

Practice Test 1 • Reading

Part 1

For each question, choose the correct answer.

1

WARNING

Delays expected for the next 24 hours because of repairs to this cycle lane

- A** Your cycling journey will be slower every day this week.
- B** Cyclists will be delayed for one day.
- C** You can't cycle in this lane for 24 hours.

2

Hi Harry,
You missed a good history class yesterday, but I hope you're feeling better now. Do you want to borrow my notes?
Suzie

- A** Suzie didn't enjoy the history class because she was ill.
- B** Harry went to the history class, but didn't take any notes.
- C** Suzie is offering to lend Harry her notes.

3

Music Lessons

Students who wish to take lessons this term should complete an application form by Thursday.

- A** You need to apply to do music lessons by Thursday.
- B** Music lessons this term start on Thursday.
- C** There are no music lessons on Thursdays this term.

4

THIS WEEK ONLY!

Free bottle of cola or lemonade with takeaway meals over £15.

5

To all our customers

La Plaza café has changed!

All our food is freshly cooked by our new Italian chefs.

Maurizio Mattioli

- A** Every customer will receive a free bottle of cola or lemonade.
- B** If you spend enough money on a takeaway, you get something free.
- C** Free drinks are only given to customers who eat in the café.
- A** The owner has recently employed new staff.
- B** The café has recently moved to another building.
- C** The owner has recently opened another café in Italy.

Practice Test 1 • Reading

Part 2

For each question, choose the correct answer.

The people below want to buy a new mobile phone. On the opposite page there are descriptions of eight different phones. Decide which phone would be the most suitable for the people below.

6



Sasha is a businesswoman. She uses her phone a lot and really needs a model that she can rely on. Her budget is around £500 and the new phone must have a good reputation and an excellent battery life.

7



Carlos is a university student. He can't afford more than £300 for his new smartphone, but he wants one that looks good. He mainly uses his phone to watch films, so the screen size has to be decent.

8



Clara is a grandmother who wants a basic phone that is easy to manage. She needs good storage for all the photos she receives of her grandchildren! Clara has £150 for her new phone.

9



Sam is 14. He can spend between £300 and £400 on a new mobile for his birthday. Sam likes to browse the Internet and check social media on his phone. He's also crazy about gaming.

10



Ayesha and Jane are 17 and they each need a smartphone that costs less than £200. They prefer small phones that are easy to carry. They use their phones to listen to music, so good sound is essential.

MOBILE CENTRAL

A Sunshine 123

One of our most inexpensive phones, the Sunshine 123 offers enormous memory and will only cost you £149.99. The battery doesn't last as long as other models, but this smartphone offers other advantages. It's very simple to set up and use, which many of our customers appreciate.

B Champion D

People who are serious about their phones choose the Champion D because it has the best hardware available for the incredible price of £650. Install as many apps as you want because this model has exceptional capacity. It's the experts' favourite phone.

C Blueberry X2

This is not a complicated phone. Anyone can use it with ease, and the best part is that it is known to be extremely reliable. The sound is poor and it's not ideal for saving a lot of files, but at only £120, it's not a bad device at all.

D Sky QF

The Sky QF is our most lightweight smartphone. It's a neat and tidy device with the astonishing price tag of just £180. Amazing! For its size, you'll be surprised by how powerful the internal speakers are. It comes in three cute colours and everyone loves it.

E Diamond A7

Among all of our models, this is the most popular smartphone we sell. People love the Diamond A7 because they can completely depend on it; complaints are very rare! One of its best features is that it doesn't need to be charged very often. At £510, it's a bargain.

F Storm V

The Storm V is currently on sale for £385. That is an extraordinary price when you consider the chip inside this phone, which allows it to operate at very high speeds. It even has a special fan so it doesn't get too hot. Storm V's display is bright, making it ideal for video games.

G Gold 100

If you want to enjoy movies on the coolest phone available, get yourself a Gold 100 for £495. This is the smartphone that everyone wants to be seen with. Whether you want to shop online or listen to podcasts, this phone will never disappoint you. Its camera is one of the best ever developed.

H Tiger 21

Normally £350, Tiger 21 is on special offer this week only for £280, so hurry and get yours! This is one of the most stylish smartphones on the market. It has a huge display and a convenient port for headphones. The Tiger 21 looks fantastic.

Practice Test 1 • Reading

Part 3

For each question, choose the correct answer.

