

ISSUE 159 – February 2023 2007 – 2023

Dear colleagues,

As the month of February is coming to an end, we are about to start a new learning journey together with students and parents. In this issue you will find resources Cambridge offers to begin this new academic year. Do not miss the guide to run an event at your institution and the presentation for parents which informs them about the benefits of Cambridge qualifications.

Getting to know our new students and getting ready for our first class is always a challenge. We have included a webinar by Penny Ur on building your confidence as a teacher with very useful tips for this start of the year, an article on study breaks with interesting ideas to include in your lessons and information on the free Cambridge course Teaching English Online.

As we start planning this academic year, we are all on the lookout for useful materials. We have included information about Test & Train. Worth exploring!

You will also find a brief summary of our first webinar of the year and information about the 4 upcoming webinars in March. We have decided to run four events in March to discuss teaching at different levels in depth. We hope you find these webinars interesting!

Finally, learn about dates for Cambridge, IELTS, Linguaskill and Michigan Exams 2023.

Have a great start of a new teaching and learning journey!

Warm regards,

The Anglo Department of International Examinations

Table of contents

	Page
• <u>Start of the year</u> - Learn about the resources Cambridge offers you to start the year.	3
• <u>Building your confidence as a teacher - Penny Ur</u> – Penny presents a series of tips on building teacher confidence.	5
• <u>Can study breaks boost learning?</u> - Research shows that taking short breaks can increase student productivity and promote concentration.	6
• <u>Test & Train</u> - Explore the perfect training for Cambridge Exams.	10
• <u>Teaching English Online</u> - Join the free online Cambridge Course ideal for teacher development at the start of the year.	11
• <u>First Anglo webinar of the year</u> – Learn about our first event of the year and what changes about Cambridge exams in 2024.	13
• <u>Upcoming Anglo webinars</u> – Do not miss our series of 4 webinars to explore topics in depth in March.	14
• <u>Cambridge Exams Dates and Fees 2023</u> - Click here to learn about the exam dates and fees for 2023.	15
• <u>IELTS Exams Dates and Fees 2023</u> - Click here to learn about the exam dates and fees for 2023.	15
• <u>MET Go! Exams Dates and Fees 2023</u> - Click here to learn about the exam dates and fees for 2023.	15
• <u>Linguaskill Exams Dates and Fees 2023</u> - Click here to learn about the exam dates and fees for 2023.	15
• <u>How to contact us</u> – Make a note of all the telephone numbers and e-mail addresses in this section. We look forward to hearing from you!	16

Start of the year

It's the start of the year, so now is the perfect time to tell parents about the benefits of Cambridge English Qualifications.

A great way to communicate with parents is through a face-to-face event. Cambridge has resources to help you choose the right exam for your students, and support for teachers, including materials that you can use in the classroom.

Click [here](#) to download a fact sheet that you and your teachers can use to prepare for conversations with parents

Holding an event for parents



Holding an event for parents is a great way to let them know all about the benefits of taking an exam, and gives you a chance to tell them about the preparation courses you offer. Cambridge offers a range of materials which provides you with all the resources you need to run an event for parents. It includes an events guide, an invitation letter, a poster, a banner, a handout for parents, and more.

[Download events materials](#)



Presentation for parents


This presentation gives parents an overview of Cambridge exams, explains how results are reported and tells them where to find free resources to support their children to learn English.

Click [here](#) to download the presentation.

Building your confidence as a teacher

Cambridge Live 2022

 **CAMBRIDGE**



How confident are you with regard to

- ... your English?
- ... relationships with students?
- ... classroom management?
- ... doing group work?
- ... knowing a variety of procedures?
- ... lesson-planning?
- ... coping with mixed ability?
- ... professional background reading?
- ... etc.

This workshop with Penny Ur starts with a brief discussion on what optimal professional confidence means. She then shares experiences of her own, as well as some from Cambridge Live participants, that have contributed to our sense of self-worth and agency as the basis for professional confidence. Finally, Penny presents a series of ten tips on building teacher confidence. Worth watching just when classes are about to begin.

Click [here](#) to watch the whole talk.

Can study breaks boost learning?



Published [18 December 2022](#)

Preparing for an exam can be a challenging time – not only for our teen learners, but also for us as teachers. We spend a lot of time trying to think of engaging new ways to motivate our learners, whilst helping to boost their confidence and well-being before the exam.

But have you ever considered giving your learners a study break? You might be surprised to find that taking a short break during your lesson may just be the solution you've been looking for.

Why taking study breaks is useful

Research has shown that taking study breaks from a lesson may in fact increase student productivity and promote concentration. It is also said to increase students' levels of relaxation.

When teens sit for long periods of time, they are more likely to lose focus. This can have a negative effect on their learning.

By taking a few minutes away from an exam preparation class, learners can think about what they've learned and prepare themselves for the next part of the lesson. They'll almost feel as if they're entering a new lesson post-break, ready to pay attention.

Study breaks also help learners with their social skills. Productive group activities during break time build on students' ability to interact, collaborate, and communicate with others. All these things are key to creating a positive classroom environment.

