



What the PISA Foreign Language Assessment means for English language education

Cambridge has partnered with OECD to develop the English language tests being used in the first PISA Foreign Language Assessment (FLA).

The global survey of thousands of students in 21 countries and economies will give the world unprecedented insights into what makes English language teaching and learning effective.

There is currently no extensive international data on how English is taught and learned in school systems worldwide. The results of the first PISA FLA will change that.

In our new paper, **'What the PISA Foreign Language Assessment means for English language education'**, Cambridge and the OECD reveal more about the study, the global expertise behind it and the impact the results will have on teachers, students, policy-makers and educators in the field of foreign language learning.

Here are your top three takeaways:

1 The PISA FLA highlights the importance of learning languages

The PISA FLA emphasises the fundamental importance of learning another language in our increasingly globalised world. Learning a language, such as English, can have a positive impact on employability, improve critical thinking skills, and boost cultural awareness – essential skills in today's interconnected world.

2 It creates an international benchmark of English language proficiency

The survey will assess and report English language proficiency against the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). Reporting against the CEFR ensures that the results provide a meaningful international benchmark of English language proficiency for teachers, educators and policy-makers. This is because these levels are widely recognised and used in language teaching, course planning and assessment worldwide.

3 The results will shape how English is taught around the world

Along with testing language proficiency, the PISA FLA will also collect and analyse key information about what makes successful language learning. The insights will give policy-makers, educators, and teachers clear guidance on how to improve English language education globally.

To find out more about what the PISA Foreign Language Assessment means for English language education, read the full paper at cambridge.org/english-insights.