Pre-interview and interview notes for applicants

October 2026

This document contains important information about interviews and admissions assessments for each subject, information about any written work you may need to submit, and information on any reading you may need to prepare for interviews. **Please read the relevant sections of this information carefully as you will not receive a further notice of anything you are required to do.**

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General Information

1) DECEMBER INTERVIEWS

Interviews will be held in the period from **Monday 7th December 2026** to **Wednesday 16th December 2026**. If you have unavoidable engagements during this period you must let us know as soon as possible since it is very difficult to change interview arrangements once you have been notified. We are unable to arrange interviews outside our scheduled interview times unless there are exceptional circumstances, such as serious illness. For almost all subjects, we will let you know by email in mid-November if you are being invited to interview. It is not possible to notify anyone of interview dates or times any earlier than this.

The interview process is slightly different for those applicants who are at school or college in the UK (or, if you have left school, are ordinarily resident in the UK) and those who are at school or college outside the UK. For applicants invited to interview, those **applicants who are in the UK will be offered an in-person interview in Cambridge**. Those **applicants who are outside the UK are strongly encouraged to come in-person if you can**, but as international travel is expensive and often difficult to arrange at short notice, you can opt to have an online interview, via the platform Zoom. The distinction only affects the format of the interview: the type of questions you will be asked and the level of assessment will be the same whether you are interviewed in person or online. If you are in the UK but unable to travel to Cambridge, please explain to us why. In exceptional cases, we may be willing to allow you to have an online interview even if you are based in the UK.

We will be happy to provide overnight accommodation in College if travel to and from Cambridge in one day is not reasonably possible, or where interview procedures mean that you have to be here first thing in the morning or late into the afternoon. Meals and accommodation are provided free of charge. Unfortunately due to space constraints, we will not be able to accommodate those who can reasonably travel here and back in one day. For the same reason, we regret that it is not possible to provide meals or accommodation for accompanying parents or friends. If you wish to find accommodation elsewhere in Cambridge, please visit the Accommodation section of the Cambridge Visitor Information Centre website, at: https://www.visitcambridge.org/place-categories/accommodation/

If you do have an **online interview**, we will use the platform Zoom (https://www.zoom.com). Please register for an account if you do not have one already; there is no charge for this. You will need to have access to a stable internet connection, a computer and a video camera. You could join the interview from home, at your school, or in another location which will be accessible to you. If you anticipate any problems with this, please let us know, and we may be back in touch with further questions. We ask you to log in for each of your interviews 10 minutes in advance. You will be met there by some of our student helpers, who will make sure your technology is working well. When the interviewers are ready to meet you, you will be transferred into the virtual meeting room with them.

You must not share information that comes out of your interviews, nor permit others to share such information. This includes circulating to others the documents or images you receive (either in person or online) as part of your interview. Furthermore, you are strictly prohibited from recording the interviews or knowingly permitting others to record your interview. Trinity College would take any breach of this policy extremely seriously, and would ask UCAS to activate its authority to terminate your application, not only to the University of Cambridge but to all other universities to which you have applied in the UK.

The interviews themselves will be with one or more members of the teaching staff in the subject you have applied to study. All admissions interviews at Trinity are subject-specific and academically-focused. There is no dress code for interviews at Trinity - you are encouraged to wear whatever you find comfortable.

2) WRITTEN ASSESSMENTS

Some subjects have written assessments to be taken in mid-October. You will need to have registered by 15 September for Law, by 16 September for Medicine, and by 28 September for Chemical Engineering & Biotechnology, Computer Science, Economics, Engineering, Mathematics and Natural Sciences. These assessments have to be taken by all applicants, and the results form an important part of our decision on whether or not to call you for interview. It is important to notify us immediately if you are unable to attend an assessment that you were scheduled to take, and to explain why.

