

# Introduction to Linguaskill



Cambridge Assessment  
English

Linguaskill 

Simplify your English language testing

What can a good test do for you

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ANGLO

# Cambridge English

Part of the University of  
Cambridge

Over 150 years' experience in  
assessing English Language

Helping the world to learn  
and communicate in English  
more effectively

Delivered over 50 million  
exams since 1913



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# What is a good test?

“Good tests are those that do the job they are designed to do and which convince the people taking and marking them that they work. Good tests also have a positive rather than a negative effect on both students and teachers.”

How to teach English- 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Jeremy Harmer

A good tests is valid and has face validity.

A good test should have marking reliability.

A good test should be practical.

Tests have a marked washback/backwash effect.

# The science behind the test

Information about the test

Test format and task types

The science behind the test

Linguaskill has been developed by our dedicated team of experts. It has been trialled by speakers of over 40 languages from 50 countries to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the results.

It combines the latest technology with the reliability and quality you expect from Cambridge Assessment English.

## Reports



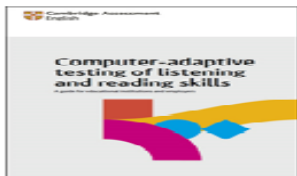
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Linguaskill: Listening  
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# Overview of the Test



General English  
Linguaskill Business  
18+  
Online  
On-Demand  
Automarked



Reading/Listening  
Speaking  
Writing

**A1-C1+**  
or above

Aligned to  
CEFR  
Levels



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# Overview of the Test



60 to 85 minutes  
for Reading &  
Listening

45 minutes  
for Writing

15 minutes  
for Speaking



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# Overview of the Test: Adaptive



## Adaptive Test (Reading, Listening & Language Knowledge)

- Asks questions that get closer and closer to the candidate's true level
- Unique test per candidate
- Less stressful test experience
- Fast, yet accurate

# Reading and Listening

Length: 60 to 85 minutes

Number of questions: variable

Computer-adaptive test questions are tailored to each candidate. This means that each candidate gets a different set of questions, in a unique order, chosen from a large item bank.



# Reading and Listening

## Listening

- ✓ Two tasks
- ✓ Listen and select
- ✓ Extended listening


## Reading


- ✓ Five tasks
- ✓ Gapped sentences
- ✓ Read and select
- ✓ Open-gap fill
- ✓ Multiple-choice gap-fill
- ✓ Extended reading

# Listen and select

# Listening Tasks

Candidates listen to a short audio recording and answer a multiple-choice question with three options.

Instructions 

 For this question, choose the correct answer.  
Read the question first. Click play to listen. You can listen twice.

What will the weather be like for the tour group tomorrow?



## Extended listening

Candidates listen to a longer recording and answer a series of multiple-choice questions based on it. The questions are in the same order as the information they hear in the recording.

Instructions ▲



For this question, choose the correct answer.  
Read the question first. Click play to listen. You can listen twice.

Why can't the man use the self-service machine to check in?

- His customer booking reference is wrong.
- His flight isn't open for check-in yet.
- His reservation is part of a group booking.

Instructions ▲



For this question, choose the correct answer.  
Read the question first. Click play to listen. You can listen twice.

Listen to James Carter, a photojournalist who takes photographs for magazines, giving a talk about his work.

Why did James decide he wanted to be a photojournalist?

- Several members of his family worked for newspapers.
- He enjoyed taking photographs when he was a boy.
- He was impressed by the work of a famous photographer.

James has recently attended a course on

# Reading Tasks

## Gapped sentences

Candidates read a sentence with a missing word (gap) and choose the correct word to fill the gap. There are four choices for each gap.

Instructions ▲

Click on the gap then choose the correct answer.

You  to check the tyres before you start on a long car journey.

must

should

ought

better



ment

e

## Read and select

Candidates read a notice, diagram, label, memo or letter containing a short text and choose the sentence or phrase that most closely matches the meaning of the text. There are three possible answers.

Instructions ▲

For this question, choose the correct answer.

### The Orient Restaurant

The lunch menu will change from next Monday and there will be a new dinner menu from March 8th.