Jessica Hail – Comedian

I've always enjoyed performing and making people laugh. When I was at school, I used to annoy some of my teachers as I was always telling jokes in class. All my classmates used to laugh a lot and I had a great time.

When I left school, I got a job in a fast food restaurant during the day and took acting classes in the evening. I also started performing in theatres at the weekends. Sometimes the audience loved me, but other times nobody laughed at my jokes. That was the worst feeling in the world.



After two or three years, I appeared on TV a few times and became better known. I finally got a part in a TV comedy show and I've worked on TV ever since. I still do theatre work, and although it's harder than being on TV, I enjoy it much more. During those years when I performed in theatres, I learned so much. It was great to start performing while I was still young. It gave me a lot of experience and it helped me become confident on stage.

It isn't easy to keep on being successful because it's so difficult trying to think of new ideas all the time. When I can't think of anything to write about, I get very miserable. Then I usually go for a walk. Walking is a great way to relax and it also helps you to think. I can go out for a walk in the morning with no ideas in my head. When I return, my head is full of them and I can't wait to write them down!

As well as walking, mountain climbing and diving help me to relax, too. I'm planning a climbing trip to Nepal soon, which I'm really looking forward to! I'm sure I'll come back with a lot of new jokes and ideas. Inspiration is very important in my profession. If I'm inspired, I can create new performances and make people laugh out loud! It's fantastic. I think comedy is the cure for many things. It can take away your worries and help you relax.

11 What does Jessica say about her life at school?

- A Her friends were very funny.
- B She enjoyed performing for her classmates.
- C She disliked the teachers.
- D Her jokes were bad.

12 What did Jessica do when she left school?

- A She trained to be a teacher.
- B She started performing in a restaurant.
- C She got a job and studied acting.
- D She got a job in a theatre.

13 What does she say about her working life?

- A People have always enjoyed her performances.
- B Being on TV is the most difficult thing she's done.
- C Her first job was in a theatre.
- D She's worked in a variety of places.

14 Why does Jessica like walking?

- A It makes her laugh.
- B It helps her to get ideas.
- C It takes away her worries.
- D It allows her to empty her mind.

15 Which of the following is the best description of the writer?

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A | The comedian who never stops laughing herself. | B | The funny person who loves her work but never has time to relax. |
| C | The successful comedian who is always looking for new ideas. | D | The popular star who loves being on TV more than anything else. |

Practice Test 1 • Reading

Part 4

Five sentences have been removed from the text below.
For each question, choose the correct answer.
There are three extra sentences which you do not need to use.

An Amazing Journey

I was walking my dog near my home in San Francisco last spring when I saw a large black Labrador on its own. It was wearing a blue collar, but there was no sign of an owner anywhere. **16** _____ I was only joking, but it came running to me and stood by my side, ready to leave. I knew that this was someone's lost pet.

I fed and bathed the dog and checked its collar. There was a tag on it with a phone number. It turned out that the dog's name was Banjo, and sure enough, he had an owner and a home. The trouble was that his home was in Chicago – over 2,000 miles away! **17** _____ Banjo had been missing for over a year, and they had no idea how he had got all the way across the country. They also had no idea how to get him back again because they had a newborn baby at home and couldn't make the long journey to San Francisco.

I used social media to ask for help. It wasn't long before we had a long list of volunteers who wanted to help Banjo to get home. **18** _____ It was important that they knew how to take care of Banjo. Banjo set off on his journey, and met new people in California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Missouri before he reached his home state of Illinois.

19 _____ Banjo was delighted to meet the new baby and to be back home. His owners were thrilled to have him back. **20** _____ Banjo's story just goes to show what people can achieve when they all work together!

- A I made sure that all of them were pet owners.
- B I decided to travel to Chicago with Banjo.
- C It took 20 drivers four days to reunite Banjo with his family.
- D I asked the dog if it wanted to come home with me.
- E I hope he won't go wandering again.
- F His owners, Tina and Dan, were amazed to hear from me.
- G It was clearly hungry, and needed to rest.
- H I didn't know who the dog belonged to.

Preparation • Reading

Part 5

This part of the Reading paper tests your ability to identify missing words. In Part 5, you will read a shorter text, which has one word missing from six different gaps. From four options, you choose the correct missing word for each gap.

