



# Rockledge Cambridge Program NEWSLETTER

September 2023



Founders Entrance, The Fitzwilliam Museum

## It's Time To Shine

Now that you've had a few weeks to adjust to the new school year, it's time to take a moment and evaluate. A strong start to the school year means staying on top of...everything. This can seem overwhelming at times, so it is essential that you establish a good work ethic and good study habits now.

If you are struggling, ask for help. Talk to your teachers, find a study partner, go to tutoring sessions before school. Waiting and hoping things will simply make sense eventually is not a solution that will work. You must commit to being successful. And remember, being successful does not simply mean you get an A on a quiz or test. Sometimes, your success is going to come from failing, figuring out why you failed, and finding a way to do better on your next attempt.

This year is YOUR year to **SHINE**. Be willing to make any needed changes and be honest with yourself so you can be the best student YOU can be.

## VISIT THE RHS CAMBRIDGE WEBSITE

The Cambridge pages on the RHS website contain valuable information on a variety of topics including college application essay writing information, articles about the benefits of the Cambridge program, study resources for students, announcements and other important documents.

To visit the Cambridge pages, go to the RHS website, and click on ACADEMICS at the top of the page. Then, click on CAMBRIDGE PROGRAM on the left hand side under OVERVIEW.

## Important Upcoming Dates

- **Interims Available on FOCUS** - September 14
- **Cambridge AICE Test Retake Paperwork Deadline** - September 15
- **PSAT School Day Test** - October 4
- **ACT Test** - September 9, October 28, December 9
- **SAT Test** - October 7, November 4, December 2

# The AICE Diploma and Bright Futures - Why?

One of the most commonly asked questions Mrs. Matthews and Mrs. Krajewski hear when they talk about the Cambridge AICE Diploma is “Why?” Earning an AICE diploma requires you to take 7 different rigorous AICE courses and pass their corresponding college-level exams. And, you have to complete this within 3 school years. “So why do that?” many prospective students and their parents ask.

If you polled our current AICE-diploma seeking students at RHS, almost all (if not all) of them would tell you that they are working towards their AICE diploma for 3 reasons:

1. Our rigorous AICE courses are helping to prepare them for college.
2. Each passed AICE exam earns at least 3 college credits, so an AICE diploma means leaving RHS with at least 21 college credits.
3. The AICE Diploma is an automatic qualifier for the Bright Futures Scholarship (with the completion of 100 hours of community service), regardless of SAT/ACT score..

Of those 3 reasons, students usually focus on #3 the most. The Bright Futures Scholarship is an academic-based scholarship funded by the state of Florida. Students who earn the highest level of the Bright Futures Scholarship have 100% of their tuition and tuition-related fees covered by this scholarship. This means that the only expenses students who earn the highest level of the scholarship are responsible for are room and board, books, and non-tuition related fees..

And while that sounds great, some still ask, “But why use an AICE Diploma in order to earn this scholarship? Can’t I earn a Bright Futures Scholarship by getting good grades and a good SAT or ACT test score?”

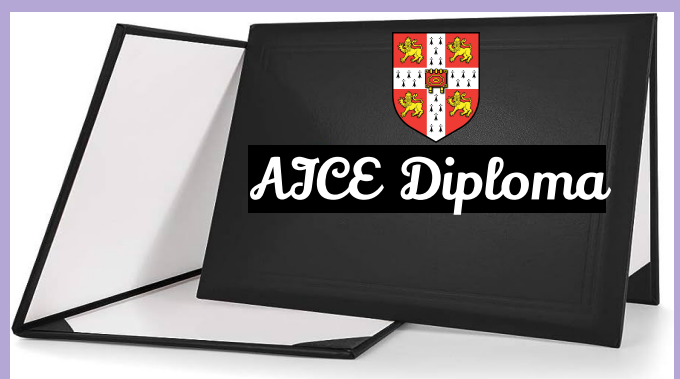
Yes, you can earn the highest level of the Bright Futures Scholarship with a 3.5 GPA in specific academic classes and by earning a 1340 on the SAT or 29 on the ACT. However, the SAT and ACT scores are what keep most students from earning the Bright Futures Scholarship. The 2022 national SAT average score was 1105. The 2022 Florida SAT average score was 983. The 2022 national ACT average score was 22. The 2022 Florida ACT average score was 19.

**Students who earn an AICE diploma are NOT required to meet the SAT/ACT score requirement for the Bright Futures Scholarship.** Students who earn an AICE Diploma and complete the required 100 community service hours, earn the highest level of the Bright Futures Scholarship. In the RHS class of 2022, 64 students earned the Bright Futures Scholarship. Of those 64 students, only 11 would have qualified based on GPA and SAT/ACT scores.

So, is earning the AICE Diploma easy? No.

Does trying to earn the AICE diploma require commitment and hard work? Yes.

Is it worth it? The 982 RHS students who have earned their AICE diploma since 2007 say yes.



# Are You Ready for a Digital PSAT & SAT Test?



On October 4, all 10th graders and some 11th graders will take the PSAT. This year's PSAT will be a unique experience as it will be the first digital version of the exam given on a school day testing session. Likewise, the SAT will go fully digital in its testing at some point in early 2024, with all students taking the test on a laptop or desktop computer.

## What will be different on the digital SAT and PSAT?

- The digital PSAT and SAT tests will be adaptive. This means that students will take one reading/writing question module and the second reading/writing question module will vary between students depending on how they performed on the first section. For example, students who perform well on the first module will receive more difficult questions on the second module. The math section will also have this same format.
- The digital PSAT and SAT tests will have an increased emphasis on vocabulary.
- The tests will have 2 sections: reading & writing and math. There will be a 10-minute break between sections.
- Calculators will be permitted for the entire math section.
- The digital PSAT and SAT tests will be shorter. The new digital versions will take about 2 hours.
- Students will have more time per question.
- Reading passages will be shorter.
- Scores will be available more quickly.
- The digital PSAT and SAT will offer several useful digital tools including
  - an in-app calculator
  - answer eliminator - students will be able to eliminate answers on-screen
  - mark for review flag - students will be allowed to flag challenging questions, move on with the test, and come back to those questions later
  - timer - an in-app timer shows a countdown of the time remaining. Students will be able to minimize or hide the timer if it's distracting.
  - reference sheet and annotation features - students can use the reference sheet tool to access a list of common formulas for the math section. Students can also highlight any part of a question and leave notes with the annotation tool.