No subject other than those listed in the previous paragraph requires you to register for an assessment before you receive an invitation to interview. At that stage, though, in some subjects, candidates invited to interview will be asked to take a separate assessment usually in the weeks before your interview. More details are listed below with the relevant subject. **These assessments can be taken wherever you find most convenient – they do not need to be taken in a test centre or school.** You will be sent detailed instructions if you are invited for interview. In **History & Modern Languages, Linguistics and MML**, the assessment is taken under conditions of **remote invigilation**: that is, you will be asked to work on paper while you have a camera on. This is so that we can be confident no candidate is receiving assistance from someone else in taking the test. More details will be sent to you if you are invited for interview.

3) GRAPHICS TABLETS (and PAPER) for remote interviews

This section only applies if you are having a remote interview, which will principally be for students who are based outside the UK. You do not need to have a graphics tablet if you are being interviewed in-person.

For candidates being interviewed online in Chemical Engineering & Biotechnology, Computer Science, Engineering, Mathematics, Medicine and Natural Sciences, you will need to have access to a **graphics tablet** (or 'drawing tablet') to use in a remote interview. This could be an iPad or another device plugged into your computer. A typical such device is a Wacom One with a stylus (pen) which costs about £36.00 to purchase. This is so that we can see what you write during the interview, such as if we ask you to make some calculations. There is no need to buy anything other than a small sized device. If you are in a subject that requires a graphics tablet, and you have not used one before, we strongly recommend you practise with one before your interview.

For **Chemical Engineering & Biotechnology**, **Computer Science**, **Engineering**, **Medicine** and **Natural Sciences**, you will be using the interactive Zoom whiteboard feature during your interview, which enables both you and your interviewers to write on the same screen. To try this out, on Zoom, click 'share screen' (at the bottom, in green), then 'whiteboard', then 'share' (bottom right). For **Mathematics**, you will need to share your screen on Zoom to show your interviewers your working on your tablet. If you have an iPad you can share your screen via the 'share screen' button and click 'iPhone/iPad'. If you are using a separate drawing tablet, it is worth trying out a few different solutions to see which you are most comfortable with. For example, you could use note-making software such as Xournal++ (https://xournalpp.github.io/) or an image editor such as Krita (https://krita.org/), or use an online whiteboard system (such as Whiteboard.fi, Miro, MURAL, Limnu). On Zoom, you can again make these visible to your interviewer by clicking on 'share screen', then the relevant window, then 'share'. For Mathematics, the use of the Zoom inbuilt whiteboard feature is not recommended. **For all these subjects, the use of the tablet or iPad is essential: please do let us know if you envision any difficulties in obtaining one.** Applicants for **Mathematics** and **Natural Sciences** will also need a means through which to scan your answers (usually a phone). We recommend that you use a free app such as Genius Scan or CamScanner to create the upload files (you should avoid sending photos if possible). Further guidance on creating a pdf can be found at: https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/digital-document-upload. You may use a separate device (phone or iPad) to scan your answers.

For remote interviews in all subjects, it is useful to have some paper (for example, a notepad) and a pen to hand. In subjects that use a whiteboard, you may find it useful to write the questions down on paper before you start work on the whiteboard. For some subjects that are not using a whiteboard, you may want to write a note or two to remind yourself as your interviewers explain a problem to you.

4) DECISIONS AND THE JANUARY POOL

Our plan is to send you the decision about your application by **27 January 2027**. There is a small possibility that, if your application is placed in the Winter Pool, you may be invited for another interview in the week beginning 18 January 2027. Although this affects only about 5 of our applicants per year, it is important that we have both the address and a telephone number at which you can be contacted then. If you intend to be at the home address given on your application, no action is required; if you will be elsewhere, you must send us the details as soon as they are known. You should also let us know if you are not available for interview at this point in mid-January.

