

PRACTICE TESTS **B1 PRELIMINARY** **FOR SCHOOLS**

for the Revised 2020 exam

Student's Book

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Express Publishing

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Reading

(45 minutes)

PART 1

Questions 1 – 5

For each question, choose the correct answer.

1

Billy,
I had to pop out to get some tomatoes for the salad. I'll pick up your sister on my way home. Why not do your homework now so we can all eat together?
Mum

- A Billy has some schoolwork to do.
- B Billy has to finish cooking the dinner.
- C Billy should collect his sister.

2

7:30 Danson's River

On the Danson ranch, the problems keep getting bigger. First a tornado, now a flood, and Andrew's father went out to find a lost calf alone yesterday and didn't come back. It's up to Andrew to find him ...

- A The show *Danson's River* is a comedy.
- B Andrew doesn't know where his father has gone.
- C The weather has been mild lately where Andrew lives.

3

LIBRARY NOTICE:
All library users are asked to return books on time or face a fine.

- A People must pay to borrow books.
- B It costs more to borrow books for long periods.
- C There is a fee for giving books back late.

4

4

**What should Harriett do?**

- A** inform her father where she would like to go on holiday
- B** tell her father if her friend is accompanying them
- C** buy the aeroplane tickets for their summer holiday to Spain

5



- A** The juice shouldn't be drunk if not opened within ten days.
- B** The juice will go bad after being open for more than ten days.
- C** The juice can only be drunk if it is unopened for ten days.

PART 2

Questions 6 – 10

For each question, choose the correct answer.

The young people below all want to do an English course during their school holidays. On the opposite page there are descriptions of eight English courses. Decide which course would be the most suitable for the people below.



6

Pierre can't speak English at all yet, and feels a little shy about that, so he wants to learn on his own with a teacher. He'd love an intensive course with four or five sessions a week. He'd also like some practical help with natural pronunciation.



7

Paulo has an excellent knowledge of English, but he wants to learn more so that he doesn't make any grammar mistakes. He'd also like to learn more about the way real English is spoken throughout the world. Only an evening course would suit him.

8

Maria is fifteen and knows English quite well. She needs to learn how to speak more fluently in everyday situations, though, because she's going to London in August. She's not free on weekdays.



9

Lucy is ten and her English is fairly good, but she isn't confident in conversation. She'd prefer a class with lots of other kids her age, which focuses on speaking and working in pairs and groups.



10

Hans is fourteen and a good speaker of English. He's keen to start learning about English literature and would love to understand the lyrics of his favourite British bands. He'd like to be with other teens around the same age as him.

English courses

A

ENGLISH LANGUAGE POWER

A course for able speakers of English. We specialise in teaching speakers of all ages how to use British English in real situations. We are sure that by the end of the course, no conversation in the street will worry you! Saturdays 2:00 pm-4:00 pm.

C

ENGLISH AWAY!

If you're nearly fluent in English, but wish to take your knowledge to the absolute top level, then this is the course for you. You will be with others of the same ability. We offer expert teaching in everything from tenses to time clauses, plus an introduction to international English from American to Australian. Mondays 6:00 pm-8:00 pm and Fridays 7:00 pm-9:00 pm.

E

English Learners

Not a beginner, but need plenty of practice? This course offers practical help with the basics of conversation and functional English. You'll be in a group of pupils of the same level. Improve your spoken skills by working with partners and in teams! Open to all children up to the age of eleven. Sundays 10:00 am-12:00 pm.

G

English Medicine

Have you failed your English exams? Our teachers are experts in finding out why and fixing the problem. English Medicine has a course to suit every level (except absolute beginners) and is ideal for all ages 11-19. Tuesdays 9:00 am-12:00 pm or Wednesdays 3:00 pm-6:00 pm.

B

English First

We teach everyday English as used in English-speaking countries all over the world. We'll teach you the skills you need to deal with anything life throws at you, without worrying too much about exact grammar or big words. All ages are welcome from 10+. Thursdays 9:00 am-11:00 am.

D

Setting Out in English

A course for English students just starting out, who need one-to-one instruction to get off to the right start. We also give advice on saying words using the correct British or American English accent. A fantastic introduction to English! Mondays-Fridays 9:00 am-10:00 am.

F

English On Course

Can't speak English yet, but really want to? Don't worry. Our beginners-only group (4-10 students per group) is just what you're looking for. Excellent teaching in modern surroundings. Makes learning English fun and easy. Mondays 9:00 am-11:00 am and Thursdays 2:00 pm-4:00 pm.