- The food in the Orient restaurant is going to be different.
- The two menus in the Orient restaurant will change at the same time.
- The Orient restaurant will open for dinner for the first time in March.

# Open gap-fill

Candidates read a short text in which there are some missing words (gaps) and write in the missing word in each gap.

## Instructions ▲

For these questions, type the correct answer in each gap.  
Type only one word in each gap.

**To:** Silvio

**From:** Lars

Hi Silvio,

There's  to be an extra swimming competition next week and not  people in the team  free to do it. Jane  you to swim in six races! Is that  much swimming for you? What do you think?

Lars

## Multiple-choice gap-fill

Candidates choose the right word or phrase to fill the gaps in a text. There are four choices for each gap

Instructions ▲

Click on each gap then choose the correct answer.

Moving pictures were invented by the brothers Louis and Auguste Lumière at the end of the 19th century. Movies very  became popular all over the world. In 1907 the first studios were built in a  of Los Angeles called Hollywood. It was the perfect place, close to many kinds of natural scenery.  the 1920s, Hollywood was the center of the world film  To begin with, the

quickly

immediately

fast

early



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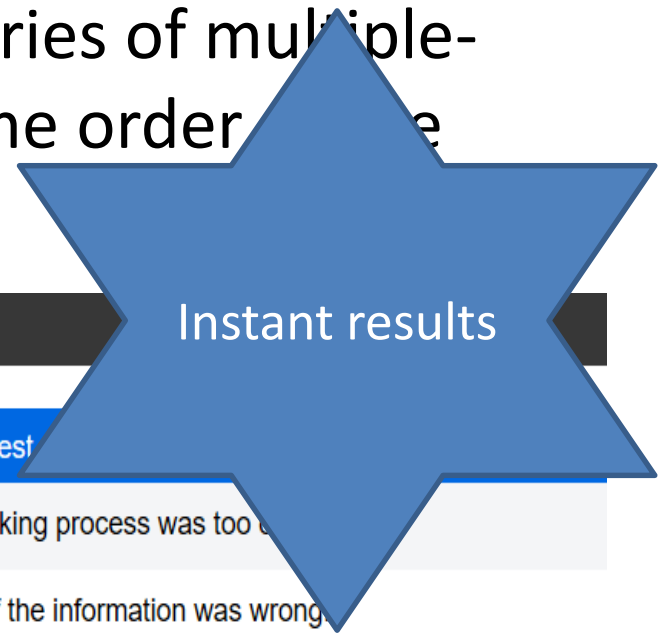
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# Extended reading

Candidates read a longer text and answer a series of multiple-choice questions. The questions are in the same order as the information in the text.



For these questions, choose the correct answer.

## Alverton Hotel: customer review

I booked a room for myself on the hotel website. The website had lots of useful information about the hotel and was easy to use. I wanted to ask for a quiet room but there was nowhere to leave a message about this on the booking form. I had to spend a long time waiting on the phone to tell the receptionist what I wanted.

I arrived quite late at night. The car park wasn't very big and I was worried it would be full with other guests' cars. But the porter came out, said 'Good evening, madam' and showed me where to park, before helping me with my suitcase. It was quite dark in the car park, with only two lights by the entrance, so it was hard to see where I was going.

But at the check-in desk I received a warm welcome, and had a nice long conversation with two people on duty who told me lots of useful things about the town and what you can see and do there.

I was very satisfied when I saw my room. It was nicely decorated with antique furniture and traditional wallpaper. Although the bed looked old, the mattress was not too soft or too hard and I slept very well. The bathroom was enormous but the shower was quite small.

- ^ What does the guest say about the booking process?
  - The booking process was too complicated.
  - Some of the information was wrong.
  - There was no place to write special requests.
- ▼ When the guest arrived,
- ▼ What does the guest say about check-in?
- ▼ What does the guest say she liked about the bedroom?
- ▼ The guest was disappointed at breakfast because
- ▼ When the guest checked out, the receptionist

# Writing Paper

**Length:** 45 minutes (2 parts)

**Part 1 (Email)** The candidate will be asked to write a minimum of 50 words.

**Marks in Part 1:** One half of the final Writing result.

**Part 2 (Long text)** The candidate will be asked to write a minimum of 180 words.

**Marks in Part 2:** One half of the final Writing result.

## Part one

Candidates read a short prompt, usually an email. They use the information in the prompt and the three bullet points to write an email of at least 50 words. Candidates should spend about 15 minutes on this.

