the main idea.
5 minutes	Read the text again, sentence by sentence and fill the gaps. Think about what kind of word is needed for each gap. For example, is it a structure or grammar word (e.g. a determiner, a linking word, a pronoun) or is it part of an expression?
1 minute	Read the text again. Check that it makes sense and that you have spelled the words correctly.
Part 8: 8 minutes	
2 minutes	Read the instructions. Then read the two texts quickly to get an idea of the kind of information in each one.
1 minute	Look at the notes and think about what information is needed for each gap. For example, is it a number, a place, a time?
4 minutes	Scan the two texts for the information you need and complete the notes.
1 minute	Check your spelling and make sure you have completed each gap.
Part 9: 12 minutes	
2 minutes	Read the instructions and the short text carefully. Think about what kind of text you have to write, and to whom. Then underline the three messages or pieces of information you have to communicate.
8 minutes	Write your message.
2 minutes	Check your spelling and watch out for mistakes in your grammar. Make sure you have included all three messages or pieces of information.

SOLUTION: Practise writing within a time limit before the real exam. Start by giving yourself ten minutes more than the time limit in the exam and slowly cut this until you can do Parts 6–9 in 30 minutes.

LISTENING

Quick guide

What is it?

Paper 2: Listening tests how well you can understand conversations, talks and recorded messages.

Skills needed

In order to do well in the Listening paper, you must be able to:

- understand main ideas and details
- answer questions within the given time.

Paper 2: Listening

The Listening paper has five parts.

Part 1 has five short dialogues, for example, conversations at home or in a shop, and five questions. For each question, you have to listen and choose the correct answer from three options, A, B or C. The options are pictures. (Total marks: 5)

Part 2 has a longer informal dialogue. You have to match each of the five items in one list with five of the eight items in a second list, for example people with their favourite free-time activities. (Total marks: 5)

Part 3 has a longer dialogue and five questions. You have to listen and choose the correct answer to a question from three options, A, B or C. (Total marks: 5)

Part 4 has a longer dialogue (e.g. a conversation between friends) or monologue (e.g. a speech by one person). You have to listen and complete five gaps in a message or notes. For most gaps, only one or two words are needed, or a number. (Total marks: 5)

Part 5 is very similar to Part 4. It has a longer dialogue (e.g. a conversation between friends) or monologue (e.g. a recorded message). You have to listen and complete five gaps in a message or notes. For most gaps, only one or two words are needed, or a number. (Total marks: 5)

Challenges and solutions

» **CHALLENGE 1: 'I don't know a lot of the words that I hear in the audio recordings or see in the questions.'**

SOLUTION: The instructions for the Listening paper are always the same. If you do the practice tests in this book, you will know what you have to do in the real exam. You will also hear each recording twice so if there is a word you do not understand the first time, you can listen for it the second time.

SOLUTION: After the instructions for Parts 2, 3, 4 and 5 there will be a pause to give you the chance to read the questions. This is very useful. By reading the questions first, you will get an idea about what the people will say and you can even guess what the answers might be. You will also have time to find the key words before you listen. Then when you listen, you will be able to listen for the right answers.

SOLUTION: Build your vocabulary. Start by downloading the *Cambridge English: Key English Test Vocabulary List* from the Cambridge English website. This is a list of words that you should understand. Look through the list and make a note of the words you do not know. Then look up their meaning in a dictionary. Knowing these words will help you to do better in the test.

» **CHALLENGE 2: 'I don't always understand the speakers, especially in Parts 3, 4 and 5, because they talk too fast.'**

SOLUTION: Listen as much as possible to native English speakers. The more you listen, the better you will understand the English used in the test. Try the following.

- Watch TV programmes or films. The programmes do not have to be educational – comedies and dramas have good examples of natural spoken English. If you find this difficult, watch English-language films with subtitles. Listening can be easier when you can read to check understanding.
- Join an English-language club. Your school, local library or community centre might have one. If you join one, you will be able to practise speaking English and have the chance to hear native speakers.
- Join an online language community. There may be native speakers of English who want to learn your language and will be happy to practise talking to you using online tools like Skype.

SOLUTION: Download English-language podcasts or radio programmes that you can store on your computer. At first, practise listening for only a minute or two at a time. As you get better, listen for longer. Listen as many times as you need to until you understand the main ideas.

» **CHALLENGE 3: 'I find it difficult to do the matching task in Part 2.'**

SOLUTION: You will hear the information in the same order as the things in the first list. Do not choose an option just because you hear a word that you can see in the second list. The speakers often mention the things in the second list but give the correct answer a little later.

» **CHALLENGE 4: 'In Part 3, none of the options "feel" right. Sometimes more than one option seems to be correct.'**

SOLUTION: Correct answer options say the same thing as the audio recording but they often use different words. In other words, they paraphrase the recording. Here is an example:

You hear this: *My house is near the museum.*
The question: *Where is her house?*
Incorrect answer option: *Her house is opposite the museum.*
Correct answer option: *Her house is close to the museum.*
Learn to recognise paraphrasing.

SOLUTION: Decide which answer options are clearly incorrect. Usually, you can ignore an option that has:

- information that is the opposite of the facts in the recording.
- information that does not answer the question.

SOLUTION: Do not spend too much time answering any one question. If you are not sure about an answer, choose the option you like best and move on to the next question. If you spend too long worrying about the correct answer, you might not hear the answer to the next question. You will not lose marks for choosing an incorrect answer.

