



OXFORD TEST OF ENGLISH *for Schools*

B1 Practice Test 1

Answer key

Speaking Part 1 Page 3

1 Students' own answers

2 Students' own answers

3 **Sample answer**

I use my phone all the time to stay in touch with my friends. We're always sending messages to each other. I also use my phone to take photos because I don't have a camera.

4 **Sample answer**

There are a lot of computers in the library which students use to do homework and research. In the classroom, the teacher often shows us videos and things on the projector.

5 **Sample answer**

Last month, my friend Alex and I had to do a project about a famous writer from our country. We got all the information online and wrote about his life.

6 **Sample answer**

Mostly my mother, but my father cooks sometimes. They're both good cooks.

7 **Sample answer**

I don't cook very often because I'm a terrible cook! I made an omelette last month and I can also make pizza, but those are the only things I can cook.

8 **Sample answer**

I'd love to learn how to make my grandmother's lasagne. It's fantastic! Maybe I'll ask her to cook it this weekend, so I can see how she does it.

Speaking Part 2A Page 3

Sample answer

Hi Debbie. It's Sandra. I had a really nice time yesterday. Thank you very much for inviting me. The problem is I left my jacket at your house. I think it's in the kitchen. Do you think you could bring it to school and give it to me in the history lesson? Thanks a lot. Talk to you soon!

Speaking Part 2B Page 3

Sample answer

Hi Josh! That's fantastic – well done! I've always loved your writing, and I was sure you would win a prize one day. What was the prize, by the way? And what did you send to the competition: was it a short story or a poem? I would love to go out with you. How about watching *The Endless Adventure* at the cinema? Let me know!

Speaking Part 3 Page 4

Sample answer

Good morning. I'm going to talk about the camping holiday and the beach holiday. They are very different types of holidays, but both of them are good fun. The beach holiday is better for people who are stressed because you can lie in the sun and relax. You might feel a bit bored after a few days, though. Camping is really nice – you can have a lot of fun with your friends. The problem with camping can be the weather. Sometimes it rains or is very cold. I would like both trips, but I would choose the beach holiday because I'm feeling a bit stressed right now and so I want to be able to relax!

Speaking Part 4 Page 4

1 Sample answer

Last month, my family and I drove up to the Lake District. It was such a nice trip, even though it rained so much. The scenery was absolutely fantastic!

2 Sample answer

I think people go on holiday because they like going to new places. They can go sightseeing and try different food. Staying at home can also be relaxing, but it's a lot more interesting to have new experiences.

3 Sample answer

It depends. If I'm going to a hotel or on a cruise, I prefer it to be crowded so I can meet people to chat with. In the countryside, though, I prefer there to be fewer people.

4 Sample answer

That depends on where you are going. If you choose to travel in the middle of summer, the weather might be better, but it'll be crowded in most places. On the other hand, if you travel in winter, it might be freezing. I guess spring or autumn is ideal.

5 Sample answer

The transport system is usually very good in these places, but you have to pay a lot more for food, shopping and other things. And in the summer, the city centre is crowded with all the tourists.

6 Sample answer

I guess travelling longer distances will get a lot cheaper and faster than today, and there will be a lot more technology in big cities. Places like museums will have more interactive experiences to attract tourists.

Listening Part 1 Page 5

1 A

The girl says 'The northern riverbird has got long legs. Look further away. It's got a short beak.'

2 A

The boy says 'Actually, there's a guided tour of the castle. Most of the tour is indoors, so it'll be fine in the rain' and the girl agrees saying 'OK, let's do that, then.'

3 C

The boy says 'they've opened a cafe there. It's a pretty cool place – we should go.'

4 B

The girl says 'I'd prefer to wear the skirt I got last week. What do you think?' and the boy says 'I think you should wear what you like.' The girl agrees, saying 'OK, I will.'