## What will be the same on the digital SAT and PSAT?

- Both tests will still test the same fundamental skills. Students will need to demonstrate skills in reading comprehension, grammar & editing, and mathematical problem solving.
- Scores will remain the same. The SAT will be out of 1600, and the PSAT out of 1520.
- College Board will continue to provide free resources on Khan Academy.

# Your High School



As the fall semester of school starts, our seniors are thinking of more than pumpkin spice, football and leaves that are changing colors. They are starting to apply to colleges and starting to think about their career paths for the future. There are many items that have had a direct impact in getting them to this point in their journey. This journey did not begin in August when they became seniors. It took all four years of high school to lay the framework for what college admissions officers take into consideration when students apply to their universities.

The two most important items in this journey that admissions officers look at are the rigor of classes a student takes during all four years of high school and the grades a student makes while taking these classes. Kaila Barber, a member of the College Essay Guy's Quality Control Team, blogs that you "should think of your grades and courses as the roadmap of your high school journey."

Since our seniors are typically applying to colleges in the months of September and October, the only Grade Point Averages (GPAs) that are looked at for admissions come from their Freshman, Sophomore and Junior years. This is why the grades you earn in your classes during freshman year are so important. We understand that the GPA does not define you as a person, but a good one allows you more opportunities than a lower one will. And, you want a strong start to your academic career.

All years matter when it come to your GPA and the type of classes you take highly impact your GPA as well. For example, If you are taking regular classes, they are weighted on a 4 point scale. An A in English 1 with give you 4 points towards your GPA. Honors, Pre-AICE, and AICE classes are weighted more heavily. An A in English 1 Honors or Pre-AICE English Language with give you a 4.5 towards your GPA and an A in AICE General Paper will give you a 5 towards your GPA.

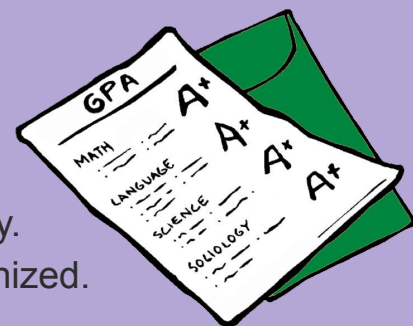
A's and some B's are an amazing way to boost your GPA but C's and D's are GPA killers. A regular C is weighted as 2 points towards your GPA. C's collectively bring a GPA down.

And for those who are taking classes at Eastern Florida State College, remember that the grades you earn in your classes there count not only towards your high school GPA but also your college GPA. Grades in AICE classes, on the other hand, count only towards your high school GPA.

We would like to challenge you to push yourself academically and continue on a positive trajectory towards a great GPA. Here are some suggestions that may help you boost that GPA to where you want it to be.

## How to raise your GPA

- Attend tutoring sessions.
- Speak with your teachers.
- Set goals for yourself.
- Turn in assignments on time.
- Join a study group.
- Study topics as you go.
- Improve your note-taking skills.
- Ask questions during class.
- Use past tests to study.
- Keep everything organized.
- Use teacher feedback.
- Put extra effort into assignments.
- Work with high-GPA peers.
- Use available educational websites and apps.



# Fall To-Do List for Seniors

- ❑ Get Involved, from extracurriculars to internships/ part-time jobs.
- ❑ When possible, visit target schools.
- ❑ Narrow down your college list to those to which you will apply.
- ❑ Work toward a great finish in high school.
- ❑ Register for, prep for, and take standardized tests.
- ❑ Create a Calendar of important dates in the scholarship, financial aid, and college application processes.
- ❑ Give providers final notice (at least two weeks) on when you will need recommendation letters.
- ❑ Reconnect with your guidance counselor to discuss scholarship and admissions options.
- ❑ Prep for ACT/SAT do-overs if there's room for improvement.
- ❑ Create a Common App account.
- ❑ Write your application essays. Tailor them to the schools you're targeting.
- ❑ Submit Early Decision or Early Action applications.
- ❑ Apply for financial aid if needed. Regardless of need, do the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) paperwork as soon as possible.
- ❑ Keep executing your scholarship search.

## Join the PASS Club

**When?**  
Monday-Thursday  
from 7:45 to 8:30 a.m.

**Where?**  
Mrs. K's room 34-312  
on Mon, Wed, Thurs  
Mr. Kuhblank's room  
34-112 on Tuesdays

**Who?**  
Join Remind with code:  
@2b8a4d

Scan for  
Permission Slip:



Bring Signed To Attend  
Questions? Text: (321)-301-5549



**What's P.A.S.S. Club?**

P.A.S.S. Club is a student-led tutoring club that provides academic assistance to anyone who is a part of the club.

At P.A.S.S. Club, members can come before school to receive help on any subject taught at Rockledge High School. The club will also offer SAT/PSAT tutoring through the creation of personalized study plans that are tailored to each individual's needs.

**ROCKLEDGE HIGH SCHOOL**



**P.A.S.S. CLUB**

Make Learning Easier With  
Peer Assisted Study Sessions

# Applying To Colleges Via the



The fall is a busy time for seniors, especially for those who are in the process of applying to colleges. The Common App is accepted by more than 1,000 schools to help students streamline the college admissions process. The website allows students to apply to multiple colleges at once and eliminates the need to fill in some of the same information over and over on different applications.

## How it works

1

### Create your profile

Your Common App profile is your chance to shine. It's everything you want a college or university to know about you – from your academic coursework to your extracurricular activities.

2

### Add colleges to your list

Now you get to decide what's most important to you in a college or university. Search through the characteristics and add colleges that align with them.

3

### Gather requirements

Once you've decided where you want to apply, make a checklist of everything required. Each college and university is different, so make sure you stay on top of their application requirements.

4

### Submit applications

Be sure to take a moment to celebrate this huge accomplishment! And remember to finish the academic year on a high note, apply for financial aid and prepare for the future.

