

Reading CAE

**Eight more practice tests for
the Cambridge C1 Advanced**



Cambridge C1 Advanced Reading

Test 1

Part 5

You are going to read from an interview in which a woman named Karen Martin talks about how to become a garden designer. For questions 31–36, mark the appropriate answer (A, B, C or D) that you think fits best according to the text.

Becoming a garden designer

It's a fresh, crisp morning and Karen Martin is sitting in her garden. "As someone who has always had a deep appreciation for nature and its beauty," she says, "becoming a professional garden designer was a dream come true for me. I had always enjoyed spending time outdoors, working in my own garden and learning about different plant species, but it wasn't until later in life that I realised I could do it for a living." Becoming a professional garden designer can be a rewarding and fulfilling career path for those with a passion for the art of cultivating gardens. Garden designers create outdoor spaces that are both functional and beautiful, often incorporating a wide range of plants and other elements to create a unique and enjoyable environment.

"I've always enjoyed gardening, but I've always been aware from the get-go that there had to be more to it than that," says Karen, who worked in Real Estate before changing careers. "I committed to gaining a deeper understanding of the principles of design. To do that I enrolled in a difficult training program that covered everything from the basics of landscape design to more advanced topics."

Karen admits: "The program was challenging, but incredibly rewarding as I gained a new perspective of the natural world around me."

In addition to formal education, gaining practical experience is essential for developing the skills needed to be a successful garden designer. "I also spent countless hours volunteering at botanical gardens and nurseries to gain hands-on experience in the field," Karen recalls. "It was during these experiences that I learned about plant care and design, and how they interact to create beautiful outdoor spaces."

"You may consider internships or apprenticeships with established designers or landscapers in your area to gain hands-on experience with plant care and other elements of garden design. You may also want to start your own garden or volunteer with a community garden to gain experience of planting, maintenance and design," says Karen.

Those interested in becoming a landscape gardener may try building a collection of photographs, sketches or computer drawings of garden plans, and any other relevant work samples that demonstrate skills and creativity. "As I gained experience and developed my skills, I started building a catalogue of my work to show my abilities to potential clients or employers," says Karen.

One of the most rewarding aspects of becoming a professional garden designer for Karen has been the opportunity to work with clients to turn their outdoor spaces into something truly unique and beautiful.

"I love listening to my clients' visions and bringing them to life through thoughtful design and plant selection. Seeing the joy and satisfaction on their faces as they walk through their newly designed garden is an experience that never gets old." She continues: "Of course, like any profession, there are challenges that come with being a garden designer. The long hours are tiring, and the weather and soil conditions can all present obstacles to creating the perfect outdoor space. But it's these challenges that make the job all the more rewarding when you're able to overcome them and create something truly special."

"All in all, becoming a professional garden designer has been a journey of hard work, dedication and passion. It's a career that allows me to combine my love for nature with my desire to create beauty and bring joy to others. Plus, I always end up having a good night's rest due to the physical parts of the job. I wouldn't have it any other way."

- 31** What does Karen say about her background in paragraph 1?
- A** Gardening wasn't always very rewarding for her.
 - B** Designing gardens as a future career was something she didn't want to do.
 - C** Being a professional gardener was something she didn't think was possible.
 - D** Working on her own garden wasn't fulfilling enough.
- 32** What did Karen learn from the training program?
- A** A new understanding of the world.
 - B** How to conduct simple landscape design
 - C** Advanced subjects in gardening.
 - D** How to solve the many difficulties of landscape gardening.
- 33** What two things are necessary to succeed in the gardening business?
- A** Working and developing skills with other successful gardeners.
 - B** Learning how to take care of plants by starting your own garden.
 - C** Developing life skills at university and practical experience.
 - D** Obtaining a recognised education and hands-on experience.
- 34** What does Karen suggest a person do to show off their work?
- A** Focus on networking with clients or employers.
 - B** Provide appropriate work samples to potential employers.
 - C** Take photographs of gardens for inspiration.
 - D** Put together a collection of suitable examples of work.
- 35** According to Karen, she's never tired of
- A** being a professional gardener.
 - B** the climate and soil conditions.
 - C** watching a person's reaction when they see their new garden.
 - D** working outside.
- 36** In the final paragraph, Karen talks about the physical aspects to her job in relation to
- A** dedication.
 - B** sleep.
 - C** passion.
 - D** nature.

