



OXFORD TEST OF ENGLISH *for Schools*

A2 Practice Test 1

Answer key

Speaking Part 1 Page 3

1 Students' own answers

2 Students' own answers

3 **Sample answer**

I don't have a camera, but I use my phone a lot to talk to my friends. We send messages or use social media.

4 **Sample answer**

Yes, we have computers in the library for homework. The teacher uses a computer with a projector in the classroom, too.

5 **Sample answer**

I did a project with my friend Alex about a famous writer from my country last month. We used the Internet a lot to find out information about him.

6 **Sample answer**

My mother cooks on weekdays and my father cooks at weekends.

7 **Sample answer**

Last Saturday. I'm not good at cooking. I made a pizza.

8 **Sample answer**

My grandmother's lasagne – it's really nice. I would like to make it one day.

Speaking Part 2A Page 3

Sample answer

Hi Debbie – it's Sandra. The party yesterday was great. Thank you very much for the invitation. I left my jacket at your house – I think it's in the kitchen. Can you bring it to school today? We have a history class together, so you can give it to me then. See you later!

Speaking Part 2B Page 3

Sample answer

Hi Josh! Congratulations! I think you write very well. What type of writing was it? Was it a poem or a story? I know you write both. Did you win a prize? I think we should go to the cinema together. We can see *The Endless Adventure*. What do you think?

Speaking Part 3 Page 4

Sample answer

Good morning everyone. I want to talk about the camping holiday and the beach holiday. I think both are very nice, but they are very different types of holiday. The beach is very nice because you can relax by the sea and enjoy sunbathing. However, it might be a bit boring after a few days. Camping is also a good idea. You can go with your friends and have fun, but the weather can be a problem. When it rains or is very cold,

it isn't very nice. I like the sea and camping, but I think I would prefer the beach holiday now because I want to feel relaxed.

Speaking Part 4 Page 4

1 Sample answer

I went to the Lake District with my family. We went by car. It rained a lot, but it was very nice because it's a very beautiful place.

2 Sample answer

People go on holiday because it's nice to see new places and eat different food. You can also relax at home, but it's more fun when you go somewhere new and do different things.

3 Sample answer

I like both. You can make friends in a busy place like a hotel. But if you're going to the countryside, it's better if there are fewer people.

4 Sample answer

It depends. You have to think about the weather, and also if it's going to be very busy there. In the summer, if you go to the beach, it is hot, but also crowded. In the winter, there are few people, but it's too cold. Maybe spring or autumn is best.

5 Sample answer

The buses and trains are good in touristy cities, but everything's very expensive, and the city centre is always full of people.

6 Sample answer

I think it will be cheaper and faster to travel long distances. Big cities will have more technology. For example, museums will use computers to make the experience more interesting for tourists.

Listening Part 1 Page 5

1 B

The girl says that the teacher has 'cut his hair and started wearing glasses!'

2 C

The teacher says 'don't forget your water bottle', suggesting that students have to bring it with them.

3 A

The woman tells her son that she needs rice and says 'You'll have to go to the supermarket for that.' The boy replies 'That's OK. I can get everything there', suggesting that he will only go to the supermarket after all.

4 C

The boy says 'I'll wear my new shirt.'

5 B

The girl says 'for a ten o'clock flight, we have to get there at seven', suggesting that the plane leaves at 10.00.

Listening Part 2 Page 6

1 B

The teacher says 'and there is an extra cost for horse riding. That's £12.'

2 C

The teacher says 'We'll go at 3.45 p.m.', meaning that the bus leaves at 3.45 p.m.

3 A

The teacher says 'don't forget to bring a sleeping bag', meaning that the students have to bring their own sleeping bags.

4 C

The teacher says 'On Saturday morning, everyone will go hiking', meaning that all the students will do this activity.

5 B

The teacher says 'We'll drive back on Tuesday afternoon after another full day of activities', meaning that the camp finishes on Tuesday.

Listening Part 3 Page 7

1 girl

The girl says 'I saw her concert last year, and I thought she was better then', suggesting that she liked the concert last year better, but the boy says 'I've seen her in three concerts, and this one was the best', so he prefers this concert.

2 boy

The boy says about the dancers: 'I just loved how they moved with the music. It made the show really special.' However, the girl says 'They were OK, I guess. Usually I love the dancers at concerts, but these ones weren't very interesting', meaning that she didn't like the dancers.

3 girl

The girl says about the music: 'It hurt my ears – I couldn't hear very well for an hour after the concert!' suggesting that it was very loud for her, but the boy says 'I thought it was just right – it's more exciting when it's really loud!' suggesting that he didn't think the music was too loud.

4 both

The boy says 'The concert wasn't very long, though – she only sang about ten songs.' The girl says 'The concert was only an hour and a half long. Most concerts I've been to were around two hours long', suggesting that both of them thought that the concert was short.

5 both

The boy says 'And the tickets cost a lot – I paid £50 for mine. I think that's too much', suggesting that he thought that the tickets were expensive. The girl says 'It's a lot, but she's one of the most famous singers in the world, so I was happy to pay that', meaning that she agrees that the tickets were expensive, although she doesn't mind that this was the case.

Listening Part 4 Page 8

1 B

The teacher tells students 'Remember to bring your paint brushes, paint and paper', suggesting that the subject of the class is art, since they need art equipment.

