

Syllabus Outline

Cambridge Pre-U  
**CLASSICAL GREEK**  
**LATIN**

Cambridge  
**Pre-U**

For examination in 2010, 2011, 2012



## Cambridge Pre-U Overview

Cambridge Pre-U is an exciting qualification for 16-19 year olds who want to go to university. It equips students with the skills they need to make a success of their undergraduate studies:

- a solid and coherent grounding in specialist subjects at an appropriate level;
- the ability to undertake independent and self directed learning;
- the ability to think laterally, critically and creatively and communicate effectively.

The Cambridge Pre-U Principal Subjects in Classical Greek and Latin are stand-alone qualifications, with all components assessed at the full Cambridge Pre-U standard at the end of a two-year programme of study. There are no unit retakes. Cambridge Pre-U Principal Subjects are certificated separately. They are fully compatible with A Levels and may be taken in combination with them.

## Reporting of Achievement

Achievement is reported on a scale of nine grades: Distinction 1, 2 and 3, Merit 1, 2 and 3 and Pass 1, 2 and 3. The Distinction 3 standard is aligned to that of Grade A and the Pass 3 is aligned to that of Grade E at A Level. Distinction 1 reports achievement above the new A\* grade. The intention is to differentiate more finely and extend reporting at the top end, while keeping the grading scale accessible to the full range of ability currently achieving passes at A Level.

## UCAS Tariff Points

The table shows the UCAS tariff awarded to each Cambridge Pre-U Principal Subject Grade and how this compares with the tariff for A Level.

The tariff reflects the additional content within each syllabus and the linear assessment (terminal examinations at full Pre-U standard).

Universities which normally ask for three A grades at A Level might therefore consider Cambridge Pre-U offers involving a combination of Distinction 3 and Merit 1. Other offers may include asking for a Merit 2 in place of a B, Merit 3 or Pass 1 for a C, Pass 2 for a D and Pass 3 for an E.

Cambridge Pre-U Band	Cambridge Pre-U Grade	Cambridge Pre-U Principal Subject Tariff	Equivalent A Level Tariff
Distinction	1	tbc	n/a
	2	145	(A*) 140
	3	130	(A) 120
Merit	1	115	
	2	101	(B) 100
	3	87	
Pass	1	73	
	2	59	
	3	46	(E) 40

For more details, please go to [www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/recognition](http://www.cie.org.uk/qualifications/recognition).

## Common characteristics of Cambridge Pre-U syllabuses

- **Design:** focused on the development of high level knowledge, understanding and skills to prepare for university and beyond, through extensive consultation with teachers/students and universities.
- **Stretch:** built into syllabus content (380 guided learning hours and challenging concepts), assessment (open ended questions) and grading outcomes (finer differentiation at the top end).
- **Innovation:** new approaches to subjects, greater freedom in subject combination, new topics, new methods of delivery and new forms of assessment.
- **Progression in learning:** Cambridge Pre-U builds on prior knowledge gained at 14-16, where appropriate and develops broad generic skills (independent study and research skills). Students are better prepared for undergraduate study.
- **Linearity:** assessment at the end of the course makes for greater coherence in teaching and learning.

## Feedback from Schools

“

Increased focus and motivation in year 12 pupils

Richer, more coherent educational experience

Encourages wider reading

More independent inquiry and learning

Opportunity to develop and pursue own academic interests

Greater scope for upper ability pupils to distinguish themselves

More time and support available for lower ability pupils

Greater maturity at examination time”

## Cambridge Pre-U Classical Greek or Latin Scheme of Assessment

Four compulsory components. Externally set and marked examinations take place at the end of the two-year course. Individual components cannot be retaken.

Paper 1. Verse literature

Paper 2. Prose literature

Paper 3. Unseen translation (which allows candidates to demonstrate sensitivity to context and stylistic devices)

Paper 4. Prose composition or comprehension. Candidates are encouraged to read widely by studying Classical Greek and Latin authors in both original and translation as well as reading modern works of critical scholarship. The inclusion of themed and prescribed texts offers greater freedom of choice and encourages candidates to read widely.

## Curriculum Content

### Classical Greek Texts

#### Prescribed texts and theme texts: Verse Literature

1. Prescribed text

Euripides, *Electra*, lines 1 – 111, 213 – 431, 487– 698. Candidates will be expected to be familiar with the rest of Euripides' *Electra* in translation.

2. Prescribed text

Homer, *Iliad XXII*

#### Theme texts

1. Theme, Euripides, *Electra*: House of Atreus  
Aeschylus, *Agamemnon*  
Aeschylus, *Choephoroi*  
Aeschylus, *Eumenides*  
Sophocles, *Electra*

2. Theme texts

Theme, Homer, *Iliad XXII*: Heroism and Death in Homer

Homer, *Iliad* Books 6, 9, 16, 18, 24

Homer, *Odyssey* Books 11, 21, 24

Prescribed texts: Prose Literature

Plato, *Symposium*, 201 d – 215a3 or Herodotus, *Histories* VI 74 – 84; 94 – 117; 132 – 40

### Latin Texts

#### Prescribed texts and theme texts: Verse Literature

1. Prescribed text

Virgil, *Aeneid VIII*, lines 1 – 519. Candidates will be expected to be familiar with the rest of *Aeneid VIII* in translation.

2. Prescribed text

Catullus 2,3,5,7, 8,11,51,58, 64 (lines 50-236), 68, 76, 79, 83, 85, 86, 87, 92

#### Theme texts

1. Theme, Virgil, *Aeneid VIII* (lines 1 – 519):  
Roman Epic  
Virgil, *Aeneid III*;  
Lucan, *Pharsalia 1*;  
Ovid, *Metamorphoses XV*

2. Theme texts

Theme, Catullus, 2,3,5,7, 8,11,51,58, 64 (lines 50-236), 68, 76, 79, 83, 85, 86, 87, 92: Latin

Love Poetry

Propertius I

Tibullus I

Horace's *Odes I*, poems 4, 5, 8, 9, 13, 16, 17, 19, 22, 23, 25, 33

*Odes III*, poems 7, 9,10,12,15, 23

#### Prescribed texts: Prose Literature

Sallust, *Bellum Catilinae*, 5.1 (L. Catilina ...) – 39.5 (... necari iussit) or Cicero, *Pro Caelio*, 31–80. Candidates will be expected to be familiar with the rest of their chosen text in translation.

## Support and Resources

CIE offers a programme of Cambridge Pre-U INSET training for teachers accompanied by support materials on a dedicated Cambridge Pre-U website.

Full syllabus details are at [www.cie.org.uk/cambridgepreu](http://www.cie.org.uk/cambridgepreu)

Specimen assessment materials are available from: [international@cie.org.uk](mailto:international@cie.org.uk)



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