Part 6

You are going to read four reviews of the television series 'Downton Abbey'. For questions 37–40, choose from the reviews A–D. The reviews may be selected more than once.

Downton Abbey Is it really accurate?

A

I find the TV series Downton Abbey to be an inaccurate representation of the lives of the wealthy and their servants in early 20th-century Britain. The series really romanticises the class system. Firstly, it presents an unrealistic picture of the relationship between the rich and their servants. The servants are seen as loyal and devoted, with no desire for better working conditions or higher wages. This is simply not true. Furthermore, the series completely ignores the political and social changes of the time. The early 20th century was a time of great social and political change in Britain, with the rise of the labour movement and the fight for women's rights. The series completely ignores these important historical events. Finally, I find it to be incredibly sexist. Female characters are either powerless and dependent on men, or they're horrible and mean. There are few strong female characters in the series, and those that do exist are often punished for their independence and strength.

B

Downton Abbey is a highly enjoyable television series. It presents a fictional but historically accurate representation of people during the early 20th century. The show's attention to detail, elegant costumes and stunning settings all contribute to its realistic appeal. One of the things I appreciate most about Downton Abbey is its focus on tradition and the importance of maintaining social order. The wealthy Crawley family are shown to be responsible, and their servants are shown as loyal and dedicated to their roles. Moreover, the series explores the changing times of the early 20th century as Britain moved towards a more modern and democratic society. This is shown through the Crawley family's struggle to maintain their status and relevance in a world that is rapidly changing. The characters in the show are well-developed, with both strengths and weaknesses in evidence. The show's attention to detail is especially truthful, as well as the minor activities of daily life in a large country estate. Overall, I highly recommend Downton Abbey to anyone who appreciates quality historical dramas.

C

If you are looking for a perfect representation of the English upper class during the early 20th century, look no further than Downton Abbey. One of the most striking aspects of the show is the vast divide between the wealthy Crawleys and their working-class staff. The show is a perfect reminder of the extreme class divide that existed during that time period. Furthermore, the show's romantic storylines are so over-the-top. The constant love triangles and forbidden passions are more of a soap opera than a period drama. It's almost as if the writers felt the need to inject as much drama as possible into the plot to keep the viewers engaged. The characters are people who we mostly love or hate, and the representation of women is a bit all over the place. We do have the hilarious Dowager Countess, who provides the humour, but many of the other women are just stereotypes. But for all its faults, there's no denying that Downton Abbey is beautifully shot. The costumes and set designs are stunning, as well as extremely realistic. It's clear that a lot of effort went into making the show as visually appealing as possible. In conclusion, Downton Abbey is a highly entertaining and well-crafted period drama that's worth watching. However, it's important to remember that it is ultimately a work of fiction.

D

The show connects themes of power, morality and society in a way that both engages and challenges the viewer. I found Downton Abbey to be a fascinating exploration of the human condition. At the heart of the show is the tension between the Crawley family and their servants. The relationships raise questions about the nature of power and the responsibility of those in positions of authority. The show also explores the moral obligations that come with wealth and privilege, and the consequences that can result when these obligations are ignored. Overall, Downton Abbey offers a thought-provoking exploration of power, morality and society. It challenges us to consider our own place in the world and to reflect on the moral obligations that come with privilege.

Which person:

differs from the others regarding its focus on social and political change?

37	
----	--

shares reviewer D's opinion on the show's well-written characters?

38	
----	--

expresses a similar view to reviewer B regarding attention to detail?

39	
----	--

shares a similar opinion to reviewer A on the representation of women?

40	
----	--

Part 7

You are going to read an extract from a newspaper article about the Rolls-Royce car company. Six paragraphs have been removed. Select from the paragraphs A–G the one that fits each gap (questions 41–46). There is one extra paragraph that you do not need to use.

Rolls-Royce

British company Rolls-Royce is one of the most recognisable names in the luxury automobile and engine-manufacturing industries, with a reputation for producing some of the finest and most reliable products in the world.