The new edition of the Common App opens August 1 every year. Because college application deadlines vary widely, you **MUST** pay close attention to when you need to submit all the necessary materials.

Here are the steps for how you can work on an application on Common App:

- Go to [commonapp.org](https://commonapp.org)
- Click "Start Your Application" to get details about how to create an account and log in
- Choose first-year student
- Add user information such as name, email, phone number, address, date of birth, and prospective enrollment year
- Fill out user profile with requested details
- Add collaborators such as teachers, counselors, and any others who might be providing letters of recommendation or other supporting documents
- Search for and add schools to "My Colleges"
- Look at each college's application requirements and follow those accordingly when applying.

**Remember that while the Common App website is free to use, many colleges have application fees that must be paid before your application can be processed.**

# COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINES

REGULAR DECISION	DEC 01	FINAL CREDENTIALS DEADLINES	DEC 01
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APPLICATION DECISIONS	FEB 15
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FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

# COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINES

FRESHMAN SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE	NOV 01	SUMMER APPLICATION DEADLINE	MAR 01
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DEPOSIT DEADLINE	MAY 01
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UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY

Application deadline information put together by Nicole Dixon

# COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINES

PRIORITY APPLICATION DEADLINE	NOV 01	SSAR PRIORITY COMPLETION DEADLINE	JAN 15
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FINAL APPLICATION DEADLINE	MAR 01
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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

# COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINES

PRIORITY APPLICATION DEADLINE	NOV 01	PRIORITY DECISION RELEASE	NOV 15
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APPLICATION DEADLINE	APR 01
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UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA

Please Note that universities may have early decision deadlines not listed. Also note that universities commit their financial aid resources early so waiting until the deadline could mean you won't have access to some scholarships.

# COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINES

FALL FRESHMEN APPLICATION	MAY 01	SPRING FRESHMEN APPLICATION	NOV 01
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SUMMER FRESHMEN APPLICATION	MAR 01
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UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

# COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINES

EARLY DECISION I	NOV 01	FINAL CREDENTIALS DEADLINES	DEC 01
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APPLICATION DECISIONS	JAN 01
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UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

# COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINES

PRIORITY APPLICATION DEADLINE

NOV 01

FIRST YEAR MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CONSIDERATION

JAN 15

FINAL APPLICATION DEADLINE

APR 01



FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

# COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINES

APPLICATION IS DUE

NOV 01

STUDENT SELF-REPORTED ACADEMIC RECORD (SSAR)

NOV 15

DEPOSIT DEADLINE

MAY 01



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

# COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINES

PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

OCT 15

SUMMER 2024 DEADLINE

MAR 01

FALL 2024 DEADLINE

APR 01



FLORIDA AGRICULTURE & MECHANICAL UNIVERSITY

# COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINES

COMPLETED APPLICATION

OCT 23

2-6 PM

OFFICIAL TEST SCORES & TRANSCRIPTS

NOV 07

APPLICATION DECISIONS ARE OUT

NOV 15



FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

# COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINES

PRIORITY APPLICATION DEADLINE

DEC 01

SCHOLARSHIP PRIORITY DEADLINE

DEC 01

FINAL APPLICATION DEADLINE

JUL 03



UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA

# COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINES

EARLY ACTION | ALEXANDER & PROVOST SCHOLARSHIPS DEADLINE

NOV 15

FAFSA PRIORITY DEADLINE

FEB 01

DEPOSIT DEADLINE

MAY 01



FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY



# NORTH BREVARD COLLEGE & CAREER FAIR

**Monday, September 25th  
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

*Meet with college & career  
representatives 1-on-1*



**REGISTER TODAY!**  
[scholartrek.com/brevard](https://scholartrek.com/brevard)



**2023 Host Site:**  
**Space Coast Jr/Sr High School**



# SOUTH/CENTRAL BREVARD COLLEGE & CAREER FAIR

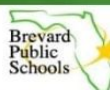
**Tuesday, September 26th  
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**



*Meet with college & career  
representatives 1-on-1*



**REGISTER TODAY!**  
[scholartrek.com/brevard](https://scholartrek.com/brevard)



**2023 Host Site:**  
**Melbourne Auditorium**







# College Admissions Essays - Tips for Writing a Strong Essay

## Is the college admissions essay really important? YES!!!

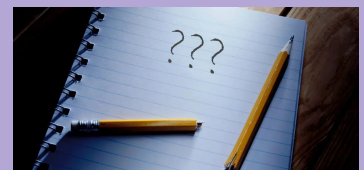
- Paula LaManna with University of Cincinnati says, “The advice that I give to students is to think of this essay as your interview. We would love to meet and interview all of our applicants, but we are unable to do so. This is your opportunity to tell us about you - the person outside of your grades and GPA.”
- Karen Richardson, admissions dean at Tufts University in Massachusetts says that in a college essay, “we’re actually listening for a student’s voice, trying to figure out who they would be on our campus.”
- Ellen Kim, dean of undergraduate admissions at Maryland’s Johns Hopkins University says, “You can think of the essay as the soul of the application. While we recognize that it takes years of hard work and dedication to build a strong college application over a high school career, what helps an admissions committee picture you in our classrooms, in our clubs, and in our community is your own voice and perspective. The essay is a space for us to see that come to life.”
- **A well-written application essay could tip an admission decision in your favor**

## General Tips for Essay

- Showcase your personality - this is your chance to talk directly to the admissions office and show who you are as a person
- Be concise, coherent, pleasant, honest, and accurate
- Stay within given word count
- Write the essay in YOUR VOICE - Be and Sound like Yourself!
  - Don’t use words you wouldn’t normally use or write in a style that is not reflective of you
  - Sell yourself as you are, so that your writing & having a conversation with you feel the same