### Part 1

You should spend about 15 minutes on this task.

You have received this email from a friend who you went to college with.

Do you know it will soon be five years since we finished college? I think we should contact our old friends and arrange to meet again. Have you got any ideas about what we could do to celebrate and when?  
Write and tell me  
Jan

Write an **email** to Jan:

- suggest a good way to celebrate with your old college friends
- explain when would be the best time for the celebration
- offer to help organise the celebration

Write at least **50** words.

## Part two

Candidates read a short text outlining a scenario and respond using the information in the scenario and the three bullet points. Candidates will write a letter or a report of at least 180 words. Candidates should spend about 30 minutes on this.

### Part 2

You should spend about 30 minutes on this task.

The town where you live has a website where local people discuss issues. You are concerned about the increase in car and traffic and have decided to post your comments on the town website.


Write your **comments** for the town website.

Write about:

- why you think the amount of traffic is increasing in your town
- what problems the increased traffic is causing in your town
- how the amount of traffic in your town could be reduced

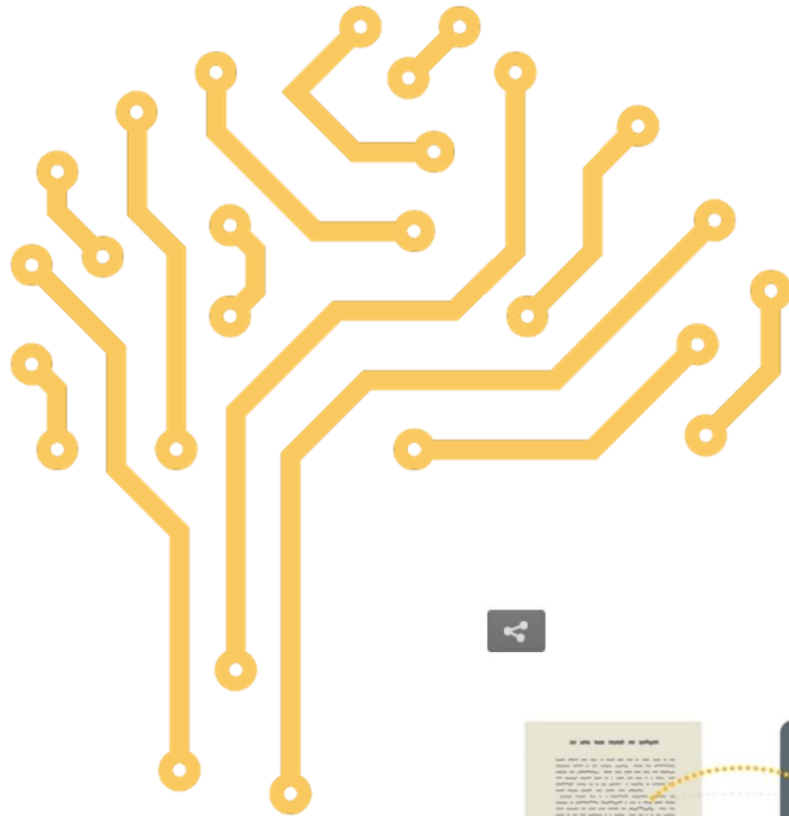
and any other points you think are important.

Write at least **180** words.



