

The importance of learning English

ENGLISH, as we know it, is the language that breaks communication barriers. It is the universal language that bridges people of various cultures and backgrounds together.

It is the official and leading language of various industries such as air transport and shipping, computers, commerce, science and technology. It is also a major medium of education, publishing, and international negotiation.

Therefore, learning and being proficient in English would definitely open up new opportunities.

To some, learning a language is a breeze; to others, it might not be so. Learning a language is not like learning maths or science, history or geography.

In these subjects, you are confronted with a mass of facts and need to remember them. Language has to be absorbed and practised. That means speaking it, writing it, reading it and listening to it.

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A good language learner thinks about her learning method – what works for her and what doesn't. For example, she will try out different ways of learning vocabulary until she finds the way that suits her best.

She is also not afraid of making mistakes, because she knows she can learn from them.

She is willing to experiment and take risks.

She does not expect to learn English just by sitting in the classroom, and will look for opportunities to develop the language outside of the classroom as well.

It's easier to instil these traits in our children when they are still young. Acquiring proficiency in English at an early stage opens up much wider horizons for children and it offers them options at school and college, at work and at play.

Language schools which offer flexibility and accountability in their programmes are going to be the ones which provide the best chance of success.

Children must be assessed and tested periodically for English proficiency and steps must be taken to assist the child who is not achieving the level of progress necessary, in order to meet the goals that have been set.

The key to achieving mastery of English is a result-oriented, consistent and systematic teaching methodology, a tried, tested and proven curriculum and a team of well-trained teachers.

Cambridge English For Life (CEFL), whose centres can be found in most parts of Malaysia, is well placed to provide exactly this kind of service.

As an authorised centre for the University of Cambridge ESOL examinations with 10 years' experience of conducting the examinations, CEFL offers English language courses for children of all ages and for adults to prepare

them for the Cambridge exams. It has now trained over 5,000 students nationwide.

CEFL has also collaborated with various local papers in organising short story writing and spelling competitions to encourage students to learn the language and to also use it with greater confidence.

One of the consolation prize winners in CEFL's recent short story writing competition even said the competition has not only taught her to focus on her writing skills but it has also motivated her to improve her overall command of the language.

CEFL uses the communicative approach to learning. Classes are small and interactive so that learning is an enjoyable experience and to enable teachers to have the opportunity to address the needs of individual students.

Students look forward to their classes at CEFL partly because they are fun but also because they are introduced to a wide range of both literary and cultural knowledge which they seldom encounter at school.

CEFL's teachers are all qualified teachers who are trained in the CEFL method and bring their enhanced skills to the classroom. They monitor the performance of their students and keep them and their parents or sponsors in touch with developments as the courses progress.

The Cambridge exams at the end of each course provide students with benchmarked external qualifications which satisfy the English language entrance requirements of colleges and universities worldwide.

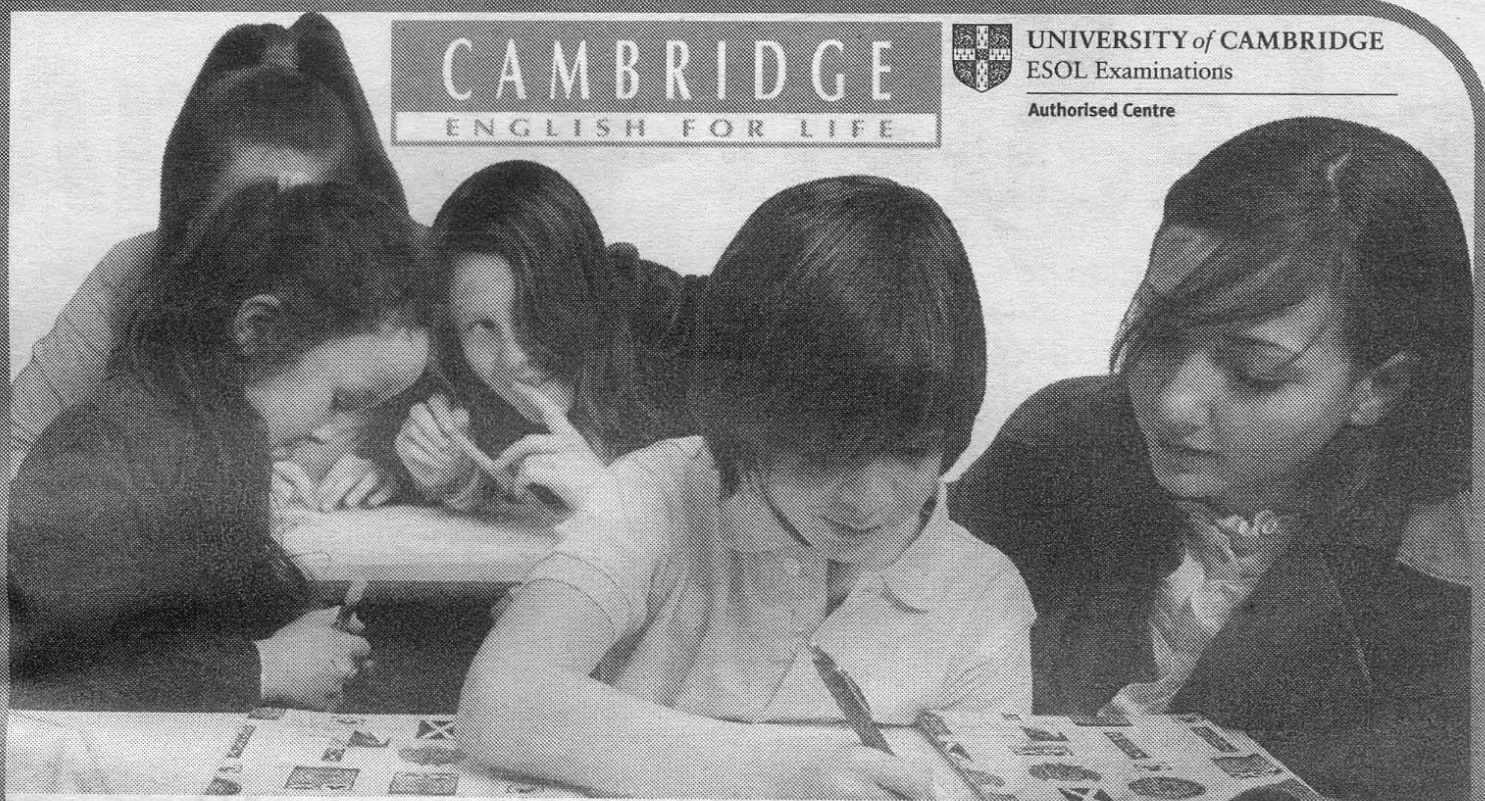
CEFL's track record in the examinations has shown a passing rate consistently higher than the international average.

• For details on CEFL courses, call 03-7883 0912 or visit the CEFL website at www.cambridgeforlife.org

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UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE
ESOL Examinations
Authorised Centre



Making Today's Learning Tomorrow's Success

Cambridge English For Life (CEFL) is the leading provider of English language courses in Malaysia and CEFL centres conduct the following preparatory courses leading to the Cambridge ESOL Examinations.

| Young Learners English (YLE) | The Cambridge Main Suite | Business English |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starters • Movers • Flyers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key English Test (KET) • Preliminary English Test (PET) • First Certificate in English (FCE) • Certificate in Advanced English (CAE) • Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business English Certificates (BEC) • Business English Communication Skills* • Conversational English |

* Business English Communication Skills = HRDF claimable.

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