## What should you write about?

- Avoid re-stating your resume or writing about your entire life’s history
  - "A good essay to me, in general, is one where I learn something about the student that I wouldn't learn elsewhere in the application," says Monica Inzer, vice president for enrollment management at Hamilton College in New York.
- This is not an autobiography - keep a narrow focus - write about something that’s important to you
  - Write about a specific experience, hobby, or quirk that reveals something personal about you, like how you think, what you value, or what your strengths are. Choose something that has had an impact on your life.
    - Tell a story that offers insight into who you are as a person
    - Think carefully before writing about a negative experience or personal weakness - you want your essay to portray you positively
    - Keep your essay’s focus on you
    - You don’t have to discuss a major achievement in your essay. A memorable essay can be on a seemingly ordinary topic like fly-fishing, your commute to and from school, or an important object



## Example Essay Topics

- A Defining Moment, Experience, or Realization: An experience that changed your perspective
- Someone Who Has Greatly Influenced You: A person who changed your life for the better
- A Key Part of Your Identity: An important aspect about you that you wish more people knew
- Your Biggest Passion or A Unique Hobby: A cause for which you've sacrificed; how this helped shape who you are or your most enjoyable pastime
- A Problem You Solved: A significant obstacle you overcame; a solution you developed that achieved results

## How to Approach Your Essay

- Before you start to write your essay, admissions experts advise that you do a reflection exercise with yourself - think about who you are, what you value, what makes you unique
- Outline what you want to discuss and the order in which you think you'll write about it
- Focus on your opening sentence - it should grab your reader's attention
- SHOW, DON'T TELL
  - Karen Richardson, dean of admissions and enrollment management at Tufts University in Massachusetts says, a student's essay is evaluated "not just about the topic that a student chooses to write on, but rather, how they write about it. We encourage students to show rather than tell to help the reader get a sense of who they are."
  - Include vivid details or anecdotes - Be specific so the details bring your essay to life for the admissions officer who is reading hundreds of personal statements
    - **For example**, if you're writing about how much you loved playing your high school sport, tell a story about a specific game-winning play (or a devastating loss), how you felt, and what you learned.
- Tell a story about yourself with a beginning, middle, and end.
  - Hook the reader with a compelling opening paragraph—surprise or teach the reader or share something vulnerable and make the reader curious to read more
  - Close with a clear ending that ties back to your opening
- Think differently - stand out from any common application essay
  - Once you've got the basics of what you want to say set in your mind, try delivering it from a different angle
    - For example, rather than answering an essay prompt directly, you answer it in the negative: tell the reader what you're not going to do with the essay before telling them what you will do.
    - Consider starting with a question. Challenge the reader by speaking directly to him/her. (Or) put the reader in the middle of things. Place the reader in the middle of something happening or in the middle of a conversation.
      - So, for example, if you want to tell the story of a piano recital, start with "So there I was, in front of a thousand people, and my hands were shaking so much I could barely touch the keys." Then fill in how you got to that point and what it says about you.

## What should you avoid doing in your essay?

- Don't write an admissions essay about something you think sounds impressive or that you think the admissions officer wants to read
- Don't simply mimic other essay examples you've read. **Write about something truly important to you.**
- Don't lie or exaggerate and Don't repeat yourself
- Don't try to guess what you think the admissions officer wants to read. Choose a topic that matters to you.

**BEFORE SUBMITTING YOUR ESSAY, BE CERTAIN TO PROOFREAD, PROOFREAD, AND THEN PROOFREAD AGAIN - Consider asking someone you trust to look over your essay**

# AICE Exam Retakes

The October/November Cambridge testing session is for students who need to retake an AICE exam you might have missed in the spring or for AICE exams you did not pass. Students who wish to take an exam in the October/November testing session must complete the AICE retake form and submit it to Mrs. Matthews in 22-050A by **September 15, 2023** at 2:30 p.m. The form can also be submitted to Mrs. Matthews via email at [matthews.katie@brevardschools.org](mailto:matthews.katie@brevardschools.org). If your retake request is submitted via email, you will get an acknowledgement of receipt from Mrs. Matthews.

There is no cost for an exam retake as long as you commit to preparing for the exam retake and giving your full effort on the exam. If you do not give your full effort or you miss a part of the exam, you will be issued a monies owed for the full cost of the exam (\$110).

A copy of the retake form (shown below) is available on the Cambridge page of the RHS website under Announcements. The form is also available from Mrs. Matthews in 22-050A. A copy of the fall retake testing dates and times is also available under Announcements.

## Rockledge High School Cambridge Program

### AICE Student Exam Re-Take Session Request Form - Fall 2023

The dates and times (AM or PM) of the examinations are set by the University of Cambridge and **cannot** be changed. Once a student has been entered for the appropriate examinations, RHS is held financially responsible for payment. *If a student is absent from any exams on their schedule, the student will be issued a monies owed for \$110, the fee RHS is charged to provide the retake.*

Please complete, sign and return the form below to Mrs. Matthews in room 22050-A (by wrestling room) or by email at [Matthews.katie@brevardschools.org](mailto:Matthews.katie@brevardschools.org)

Requests for re-takes are due by Friday, September 15, 2023. Students must turn in a signed request by that date.

It is the student's responsibility to

- be aware of all exams they are scheduled to take,
- be present FOR ALL PAPERS INCLUDED IN THE EXAM,
- show up at the appropriate day and time to avoid being charged for that exam.
- give full effort on the exam parts they take. If student does not give full effort on the exam, a monies owed will be issued for the cost of the exam.

Thank you,

Katie Matthews  
Cambridge AICE Coordinator  
[Matthews.katie@brevardschools.org](mailto:Matthews.katie@brevardschools.org)  
321-636-3711 ext. 26156

We have read the testing policies above and want to sign up to take the exam(s) listed below. We have the dates for the exam re-takes and understand that students who are absent for any portion of a scheduled exam OR who do not give a genuine effort on the exam papers will be issued a monies owed for the total cost of the exam.