41

Henry Royce was an engineer who had a passion for creating the perfect car, while Charles Rolls was a businessman with a keen eye for marketing. Soon after the two entrepreneurs met, they decided to create a new car company together. Their first car, the Rolls-Royce 10 HP, was produced in 1904 and was an instant success. The car was powered by a two-cylinder engine and was known for its smooth and quiet ride. Rolls-Royce quickly gained a reputation for producing cars that were among the best in the world due to their exceptional quality and craftsmanship. In 1906, Rolls-Royce introduced the Silver Ghost, a car that would become one of the most famous models in automotive history.

42

During World War I, Rolls-Royce shifted its focus to producing aircraft engines for the British military. In the 1930s, the company introduced a new line of luxury cars, including the Phantom II, which was known for its modern design and powerful engine. During this time, Rolls-Royce also began to cater to the individual tastes and preferences of its wealthy customers.

43

During that time, it also developed a new jet engine, the Nene, which was used in the world's first jet-powered aeroplane, the Gloster Meteor.

Rolls-Royce's success in the aerospace industry continued in the post-war period, with the company producing engines for commercial aircraft. In 1952, Rolls-Royce produced the first turbojet engine, which revolutionised the aviation industry.

The company's subsequent engines were used in a wide range of planes. In the 1960s, Rolls-Royce developed a new engine, the RB211, which was used in the Boeing 747, one of the most successful commercial aeroplanes of all time. The company was then reorganised and split into two parts: Rolls-Royce Motor Cars, which continued to produce luxury automobiles, and Rolls-Royce Limited, which focused on aircraft engines and other industrial products. The company's sales subsequently declined, and it struggled to survive. In 1971, the company was bought by the British government after it ran into financial difficulties.

44

In the 1980s, Rolls-Royce faced a major challenge when it was forced to take back a large number of cars due to a mechanical problem. This was costly and damaged the company's reputation.

45

One of the company's most significant successes in recent years has been the introduction of the Phantom model in 2003. This ultra-luxury sedan was designed to compete with other high-end models from companies like Bentley and Maybach, and it quickly became one of the most sought-after automobiles in the world. In the 21st century, Rolls-Royce has continued to innovate and expand its business interests. The company has invested heavily in new technologies, and it has explored new business models, such as car-sharing and subscription services.

46

For example, the company has been involved in the production of power systems, including gas turbines and nuclear reactors.

With a commitment to quality, innovation, and customer satisfaction, Rolls Royce is well-positioned to continue its success well into the future.

- A** While Rolls-Royce cars and Rolls-Royce aeroplanes have separate owners, they still share the same name. The cars might be the most famous, but Rolls-Royce aeroplanes recently revealed a battery-powered aircraft that can reach a top speed of 387 mph.
- B** Back then, it was renowned for its superior handling, smooth ride and outstanding performance, and it quickly became a favourite among the wealthy and influential.
- C** In addition to its work in the automotive and aerospace industries, Rolls-Royce has invested in other business opportunities.
- D** However, Rolls-Royce shifted its focus once again to the aerospace industry, producing engines for military planes. This move proved to be a wise decision, as it allowed the company to diversify its business interests and establish itself as a leader in the aerospace industry.
- E** Founded in 1904 by Charles Rolls and Henry Royce, the company began producing cars that were known for their exceptional quality and engineering.
- F** Luckily, Rolls-Royce was fine by the following decade following the introduction of a number of successful models such as the Silver Seraph and the Corniche.
- G** Rolls-Royce faced a number of challenges as the automotive industry underwent significant changes. For instance, many consumers began to prefer more practical and affordable cars, and Rolls-Royce was slow to adapt to these changing trends.



Part 8

You are going to read a newspaper article in which five artists are discussed in reference to the history of graffiti. For questions 47–56, select the correct paragraph (A–E). Each paragraph may be selected more than once.

Which artist makes the following statements?

Their work was not designed to be a kind of statement.

47	
----	--

They combine performance and art in their work.

48	
----	--

Their art has a depressing sense of humour.

49	
----	--

They are famed for their use of text and script.

50	
----	--

They were one of the first to express themselves using graffiti.

