

# Advanced Writing

with English in Use

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**CAE**

Hugh Cory

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# INTRODUCTION

## Aims of the book

This book has two objectives:

- 1 to prepare you for the CAE exam Paper 2 (Writing) and Paper 3 (English in Use).
- 2 to develop your practical writing skills to an advanced level.

There is no conflict between these two objectives, because CAE writing tasks are as close to real-life situations as possible, and the examiners use real-life criteria in assessing candidates' work. If a piece of writing would 'do the job' effectively in real life, it should also satisfy the examiners.

## Why combine Papers 2 and 3?

For those unfamiliar with the CAE exam, it may seem surprising that this book combines Paper 3 (the 'grammar' paper) as well as Paper 2 (the 'writing' paper). In fact, this combination is inevitable, given the many areas the two papers have in common. A characteristic of the CAE exam is that grammar is tested *in context*. Paper 3 tests the ability to *use* grammar in order to *communicate*, and focuses on many of the key areas of written communication – including register, cohesion, and even punctuation.

The Paper 3 exercises:

- provide exam practice for Paper 3.
- are integrated with the Paper 2 work, as controlled practice in writing skills.
- are models (well written, well organized, and usually about 250 words long), which may be referred to when doing the writing tasks that follow them.
- demonstrate different registers and explore different aspects of the theme of the Unit.
- are usually based on authentic texts.

## How the book is organized

*Part 1:* the first part of the book contains an introduction to CAE Papers 2 and 3, followed by preliminary work on three key areas of writing skills at this level: style and register, cohesion, and punctuation. It is intended that this part of the book should be used for preparatory work, remedial work, and reference.

*Part 2:* Units 1–5 divide writing into types (descriptions, instructions, narrative and argument), to develop the skills specific to each type. At the same time, each Unit looks at a variety of registers, to focus on the importance of the context and the purpose of a piece of writing.

*Part 3:* Units 6–10 cover all the writing task types in the CAE Paper 2 syllabus.

*Task bank:* a further selection of writing tasks, indexed to the appropriate units.

*Key:* answers to all exercises and Paper 3 questions.  
*Model answers* to Paper 2 Section A tasks.

## Working through the book

It is suggested that you work through Units 1–5 before going on to Units 6–10, as each writing task in Units 6–10 practises skills that have been developed in one or more of the first five units. Nevertheless, as there is no progression through the book in terms of difficulty, and as Units 1–5 also contain writing tasks in the style of the exam, the Units may be taken in any order.

## Classroom work and self study

This book can be used in class, for self study, or for a combination of the two.

### *In class*

Each Unit is divided into modules which can be taught in class in about 90 minutes (plus homework). Explanations, presentations and activities are followed by Paper 3 exercises and either mini writing tasks or full-scale Paper 2 tasks. Suggestions for pairwork are sometimes included when an exercise would be more enjoyably done with a partner; many other exercises can also be done in pairs and groups.

### *For self-study*

Many features of the book make it especially useful for self study:

- the introductory units, with their thorough treatment of register, style, cohesion and punctuation.
- the use of Paper 3 writing tasks as controlled writing practice, easily corrected with the key when working without a teacher.
- the inclusion of model texts in the form of Paper 3 tasks, and the inclusion of model answers in the key.
- the fact that it is self-contained: it is the student's book, the teacher's book and the key all in one.

## Non-exam use

Because of the 'real-life' nature of the CAE writing syllabus and assessment criteria, this book can be used just as successfully as a general writing course at advanced level focusing on practical writing tasks.

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