Exam Course Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Exam Course Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Exam Course Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name (Printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# AICE October/November Retake Testing Schedule

## AICE Testing Schedule for October & November 2023

**\*\*Please note that the time of test column indicates the time by which students should be at the testing site, seated, and ready to begin testing. The actual start time of the test will vary.\*\***

Date	Course/Test Name	Component Number	Time of Test	Length of Test
Monday, October 2	AICE AS Level General Paper	Paper 11	8:45 a.m.	1 hour 15 min
Tuesday, October 3	AICE AS Level Global Perspectives	Paper 11	8:45 a.m.	1 hour 30 min
Tuesday, October 3	AICE AS Level Environmental Man	Paper 11	12:50 p.m.	1 hour 45 min
Tuesday, October 3	AICE AS Thinking Skills	Paper 11	12:50 p.m.	1 hour 30 min
Wednesday, October 4	AICE AS Information Technology		8:45 a.m.	
Wednesday, October 4	AICE AS Level General Paper	Paper 21	8:45 a.m.	1 hour 45 min
Thursday, October 5	AICE AS Level Environmental Man	Paper 21	12:50 p.m.	1 hour 45 min
Friday, October 6	AICE AS Thinking Skills	Paper 21	12:15 p.m.	1 hour 45 min
Monday, October 9	AICE AS Level Business	Paper 11	8:45 a.m.	1 hour 15 min
Monday, October 9	AICE AS Level Marine Science	Paper 11	12:50 p.m.	1 hour 45 min
Wednesday, October 11	AICE AS Level Math	Paper 11	12:50 p.m.	1 hour 50 min
Thursday, October 12	AICE AS Information Technology	Paper 11	12:50 p.m.	1 hour 45 min
Friday, October 13	AICE AS Level Business	Paper 21	8:45 a.m.	1 hour 30 min
Friday, October 13	AICE AS Level Math	Paper 51 – Prob/Stats 1	12:15 p.m.	1 hour 15 min
Friday, October 13	AICE A-Level Thinking Skills	Paper 31	12:00 p.m.	2 hours
Monday, October 16	AICE A-Level Business	Paper 31	8:45 a.m.	1 hour 45 min
Monday, October 16	AICE AS-Level Lit in English	Paper 11	12:50 p.m.	2 hours
Monday, October 16	AICE A-Level Math	Paper 61 – Prob/Stats 2	12:50 p.m.	1 hour 15 min
Tuesday, October 17	AICE AS Level Psychology	Paper 11	8:45 a.m.	1 hour 30 min
Wednesday, October 18	AICE AS Level History	Paper 11	8:45 a.m.	1 hour 15 min
Wednesday, October 18	AICE A-Level Math	Paper 31	12:50 p.m.	1 hour 50 min
Wednesday, October 18	AICE AS Level Marine Science	Paper 21	12:50 p.m.	1 hour 45 min
Thursday, October 19	AICE A-Level Business	Paper 41	8:45 a.m.	1 hour 15 min
Tuesday, October 24	AICE AS Level Psychology	Paper 21	8:45 a.m.	1 hour 30 min
Wednesday, Oct 25	AICE AS Level English Lang	Paper 11	12:50 p.m.	2 hours 15 min
Thursday, October 26	AICE A-Level Thinking Skills	Paper 41	12:50 p.m.	1 hour 45 min
Friday, October 27	AICE AS Level History	Paper 21	8:45 a.m.	1 hour 45 min
Monday, October 30	AICE AS Level English Lang	Paper 21	12:50 p.m.	2 hours
Tuesday, October 31	AICE AS-Level Lit in English	Paper 21	12:50 p.m.	2 hours
Wednesday, November 1	AICE A-Level Marine Science	Paper 31	12:50 p.m.	1 hour 45 min
Friday, November 3	AICE A-Level Marine Science	Paper 41	12:00 p.m.	1 hour 45 min

# Pre-AICE & AICE Class Tutoring Permission Form

In order to participate in any form of tutoring before or after school with a pre-AICE or AICE teacher, students MUST have a signed permission form on file. Copies of the forms were emailed to all parents. If you have not turned in a form, please get it signed and returned to Mrs. Matthews or any Cambridge teacher. Forms can be submitted electronically to Mrs. Matthews at [matthews.katie@brevardschools.org](mailto:matthews.katie@brevardschools.org)

Form 2430fm1

## PARENT PERMISSION AND RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT FOR STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN DISTRICT AND NON-DISTRICT SPONSORED CLUBS, EVENTS, AND ACTIVITIES

Refer to school board policies 2430 and 5730 for District and Non-District Sponsored Criteria  
Rockledge High School 8/22/23  
School Name Date

Cambridge AICE Class Tutoring  
Student Name List activity/event  
Grade  
Activity/Event  
ON August 23, 2023 - May 24, 2024  
Date(s) and time of Event  
Adult Supervisor Katie Matthews (AICE Coordinator)

LOCATION OF EVENT/ACTIVITY AICE Teacher Classrooms

NATURE OF EVENT/ACTIVITY Tutoring by AICE teachers from 8:00 - 8:40 a.m. and from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.  
Monday-Friday. AICE teachers will provide academic support, answer student questions, and provide exam practice.

Staff/Guests who will be present during event/activity AICE Classroom Teacher

Parents should direct questions concerning the activity to the school office  
Name Katie Matthews Telephone: 321-636-3711  
Adult Supervisor (School Number) (Mobile Phone)

(ALL THE ABOVE TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SCHOOL)

## PARENTAL AUTHORIZATION AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RISKS

1. I understand that participation in this event/activity is voluntary.
2. The parent or guardian and student are responsible for transportation to and from the event/activity unless otherwise specified.
3. The parent or guardian and student understand that the school district, its officers, agents, or employees are not responsible for the student during the time he/she is traveling to or from the event/activity, unless the school is providing transportation.
4. The parent or guardian, and student will assume the liability during the entire course of the student's participation in the event/activity and will indemnify and hold the School Board of Brevard County harmless for any injury or accident or property loss involving the student.
5. Parent or guardian permission for the student to participate in the above event/activity may be withdrawn at any time by contacting the school and/or sponsor.
6. In the event of medical emergency, I/we authorize the sponsor or chaperone in charge of the event/activity to seek emergency medical treatment for my child at my expense.

We have read and understand the information above and accept the designated responsibilities. I hereby grant participation in all aspects of the above Student Club and/or Activity/Event.

Granted  Denied  Granted with the following exceptions: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Describe)

Student Signature - Date  
(Optional for Elementary School)

Parent/Guardian Signature - Date  
(Required for all)

# SEPTEMBER SPORTING EVENTS

Looking for something to do? Want to show your school spirit? Come out to one of the August sporting events and support the Raiders as they play their favorite sports.