First of all, get a general overview of the text by skimming it quickly. Then read the text more closely, paying particular attention to the gaps. Notice any information around the gaps that may help you to spot the correct answer.

Note: In other parts of the exam, you practised identifying the part of speech, for example, a noun, a verb, an adjective, etc., which a gap might require. However, in Part 5, all of the answer options will already be in the correct part of speech.

- 1** While some questions in Part 5 might test your knowledge of grammatical patterns, most will test your vocabulary. The four answer options may be very close in meaning, but only one will be correct in the gap. Read the definition. Choose the word it defines.
- 1** things that a person owns
 - A contents
 - B items
 - C belongings
 - D objects
 - 2** come close to
 - A enter
 - B approach
 - C attend
 - D arrive
 - 3** the result of an action
 - A reason
 - B effect
 - C advantage
 - D cause
 - 4** not moving or making a sound
 - A still
 - B quiet
 - C slow
 - D lazy
 - 5** to look quickly
 - A ignore
 - B see
 - C stare
 - D glance
 - 6** responsible for doing something wrong
 - A guilty
 - B fault
 - C mistake
 - D upset

2 Now choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

- 1 Although the students had worked extremely hard, the results were _____.
 - A unhappy
 - B discouraged
 - C upset
 - D disappointing
- 2 Marco _____ for my help.
 - A requested
 - B told
 - C asked
 - D demanded
- 3 _____ of the guests arrived late.
 - A Some
 - B Any
 - C No one
 - D A bit
- 4 Tall trees _____ the park.
 - A moved
 - B surrounded
 - C decorated
 - D collected

3 Draw lines to match the collocations.

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| 1 brand | A hands |
| 2 deep | B service |
| 3 shake | C traffic |
| 4 spend | D new |
| 5 heavy | E time |
| 6 customer | F in thought |

4 There are also many preposition collocations. Knowing the correct preposition that collocates with a particular word can really help you in Part 5. Choose the correct preposition to complete the sentences.

- 1 She decided to wear her purple jacket instead _____ her pink one.
 - A to
 - B for
 - C of
 - D in
- 2 Patrick, who was known _____ his patience, helped us all to feel calm.
 - A in
 - B of
 - C as
 - D for
- 3 I'm afraid I gave you the wrong document _____ mistake.
 - A by
 - B in
 - C on
 - D at

TIP

Remember: Look for clues near the gaps. Practising collocations is very good preparation for Part 5. Collocations are words that are typically used together.

Practice Test 1 • Reading

Part 5

For each question, choose the correct answer.

Fashion Show Success

Last Saturday, the fashion department at Mansion College held a fashion show.

The students created special designs **21** _____ were modelled by other students. Parents and shopkeepers were **22** _____ to the event and 200 tickets were sold.

23 _____ of the designs were really original and the evening was a great success. The most popular items at the show were T-shirts designed by student Maria Daniella. A local clothes shop has already asked Maria to **24** _____ them with 20 T-shirts. Maria is very pleased by her success.

25 _____ the fashion show finished late, many people stayed longer to listen to the college rock band. There was food and drink on sale and the event finally **26** _____ at midnight.

The money made from the sale of the tickets went to a well-known children's charity.

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| 21 A when | B which | C who | D whose |
| 22 A called | B requested | C demanded | D invited |
| 23 A Many | B Lot | C Much | D Each |
| 24 A produce | B design | C give | D provide |
| 25 A Even | B So | C Although | D But |
| 26 A left | B ended | C done | D completed |

Practice Test 1 • Reading

Part 6

For each question, write the correct answer.
Write **one** word for each gap.

Greetings from Cornwall, in sunny south-west England! This is my favourite place **27** _____ a holiday. I've stayed in the same village every year since I was a baby, and I always look forward to coming back.

Cornwall is very beautiful and there are a lot of things to do. **28** _____ you like walking, you can explore the coast or the wild moorland. Surfing is popular here. It's often **29** _____ windy that the waves are **30** _____ than two metres high.

The food in Cornwall is amazing. The **31** _____ famous example of Cornish food is the cream tea. That's fresh scones served **32** _____ jam and Cornish cream. It's really delicious. If you ever visit, you must try the fish and chips, too!

See you soon!

Mike





Preparation • Writing

At the beginning of the Writing paper, you will see some instructions and information, including the items in the box below. Make sure you understand which questions you have to answer on the Writing paper.

