



### **What is CELTA?**

CELTA (Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) is a certificate for teaching English as a foreign language.

### **Why should I do a CELTA course?**

CELTA is the most widely recognised English teaching qualification in the world and is frequently required by employers. It can be a steppingstone to a new career and give you the opportunity to explore the world and work at the same time.

### **Who is a CELTA course for?**

CELTA is an initial teaching qualification and is perfect for new teachers with no or limited previous experience. It is for both first-language and non-first-language speakers of English.

### **What are my employment prospects after completing a CELTA course?**

A CELTA certificate (or equivalent) is required by many schools and organisations around the world for posts in English language education. Whilst it doesn't guarantee you a job, it does put you in a better position.

### **What is the difference between an online CELTA course and a face-to-face CELTA course?**

On a face-to-face CELTA course, such as those offered by Bell, all the training and teaching takes place in physical classrooms at our school in Cambridge, rather than online (e.g., on Zoom or Teams). We believe that a face-to-face course is a great option because of the opportunity to interact on a more personal level with tutors, fellow trainees and students. It is also the best choice if you plan to teach in physical classrooms.

### **Why choose Bell?**

Bell has a long history in English language education and teacher training, starting over 70 years ago in 1955. In addition to CELTA, we also run DELTA courses and teacher training programmes for overseas teachers, including the Bell Teacher Academy held each summer. Our Cambridge school is a comfortable, modern and well-equipped learning environment.

### **Who are the tutors?**

The tutors are all vastly experienced teachers and teacher trainers. They have all worked on multiple CELTA courses and some have been with Bell for over 20 years.

### **When do I need to apply for a CELTA course?**

We recommend that you apply at least six weeks in advance of the course and ideally before. This gives you time to go through the interview process and to do any required reading and preparation before the course begins. Late applications may be considered subject to spaces being available.

### **Can I fail a CELTA course?**

Yes, it is possible to fail, although this is quite rare. Your tutors at Bell will work hard to help you achieve the best outcome possible and any issues will be raised early to give you time to address them.

### **Who can apply for a CELTA course?**

You need to be at least 18 years old and educated to the standard required for university entry (e.g., A-levels in the UK). A degree is not required, although having one will improve your job prospects. Your level of English needs to be C1+ or above (IELTS 7.5). No previous teaching experience is needed.

### **What's the difference between CELTA and TEFL or TESOL courses?**

CELTA is accredited by Cambridge Assessment English and is considered the gold standard of introductory English teaching qualifications. It is globally recognized and highly respected by employers. Short online TEFL courses may be cheaper, but frequently lack accreditation and the vigour, depth and credibility of CELTA.

### **What qualification level is CELTA?**

CELTA is a level 5 qualification, equivalent to a foundation degree or HND.

### **Does it show on my certificate where I took the course?**

The CELTA certificate shows the centre number but not the centre name. You will receive a separate report from your tutors at the end of your course.

### **Is it possible to take days off during the course?**

Given its intensive nature, you are expected to attend 100% of the course. Missing one or two days may be allowed with a valid reason, but must be discussed with a course tutor first.

### **Does the CELTA train me to teach beginner students when I don't know any of their first language?**

CELTA prepares you to teach adult students at a range of levels, even if you don't know the different languages your learners speak. On the course, you are required to teach groups at two different levels (e.g., elementary and upper-intermediate). Even if you don't teach beginners on your course, the teaching strategies and techniques you learn will ensure that you are ready for the challenge.

### **What is included on a Bell CELTA course?**

A Bell CELTA course meets all the Cambridge requirements and more. There are 120+ hours of training, including input sessions (methodology) and lesson planning, 6 hours of assessed teaching practice, 6+ hours of observations of experienced Bell teachers and four written assignments. There is one-to-one support from your course tutors through tutorials and lesson feedback and you have access to our computer suite and learning centre. It is also possible to buy lunch and snacks from our on-site canteen.

### **I have additional needs; can I still apply?**

Absolutely. Please indicate any special considerations needed on your application form or at interview.

### **I live abroad; how will the interview work for me?**

Whilst we always prefer to interview CELTA candidates face-to-face when possible, we are also able to conduct interviews online via Zoom.