CAMBRIDGE IGCSE

Italian 0535

Assessment Overview

Examinations 2028, 2029 and 2030

How the qualification is assessed

The table shows the papers and components described for this syllabus. All candidates take the required components described below. A component's raw mark is the total available on that assessment; its weighting is the share of the qualification result, which may differ from its share of raw marks.

Paper or component	Duration	Raw marks	Weighting	Question or task structure
1: Listening	Approx. 50 min	40	25%	Multiple choice and matching; recordings heard twice
2: Reading	1 h	40	25%	Six groups of multiple-choice and matching questions
3: Speaking	Approx. 10 min, plus 10 min preparation	40	25%	One role play and two conversations; internally assessed and externally moderated
4: Writing	1 h	40	25%	Form filling, directed and extended writing

Read the weighting against your qualification route. A longer paper or a larger raw-mark total does not automatically mean a greater final weighting. Prepare for every component that applies to you, including practical, oral or coursework requirements where specified.

What each component requires

All candidates take four papers, each worth forty marks and twenty-five per cent of the qualification.

Paper 1 is an approximately fifty-minute listening examination. You answer thirty-seven multiple-choice and matching questions based on material such as announcements, dialogues, interviews and conversations. Each recording is played twice.

Paper 2 is a one-hour reading examination. It contains six groups of multiple-choice and matching questions based on short statements, signs, messages and longer texts such as articles.

Paper 3 is an approximately ten-minute speaking test, preceded by ten minutes of supervised preparation. You complete one role play and two topic conversations. The role play assesses your ability to manage a transactional

situation, while the conversations allow you to discuss experiences, ideas and opinions. The centre conducts and marks the test, and Cambridge moderates it externally.

Paper 4 is a one-hour writing examination. You complete a short form-filling task, a directed response of approximately eighty to ninety words, and an extended response in the form of an email, letter, article or blog.

All spoken and written responses must be in Italian, and dictionaries are not permitted in the examinations.

Because all four skills have equal weighting, successful preparation requires a balanced approach rather than concentrating on only grammar or written work.

The qualification is graded from A star to G.

Preparing the right kind of response

In comprehension, locate the information that answers the exact question and distinguish a speaker's or writer's opinion from fact. In writing, address the requested audience, purpose and content before checking language accuracy. Where listening and speaking are assessed, familiarity with the prescribed format matters as much as rehearsed vocabulary.

The assessment objectives are visible in the response itself: relevant knowledge, appropriate use of the stimulus or task, a clear method or explanation, and a conclusion where requested. The command word and mark allocation help show the depth required. An answer should respond to the actual question, not reproduce a memorised passage that only partly fits.

Timing and examination arrangements

Begin preparation with accurate, untimed work, then move towards the duration and conditions of your required component. Use mark allocations to guide pacing while allowing time to read instructions and check the response. Any practice pacing advice is study guidance, not a new Cambridge time rule.

Examinations are offered only in the June series. Private candidates may enter through a centre able to administer all four components, including the speaking test.

An approved examination centre confirms entries, available component options, deadlines and any practical or speaking arrangements. Preparation-course access does not itself constitute an examination entry.

Key pointers: Know your required components, follow question choices precisely and practise the relevant response formats. **Next:** Open **Learning Resources** to see which materials support this preparation.