5 B

The girl says, 'I guess we'll just have to leave early and go with your first idea.' The first idea that the boy had was to go by bus. He says, 'Well, the number 27 bus goes there, but it's very slow.'

Listening Part 2 Page 6

1 A

The teacher says 'all students should take a water bottle.'

2 C

The teacher says 'Remember to get your ticket from the teacher on the bus.'

3 B

The teacher says 'We'll have a look around Pricely College together', suggesting that the visit to the university is something they will do as a group.

4 B

The teacher says 'All students should stay on the north side of the River Kinby', suggesting that the students shouldn't cross the bridge over the river.

5 A

The teacher says 'It's very important to write down a little bit about each of the places you visit', suggesting that they should make notes.

Listening Part 3 Page 7

1 girl

The girl says 'they really shouldn't get paid millions of dollars', suggesting that actors earn too much money, but the boy disagrees, saying 'I think it's OK.'

2 boy

The boy says 'I think I'd like that. You could spend more time on the things you find difficult, and you'd have the opportunity to ask a lot of questions', but the girl doesn't agree, saying 'I think school is about much more than just classes. Group projects, sport, school camp ... Those things are also important, and you'd miss out on all of that.'

3 both

The boy says 'You wouldn't know if people really like you or if they just want to hang out with you because you're a celebrity', and the girl agrees, saying 'it would be hard to know who your real friends were.'

4 both

The girl says about teenagers travelling, 'That must be amazing, seeing the whole world while you're a teenager – so many different places and cultures', and the boy agrees saying, 'That's something you can't get in geography class! What a great experience!'

5 boy

The boy says 'I think most teenagers need to be around their parents a lot', but the girl disagrees, saying 'I think teenagers should learn to be independent.'

Listening Part 4 Page 8

1 B

The girl says 'all those old buildings look beautiful in the dark' and mentions 'many organized activities', suggesting that she visited a historical town.

2 C

Jack says 'Maybe we can go on Sunday instead?' suggesting that he wants to rearrange their meeting.

3 C

The boy says 'I don't think I'll go regularly, though – the trip took me nearly an hour', suggesting that the swimming pool is too far away for him.

4 B

The girl says 'my dad didn't look too happy with the bill. Let's just say it isn't somewhere you could go every week', suggesting that the food was expensive.

5 A

Kate says 'You played Juliet beautifully. I really enjoyed it. The music was great, and I loved the costumes, too', so the main reason she's leaving the message is to congratulate her friend.

Reading Part 1 Page 9

1 B

The text says 'It's going to be cold, so make sure you bring a jacket and some suitable walking shoes', which shows that Manny is advising Nick what to pack.

2 B

The text says 'Mum [...] has to work late tomorrow, so she can't drive us to Sandra's place', meaning that the arrangement they made for Lydia's mum to drive them to Sandra's can no longer happen, so the arrangement has to change.

3 C

The text says 'She said she isn't available for your piano lesson this evening and asked whether Friday would be OK with you', meaning that Mrs Arnold is suggesting that the time of Martin's piano lesson changes.

4 A

The text says 'the area between the sports hall and the science laboratory is closed', meaning that the area cannot be used. 'Please walk to the science laboratory through Denman Hall', means that students should use a different way than usual.

5 C

The text says 'The costumes are a bit old-fashioned, though', suggesting that the reviewer dislikes the way people are dressed in the film.

6 B

The text says 'Well done on getting a place at Swanwick University', and 'Great achievement!' which are both expressions used to congratulate someone.

Reading Part 2 Page 11

1 C

Juliet says 'One day, I'd like to be a professional fashion designer', suggesting that Juliet would like to turn her hobby into a career.

2 A

Pietro says 'my sister was given a camera as a present, and I borrowed it. I loved it, so when my birthday came around, I asked for a camera, too! I've been taking photos ever since.'

3 B

Francis says 'People my age aren't usually interested in gardening', suggesting that he thinks teenagers don't normally do gardening as a hobby.