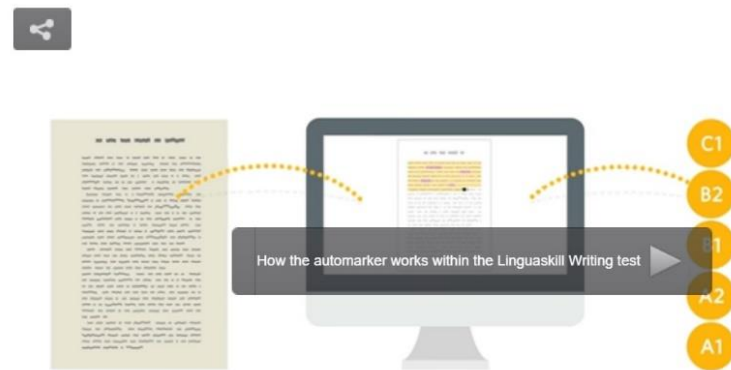
Results  
within 48  
hours

# Overview of the Test: Automarking



Automarking for Reading,  
Listening, Writing &  
Language Knowledge

- Ground-breaking system
- University of Cambridge technology



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# Speaking

There are five parts to the Speaking module.

Length: 15 minutes (5 parts)

Marks: 20% each part

Interview

Reading aloud

Long turn 1

Long turn 2

Communication Activity

**Part 1 (interview)**

The candidate answers eight questions about themselves (the first two questions are not marked).

**Part 2 (reading aloud)**

The candidate reads eight sentences aloud.

**Part 3 (long turn 1)**

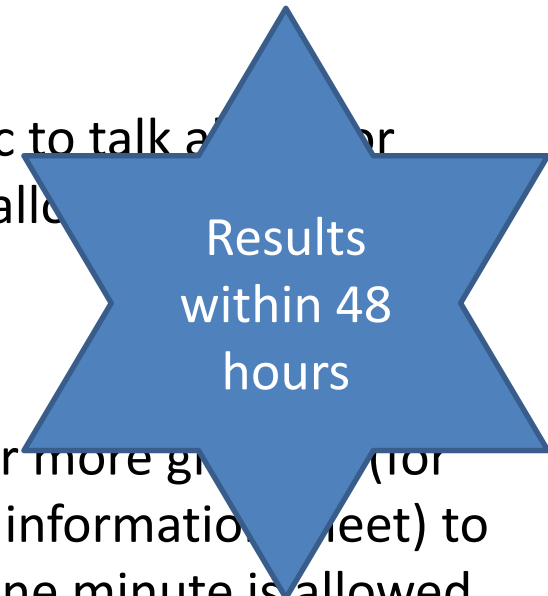
The candidate is given a topic to talk about for one minute. 40 seconds are allowed for preparation.

**Part 4 (long turn 2)**

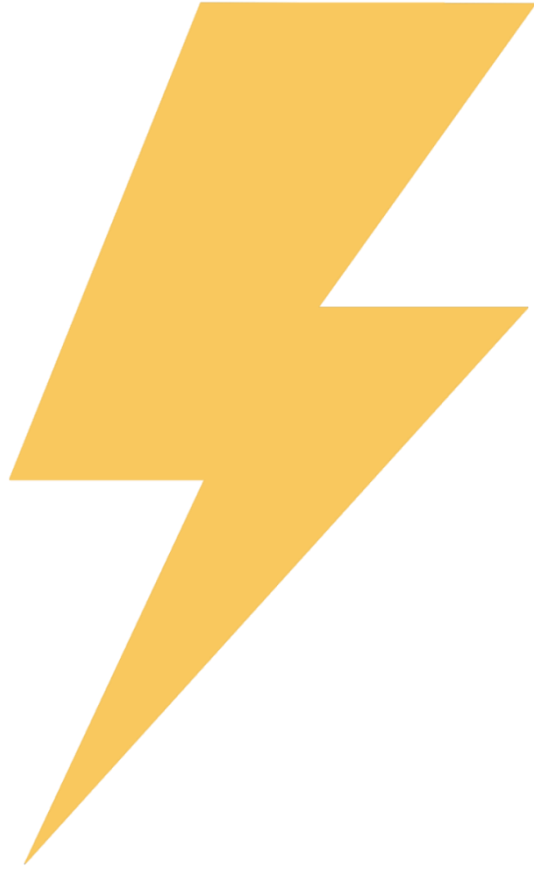
The candidate is given one or more graphics (for example a chart, diagram or information sheet) to talk about for one minute. One minute is allowed for preparation.

**Part 5  
(communication activity)**

The candidate gives their opinions in the form of short responses to five questions related to one topic. One minute is allowed for preparation.



