

**Marian Cox**

Cambridge Checkpoint  
**English**

Coursebook

**9**



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# Introduction

Welcome to Cambridge Checkpoint English Stage 9.

The Cambridge Checkpoint English course covers the Cambridge Secondary 1 English framework and is divided into three stages: 7, 8 and 9. This book covers all you need to know for stage 9.

There are two more books in the series to cover stages 7 and 8, which have a different focus. Together they will give you a firm foundation in English.

During the year, your teacher may ask you to take a **Progression** test to find out how well you are doing. This book will help you to learn how to apply your knowledge of language and your skills in reading and writing in order to do well in the test. At the end of the year you will be asked to do a **Checkpoint** test to find out how much you have learnt over all three stages.

The framework's focus for stage 9 is **Argument and discussion**, and the study of persuasive and informative texts. The curriculum is presented in fiction and non-fiction content areas, and the skills are divided into Language (phonics, spelling and vocabulary, grammar and punctuation), Reading, Writing, and Speaking and Listening. There is no assessment of Speaking and Listening in the Progression tests or the Checkpoint test, but these skills, practised as individual, pair, group and class activities, are developed in all the units.

The topic for this book is **A world view**. The content is about viewpoints and opinions, and about how facts and ideas are presented.

This book has 12 units, each of which is a mixture of fiction and non-fiction passages and activities. There are no clear dividing lines between language and literature, or between reading and writing skills. Skills learnt in one unit are often applied in other units. There is, however, some progression in the order in which the skills are introduced, and you will be revisiting the skills practised in stage 7 and stage 8.

Each unit starts with an introduction which will prepare you for what you will learn in the unit, and a starter activity to get you thinking and talking. Each unit contains several kinds of passage and asks you to practise several skills. **Key points** explain rules and give information about aspects of reading and writing. **Tip** boxes provide help with specific activities. The activities are separated into stages to give you support. At the end of each unit you will be asked to do a piece of extended writing to give you the opportunity to practise the kind of writing you will be asked to do in the Checkpoint test. Other kinds of writing will be included in the activities. You will also practise reading the kinds of passage which are included in the Checkpoint test, and you will learn to read closely so that you notice the details of the content and of the language of what you read.

There are many different types of verse and prose in this book, and your knowledge of literature will be developed as well as your language skills. You will discuss ideas and methods with other students as well as with your teacher. These discussions are an important part of developing both your language skills and your understanding of literature. The contents list on page iii tells you what kinds of reading passage and writing activities occur in each unit.

We hope the course will be enjoyable and will help you to feel confident about responding to and using English in a variety of ways.