5) WRITTEN WORK

In some of the subject notes below, we say that you must upload recent essays. If this applies to your subject, then you are required to upload copies (or scans) of written work, on a link that will be provided to you. The scan of each piece submitted should be turned into a single pdf file with a cover sheet. The cover sheet and details of how to create a scan are available at:
https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/digital-document-upload
For all submitted work the following information applies, unless specifically stated otherwise in the subject information:

- The deadline for written work to be submitted is **Wednesday 4th November 2026**.
- On the written work, before you scan it, please number the pages.
- Unless specifically stated below, your written work may be marked or unmarked but it should be completed as part of your schoolwork. It is fine to submit a piece of work even if it is not linked to the subject you propose to study at Cambridge. In general, we would like to see work that best reflects your interests and abilities. We are deliberately flexible about this so that you are free to select pieces you would like us to read.
- It is best to submit recent work. However, the essays you submit do not have to have been written in your final year at school. For UK candidates, essays written for subjects in Year 12 would be fine if you have not yet produced anything suitable in Year 13. We do not expect gap year students to produce new work – please send in work from your A-levels (or equivalent).
- On the cover sheet, please provide the context in which you wrote each essay: how long you were given to do it, and whether or not you were allowed to use specific resources. **Please mention whether or how you used AI in writing this essay - in developing the ideas, in writing the text, or in checking it for accuracy.**
- Unless specified in the subject-specific notes, essays may be either handwritten or typed. We prefer that you submit your work exactly as you produced it at school/college. Accordingly, please do not worry about such details as formatting or whether or not you have included a bibliography.
- There is no word limit. Unless otherwise specified in the subject-specific notes, most candidates submit essays that are between 1,000 and 3,000 words long. When selecting work please note that we are looking for quality rather than quantity.
- All essays must be written in English (unless we have requested them to be written in another language that you are applying to study at Cambridge). If you don't have suitable essays in English, you may translate work written in another language. We do not mind whether you translate the work yourself or have it officially translated.

- Any essays you send in should be pieces of work that you would feel happy to discuss in an interview, as your interviewers may ask you follow-up questions on this work. It's a good idea to keep a copy of what you send to us as reference so that you can consult it before your interview.
- If, for any reason, you are unable to submit any written work, it is in your interests to write to us before the deadline to explain your circumstances.

Subject-specific Information

ANGLO-SAXON, NORSE AND CELTIC

- Upload two recent essays by **Wednesday 4th November 2026**.
- Please ensure that you have read about the ASNC Tripos via: https://www.asnc.cam.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/index.htm and consider having a look at a few items on the introductory reading list which you can access from that page. It would help if you have read two or three of the items on this list.
- There will be two separate interviews each of about 25 minutes with members of the ASNC Department. At least one of these, possibly both, may include reviewing and discussing a short text or image that will be shown to you during the interview.
- If your interviews are held online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

ARCHAEOLOGY

- Upload one recent essay by **Wednesday 4th November 2026**.
- You will have a single interview with two members of the teaching staff.
- You may be asked to look at an article that will be given to you before the interview. Further details will be provided to you if you are selected for interview.
- If your interview is held online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

ARCHITECTURE

- Please upload your sample artwork as a single 6-page PDF. Further guidance on what this artwork could include is at https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/courses/architecture#entry-requirements (in the section headed 'portfolio for interview'). Trinity has no further requirements to those listed in that section of the page. This document should be uploaded by **Wednesday 4th November 2026**.
- You will have one interview with the Director of Studies in Architecture and another member of the teaching staff.
- All applicants invited to interview for Architecture are required to take a graphic and spatial ability assessment before the interview. This will be held on **Wednesday 18th November 2026**. You sit this remotely in a 60-minute window for a **30-minute paper** and upload your answers. A specification and past papers can be found at https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/apply/after/college-assessments.
- You do not need to pre-register or pay any registration fee. The College will make the necessary arrangements and will let you know what they are.
- If your interview is held online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

ASIAN & MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

- Upload two recent, preferably marked, essays by **Wednesday 4th November 2026**.
- If you are invited to interview, you will be interviewed by the Director of Studies in Asian and Middle Eastern Studies and one other specialist in the area in which you have expressed interest. It is expected that you will have done some reading concerning the relevant culture(s).
- You will be asked to read a short text prior to interview, under invigilated conditions. If you are being interviewed in person, you will be given this to read at a specified time before your interview begins. If your interview is online, this will be sent to you by email at a set time before your interview, on the same day. Further details will be sent to you if you are selected for interview.
- If your interview is held online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

CHEMICAL ENGINEERING and BIOTECHNOLOGY

- All applicants for Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology take the Engineering and Science Admissions Test (ESAT) from **12th to 16th October 2026**. Details are available at: https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/apply/how/science-engineering-admission-test
- Candidates for interview will have two interviews with two different members of the Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology Department in each interview.
- If your interview is held online, you will need to have a graphics tablet for your interview (see p.3), as well as a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.
- You do not need to submit any written work for this subject.