H

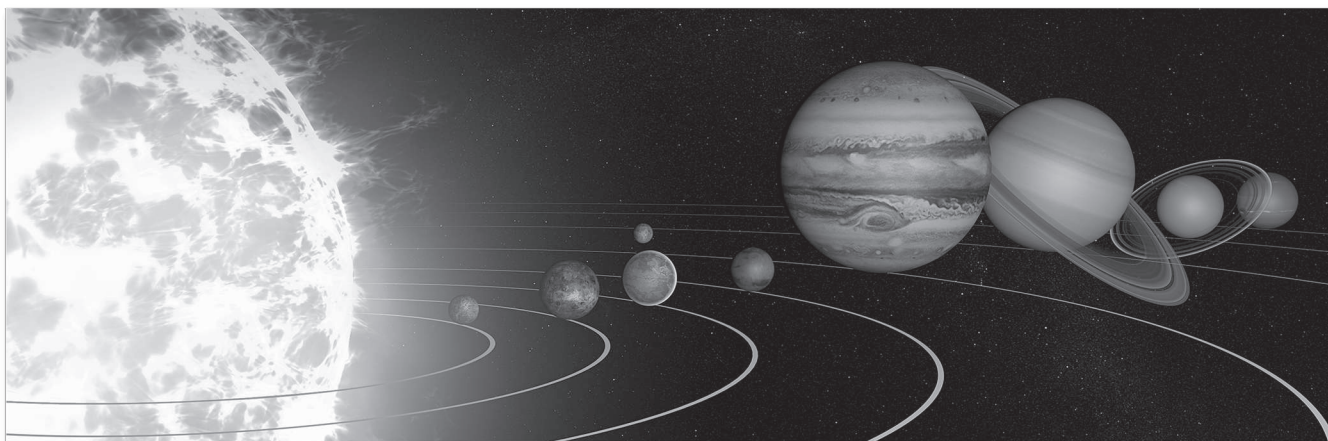
Adventures with English

Do you want to begin your travels in the world of English? Find out about the great English writers and their works and take a closer look at the words in your favourite English-language rock and pop songs! Only for advanced speakers (Age 14-15). Saturdays 1:00 pm-4:00 pm.

PART 3

Questions 11 – 15

For each question, choose the correct answer.



Professor Brian Cox

16-year-old Nick Hall describes his favourite TV presenter.

My favourite TV presenter, Brian Cox, didn't begin his career as a physicist who studied the solar system or a TV presenter, but as a rock star. His band Dare signed a record deal in 1986 and he recorded two albums with them. They also toured around Europe with Jimmy Page and Gary Moore before the band broke up in 1992. It was an exciting time in his life. He then joined the band D:Ream, whose song *Things Can Only Get Better* was very popular in many countries. He really enjoyed his rock career, but it wasn't where his real interest lay. It was while he was in D:Ream that he started to take his love of physics further. He got a first class honours degree in physics from the University of Manchester and a PhD in high energy particle physics in Hamburg.

He was given a Royal Society University Research Fellowship in 2005, and in 2009 became Professor of Particle Physics at the University of

Manchester. In 2010, he received an award from the British Queen for his scientific work.

He is best known to the public as the presenter of a number of science programmes for the BBC including *Wonders of the Solar System*. He really enjoys science and his passion is the solar system. The universe has always interested him since childhood and he wants to share this passion with the next generation. He uses his programmes to get everyone involved in science.

He has received many awards for his work. In 2002, he was delighted to be elected as an International Fellow of the Explorers Club and in 2006, he received the Lord Kelvin award from the British Science Association for his work in bringing science to the public. In 2010, he won the Institute of Physics Kelvin Prize and in 2012 he was awarded the Michael Faraday Prize of the Royal Society.

- 11 What is the writer doing in the text?
- A talking about a time he met a famous person
 - B describing how someone's career developed
 - C expressing his love of being on television
 - D sharing his knowledge of the solar system
- 12 How did Brian Cox feel about his early career?
- A He enjoyed it but it wasn't his favourite activity.
 - B He was disappointed it came to an end.
 - C He disliked getting so much attention.
 - D He didn't think his songs were popular enough.
- 13 Why did Brian choose to present a series of TV programmes?
- A to teach people to do scientific experiments
 - B to inform more people about his subject
 - C to earn money for his research
 - D to win lots of awards
- 14 What do we learn about Brian from the text?
- A He is a very popular television presenter.
 - B He would prefer not to be on television.
 - C He knows more about science than most scientists.
 - D He gets a lot of respect.
- 15 What could be another title for the text?

A A university professor who still loves music

C A musician turned physicist who is famous for his work

B A television presenter who really loves his subject

D A failure in rock music but a success in science

PART 4**Questions 16 – 20**

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.

