



OXFORD
TEST OF ENGLISH
for Schools

B1 PRACTICE TEST 1



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Test 1

Speaking

Parts 1 & 2

Part 1 Interview

1.01 You are going to answer eight questions. You have 10 seconds per question for questions 1 and 2, and 20 seconds per question for questions 3–8. Start speaking when you hear this tone.

Part 2 Voicemail 1

1.02 You are going to leave a voicemail message. First read and listen to the task, then decide what you want to say. You have 40 seconds to leave your voicemail. Start speaking when you hear the tone.

You went to a party at your friend's house yesterday. You left something there. Leave a voicemail message for your friend. In your message, you should:

- explain who you are
- describe the problem
- say what you want your friend to do.

You now have 20 seconds to think about what you want to say.

Part 2 Voicemail 2

1.03 You are going to reply to a voicemail message. First read and listen to the task, then decide what you want to say. You have 40 seconds to leave your voicemail. Start speaking when you hear the tone.

Listen to the message from your friend about a competition. Then, leave a voicemail message for your friend. In your message, you should:

- congratulate your friend
- ask some questions about the competition
- suggest what your friend could do to celebrate.

Now listen to the message.

You have 20 seconds to think about what you want to say.

Part 3

1.04 You are going to give a talk. Read and listen to the task, and start speaking when you hear the tone.

You are going to give a talk to your English class about different types of holidays.

Choose **two** photographs. Tell your class what the advantages and disadvantages of these two types of holidays might be.

You now have 30 seconds to think about what you want to say.

You now have one minute to give your talk.



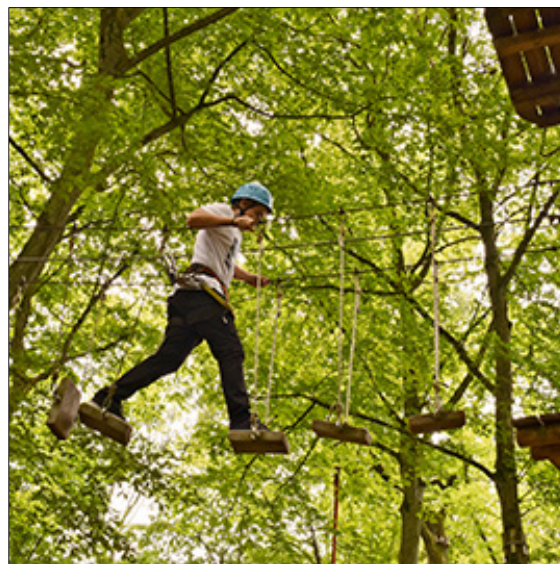
A sailing holiday



A camping holiday



A beach holiday



An adventure holiday

Part 4

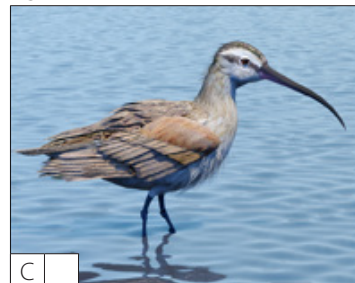
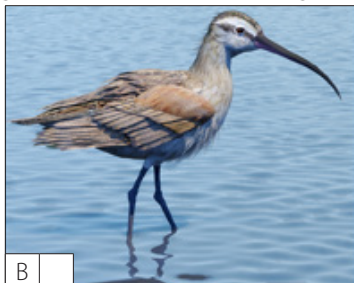
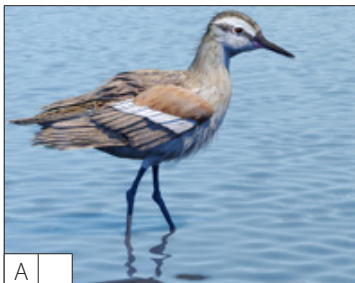
1.05 You are going to answer six questions about your talk. You have 30 seconds to answer each question. Start speaking when you hear the tone.

Listening

Part 1

1.06 Listen and choose the correct picture (A, B, or C).

- 1 A brother and sister are birdwatching at a lake. Which bird is the girl looking at?



- 2 A brother and sister are talking about plans for Saturday. What do they decide to do?



- 3 Two cousins are talking about an old building. What does the building look like now?



- 4 A brother and sister are talking about a family wedding. What does the girl decide to wear to the wedding?



- 5 A brother and sister are talking about a circus. How will they travel to the circus?