CLASSICS

- Upload two examples of written work (such as essays, translations or compositions) by **Wednesday 4th November 2026**.
- You will have two interviews, each of about 25 minutes with different members of the teaching staff. During these interviews, you may be asked to discuss the work you have submitted.
- You will be asked to read a short text prior to the interviews, under invigilated conditions. If you are being interviewed in person, you will be given this to read at a specified time before your interview begins. If your interview is online, this will be sent to you by email at a set time before your interview, on the same day. Further details will be sent to you if you are selected for interview.
- You may also be interviewed by a Director of Studies in Classics in another college.
- All Classics applicants who are invited to interview are required to take a language assessment. Details are available at: https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/apply/after/college-assessments
- Candidates for the 3-year course who have passed, or are taking, A level Latin or the equivalent will be expected to take a language skills assessment interview focusing on Latin. This will form part of the programme of interviews organised by the College. Candidates with A level Latin who have also passed, or are taking, A level Greek, will be additionally administered a brief Greek passage for discussion (of the language and content) at the interview.
- Candidates for the 3-year course who do not have Latin A level or equivalent, but do have Greek, will take a language skills assessment interview focusing on Greek.
- If you are applying for the 4-year course, you will have a separate Language aptitude assessment interview.
- If your interviews are held online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

- All applicants are required to take the Test of Mathematics for University Admission (TMUA) from **12th to 16th October 2026**. Further details are at: https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/apply/how/maths-admission-test
- If you are invited to interview, you will be asked to take the Computer Science Admissions Test (CSAT) on **Monday 7th December 2026**. Detailed information regarding the CSAT, including advice on how to prepare and sample questions, can be found at https://openclimb.io/. More information will be sent to you about how you will take CSAT if you are invited to interview.
- You will have one interview with two members of the Computer Science staff. The interview will focus on scientific and mathematical topics.
- If your interview is held online, you will need to have a graphics tablet for your interview (see p.3), as well as a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.
- You do not need to submit any written work for this subject.

DESIGN

- Please upload your sample artwork as a single 6-page PDF. Further guidance on what this artwork could include is at https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/courses/design (in the section

headed 'portfolio'). Trinity has no further requirements to those listed in that section of the page. This document should be uploaded by **Wednesday 4th November 2026**.

- You will have one interview with the Director of Studies in Design and another member of the teaching staff.
- All applicants invited to interview for Design are required to take a graphic and spatial ability assessment before the interview. This will be held on **Wednesday 18th November 2026**. You sit this remotely in a 60-minute window for a **30-minute paper** and upload your answers. A specification and past papers can be found at https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/apply/after/college-assessments.
- You do not need to pre-register or pay any registration fee. The College will make the necessary arrangements and will let you know what they are.
- If your interview is held online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

ECONOMICS

- All applicants are required to take the Test of Mathematics for University Admission (TMUA) from **12th or 16th October 2026**. Details are available at: https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/apply/how/maths-admission-test
- You do not need to submit any written work for this subject.
- If you are invited to interview, you will have one interview with two interviewers, led by a member of the teaching staff in Economics.
- You will be asked to read a short article prior to interview. If you are being interviewed in person, you will be given this to read at a specified time before your interview begins. If your interview is online, this will be sent to you by email at a set time before your interview, on the same day. Further details will be sent to you if you are selected for interview. Approximately half of your interview will be spent discussing this article, and the remainder of the time will be spent discussing various problems assigned in the interview.
- You may be required to use standard mathematical techniques during the course of the interview, but this will not require knowledge beyond that covered in the first year of the A-level mathematics course (or equivalent). If you are being interviewed online, you should have a paper and pen with you, and should expect to have to work on that, while describing to the interviewer what you are doing, and be prepared to show the paper on the video camera when requested.
- If you are being interviewed online, you do not need any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