51	
----	--

They are able to produce work on a variety of different exteriors.

52	
----	--

Their work challenges traditional conceptions of gender roles and sexuality.

53	
----	--

Their job required them to travel which helped them spread their art all over the city.

54	
----	--

They were one of the first to be nationally recognised as a graffiti artist.

55	
----	--

They have remained unknown.

56	
----	--

The history of graffiti

A

Cornbread, who emerged in Philadelphia in the late 1960s, is widely credited with being one of the pioneers of graffiti and was one of the first to use graffiti to spread a message. His style was characterised by large, colourful letters, and the artist is also known for his ability to climb structures, such as billboards and bridges, in order to make his work stand out even more. Cornbread was one of the first graffiti artists to use the medium as a form of personal expression. Until then, graffiti was primarily used to show names or slogans, and while he also used his 'tag' to sign his work, he was best known for creating designs that expressed his thoughts and emotions. Perhaps most notably, Cornbread was one of the first graffiti artists to achieve national attention.

B

In the 1970s, the New York City graffiti scene exploded, and one of the most influential artists of the era was TAKI 183. His artistic style was characterised by the use of a marker pen to write his name, usually on subway trains. Real name Demetrius, TAKI 183 was a Greek immigrant who worked as a courier, transporting goods in New York City. He used his job as an opportunity to show his name all over the city, though his signature was not initially intended to be an artistic instruction. Instead, it was simply a way for him to mark his territory and let his fellow couriers know where he had been.

C

Keith Haring was a graffiti artist who rose to fame in the 1980s for his distinctive style that combined elements of street art and pop art. Haring's work was also heavily influenced by his interest in dance, and his figures often appeared in motion. He quickly gained a reputation for his distinctive style and playful figures. However, unlike many other graffiti artists, Haring was not interested in simply leaving his mark on the city. He wanted to use his art to make a statement. He was deeply committed to social justice and used his art to highlight a variety of causes. He was a vocal supporter of LGBTQ+ rights, and many of his works feature homoerotic imagery that challenged conventional notions of gender and sexuality.

D

Banksy is one of the most famous and controversial graffiti artists of the modern era. While his true identity is unknown, his art has been exhibited all over the world, making him an international superstar. His artistic style is characterised by politics to create powerful images. Banksy's work often comments on social and political issues, such as war, consumerism and police violence. His art is also known for its dark humour, which is often used to draw attention to the strange parts of modern life. Despite many attempts to unmask the artist, his identity has remained a secret. This also allows Banksy to continue to operate outside of the general art world, and to make bold statements without fear of being caught. He often incorporates elements of production art into his pieces. For example, in 2018 he created a work called 'Love is in the Bin', which consisted of a shredded version of his famous work 'Girl with Balloon'. The piece was sold at auction for over \$1 million, but as soon as it was sold, the painting was automatically destroyed. Banksy is not simply a graffiti artist, but a social commentator who uses his art to make powerful statements about the world around us.

E

Lee Quinones is an American graffiti artist who became famous in New York City during the 1970s and 1980s. His work often uses bold, dynamic lettering and patterns, which set him apart from other graffiti artists. Additionally, his lettering style is highly distinctive, featuring a combination of bold, sharp lines and curves that create a sense of movement and energy. Another part of Quinones' style is his ability to adapt to different environments and surfaces. Whether working on the side of a building, a train or a canvas, he is able to seamlessly integrate his designs into the surrounding space, creating a sense of harmony between his art and the environment in which it is displayed.

Cambridge C1 Advanced Reading | Answer sheet

Name _____

Date _____

Part 5

Mark the appropriate answer (A, B, C or D).

(6 marks)

0	A	B	C	D
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

31	A	B	C	D
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

34	A	B	C	D
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

32	A	B	C	D
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

35	A	B	C	D
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

33	A	B	C	D
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

36	A	B	C	D
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Part 6

Add the appropriate answer (A–D).

(4 marks)

37		38		39		40	
----	--	----	--	----	--	----	--

Part 7

Add the appropriate answer (A–G).

(6 marks)

41		42		43	
----	--	----	--	----	--

44		45		46	
----	--	----	--	----	--

Part 8

Add the appropriate answer (A–E).