So, what should we encourage learners to do during these short breaks? How do we make them productive? And where do they fit into our lessons?

What to do during study breaks

There are many ways you can make study breaks productive. Here are some ideas you could use in class which are fun activities for teens:

1. Use Cambridge English Kahoots

Ask students to work together in groups to answer fun and interactive questions based around their Cambridge exam.

If you decide to schedule regular study breaks in your lessons, you could have groups develop a Kahoot! quiz with questions about their exam for the rest of the class to interact with. You could give learners 5–10 minutes in each lesson to add some questions to their quizzes, then they could play each quiz in the following week's study breaks.

2. Take a more 'physical' study break

If you feel your learners need to shake off some of their extra energy, do a fun, quiz-style activity where learners use their bodies to answer the questions. Prepare 10–15 true or

false statements about the Cambridge exam learners are preparing for. Then, have students stand up when they think the statement is true. Award points for correct answers, and extra points to the student that stands up the fastest and answers correctly.

You could also have learners prepare the statements themselves and take it in turns to read aloud to the class.

3. **Use images to generate conversation**

Have students show a photo they've recently taken or display one at the front of class. Learners can work in groups, or walk around the class if there's enough space, and speak to each other about what they think is happening in the picture. They could also say why it was taken.

If you choose to display an image to the class, make sure it allows learners to 'think outside the box', and encourage them to interpret the photo in their own way.

This activity allows learners to freely practise their speaking and provides opportunities for personalisation. It is also closely linked to Part 2 of the B2 First for Schools Speaking test, where learners explain what they think is happening in two images.

4. **Use classroom warmer activities**

Use activities that you would normally do to lead into your lessons, such as working out anagrams, speaking for 1 minute about a topic, or giving two true statements and one false.

When to take a study break

Depending on the length of your class, there are various times when you could give learners a study break. A good point may be halfway through the lesson, if you notice they are beginning to lose interest or concentration. With some learners, you may also notice a behaviour change that shows they're losing focus.

Make study breaks an essential part of the lesson and learning process by scheduling them at regular times. This helps learners know when the switch from exam preparation to something else is about to happen in each lesson.

You could also have a timer set so when learners hear a buzzer or certain sound, they know it's time to refocus on the lesson and their exam preparation.

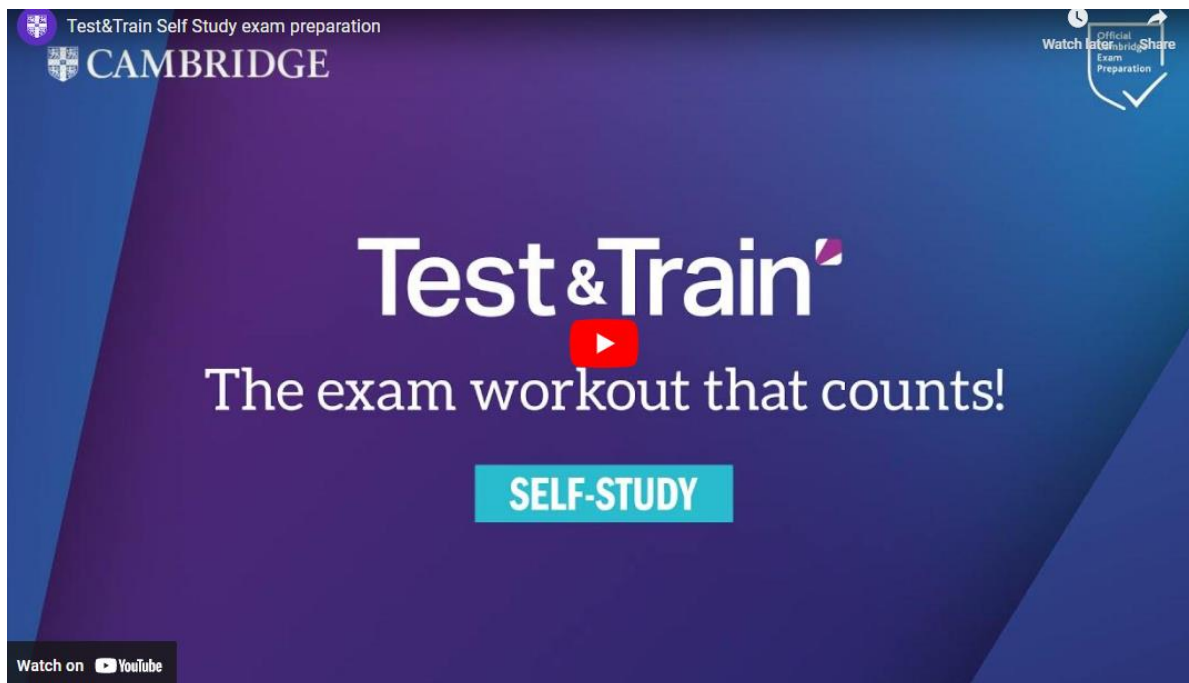
To study break, or not to study break?