ENGINEERING

- All applicants are required to take the Engineering and Science Admissions Test (ESAT) from **12th to 16th October 2026**. Details are available at: https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/apply/how/science-engineering-admission-test
- Candidates for interview will have two interviews each of about 30 minutes with different members of the teaching staff. One of these interviews will focus on working through engineering problems (examples of the type of problems that may be asked are here: trin.cam.ac.uk/download/engineering-interview/?wpdmdl=30413&masterkey=6094042f1b8e3; note that there will not be a test prior to the interview), while the other interview will ask you more general questions about problems to do with engineering.
- If you are being interviewed online, you will need to have a graphics tablet for your interview (see p.3), as well as a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.
- You do not need to submit any written work for this subject.

ENGLISH

- Upload two recent **marked** essays by **Wednesday 4th November 2026**. One of these essays, preferably, should be on work(s) by Shakespeare. The essays should be of no more than 2,000

words each, including any footnotes (though not including a bibliography, if you have one). The marking should be visible on the documents.

- Those invited for interview will receive two interviews. In one of the interviews, you will be asked more general questions about your reading and thinking. You may also be asked about the personal statement and the recent essay that you submitted in advance. During the other interview, we will ask you about one or two short pieces of writing that will be shown to you in the interview itself, and which we expect you will not have previously seen. This might be poetry, or prose, or both.
- If you are being interviewed online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

ENVIRONMENT, LAW & ECONOMICS

- You will have interviews with our Director of Studies in Environment, Law & Economics and a member of the Economics teaching staff. You will be asked to look at an article that will be provided to you in advance at a certain time on the same day as your interview. If you are being interviewed online, this article will be sent to you by email; otherwise, you will collect it in person. Further details will be provided to you if you are selected for interview.
- You do not need to submit any essays for this subject.
- If you are being interviewed online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

GEOGRAPHY

- You will have a single interview with two members of the teaching staff.
- You may be asked to look at an article that will be given to you before the interview. Further details will be provided to you if you are selected for interview.
- You do not need to submit any essays for this subject.
- If you are being interviewed online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

HISTORY

- Upload two recent essays by **Wednesday 4th November 2026** on different historical subjects. Ideally one would be written under timed conditions, and the other done over a more protracted period of time. Work marked by a teacher is preferable.
- There will be two separate interviews each of at least 25 minutes with members of the History staff. In one interview there will be a discussion of questions arising from the two essays you have submitted and of general historical matters, which may include those raised by you in your personal statement.
- In the other interview you will be asked to review a set of written historical documents provided to you in advance at a certain time on the same day as your interview. If you are being interviewed online, these documents will be sent to you by email; otherwise, you will collect them in person. You will be asked to write a brief report on those documents which you will provide at the start of the interview; you will further discuss the documents in the interview. You may also be invited to discuss a historical image provided in the interview. Further details will be sent to you if you are selected for interview.
- If you are being interviewed online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

HISTORY & MODERN LANGUAGES

- Upload two recent essays by **Wednesday 4th November 2026**. One of these should be on a historical subject and one in the language you wish to study.
- If you are selected for interview, you will be asked to take a modern languages test before your interview. This will be held on **Thursday 19th November 2026**. The assessment will be invigilated via Zoom. A specification and past papers can be found at:

https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/apply/after/college-assessments.
You do not need to pre-register or pay any registration fee. The College will make the necessary arrangements and will let you know what they are.