# September 2023

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 XC @ St. Edwards Invite in Vero Beach @ 7:00 a.m. SW @ Montverde @ 8:00 VFB @ Duncanville, TX @ 7:00 p.m.
4 <b>LABOR DAY</b>	5 BW vs SCHS (SL) @ 4:00 BGF vs. BHS(RCC) @ 4:00	6 BW vs AHS (SL) @ 4:00 VB vs SCHS @ 5:15	7 BGF@VHS(Duran) @ 4:00 SW vs CB / MI @ 4:30 JVFB @ CHS @ 6:30	8 VFB @ VHS @ 7:00	9 XC @ Astronaut Invite @ Chain of Lakes @ 7:00 a.m.
11 SAC Meeting @ 5:30 VB vs EHS @ 5:15	12 BW @ MIHS (SL) @ 4:00 BFG vs SCHS(RCC) @ 4:00 GGF @ SCHS(GO) @ 4:00 SW vs EHS @ 4:30	13 BW @ MIC (SL) @ 4:00 VB @ AHS @ 5:15	14 BGF @ EHS (Sav) @ 4:00 JVFB @ THS @ 6:30 VB @ East River @ 5:30	15 GGF vs HT(RCC) @ 4:00 VFB vs BHS @ 7:00	16
18 VB @ CBHS @ 5:15	19 PICTURE RETAKES BW @ THS (RL) @ 4:00 BGF vs CHS(RCC) @ 4:00 GGF @ CHS (TC) @ 4:00 SW @ CBHS @ 4:30	20 BW @ CB (SL) @ 4:00 VB vs MIHS @ 5:15	21 BGF @ THS(La Cita) @ 4 GGF @ THS(La Cita) @ 4	22 VFB @ Osceola HS @ 7:00	23 SW @ High School Invite @ IRSC @ 9:00 a.m. XC Raider Classic @ McLarty Stadium @ 4:00
25 GGF @ HT (SCC) @ 4:00	26 BW vs EHS (SL) @ 4:00 SW vs CHS @ 4:30 VB CCC Match-up @ 6:00	27	28 BGF @ CBHS(CBCC) @ 4 GGF @ CBHS(CBCC) @ 4 VB vs WSHS @ 5:30 JVFB vs EGHS @ 6:30	29 VFB @ Trinity Christian, Jacksonville @ 7:00	30 XC @ FSU Invite in Tallahassee @ 7:00 a.m.

## Save the Date!

When: Saturday, September 23, 2023

Where: Kennedy Space Center's Launch and Landing Facility

## Girls in Aviation Day 2023

Get ready for an electrifying Girls in Aviation Day (GIAD) 2023 at the iconic Kennedy Space Center! 🚀

This year's event promises an even more captivating and immersive experience for girls in grades 9-12. Prepare to be awed as you embark on a thrilling journey through the world of aviation and aerospace. ✨

Upon arrival, you'll be warmly greeted by our dedicated Chapter volunteers and Team Leaders. Exciting swag, including name badges, and more, will await you!

The morning will begin with an exhilarating tour of static displays and vendors featuring some of the most remarkable aircraft. Get ready to explore, ask questions, and get hands-on with these incredible machines! ✨

After an energizing lunch, the real adventure begins with six action-packed, hands-on activities! You'll have the opportunity to delve into Air Traffic Control Simulators and explore the exhibits solely there for you!

Throughout the day, you'll have the unique opportunity to connect with industry professionals, female student pilots, military personnel, and engineers from prestigious organizations like United Launch Alliance and Sierra Space. Plus, a bus tour of the Kennedy Space Center awaits you! 🚌

Don't miss out on this incredible event celebrating camaraderie, empowerment, and endless possibilities in the aviation industry. Join us at GIAD 2023 and be inspired!

**For More Info Visit:**  
<https://www.wai-cfl.org/giad-2023>



# CAMBRIDGE STUDENT SHOWCASE

## 9TH GRADE STUDENT

### *Destany Esquivel-Orellana*

Hello, my name is Destany Esquivel- Orellana. I joined the RHS Cambridge program because I wanted to expand my learning experience and challenge myself.

My History class is my favorite class because it's my favorite subject. As for sports, I play volleyball.



## 12TH GRADE STUDENT

### *Sabrina Ferrell*

Hi, my name is Sabrina, and I'm graduating this year! This juncture of high school and college is bittersweet: seniors are finally lifting off our very familiar runway of teachers and peers into uncharted territory. Our takeoff to college entails a hefty application process and lots of grit; luckily, my education at Rockledge High has afforded me many opportunities to demonstrate college readiness. AICE college credits have enabled me to secure an associate in arts degree from Eastern Florida State College and 4.7 GPA. Albeit, these credits are just the tip of the iceberg, with every Cambridge class cultivating a college-level skillset. For instance, Global Perspectives' curriculum covers research papers and presentations—aka, 90% of what college classes entail. Acting as president of our P.A.S.S tutoring club, I see daily how Cambridge's rigor bolsters student success, our tutors being ever eager to impart hard-earned expertise. If my AICE math years of dancing to grasp graphing curves and singing to memorize finicky functions has taught me anything, it's that Passion is the key to Passing!



As current concertmaster of our orchestra, I have witnessed firsthand how invested our administration is in the arts through their choice of music instructors and attendance of events. They're also huge proponents of student athletics: having been a varsity lacrosse player for four years and cross country runner for three, Cambridge has never obstructed my sports participation. Clubs such as National Honor Society emphasize the importance of community service, and my time as a musical volunteer at a hospice care center has shown me the value of emulating the NHS's service credo. The crux of the Cambridge program, and Rockledge High as a whole, is to tirelessly make each student's future brighter without setting us ablaze.