Although the idea of taking a break from important exam preparation may sound challenging, it can have many positive long-term effects on our learners. In fact, it can increase their chances of exam success by improving their concentration and performance in class.

So, next time you're preparing your learners for their Cambridge exam, try taking a short, productive study break using one of the fun activities for teens. Think about which activity you'd like to try with your learners, and how you're going to make study breaks a regular thing in your lessons.

Finally, don't be afraid to ask your learners for feedback on the study breaks. Ask for their suggestions on productive ways to spend them to add to the list above. This will help make study breaks a positive, productive time for the class, and will allow learners to reset and refocus, before continuing their Cambridge exam preparation.

Test & Train



On-the-go, intuitive **Test&Train** provides perfect training for Cambridge English exams. Developed by Cambridge Assessment English and Cambridge University Press, it delivers unique, easy-to-use practice through short, sharp workouts on mobile phones, tablets or computers.

It offers 6 full Reading and Use of English exams, 6 full Listening exams, 6 full Writing exams with sample answers and examiner notes and 1 complete Speaking test video with hints and comments. Visit www.anglo.edu.uy for a special discount.

Click [here](#) to learn more about Test & Train.

Teaching English Online



Become an expert online English teacher

This free Cambridge course is for experienced or recently qualified English language teachers who would like to transfer their teaching skills to a live online context.

When you start the course, you'll learn how to prepare for teaching online. You'll discover the kind of equipment you need, research and choose an online platform and learn how to create materials and activities for English lessons.

Developing a rapport with your students is essential, so you'll also receive some tips on how to do this.

Helping to develop listening and reading skills

Next, you'll focus on how to help learners develop listening and reading skills online. You'll go over the differences between listening and reading in English online compared to in-person teaching.

Start planning your English lessons with our lesson outline advice and learn about different activities and resources you can use online.

Teaching English speaking, pronunciation and writing skills

You'll be moving on to English speaking and pronunciation this week. Discover how to teach English speaking in both one to one lessons and online groups.

Learn how to diagnose pronunciation issues and try some useful tools for teaching correct English pronunciation. Then we'll move on to thinking about online writing lessons and how to provide feedback.

Sealing your future as an online teacher

You'll finish the course by learning how to get a new online teaching business up and running. You'll also discover how to continue your professional development as an online teacher.

Click [here](#) to join this course.

First Anglo webinar of the year

We were very pleased to start 2023 together with teachers from all over the country!

We would like to thank all participants for their interest and feedback.

In this webinar we informed participants about the benefits of joining our community.

Preparation Centres can:

- use Cambridge logo on all publications
- access Cambridge Performance Reports for their institution
- become a Cambridge venue
- have customized support from Anglo

We also reminded preparation centres about news for 2023 & 2024:

Changes in BEC examinations as from January 2024

The last exam sessions for Cambridge English Qualifications for Business

(BEC) will be in December 2023. This affects B1 Business Preliminary, B2 Business

Vantage and C1 Business Higher. BEC certificates will remain valid after this date, and candidates will still be able to use them to prove their level of English.

Candidates doing Business Courses can take Linguaskill Business or Main Suite

Exams. We will be holding a webinar on Linguaskill Business at the end of the first semester so you can get familiarized with this exam and get ready for 2024.

Removal of set questions in B2 First for Schools and C2 Proficiency as from January 2024

The last exam sessions with the optional set book question in the Writing paper for B2 First for Schools and C2 Proficiency will be in December 2023.

Finally, we reminded participants of the wide range of free materials Cambridge offers to teach and learn English and invited them to participate in our upcoming series of webinars.

4 ANGLO WEBINARS IN MARCH TO EXPLORE TOPICS IN DEPTH

BOOK THESE DATES

4 WEBINARS AT 12.30 PM



- **9th March:** Teaching for the Young Learner Exams
- **16th March:** Teaching for A2 Key and B1 Preliminary for Schools
- **23rd March:** Teaching for B2 First for Schools
- **30th March:** Teaching for C1 Advanced and C2 Proficiency

In these series of webinars, we will analyse candidate needs and average results for each level.

We will share Cambridge resources and discuss key aspects of assessment for each level.

Capacity: 100 participants

First come, first served!

Cambridge Exams Dates and Fees for 2023

You can access all the dates here:

<https://www.anglo.edu.uy/examenes-internacionales-cambridge/#precios>

IELTS Exams Dates and Fees for 2023

You can access all the dates here:

Fee 2023: USD 255

MET Go! Exams Dates and Fees for 2023

MET Go! is an on-demand exam so we can make arrangements for your candidates to sit the test whenever it suits them. Just contact us at inscripcionescambridge@anglo.edu.uy and we will make all the arrangements.

Fee 2023: USD 90

Linguaskill Dates and Fees for 2023

Linguaskill is on demand so we can make arrangements for your candidates to sit the test whenever it suits them, Just contact us at linguaskillcambridge@anglo.edu.uy and we will make all the arrangements.

Fee 2023: USD 45 per Module

How to contact us

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We look forward to hearing from you!