Note: While the other papers in the Preliminary exam require use of a pencil, for the Writing paper you **must** use a pen.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Read the instructions for each part of the paper carefully.

Answer the Part 1 question and one question from Part 2.

Write your answers on the answer sheet.

Write clearly in **pen**, not pencil. You may make alterations, but make sure your work is easy to read.

You must complete the answer sheet within the 45-minute time limit for this paper.

Part 1

Part 1 of the Writing paper tests your ability to write an email.

You will be given a short email to read, and your task is to write an email in response to it (around 100 words). The supplied email will have four written prompts. These four prompts are all points that you must include when you write your email reply.

Follow these steps:

- Read the supplied email and the four prompts.
- Make sure you understand the context of the email.
- Plan your reply.
- Then write your email using appropriate language.
- Include the points from the four prompts.
- Keep your reply to roughly 100 words.
- Check your grammar, spellings and punctuation.

- 1 Your supplied email and prompts will be similar to this one. Read it carefully.

From: Greta
Subject: Paul's birthday

Hi,

I'm so excited about Paul's birthday on Saturday.

Actually, I've just decided to organize a picnic for him! Would you be able to help me? It's going to be a surprise.

Unfortunately, the weather forecast for Saturday is mixed. It's mostly sunny, but there's a small chance of rain. I wanted to have the picnic in the park, but maybe we should have it in my garden instead. What do you think?

We could just order pizza for everyone, or we could make some simple dishes ourselves. Which would you prefer?

I can't wait to hear from you!

Greta

React

Confirm

Choose

Explain

Write your **email** to Greta using **all the notes**.

TIP: Timing

It's a good idea to practise writing 100 words. Firstly, try to get used to writing quickly and clearly. Secondly, you should become familiar with how much space 100 words takes up in your own handwriting. You can go a little bit over or under the word limit, but it's best to submit as close to 100 words as possible.

- 2 Look at the email in exercise 1 again. Match the questions (1–5) with the answers (A–E).

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 1 What is the main reason for the email? — | A Having the picnic in the garden or the park. |
| 2 What is the first thing you need to do in your email reply? — | B Write a greeting and react to the birthday. |
| 3 What do you need to confirm? — | C Whether or not you can help organize the picnic. |
| 4 What do you need to choose between? — | D The type of food that will be served. |
| 5 What do you need to express a preference about? — | E To discuss plans for the birthday picnic. |

TIPS

- **The four prompts:** The prompts in Part 1 typically ask you to agree or disagree with a point, to express a preference about something, to explain something, to make a suggestion or to express an opinion. Practise these.
- **Grammar:** Pay attention to the tenses in the supplied email, and make sure you reply in the correct tense.
- **Informal language:** The emails in Part 1 are always between friends, so they are always informal. That means they have a relaxed and natural style. Practise writing friendly, informal greetings and suitable phrases for ending your email.

- 3 Here is a suitable reply from Carl to the email in exercise 1, but the lines (A–H) have been mixed up. Number them (1–8) to put them in the correct order.

- A A picnic is a fantastic idea, and making it a surprise for Paul is even better. Yes, I can definitely help to organize it. No problem. —
- B Carl —
- C I think your garden would be better than the park, Greta. That way, if it rains, we can go into your house. —
- D Speak soon! —
- E I'll ring you tonight to talk about the plans. —
- F Hi Greta, —
- G I'd prefer to make our own dishes, to be honest. Pizza is nice, but it gets cold so quickly! We could just make some salads and sandwiches, couldn't we? —
- H I'm really excited about Paul's birthday on Saturday, too! —

TIP: Final check

Try to save some time at the end to check your work. Check your grammar, spellings and punctuation. Check that you have used appropriate language. Check that you have responded to the four prompts in the correct order.

Practice Test 1 • Writing**Part 1**

You **must** answer this question.

Write your answer in about **100 words**.

Question 1

Read this email from your English-speaking friend Tom and the notes you have made.

From: Tom
Subject: Camping trip

Hi,

I'm really looking forward to our camping trip next weekend!

Me too!

The campsite looks great. There are cabins for people to stay in, or we can take our own tent. Would you prefer to stay in a cabin or a tent?

No, because ...

There's a lake near the campsite. Shall we go sailing on the lake while we're there?

Say which I prefer

Let me know if you have any questions.

Ask Tom

See you soon.

Tom

Write your **email** to Tom using **all the notes**.