

GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

There are a huge number of abbreviations and acronyms associated with English Language Teaching. Some relate to exams, some to organisations, and some to classroom practice and teaching. For your reference, here is a list of some of the most common:

ALTE Association of Language Testers in Europe

ARELS Association of Recognised English Language Services

BC The British Council

CAE Certificate of Advanced English

CEFR Common European Framework of Reference for Languages
Cert TEFLA Certificate in the Teaching of English Language to Adults

Cert TESOL Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

CLIL Content and Language Integrated Learning

CPE Communicative Language Teaching
CPE Certificate of Proficiency in English

Dip TESOL Diploma in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

Dip TEFLA Diploma in the Teaching of English Language to Adults

DoS Director of Studies

EAL English as an Additional Language
EAP English for Academic Purposes

EAQUALS Evaluation and Accreditation of Quality Language Services

EFL English as a Foreign language
 ELL English Language Learner
 ELT English Language Teaching
 ESL English as a Second Language

ESOL English for Speakers of Other Languages

ESP English for Specific Purposes
FCE First Certificate in English

IATEFL International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language

IELTS International English Language Testing System

IGCSE International General Certificate of Secondary Education

JALT Japanese Association of Language Teachers
JET Japanese Exchange and Teaching programme

KET Key English TestL1 First languageL2 Second language

MFL Modern Foreign Languages
PET Preliminary English Test

PGCE Postgraduate Certificate in Education
PPP Presentation, Practice, Production
SLA Second Language Acquisition

STT Student Talk Time

TEFL Teaching English as a Foreign Language

TESOL Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

TL Target Language

TOEFL Test of English as a Foreign Language

TOIEC Test of English for International Communication

TPR Total Physical Response

TTT Teacher Talk Time
YL Young Learners

YLE Young Learners Exam



INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE EXAMS

English Language Exams administered by Cambridge University

IELTS

International English Language Testing System – a level assessment test, often used by government bodies, universities and employers to check that applicants have the level of English required to cope with their study or work.

CPE

Certificate of Proficiency in English. A graded Cambridge exam for students with the highest level of proficiency in English, requiring close to native-speaker competence.

CAE

Certificate of Advanced English. A graded Cambridge exam for advanced level learners.

FCE

First Certificate in English. A graded Cambridge exam for Upper Intermediate level students.

PET

Preliminary English Test. A graded Cambridge exam for Intermediate level students.

KET

Key English Test. A graded Cambridge exam for Elementary to Lower Intermediate level students.

YLE

Cambridge Young Learners English Exams. A suite of exams for primary level students.

Exams offered by the US-based, Educational Testing Service

TOEFL

Test of English as a Foreign Language. Similar in purpose to the IELTS test, often preferred in countries that use American rather than British English.

TOIEC

Test of English for International Communication. Similar to IELTS and TOEFL, but more business oriented. Popular in countries like Japan.

General Education

IGCSE

International General Certificate of Secondary Education. The international version of GCSEs - usually taught in international schools overseas.