Part 2

1.06 Listen to a teacher talking about a school trip to a historic town. Choose the correct answer (A, B, or C) for each gap (1–5). The first one (0) has been done for you. You now have 30 seconds to look at the task.

Historic town trip

Buses

- 0 After the trip, students will arrive at school at**C**..... at the latest.
A 4.00 p.m.
B 4.30 p.m.
C 5.00 p.m.

What to bring

- 1 All students must bring
A a water bottle
B a picnic lunch
C some money

Activities

- 2 Students should collect tickets for soap making
A from the front desk
B at the entrance
C on the bus
- 3 All students will visit
A a gallery
B a university
C a historic house




Free time

- 4 In the free time, students must not
A climb the tower
B cross the bridge
C go shopping
- 5 Students should during the day.
A make notes
B take photos
C complete a quiz




Part 3

1.07 Listen to two cousins talking about life as an actor. Match the people (the **girl**, the **boy**, or **both**) to the opinions below. The first one (0) has been done for you. You now have 30 seconds to look at the task.




- 0 It would be fun to be famous.

		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> girl	<input type="checkbox"/> boy	<input type="checkbox"/> both




- 1 Famous actors earn too much money.

		
<input type="checkbox"/> girl	<input type="checkbox"/> boy	<input type="checkbox"/> both




- 2 It's better to have a private teacher than go to school.

		
<input type="checkbox"/> girl	<input type="checkbox"/> boy	<input type="checkbox"/> both




- 3 It's difficult for famous people to have true friends.

		
<input type="checkbox"/> girl	<input type="checkbox"/> boy	<input type="checkbox"/> both

- 4 It's good for teenagers to travel a lot.

		
<input type="checkbox"/> girl	<input type="checkbox"/> boy	<input type="checkbox"/> both

- 5 Teenagers should be with their families most of the time.

		
<input type="checkbox"/> girl	<input type="checkbox"/> boy	<input type="checkbox"/> both

Part 4

1.09 Listen and choose the correct answer (A, B, or C).

- 1 Two classmates are talking about a trip. Which place did the girl visit?**
 - A a big city
 - B a historic town
 - C a village

- 2 A boy is leaving a voicemail message for his friend. Why is the boy leaving the message?**
 - A to cancel their plan
 - B to give his friend directions
 - C to rearrange the time when they are meeting

- 3 A brother and sister are talking about a swimming pool. The brother thinks that the swimming pool was ...**
 - A too busy.
 - B too cold.
 - C too far away.

- 4 Two classmates are talking about a restaurant. What was the problem with the meal?**
 - A The food took too long to arrive.
 - B It was expensive.
 - C They got the order wrong.

- 5 A girl is leaving a voicemail message for her friend. Why is the girl leaving the message?**
 - A to congratulate her friend
 - B to give her friend advice
 - C to organize to meet her friend

Reading

Part 1

1 Read the email and choose the correct answer (A, B, or C).

FROM: Manny
TO: Nick
SUBJECT: Hiking this weekend

Hi Nick,

Glad to hear you can come hiking with us this weekend. Tony's dad just emailed to confirm he can drive us there. It's going to be cold, so make sure you bring a jacket and some suitable walking shoes. See you on Saturday!

Manny

Why is Manny writing to Nick?

- A** to discuss transport arrangements for a trip
B to advise him about what to pack for a trip
C to request to borrow some clothing for a trip

2 Read the text message and choose the correct answer (A, B, or C).

Hi Janet – Mum said she's sorry, but she has to work late tomorrow, so she can't drive us to Sandra's place. Do you know if Kelly's dad's driving her there? Maybe we can go with them. If not, I don't think we can go because there's no evening bus. Lydia

Lydia is sending Janet a text message to ...

- A cancel their plan.
B change an arrangement.
C apologize for something.

3 Read the note and choose the correct answer (A, B, or C).

Martin,

Mrs Arnold called. She said she isn't available for your piano lesson this evening and asked whether Friday would be OK with you. She also said your concert on Saturday was a success and to keep practising every day.

Mum

Mrs Arnold called Martin to ...

- A** remind him to prepare for a performance.
B tell him he did well in a competition.
C suggest a change of plan to him.

4 Read the notice and choose the correct answer (A, B or C).**Area closed**

The area between the sports hall and the science laboratory is closed this afternoon. If you have a science lesson between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., please walk to the science laboratory through Denman Hall. This area will be open again tomorrow.

What does the notice say?

- A Students should go to the laboratory a different way than usual.
- B Pupils involved in sports matches need to be aware of a change.
- C Science classes will take place in Denman Hall.