- There will be two interviews, one in each subject. For the History interview you will be asked to review a set of written historical documents provided to you in advance at a certain time on the same day as your interview. If you are being interviewed online, these documents will be sent to you by email; otherwise, you will collect them in person. You will be asked to write a brief report on those documents which you will provide at the start of the interview; you will further discuss the documents in the interview. You may also be invited to discuss a historical image provided in the interview. You will also be asked questions arising from your submitted History essay. Further details will be sent to you if you are selected for interview.
- For the Modern Languages interview, see the description under 'Modern and Medieval Languages', below.
- If you are being interviewed online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

HISTORY & POLITICS

- Upload two different recent essays on historical and/or political subjects, by **Wednesday 4th November 2026**. We encourage you to submit a coursework essay or dissertation, not a text of short answers or a piece of personal reflections. If your schoolwork does not include essays, it is best to ask your teacher to set you an essay to write in your own time, and to explain this on the coversheet.
- You can expect to have two interviews, each lasting between 25 and 40 minutes. The Politics interview may involve asking you to review and discuss short texts that will be provided to you during it.
- For the History interview you will be asked to review documents provided to you in advance at a certain time on the same day as your interview. If you are being interviewed online, these documents will be sent to you by email; otherwise, you will collect them in person. You will be asked to write a brief report on those documents which you will provide at the start of the interview; you will further discuss the documents in the interview. You will also be asked historical questions arising from one or both of your submitted essays and from your personal statement. Further details will be sent to you if you are selected for interview.
- If you are being interviewed online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

HISTORY OF ART

- You will have one interview of about 30 minutes with the Acting Director of Studies in History of Art and another member of the teaching staff.
- You do not need to submit any essays for this subject.
- If you are being interviewed online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

HUMAN, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES

- Upload two recent essays by **Wednesday 4th November 2026**. We encourage you to submit a coursework essay or dissertation, not a text of short answers or a piece of personal reflections. If your schoolwork doesn't include essays, it is best to ask a teacher to set you an essay to write, and to explain this on the coversheet.
- You should indicate at https://www.trin.cam.ac.uk/undergraduate/applying/information-for-current-applicants/hsps-preferences/ whether you are primarily interested at the moment in Social Anthropology, Politics and International Relations, or Sociology. This is purely so that we can plan suitable questions for your interview. Please enter your choices as soon as possible and by **Friday 23rd October 2026** at the latest.

- You can expect to have two interviews, each lasting between 25 and 40 minutes. In one of these, you will be asked to review and discuss a short text that will be provided to you during the interview.
- If you are being interviewed online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

LAW

- All applicants are required to take the National Admissions test for Law (LNAT) no later than **15th October**. Details are available at: https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/apply/how/law-admission-test
- If you are invited to interview, you will have two interviews, each with two interviewers, led by a member of the teaching staff in Law, and lasting about 25 minutes. One interview will incorporate discussion of a piece of legislation and its application. For this interview, a document containing instructions and all necessary materials will be provided to you 30 minutes before the interview: if you are interviewed online, the document will be sent by email; otherwise, you will collect it in person. The other interview will incorporate discussion of a short scenario, which will be communicated to you during the interview.
- You do not need to submit any school essays for this subject.
- If you are being interviewed online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.
- Prior knowledge of, or education or training in, Law is not expected or required of candidates.

LINGUISTICS

- You will be asked to take a written assessment prior to your interview. This will be held on **Tuesday 17th November 2026**. The assessment will be invigilated via Zoom. You do not need to pre-register or pay any registration fee. The College will make the necessary arrangements and will let you know what they are. Further details are available at: https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/apply/after/college-assessments.
- If you are invited to interview, you will have one interview with two members of the teaching staff.
- You do not need to submit any essays for this subject.
- If you are being interviewed online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

LINGUISTICS & MODERN LANGUAGES

- Upload two recent pieces of coursework from your A levels (or equivalent qualifications) by **Wednesday 4th November 2026**. At least one should be in a foreign language. This should be standard coursework, with your teacher's comments. It helps us to find out more about you before we see you; we do not normally discuss it at interview.
- You will be asked to take a written assessment prior to your interview. This will be held on **Tuesday 17th November 2026**. The assessment will be invigilated via Zoom. You do not need to pre-register or pay any registration fee. The College will make the necessary arrangements and will let you know what they are. Further details are available at: https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/apply/after/college-assessments.
- If you are invited to interview, you will have one interview with two members of the teaching staff.
- If you are being interviewed online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

MATHEMATICS

- **Applicants studying in the UK:** You must take the Test of Mathematics for University Admission (TMUA) from **12th or 16th October 2026**. Details are available at: https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/apply/how/maths-admission-test. It is important to know that we do not treat the results of the TMUA in isolation: we see it as something to give

us a wider understanding of your mathematical abilities, along with your formal UCAS application.