2 C

The boy says 'There were so many things to do, being in the capital', meaning that he went to a big city.

3 B

The woman says 'What do you want to eat? There's Mexican, Italian, burgers ...' and then she says 'we need some time to buy souvenirs and chocolates before we leave', suggesting that they are in a shopping centre, since there are many kinds of restaurants and shops.

4 C

The girl says about the dress: 'I'm not sure ... I mean, you could normally buy three dresses for this price', suggesting that she thinks it's too expensive.

5 A

The girl says 'We can make the food and prepare everything for the party together', suggesting that she wants to help her friend with the party preparations.

Reading Part 1 Page 9

1 B

Danny's mum says 'please have a look at my computer. My email isn't working – I'm not receiving messages', suggesting that she wants Danny to fix her computer.

2 C

The text says 'If you are coming on the museum trip, the bus will leave from outside the sports centre at 9 a.m.'

3 A

Brett says 'Can I come round at 6 p.m. today to get your guitar?' suggesting that he needs to borrow his uncle's guitar.

4 B

The text says 'We start at 7.25 a.m. outside the science building', meaning that the run begins in front of the science building.

5 C

The text says 'How are you finding the science homework? Do you know the answer to question three?' suggesting that Amy needs help with her science homework.

6 A

Martin says 'You can take my warm jacket if you like', meaning that he is offering to lend his jacket to Hugh.

Reading Part 2 Page 11

1 A

Anton says 'My dad drives me to school on his way to work.'

2 C

Freya says 'I always have an early night. It's important to rest enough – it helps me feel better', meaning that she thinks it's a good idea to get a lot of sleep.

3 B

Mia says 'I really enjoy school.' 'Enjoy' is another way of saying 'like'.

4 C

Freya says 'School is OK, but I prefer swimming. I always go in the morning and after school, before I do my homework.'

5 B

Mia says 'I sometimes watch TV before bed. It isn't great to spend hours doing that, though.'

6 A

Anton says 'We finish at four o'clock, but I think we should finish at three', suggesting that he thinks the school day is too long.

Reading Part 3 Page 12

1 E

The pronoun 'He' in the sentence after the gap refers to 'the coach' from Sentence E. In both sentences the coach is positive about Owen.

2 A

The sentence before the gap talks about Owen playing various sports. Sentence A starts with 'But' and refers to Owen giving up on these sports so he can play tennis instead.

3 G

The sentence before the gap talks about how Owen realized he wanted to be a professional tennis player. Sentence G starts with 'So' to show that Owen decided to stop going to school, and the sentence after the gap mentions that Owen is doing an online programme instead of going to school.

4 F

In the sentences before the gap, Owen talks about his coach. Sentence F talks about when Owen started working with his coach, and the sentence after the gap mentions that this was the best decision he ever made.

5 C

The sentence before the gap talks about the good sides of being a professional tennis player. Sentence C starts with 'However' and refers to the bad sides ('it is hard work because I spend hours training'). The sentence after the gap starts with 'So' and mentions that Owen feels tired sometimes. This is one of the results of spending hours training.

6 D

The sentences before and after the gap talk about what Owen likes to do in his free time. Sentence D mentions that he's like any other teenager doing everyday things.

Reading Part 4 Page 13

1 C

Hannah says that she read that people 'can't come back' from Mars and then she says 'That made me less sure I wanted to do it!'

2 A

Hannah says 'they give astronauts the skills to do experiments in space, which is the most important part of their job.'

3 C

Hannah says that astronauts 'must be strong enough both in body and mind.'

4 B

Marie Willis says 'We connect our sleeping bags to the wall. It's like camping, which I love', so she enjoys sleeping when she's in space.

Writing Part 1 Page 14

Sample answer

Dear Mrs Townsend,

Thank you for your email.

I had a very nice time in London. We visited interesting places and the weather was really sunny. Next time, is it possible to have a little more time to go shopping? I wanted to buy some things, but I didn't have enough time.

I'm sorry, but I can't go on a trip on 20th October. My cousins are coming to visit me that weekend. However, I can go on a trip next month.

How about going to Oxford on the next trip? My friend said it is a very beautiful city, and it has a lot of history.

All the best,

Sam

[111 words]

Writing Part 2 Page 15

Sample answer – essay

Many people believe that students are not ready for life when they leave school. They think that schools should teach things like how to cook or save money. I believe this is a good idea for many reasons.

Most subjects at school are very important. In history, for example, we learn what happened in the past so we don't make the same mistakes again. However, schools should also prepare students for real life.

When students go to university, they often live alone and need to cook. When they start work, they need to know how to look after their money. Schools don't have to have special lessons to teach these skills. Students could learn them in the normal classes.

For these reasons, I think it is a good idea for schools to teach life skills, but with the normal subjects.

[140 words]

Sample answer – review

Last year, I visited a shop called Movie Store. It had a lot of things from different films, and I'm a big fan of movies, so I loved it.

There were a lot of toys, books and clothes, and the staff were really nice. We talked for a long time because they knew a lot about movies. They were wearing clothes from films.

I loved how the shop looked, too: there was a big spaceship in the middle and a lot of posters. It was really cool!

Everything was a bit expensive, so I didn't buy much, but I spent about two hours in the shop and had a great time.

All movie fans should go to Movie Store when they are in London!

[124 words]