5 Read the review and choose the correct answer (A, B, or C).**Film review**

The new film *Rita's Ring* follows the story of a teenager searching for a lost ring. It stars Leia Arnold. While her previous film was great, this one's just brilliant. The costumes are a bit old-fashioned, though. I loved every moment despite the fact that it's quite long.

What does the reviewer think about the film?

- A She prefers the actor's last film.
- B She thinks the film could be shorter.
- C She dislikes the way the characters are dressed.

6 Read the letter and choose the correct answer (A, B or C).

Dear Anna,

Well done on getting a place at Swanwick University. Great achievement! My dad studied there and keeps saying that this would be the best choice for me. I hope I'll be able to go there next year, and then we'll be able to hang out more.

Philippa

Philippa is writing to Anna to ...

- A give her some advice.
- B congratulate her on her success.
- C arrange to meet her.

Part 2

My hobby

Three teenagers talk about their hobbies



Pietro

When I was 13, 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. I especially like taking photos of peaceful scenes like mountains and beaches. Learning all the different settings on the camera can seem hard when you start, but actually you can learn quite quickly. I also attended a course for photographers and learned a lot of tips about lighting. At the end of the course, there was a competition, and I got second prize. There are a few jobs that involve photography, such as journalism, but I'm actually planning on studying engineering. My mum thinks I spend too long on photography, but I don't. I still have enough time to get all my homework done every day. One day, I'd love to visit Egypt and take photos of the pyramids.



Francis

People my age aren't usually interested in gardening, but I don't care. I started helping my dad in the garden when I was about nine years old, and it quickly turned into a passion. Last year, I even took a trip to Germany with my sister to visit the International Gardening Exhibition. Some of the rarer plants are quite expensive at the garden centre, but I keep the cost down by growing a lot of things from seed. This year, I'm planning on building a greenhouse in the garden, so I can grow some plants that usually only grow in warmer climates. When I'm out in the garden, I forget my worries. It makes me feel calm and in touch with nature. If I could spend all day in the garden, I would. Unfortunately, I still have to go to school and do other things!



Juliet

People these days don't usually make their own clothes, but I started sewing a couple of years ago. I wanted to make a specific skirt that wasn't available in the shops. Now, most of the clothes in my wardrobe are ones I've made myself. I even made my sister's school dance dress. I have expensive taste in materials for the clothes I make. I shouldn't spend so much on them, but if I love something, I always buy it! A lot of people try sewing and give up. It's harder than it looks. It's best to start with a simple design, like a T-shirt or a skirt. I learn a lot about sewing online – there are so many useful blogs and videos. I've also entered one of my designs into a competition. The results will be announced next week! One day, I'd like to be a professional fashion designer.

Read the questions (1–6) and match them to the correct text about the young people's hobbies (A–C).

- 1 Who would like to turn their hobby into a career?
A Pietro B Francis C Juliet
- 2 Who started their hobby because of their sister?
A Pietro B Francis C Juliet
- 3 Who thinks their hobby is unusual for teenagers?
A Pietro B Francis C Juliet
- 4 Who thinks that their hobby is difficult?
A Pietro B Francis C Juliet
- 5 Who finds their hobby relaxing?
A Pietro B Francis C Juliet
- 6 Who would like to have more time for their hobby?
A Pietro B Francis C Juliet

Part 3

Six sentences are missing from this text. Choose the correct sentence (A–G) for each gap (1–6). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

What is the problem with plastic?

The first plastic was created over 100 years ago. It was called Bakelite and was invented by Belgian scientist Leo Baekeland. Mr Baekeland would never know how important plastic would become or how damaging it could be.

People can do all kinds of things with plastic. It's used in packaging, building, electronics and many other things. It's available in lots of colours and is usually quite strong.¹ Most items that you use every day have plastic in them, including your computer and clothing. Some countries even have plastic money!

The problem with plastic starts after we put it in the dustbin – it doesn't go back into the earth like paper or food. While these things only last a short time, plastic can last for hundreds of years. Each year, 400 billion kilograms of plastic is produced.² This is what happens to most of the bottles, bags and packets created by the food industry.

Lots of plastic waste – more than 8 billion kilograms a year – enters the world's oceans.³ It can also be carried by rivers. Experts think that by 2050 the amount of plastic in the ocean will weigh more than all the fish that live in the ocean combined.