4 C

Juliet says 'A lot of people try sewing and give up. It's harder than it looks.' *It's harder than it looks* means something is more difficult than it seems.

5 B

Francis says 'When I'm out in the garden, I forget my worries. It makes me feel calm.'

6 B

Francis says 'If I could spend all day in the garden, I would. Unfortunately, I still have to go to school and do other things', suggesting that he would prefer to spend time gardening instead of doing other things.

Reading Part 3 Page 12

1 G

The sentences before the gap talk about plastic. The pronoun 'it' in Sentence G refers back to plastic and links to the examples of items made of plastic in the next sentence.

2 F

The sentence before the gap talks about the amount of plastic that's produced. The pronoun 'that' in Sentence F refers back to this.

3 D

The sentence before the gap talks about how much plastic enters the world's oceans. The pronoun 'it' in Sentence D refers back to plastic and the adverb 'there' is referring to the oceans.

4 B

The sentence before the gap talks about plastic being a danger to animals. The word 'problem' in Sentence B introduces one way in which plastic is a danger. The sentence after the gap then gives another problem.

5 E

The sentence before the gap talks about recycling. The word 'process' in Sentence E refers back to this.

6 C

The sentence before the gap talks about how food 'companies are making changes.' The adverb 'some' in Sentence C refers back to these companies and also links to the 'restaurants and cafes' in the sentence following the gap.

Reading Part 4 Page 13

1 B

The text says 'in the last couple of years, more and more schools have begun using the bags to keep students off their phones during school hours.' *More and more* suggests that 'interest in the bags is growing.'

2 A

The text says 'And he says that the bags have made everyone more sociable, even if they're just complaining about how much they hate them!', which means the students are discussing the bags.

3 A

The text says 'She says she has had good conversations with people that previously she might not have been as close to', meaning that she has got to know other students.

4 C

Although the idea of the bags 'is not new', they have only been used in schools 'in the last couple of years', so they are new there. We also know that mobile phones in schools are an old problem because 'policies banning or limiting using phones during school hours have been introduced in most schools.'

Writing Part 1 Page 14

Sample answer

Dear Mrs Townsend,

Thank you for your email.

The trip to the museum was really good fun. The guide gave us a lot of interesting information. We also practised our speaking with each other. The only thing that could be better is the lunch: next time, instead of going to a restaurant, I think all the students should have a picnic in the park together.

Unfortunately, I can't come on the trip on the 20th. I'll be away at a family wedding that weekend.

I would like to suggest a trip to the cinema next. We could watch a film in English and discuss it afterwards.

Please tell me if you change the date.

All the best,

Sam

[118 words]

Writing Part 2 Page 15

Sample answer – essay

Nowadays, parents worry if their children are prepared when they leave school. Some of them believe that schools should teach life skills such as cooking and managing money as well as the traditional subjects. In my opinion, this is a very positive idea.

Most students believe that they learn a lot of useless things at schools, but I disagree. In history, for instance, we learn about past events to avoid making the same mistakes. However, it is true that schools don't teach skills enough.

School would be the perfect environment to teach certain daily skills that are essential in real life. Cooking is a good example: when students leave home to go to university, they need to be able to feed themselves. Most of these abilities can even be taught as part of the existing subjects.

In conclusion, schools can and should definitely teach life skills as part of regular lessons.

[151 words]

Sample answer – review

I once found a fantastic shop in London called Movie Store, which is all about films. I'm a big fan of movies, so I thought it was really cool.

The shop offers loads of products about films, including toys, video games, clothes, comics, posters and a lot more. The shop looked fantastic, too: they even had a huge spaceship!

The staff were great: they were experts on movies, so we spoke a lot. The best part was that they were wearing costumes from films.

I didn't buy a lot of things because the prices were quite high and I didn't have much money, but I had a great time in the shop.

If you are in London and love films, you have to go to Movie Store!

[127 words]