SPEAKING

Quick guide

What is it?

Paper 3: Speaking tests your ability to use spoken English.

Skills needed

In order to do well in the Speaking paper, you must be able to:

- answer questions about yourself and everyday subjects.
- ask and answer questions to get and give information.
- speak using a good range of A2-level vocabulary and grammar.
- speak with clear pronunciation.

Paper 3: Speaking

The Speaking paper has two parts.

In **Part 1** the examiner asks you some questions about your personal details, daily routine, past experiences, future plans, etc. (Time: 5–6 minutes)

In **Part 2** the examiner gives you a card with some information on it and the other candidate a card with some prompts. The other candidate asks you questions and you give him/her the information on your card. When you have finished, the examiner gives the other candidate a different card with some information and you a card with some prompts. You then ask questions and the other candidate gives you the information you want. (Time: 3–4 minutes)

Challenges and solutions

» **CHALLENGE 1: 'I'm not sure how much I have to say when I answer the examiner's questions in Part 1.'**

SOLUTION: This part is just a simple conversation between you and the examiner. It is a chance for him/her to learn something about you. You do not have to give very long answers but you should say more than *Yes* or *No*.

SOLUTION: When you answer Part 1 questions, give a reason for your answer or an example. If the examiner asks *Do you enjoy studying English?*, say why you do or do not enjoy it. For example: *Yes, I do, because I like listening to English music and I have English friends who don't speak my language.*

If the examiner says *Tell me about your family*, do not just reply *I have a brother*. When you hear the words *Tell me ...* you should answer using at least three sentences. For example: *I've got a brother. His name is Pablo and he's two years younger than me. My dad is 42 years old and he's a mechanic. My mum is 40 and she's a teacher.*

» **CHALLENGE 2: 'I'm not very good at asking and answering the questions in Part 2.'**

SOLUTION: Practise making *Yes/No* questions and *Wh-* questions (questions with question words) as much as possible. Write down the questions first and ask a teacher or friend to correct them. Then practise making questions without writing them down. If you make a mistake, repeat the question until you say it correctly.

SOLUTION: Make sure you know the meaning of common question words (e.g. *Who? What? Where? When? Why? Which? Whose? How? How much? How many? How long?*) and practise their pronunciation. Write questions for each question word and use different tenses. Pay special attention to tenses that are often needed in Part 2: the present simple, present continuous, *will* and *going to*. Questions with *can*, *should*, *must* and *have to* are also common.

SOLUTION: Listen to the other candidate's questions carefully and answer using a full sentence. Remember to use the same tense as the question. For example:

Question: *How much does a child's ticket cost?*

Answer: *A child's ticket costs five pounds.*

» **CHALLENGE 3: 'I'm worried that the other candidate will speak better English than me.'**

SOLUTION: Do not worry about this and just do your best. The examiners will mark you and the other candidate separately. Prepare for the Speaking paper by practising with friends who speak good English.

SOLUTION: Think carefully before you answer a question. If you do not understand it, ask the examiner or the other candidate to repeat it. You can do this in a number of ways. For example:

Could you repeat the question, please?

I'm sorry. I didn't hear/understand your question. Please repeat it.

» **CHALLENGE 4: 'I'm worried that the examiners won't understand me. My pronunciation is bad.'**

SOLUTION: At the beginning of Part 1, the examiner will ask you to spell your name. It is a good idea to begin well! Prepare for the exam by learning to pronounce each letter of the alphabet clearly.

SOLUTION: Having an accent is not a problem. The important thing is to speak clearly so that people can understand you. Ask your friends to listen to a recording of you speaking English. Ask them if it is easy to understand what you are saying. What words do they have difficulty understanding? Practise saying the words you have the most trouble with.

SOLUTION: Some speakers have trouble with certain sounds. For example, Spanish speakers sometimes add *e* to English words beginning with *s*, e.g. 'eschool'. Other speakers pronounce the letter *w* as a *v*. Find out if speakers from your country have a particular problem with English pronunciation and practise that area.

SOLUTION: Listen to as much English as possible. When you listen to native English speakers, focus on their pronunciation. You could also listen to English-language radio programmes while you work or watch English-language television in your free time. Start copying the pronunciation you hear to sound more like a native speaker.

SOLUTION: Practise speaking English with native English speakers. To find native English speakers in your area, try going to tourist attractions in your city. You could also join an English-language club at your school. If your school does not have one, check at your local library or start one yourself!

SOLUTION: If you want people to understand you when you speak, you have to stress words correctly. If you stress the wrong syllable, people might not understand you. For example, in the nouns below the underlined syllable is stressed:

- *celebration*
- *advertisement*
- *photography*

In the verbs below, a different syllable is stressed:

- *celebrate*
- *advertise*
- *photograph*

Knowing how to pronounce words with more than one syllable is important and you should use a good dictionary to check the stress of any new words.

» **CHALLENGE 5: 'I don't know what to do if I make a mistake and if I should correct myself.'**

SOLUTION: Correcting yourself when you make a mistake is a good way of showing the examiner that you know the correct word or item of grammar.

SOLUTION: Practise speaking English as much as you can before the exam. One way to do this is to speak to yourself when you are alone. The advantage is that you will be relaxed so you will be less worried about making mistakes. Talk about what has happened during the day, what your plans are for the rest of the week or your opinion of anything that is in the news.