Applicants studying overseas: Taking the TMUA is optional, as we recognise that access to test centres and arrangements/associated costs for sitting the test may vary internationally. As a result, whether or not you take this test will have no bearing at all on whether or not you are selected for interview or whether or not you receive an admissions offer, and it will also have no bearing at all on any decisions about scholarships or financial support from Trinity. However, for overseas applicants, the TMUA results may improve your chances if your application is put into the 'pool' for other colleges to consider, or if you are applying for funding to a non-Trinity-related body and the funding body wants to know your TMUA score. So we encourage applicants based overseas to take the test if they can afford it and it does not cause excessive practical difficulties.

- If you are invited to interview, you will be asked to take a mathematics test during the hour before your interview time. The problems are of varying levels of difficulty: some may be easy and others could be hard. We hope you will tackle as many as you can in the time allotted. You will be expected to work out your solutions without the aid of notes, books or calculators but conditions otherwise will be as informal as we can make them. You should try to finish questions as completely as you are able to. More information and examples of past test papers can be found on the College website at:
  https://www.trin.cam.ac.uk/subjects/mathematics/
- You will then have a single 45-minute interview with two members of the Mathematics teaching staff, based in part on what you have done in the mathematics test.
- **If you are having the interview in-person**, you will sit the test in a specified room in the College, and go over to the interview room at the appropriate time.
- **If you are having the interview online**, the test questions will be provided to you at the start of a Zoom session, and your work on them will be invigilated (that is, you must have your camera on and be visible as you work through the problems). You will then be moved from this session to your interview at the appropriate time. For these students, you will need to have a graphics tablet for your interview (see the specific advice for mathematics on p.3), as well as a computer, a webcam, a stable internet connection and a means through which to scan your answers (usually a phone).
- You do not need to submit any written work for this subject.

MEDICINE

- All applicants are required to take the University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT) by **24h September 2026**. Further details are available at:
  https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/apply/how/medicine-admission-test
- There will be two interviews, each with members of the teaching staff in Medicine.
- If you are being interviewed online, you will need to have a graphics tablet for your interviews (see p.3), as well as a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.
- You do not need to submit any written work for this subject.

MODERN AND MEDIEVAL LANGUAGES

- Upload two recent pieces of coursework from your A levels (or equivalent qualifications) by **Wednesday 4th November 2026**. At least one should be in a foreign language. This should be standard coursework, with your teacher's comments. It helps us to find out more about you before we see you; we do not normally discuss it at interview.
- If you are selected for interview, you will be asked to take a modern languages test on **Thursday 19th November 2026**. The assessment will be invigilated via Zoom. You do not need to pre-register or pay any registration fee. The College will make the necessary arrangements and will let you know what they are.
- There will be two interviews, one for each of the languages you intend to study at Cambridge. Each interview will last around 30 minutes and will include the following:

(a) Discussion (in English) of a short text which may be literary or non-literary, prose or poetry. You will be provided with these texts at a certain time in advance of each interview, in order to read through them. For a language you are studying at A level, the text will be in the foreign language. You can expect to be asked questions about the language as well as the content; the aim is to provide you with an opportunity to show us your abilities as a language-learner and as a reader and interpreter of texts. For a language you are planning to take *ab initio*, you will be given either a simple passage in the foreign language (if you already have some knowledge of it) or one in English but related to the culture of the language in question.

(b) There will be a short conversation in a language you are already studying. The conversation will be geared to your current level of knowledge (e.g. A level, GCSE).