# Overview of the Test



## Rapid Results

- Instant and accurate results for reading and listening
- All 4 skills results in 48 hours
- Individual and Groups of candidates



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# Linguaskill Results

- A scale score for each skill tested
- An overall Cambridge English scale score
- CEFR level for each skill tested
- Overall CEFR level

core	CEFR level
180+	C1 +
160–179	B2
140–159	B1
120–139	A2
100–119	A1
82–99	Below A1



# Linguaskill Results

The screenshot shows a Linguaskill Test Report for an example candidate. At the top, the Linguaskill logo is on the left, and the Reference No. 'BDGExample15003' is on the right. Below this, the 'Test Report' section includes the candidate's name 'Example Candidate', date of birth '08 July 1990', and organization 'Example'. A summary bar shows an 'Average Score' of 143 and a 'CEFR Level' of B1. Below this, three skill-specific sections are shown: Listening (19 November 2016, Score 182, CEFR Level B2), Reading (19 November 2016, Score 190+, CEFR Level C1), and Writing (29 November 2016, Score 190+, CEFR Level C1). Each skill section includes a progress bar and a brief description of the skill level. The Cambridge Assessment English logo is at the bottom left, and a disclaimer 'Linguaskill results are presented as a Test Report. Cambridge English Language Assessment reserves the right to amend the information given.' is at the bottom right. A footer note states 'This report is for illustrative purposes only.'

Results include an overall CEFR level and Cambridge English Scale score, as well as results for each of the skills tested.

This enables you to see candidates' strengths and weaknesses at a glance, make informed decisions or identify areas for further development.


CEFR level descriptors tell you what candidates can be expected to do at their level.

Cambridge English Scale scores provide more detailed information about candidate performance, showing where they are within the CEFR levels.

## Individual report

- Skills and Overall score
- Can-Do descriptions of candidate's ability
- Strengths and Weaknesses

# Linguaskill Results

**Linguaskill**  **Group Report**

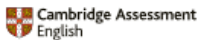
Client: Example, Session: Linguaskill R54 and Writing  
 Agent: BDC, Venue: Example  
 No. candidates on file: 18

Linguaskill assesses English language ability from below A1 level to level C1 or above of the CEFR, specifically B2 to 180+ on the Cambridge English Scale

Candidate details			CEFR level			Overall CEFR level
Candidate Login	Family Name	First Name	Listening	Reading	Writing	
Example 01	Candidate	Example	B1	A2	A2	B1
Example 02	Candidate	Example	B2	B2	B2	B2
Example 03	Candidate	Example	C1 or above	B2	B2	C1 or above
Example 04	Candidate	Example	B2	A2	C1 or above	B2
Example 05	Candidate	Example	B1	C1 or above	C1 or above	B1
Example 06	Candidate	Example	C1 or above	C1 or above	B2	C1 or above
Example 07	Candidate	Example	B1	A2	A2	B1
Example 08	Candidate	Example	B2	B2	B2	B2
Example 09	Candidate	Example	C1 or above	B2	B2	C1 or above
Example 10	Candidate	Example	B2	C1 or above	C1 or above	B2
Example 11	Candidate	Example	B1	C1 or above	C1 or above	B1
Example 12	Candidate	Example	C1 or above	B1	A2	B1
Example 13	Candidate	Example	B1	A2	A2	B1
Example 14	Candidate	Example	B2	B2	B2	B2
Example 15	Candidate	Example	C1 or above	B2	B2	C1 or above
Example 16	Candidate	Example	B2	B2	B2	B2
Example 17	Candidate	Example	B1	C1 or above	B1	B2
Example 18	Candidate	Example	B1	A2	A2	B1

An asterisk (\*) for a score indicates that the candidate did not complete enough tasks to provide a reliable score for that part of the test. An NR (Not Reported) indicates that the candidate's score is below the reporting threshold.

