



**Cambridge Certificate in English Language
Teaching to Adults**

Pre-Interview Language Awareness Task

Please complete and return with your application.

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Introduction

Many users of English do not stop to think how the language is constructed, let alone consider how to analyse or teach it. The tasks on the following pages are not designed to be a test but to begin the process of raising your own language awareness and let you think about your own use of English.

You are not expected to spend too long completing the tasks, but you may find it useful to consult a dictionary or a reference book for assistance.



Standard or Non-Standard

The example phrases when spoken might be considered non-standard or grammatically incorrect. Re-write them in what you would consider to be standard grammatical usage.

We was always getting drunk.	
Eight items or less	
There's a lot of people on the ground today.	
He should of done it better	
It's the most clean I've ever seen	

Meaning

	Phrase	Likely meaning	How to illustrate
1.	I'd rather go to a film tonight.	There is a choice of activities on offer. Of these, the preference is for seeing a film. It's a personal preference. The person doesn't want to stay at home.	Use of pictures or newspaper entertainment guide to indicate choices.
2.	We always have a holiday in New Zealand at this time of year.		
3.	He drinks too much.		



	Phrase	Likely meaning	How to illustrate
4.	This suitcase is too heavy to lift.		

Pronunciation Issues

1. Word Stress

Which syllable is stressed in the following words? The first one has been done as an example.

<u>pho</u> to	photography	photographer
wri <u>tt</u> en	re <u>ta</u> in	com <u>fo</u> rtable
im <u>po</u> se	en <u>g</u> ine	en <u>g</u> ineer

2. Sentence Stress

How does stress on particular words alter meaning in a sentence? Complete the following with a suitable phrase. The first one has been done as an example.

Jack **liked** the dancer with the green hat, but *he was too shy to talk to her.*

Jack liked the **dancer** with the green hat, but

Jack liked the dancer with the **green** hat, but

Jack liked the dancer with the green **hat**, but

Jack liked the dancer with the green hat, but

Structure

Read the passage below. Write in the table at the bottom of the page the letter corresponding to the correct grammar term (as used in the passage) for the nominated words (1) to (10).

Jack had spent a long time thinking about his plans and (1) **finally** decided to (2) **head off** overseas and hope for (3) **the** best. He (4) **had been given** \$1000 by his parents as a birthday present and this (5) **gave** him the momentum he needed to get going. (6) **He** bought a large backpack, a comprehensive travel guide book and a (7) **microfibre** towel, and decided to travel for 12 months.

The only problem was his travelling partner, Jill. (8) **They'd** thought that it (9) **would** have been better to travel as a pair for support and obvious companionship. However Jill's family thought that it was not a good time to travel overseas and had already (10) **advised** her to stay in Victoria.

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. finally | A. A past participle |
| 2. head off | B. An adjective |
| 3. the | C. A modal verb |
| 4. had been given | D. A pronoun |
| 5. gave | E. An adverb |
| 6. he | F. A definite article |
| 7. microfibre | G. An irregular verb |
| 8. they'd | H. A phrasal verb |
| 9. would | I. A verb in passive voice |
| 10. advised | J. A contraction |

Example	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Grammar										