- If you are being interviewed online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

MUSIC

- You must upload **two examples** of recent written work or compositions. At least one of these should be an essay (although it does not have to be about music, if that is not possible on the basis of your A-Level syllabus). This should be done by **Wednesday 4th November 2026**.
- If you wish, you may also send in links to two videos of you playing.
- If you are selected for interview, you will be asked to take an extended test prior to your interviews. In one part of the test, you will be required to harmonize a Bach chorale melody. In the second part, you will take an analysis test where you will be asked to write about a short piece of music. This test will be taken under conditions of invigilation, either in person in Trinity or remotely (see pp.2-3, above). Further details will be sent to you if you are invited for interview.
- You will have two separate interviews each of about 20-30 minutes with members of the Music staff.
- Before one of your interviews, you will be given 15 minutes to read a short piece of academic writing about music (of about 2 or 3 pages). A portion of the interview will then be related to questions arising from your comprehension of the excerpt.
- If you are being interviewed online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection. However, please note that we strongly encourage all applicants for Music to attend for interview in-person.

NATURAL SCIENCES

- All applicants are required to take the Engineering and Science Admissions Test (ESAT) from **12th to 16th October 2026**. Details are available at: https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/apply/how/science-engineering-admission-test
- You should visit https://www.trin.cam.ac.uk/undergraduate/applying/information-for-current-applicants/natsci-preferences/ by **Friday 23rd October 2026**. On this site, you should:
  (a) specify the subject which represents your main interest from a choice of Biology, Chemistry or Physics. This is to help us select an interview format and suitable interviewers for you.
  (b) confirm which science subjects you are currently taking at school or have already taken to A-level (or equivalent); this is used only as a cross-check against your UCAS application.
  (c) indicate which Part IA and Part II options you would choose if you had to make a decision now. This information is not binding and is only used for administrative purposes.
- If you are selected for interview, you will sit an interview preparation paper, with questions that are tailored to your subject interests. Further information and sample questions are available at: https://www.trin.cam.ac.uk/download/nst-booklet/?wpdmdl=33061&masterkey=60ac04d600734.
- **If you are having the interview in-person**, you will sit the test under invigilated conditions in a specified room in the College, and will go over to the interview room at the appropriate time.
- **If you are having the interview online**, the test questions will be provided to you at the start of a Zoom session, and your work on them will be invigilated (that is, you must have your camera on

and be visible as you work through the problems). You will then be moved from this session to your interview at the appropriate time. For these interviews, you will need to have a graphics tablet (see p.3), as well as a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection, and a means through which to scan your answers (usually a phone).
- You do not need to submit any written work for this subject.

PHILOSOPHY

- You will have a single interview with two Cambridge philosophers.
- Before your interview, you will be asked to write an essay in response to a question or short passage that you will choose from a small selection offered to you. If you are having the interview in-person, you will write the essay under invigilated conditions in a specified room in the College, and will go over to the interview room from there at the appropriate time. If you are having the interview online, the questions will be provided to you at the start of a Zoom session, and you will be invigilated remotely on Zoom as you write the essay. Whether you are being interviewed in person or on-line, essays should be handwritten within a one-hour slot, unless you notify us in advance that you have specific access requirements; if so, we will consider what reasonable adjustments can be permitted.
- You will find some suggested introductory reading linked from this page: https://www.trin.cam.ac.uk/subjects/philosophy/
- You do not need to submit any essays in advance for this subject.
- If you are being interviewed online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond pen and paper, a computer, a webcam, a stable internet connection, and a means through which to scan your essay (usually a phone).

PSYCHOLOGICAL AND BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCES

- You will have a single interview with two members of the teaching staff.
- You do not need to submit any written work for this subject.
- If you are being interviewed online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

THEOLOGY, RELIGION, AND PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

- Upload two recent essays by **Wednesday 4th November 2026**.
- You will have a single interview with two members of the teaching staff. You may also have a separate interview with the Director of Studies in Theology at another College.
- If you are being interviewed online, there is no need for any additional technology beyond a computer, a webcam and a stable internet connection.

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CB2 1TQ

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Email: admissions@trin.cam.ac.uk
Applicant information web page:
https://www.trin.cam.ac.uk/undergraduate/applying/information-for-current-applicants/