(10 marks)

47		48		49		50		51	
----	--	----	--	----	--	----	--	----	--

52		53		54		55		56	
----	--	----	--	----	--	----	--	----	--

Cambridge C1 Advanced Reading

Test 1

Part 5		Key words from the questions	Clues from the text
31	C	What does Karen say about her background in paragraph 1?	...becoming a professional garden designer was a dream come true for me...it wasn't until later in life that I realised I could do it for a living.
32	A	...learn from the training program?	...admits: "The program was challenging but incredibly rewarding...gained a new perspective of the natural world around me..."
33	D	...two things...succeed in the gardening business?	...formal education, and gaining practical experience is essential for developing the skills needed to be a successful garden designer.
34	D	...Karen suggest...show off their work?	...I started building a catalogue of my work to show my abilities to potential clients or employers.
35	C	...Karen...never tired of...	...the joy and satisfaction on their faces as they walk through their newly designed garden is an experience that never gets old.
36	B	In the final paragraph, Karen talks about the physical aspects of her job in relation to...	...end up having a good night's rest due to the physical parts of the job.

Part 6		Key words from the questions	Clues from the text
37	A	...differs from the others regarding its interest in/focus on social and political change?	...completely ignores the political and social changes ...20 th century was a time of great social and political change in Britain...ignores...important historical events...
38	B	shares reviewer D's opinion on the show's well-written characters?	...characters in the show are well-developed and complex, with both strengths and weaknesses.
39	C	...similar view to reviewer B regarding attention to detail?	...there's no denying that Downton Abbey is beautifully shot. The costumes and set designs are stunning, as well as extremely realistic.
40	C	...similar opinion to reviewer A on the representation of women?	The characters are people who we mostly love or hate, and the representation of women is a bit all over the place/but many of the other women are just stereotypes.

Part 7		Key words from the questions	Clues from the text
41	E	Founded in 1904 by Charles Rolls and Henry Royce, the company began...	Henry Royce was an engineer...Charles Rolls was a businessman...after the two...met, they decided to create a new car company together.
42	B	Back then, it was renowned for its superior handling...and it quickly became a favourite...	In 1906, Rolls-Royce introduced the Silver Ghost, a car that would become one of the most famous models in automotive history.
43	D	However, Rolls-Royce shifted its focus once again to the aerospace industry...	During World War I, Rolls-Royce shifted its focus to producing aircraft engines for the British military...In the 1930s, the company introduced a new line of luxury cars...Rolls-Royce's success in the aerospace industry continued in the post-war period...

44	G	Rolls-Royce faced a number of challenges as the automotive industry underwent significant changes...	In 1971, the company was bought by the British government after it ran into financial difficulties...In the 1980s, Rolls-Royce faced a major challenge...
45	F	Luckily, Rolls-Royce was fine by...	This was costly and damaged the company's reputation.
46	C	In addition to its work in the automotive and aerospace industries...	The company has invested heavily in new technologies...explored new business models...For example, the company has been involved in the production of...

Part 8		Key words from the questions	Clues from the text
47	B	...not designed to be a kind of statement	...though his signature was not initially intended to be an artistic instruction...
48	D	...combine performance and art in their work.	...incorporates elements of production art into his pieces.
49	D	...depressing sense of humour.	...art is also known for its dark humour.
50	E	They are famed for their use of text and script.	His works often uses bold, dynamic lettering and patterns...
51	A	...first to express themselves using graffiti.	...one of the first graffiti artists to use the medium as a form of personal expression.
52	E	They are able to produce work on a variety of different exteriors.	Another part of Quinones' style is his ability to adapt to different environments and surfaces.
53	C	...challenges traditional conceptions of gender roles and sexuality.	...many of his works feature homoerotic imagery that challenged conventional notions of gender and sexuality.
54	B	...required them to travel which helped them spread their art all over the city.	...who worked as a courier transporting goods in New York City...He used his job as an opportunity to show his name all over the city...
55	A	...one of the first to be nationally recognised as a graffiti artist.	...one of the first graffiti artists to achieve national attention.
56	D	...remained unknown..	Despite many attempts to unmask the artist, his identity has remained a secret.