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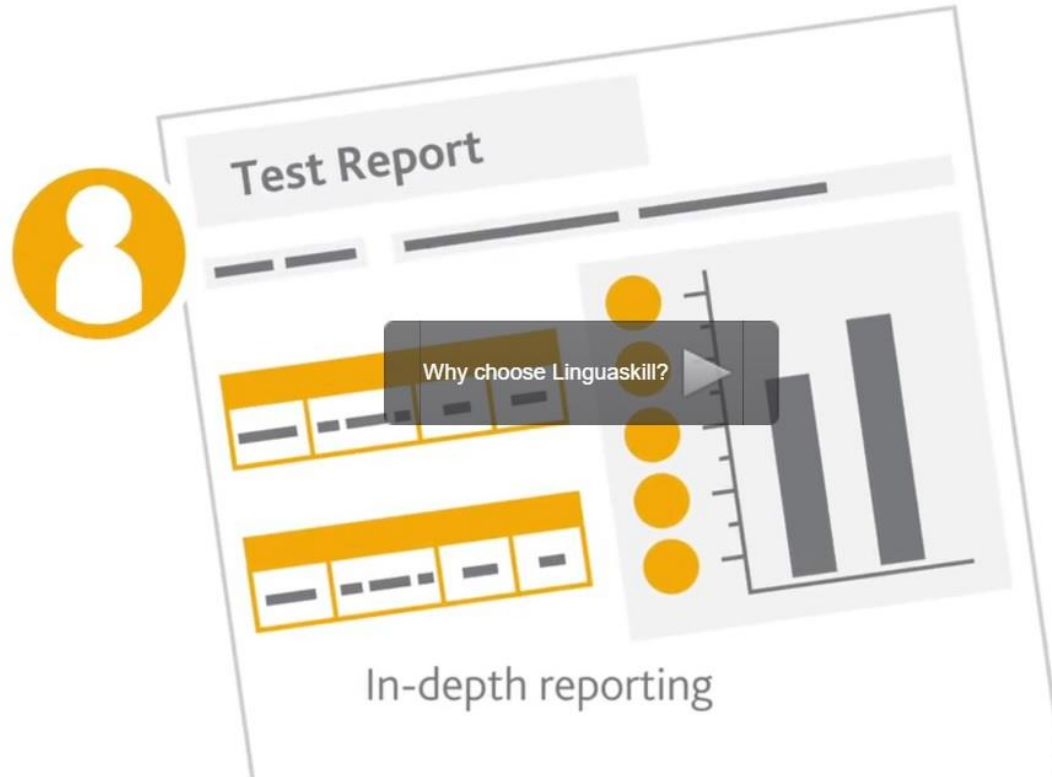
 Cambridge Assessment English

This report is for illustrative purposes only.

## Group reports

- To compare and analyse results of a selection or a complete intake of students

# Why choose Linguaskill?



# Why choose Linguaskill?

- One test for individuals and groups of candidates of all abilities
- Developed by experts and extensively trialled around the world
- Accurate and reliable results
- To assess a combination of skills for admissions, recruitment, graduation, progression
- Easy to administer at a time and venue of your choice
- Comprehensive results and reporting within 48 hours
- Valuable insight into a candidate's ability to make informed decisions fast
- The latest technology with the reliability of Cambridge Assessment

# Linguaskill for Higher Education

- To ensure candidates meet requirements for graduation
- To measure the effectiveness of language courses
- To obtain consistent, independent data on a candidate's ability



# Linguaskill for Training

- To measure the effectiveness of programmes
- To give candidates a sense of achievement
- To give candidates clear, useful feedback on their strengths and weaknesses



# Linguaskill for Recruitment

- To decide which job applicants have the right English skills for international work environments
- To decide which staff members have the English skills for promotion
- To select candidates for language training courses





# Support Available

## About Linguaskill:

- [Learn more about Linguaskill](#)
- [Brochure](#)

## Tests:

- [Test format](#)
- [Free samples tests](#)
- [Free English practice](#)
- [Free Games](#)



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# Support Available

## Reports:

- [Sample individual test report form](#)
- [Sample group test report form](#)
- [Reading and Listening test trial report](#)
- [Writing trial report](#)
- [Computer adaptive testing report](#)



# Success Stories



Nanyang Technological  
University Singapore



CognosOnline



The Anglo Mexican Foundation



Jesuit Worldwide Learning



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