Plastic is a danger to both sea animals and animals that live on land.⁴ Birds and fish can also confuse small pieces of plastic for food. One in three sea turtles and around 90% of seabirds have consumed plastic by accident at some point. This plastic can fill their stomachs until they don't have room for real food. Eventually, this can kill them.

One possible solution is recycling, but not all plastic can be recycled.⁵ Coffee shops, for example, often use cups made of paper covered with a thin layer of plastic, which is hard to recycle. People use more than 7 million coffee cups a day, but almost none of these are recycled.

There are a lot of organizations trying to reduce plastic rubbish in the environment and cut the amount of plastic we use. Some countries have banned plastic bags, and in other countries, people now have to pay for them at the supermarket. Many food companies are making changes, too.⁶ Many restaurants and cafes have also swapped plastic straws for paper straws. If everyone does something to help, plastic will no longer have such a big impact on our environment.

- A People were surprised to find that this trend has changed.
- B One problem is that they get caught in plastic bags and food packaging.
- C For example, some are creating packaging that is easier to recycle or even plastic free.
- D Sometimes the wind blows it there from ships and beaches.
- E Either it would cost too much, or the process would be too difficult.
- F 40% of that is single use – plastic we'll only use once before we throw it away.
- G This means a huge variety of things can be made from it.

Part 4

Read the article about mobile phones. For each question (1–4), choose the correct answer (A, B or C).

Although policies banning or limiting using phones during school hours have been introduced in most schools, teachers often find themselves taking away mobile phones from students who are using them during class. Schools are therefore now exploring stronger measures. This school year, more than 1,000 schools are using a special bag that allows students to lock away their phones while they're in the classroom. Each morning, the students put their phones in the bags and lock them. Although they keep the bags with them, the students can't open them and use their phones again until the end of the school day.

The idea is not new. Musicians and performers have been using the bags to try to prevent people from filming their shows since 2014. But in the last couple of years, more and more schools have begun using the bags to keep students off their phones during school hours.

At a high school which has introduced the bags, one 16-year-old male student has mixed feelings about them, but he has noticed that other students can concentrate better now – even those who were only using their phones to check the time or check notifications. And he says that the bags have made everyone more sociable, even if they're just complaining about how much they hate them!

But a female student at the same school is glad they have introduced the bags. She says she has had good conversations with people that previously she might not have been as close to. She feels students used to look at their phones to avoid chatting to people they didn't know well. Now people talk more and are more sociable.

- 1 In the second paragraph, what point does the writer make?
 - A The bags were designed for the entertainment industry.
 - B The amount of interest in the bags is growing.
 - C The use of the bags has been effective at concerts.
- 2 According to a male student, ...
 - A students spend time discussing the bags.
 - B students use their phones for many things.
 - C students still have difficulty focusing in class.
- 3 Why does the female student like using the bag?
 - A It has allowed her to get to know other students.
 - B It has improved her relationships with her friends.
 - C It has made her feel more relaxed around strangers.
- 4 What would be the best title for this text?
 - A Schools win battle against mobile phones
 - B New policy is surprisingly popular
 - C A fresh solution to an old problem

Writing

Part 1

You have 20 minutes to write an email. Write 80–130 words.

You recently went on a school trip with your English class. First read the email about the school trip. Then write an email to Mrs Townsend, including the three notes you have made.

FROM: Mrs Townsend
SUBJECT: School trip

Dear Student,

I am very happy you could join the school trip last weekend.

I am writing to ask your opinion about the trip.

I think ...

I am already planning the next one, possibly on Sunday 20th October. Are you able to come on a trip that day?

No, because ...

I am looking for ideas on where to go for our next trip. Do you have any suggestions?

What about ...

Best wishes,

Mrs Townsend
School Secretary

Part 2

For Writing Part 2, choose one question, the essay **OR** the review.

Part 2 Essay

You have 25 minutes to write an essay. Write 100–160 words.

You have had a class discussion on education. Your teacher now wants you to write an essay.

The title of the essay is:

Some people believe that students should learn life skills such as cooking and dealing with money at school. Do you agree?

Write your **essay**.

Part 2 Review

You have 25 minutes to write a review. Write 100–160 words.

You have seen the following advert in an online magazine for English language students.

Write a review for the magazine.

Reviews wanted

A great shopping experience

Have you been to an interesting shop recently? What was special about it?

Write a review of the shop and your experience there. We will publish the best reviews in the next issue of *All English*!

Write your **review**.

Great Clarendon Street, Oxford, OX2 6DP, United Kingdom

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First published in 2018

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