## **11TH GRADE STUDENT**

## *Alexander Hansen*

I started in the Cambridge program when I was in 7th grade at Kennedy Middle, and I've continued with it until now. But why Cambridge? I like the Cambridge program because the classes are more challenging than a regular class and it's a good way to get a head start for college. I've always been one to challenge myself, so going into high school my plan was to get my Cambridge diploma my sophomore year, my AA at EFSC by my senior year, then go to the University of Florida. The day I got my test results was nerve-racking, it's not an easy task to pass 5 Cambridge classes in one year, but I did it, I was one of a few 10th graders that got their Cambridge diploma last year. I'm also currently dual enrolled at EFSC working on my AA. Some of my favorite, and most challenging, classes I have taken while at Rockledge have been AICE Math and AICE Psychology. I've always loved math since I was a little kid, but taking those AICE math tests at the end of the year made me question if I really did. It was pretty hard. Along with AICE Math, AICE Psychology was really interesting. Part of the reasons why I loved both of those classes is because of the teachers. Mrs. K and Mrs. Insalaco are probably two of the best teachers I've had. I love the way they structure their classes, they make it really easy to learn the material and pass the AICE exams. Outside of my time in school, I have been on the basketball team since 9th grade. I also did the high jump my freshman year. I'm looking forward to a great year!



## **10TH GRADE STUDENT**

## *Logan Williams*

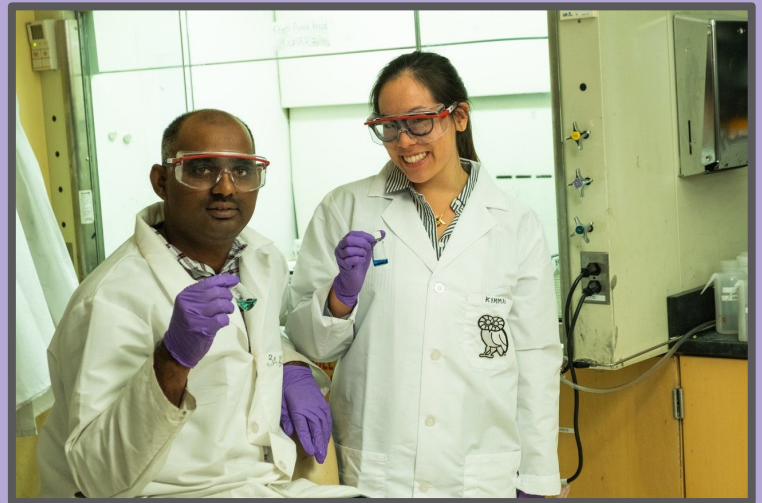
Hi my name is Logan Williams and I am an AICE student at Rockledge High School . What I love about Rockledge High and the Cambridge Program is that it provides alternatives to paying your full tuition. The AICE diploma basically says no matter where you come from, if you put effort into your work you will succeed. To me that's all that matters. Another thing that I love about the AICE program is that as a student you get treated with respect. You get treated like a college student because your taking the same classes as them. Those are my favorite things about the Cambridge Program and Rockledge High School.



# CAMBRIDGE STUDENT ALUMNI SHOWCASE

From Raider Blue to UF Orange  
and Blue to Rice U Blue To DC  
Red-White-and-Blue

by Mai (Kimmmai) Tran (c/o 2011)



It's 2007. Imagine fawn-eyed freshmen walking through the unfamiliar halls of Rockledge High. Picture the Raider days of old: the friendships forged, the smell of monkey bread wafting from the Food Prep room, the passing of notes on crumpled corners of loose-leaf paper (yes; this was back when we were lucky if we even had “dumb” phones, so gossip was shared the medieval way), and of course, one thing I suspect has not changed—the amazing teachers and staff who above all, I thank for where I am today. “Big Girls Don’t Cry” plays over the radio and lulls us to sleep on the bus back from a swim meet. It was the anthem of high school after all, because let’s face it: this era was fun, but boy did we have some straightenin’ out to do!

The Cambridge program, in Fergie’s words, helped me “be with myself and center.” It was a new curriculum taught in a new way, where it’s not just reciting poetry, memorizing battle dates, or putting together those three-fold poster boards at the science fair. It was applying these basic concepts to more complex scenarios: analyzing a literary classic for hidden meaning, understanding an event’s cause and effect with context, explaining curious phenomenon through scientific experiments. (Yes, I just described my favorite classes—AICE English Lit, Pre-AICE World History, and AICE Chemistry!). For you future finance folks sitting in the classroom: Cambridge’s value proposition (“value prop” for the millennials) is its structure in making you learn to think, individually and collectively. You learn to question. You learn how to be a detective. You learn that answers lead to more questions; that no one holds your hand forever and shows you exactly how to do something. You learn to find a pathway to an answer yourself, while acknowledging you need to leverage diverse skill sets from your peers. The Cambridge program taught me independence, but also interpersonal social skills, both aspects useful for being disciplined in college, and resourceful in life. It helped me realize that in high school, we were smart fish in a small pond; but we were also small fish in a big ocean once we left.



Fast forward a couple years—okay, okay... a decade and some change—I earned my B.S. from the University of Florida in Materials Science and Engineering, and my Ph.D. from Rice University in Materials Science and NanoEngineering, where I wrote my dissertation on Li-ion battery recycling and sustainable manufacturing. It's been three years since people started calling me Dr. Tran (please don't ask for medical advice), and I embarked on a new adventure as a Science, Technology and Policy Fellow at the U.S. Department of Energy's Industrial Efficiency and Decarbonization Office. As public servants, we engage stakeholders and leverage our technical expertise to help inform how federal investments, like the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act, get spent. Perhaps my favorite part though, is trying to understand and balance the triple bottom line—people, profit, and planet—all with environmental justice in mind. Yes, we still need the engineers, doctors, economists; but also folks on the ground especially in the trades, in education, in communications, and everyone in between. I look around and marvel at the successes, in career and family life, that past Cambridge cohorts from The Rock have accomplished. I know this is in your future too, young grasshoppers in today's cohorts—my only advice to you, is to remember there is always something you don't know, so be open to continually learning.

### Raider Pride!



# CAMBRIDGE STUDENT ALUMNI SHOWCASE



## John Wilcox RHS Class of 2014

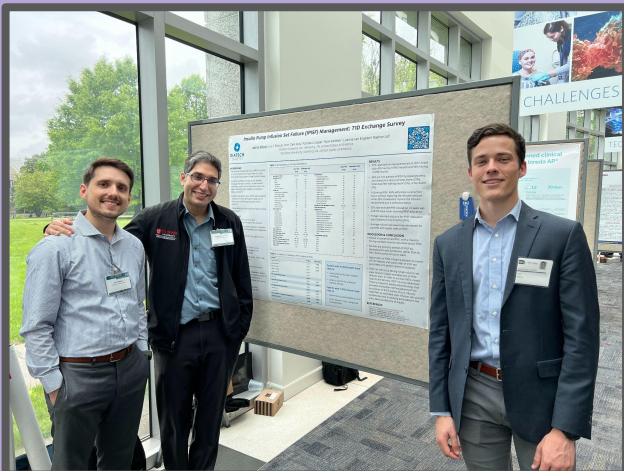
I was incredibly fortunate to be taught by amazing teachers during my time at RHS, who were dedicated to helping me achieve my goal of receiving a high school and AICE diploma. Following graduation, I had the privilege of spending several fulfilling years at Florida State University, where I pursued studies in Biological Sciences and Chemistry. My college journey was enriched by engagement in IFC Greek Life, volunteer service at a local Tallahassee diabetes clinic, participation in the Honors College, and involvement in undergraduate diabetes research at the FSU College of Medicine. I even became a member of Phi Beta Kappa and was chosen as part of the senior year homecoming court.

Upon completing my undergraduate degree at FSU, I joined forces with three fellow lab mates from my research program who shared an interest in establishing a company focused on innovative diabetes medical devices. Although initially daunting, this idea resonated with me due to my personal experience with type 1 diabetes, having been diagnosed on my ninth birthday. After securing initial funding, we collectively decided to commit full-time to our venture. Five years down the line, I am proud to serve as the CEO of Diatech Diabetes, Inc. I hold immense pride in our team's achievements, including securing patents, establishing corporate partnerships with prominent diabetes technology firms, and most recently, receiving a \$1M grant from the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. My educational journey continues as I pursue a Master of Science degree at Columbia University, specializing in Diabetes Education and Management. In my leisure time, I find joy in running, currently in preparation for my fourth marathon scheduled for this fall in Chicago. I am deeply grateful for my supportive family, who reside in Rockledge, as well as my fiancé and French bulldog, Hobbs, who live in Atlanta.



Reflecting on my graduation from the Cambridge program in 2014, I am reminded of two crucial lessons that have guided me through my collegiate years and the start of my career. The first valuable lesson was how important it is to be resilient. While I wasn't consistently an A student (especially in AICE Math) I demonstrated commitment to seeking available resources that could help me. Through nightly tutoring and extended office hours, I overcame my academic challenges. Despite receiving a tough grade every so often, I pushed myself to learn from what I did wrong and apply it to the next assignment/test. I believe this lesson is what taught me how to get through very difficult situations and denials I was not expecting in life. Instead of seeing certain situations as "failures", I can see them as opportunities to learn, adapt, and then succeed.

The second lesson I learned from my Cambridge courses was that hard work truly pays off and you must be patient to see the results of that work. Attending a prestigious university to study science was a dream of mine, and to make it happen, I committed to consistent academic excellence throughout my four years at RHS. By my senior year, I recognized that adhering to the often demanding but gratifying pathway paved by the Cambridge program had positioned me exceptionally well. Graduating with an international diploma from a globally esteemed institution was a testament to this journey's value. To those considering the Cambridge program, do it!. Embrace the academic rigor, as teachers are available to support you, and remember that hard work is achievable. Do not shy away from "failing safely," using setbacks as motivation to expand your knowledge. Reflecting on a decade since completing the program, I would without hesitation redo this journey again. The experience, community, and lessons imparted are invaluable.

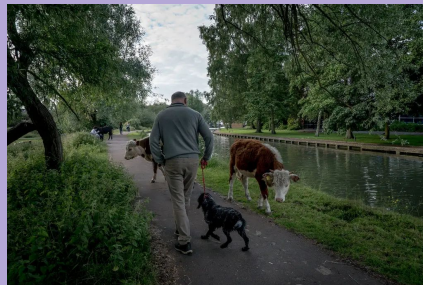


# DID YOU KNOW?

For centuries it has been a common summer sight to see free-roaming cows grazing in the center of Cambridge. About 120 cattle roam around the city of Cambridge in its parks and other grassy areas.

A holdover from centuries past when farmers used public spaces to graze their cattle, farmers now pay a small fee to the city's council for the opportunity to let the cows graze in several grassy areas in and around Cambridge. This deal brings in funding for the council and also is a fee-free/natural way to keep the commons' grass mowed. The farmers get somewhere for their cows to graze and also get an "after hours" emergency service from the council should one of the cows say, fall into the river.

The cows return early every summer and move on in the fall. Most cows are shy and don't really want to interact with the people, but by midsummer are pretty relaxed around all their two-legged companions.



# TEST YOUR AICE KNOWLEDGE

1 (a) Fig. 1.1 is a diagram of the structure of the Earth.

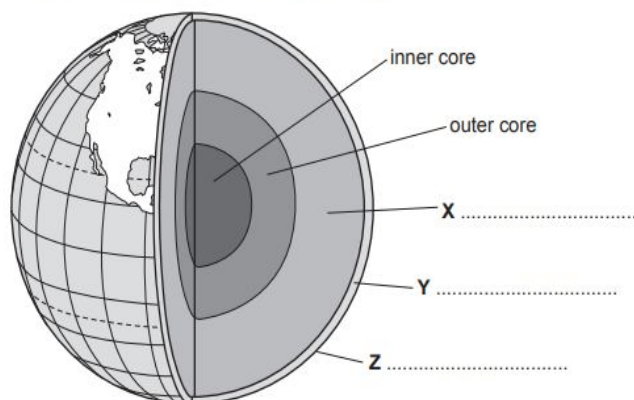


Fig. 1.1

Complete the labels for layers X, Y and Z on Fig. 1.1.

**Answers:**  
X – mantle;  
Y – asthenosphere;  
Z – crust;

Check out this question from a previous AICE Environmental Management test and see if you could answer it correctly. This question is worth 3 points.