Meeting a Brain Surgeon

by Jane Miller, aged 13



Yesterday, it was Careers Day at school. Many different people came to talk to the students about their jobs. **16** But one was especially interesting: Julia's mum is a brain surgeon! I have always been interested in how our brains work and how doctors can perform operations on them. **17** After she spoke, the class was able to ask her questions. Here are some of the answers she gave us.

One of the first questions someone asked Dr Hewitt was how she got interested in becoming a brain surgeon. She explained that it was in her first year at university. **18** Then she wanted to find out more about how our minds work, and help people with brain injuries. After that, she began focusing on getting her degree in neurobiology.

Another classmate asked her what her biggest achievement was. She thought about it for a little bit and then explained she has great achievements every day. Sometimes, it might be a really difficult operation. **19** According to Dr Hewitt, there is always more to learn when you are a brain surgeon. And this is something she loves about her job.

I wanted to know what the best thing about being a brain surgeon was. I wasn't surprised to hear the answer when she said, 'Helping people.' **20** Being able to help them, or tell someone their brain surgery was a success, makes her extremely happy. Seeing her patients leave the hospital to go home with their families is one of the best feelings ever.

- A** Another day, it might be making a new discovery in the lab.
- B** But some days are difficult for her.
- C** So, I was quite excited when she began talking to us.
- D** She took an Introduction to Psychology course.
- E** That might mean studying more about medicine.
- F** I learned about many different careers.
- G** Dr Hewitt told us she sees patients and their families at very difficult times.
- H** However, Dr Hewitt needed to practise more.

PART 5

Questions 21 – 26

For each question, choose the correct answer.

A Greener Form of Transport

The Segway Personal Transporter is built by Segway Inc of New Hampshire, USA. It is a two-wheeled, self-balancing electric **(21)** invented in 2001 by Dean Kamen, an American engineer and businessman.

Computers and motors **(22)** the Segway PT (Personal Transporter) standing up straight when it is turned on. Sensors make sure that the transporter is perfectly balanced at all times. Users stand on a small platform and hold onto the handlebars. They must **(23)** their bodies forward to go forward or back to go backward. To turn left or right, the person must press down on the handlebars to the left or right. The Segway PT can **(24)** speeds of up to 20 kph.

Segways are used in Europe, mainly for guided city tours, but they are not a **(25)** means of transport. They can be used on public streets in most European countries, but often with a speed limit and some countries also **(26)** vehicle insurance and a licence plate.

- | | | | | |
|----|-------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| 21 | A transport | B vehicle | C machine | D technology |
| 22 | A put | B remain | C keep | D stay |
| 23 | A send | B move | C change | D drive |
| 24 | A make | B reach | C go | D get |
| 25 | A common | B wide | C routine | D shared |
| 26 | A order | B request | C ask | D require |

PART 6

Questions 27 – 32

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

Mountaineering

by Helena Daniels, 15

Have you ever been mountain climbing? As long as you're fit and have your parents' permission, it can be the perfect hobby. But what do you need to be a good mountaineer? Let's look at some of the **(27)** important points.

One thing every good climber needs is focus. It is important to focus **(28)** they don't fall, but climbers also need to plan their next moves, keep calm in emergencies and keep climbing up.

Climbing is a sport **(29)** you need to be really strong to do. That's why many mountaineers train their bodies by doing activities such as jogging or lifting weights. It's important to keep your body fit **(30)** you want to be able to climb a mountain or steep rock face.

Mountaineering also requires a lot of knowledge. Climbing uses special equipment, so mountaineers **(31)** to learn to use it all. Mountain climbers must also have other skills **(32)** as map reading, and a knowledge of first aid in case of an accident.

Writing

(45 minutes)

PART 1

You **must** answer this question.
Write your answer in about **100 words** on the answer sheet.

Question 1

Read this email from your coach Mr Johnson and the notes you have made.

From: Mr Johnson
Subject: Practice session

Dear Team,
As you know, last weekend we missed our practice due to rain and we need to arrange a new time.

We could either have the practice on Friday after school, or we could do some extra time after our regular practice on Sunday morning. Which day do you think is better?

Since we have the cup final in three weeks, maybe we should start training two times a week from now on. What do you think?

Also, I would like to provide snacks for this special extra practice. What food do you think I should buy?

Please reply soon!
Coach Johnson

Agree

Explain

Give opinion

Tell Coach Johnson

Write your **email** to Mr Johnson using **all the notes**.

PART 2

Choose **one** of these questions.

Write your answer in about **100 words** on the answer sheet.

Question 2

You see this announcement in your school English-language magazine.

**Articles
wanted!**

What makes a good friend?

Write an article explaining the qualities of a good friend. Who is your closest friend? Do you think you will still be close with this person when you grow older? Why or why not?

The best articles answering these questions will be published next month.

Write your **article**.

Question 3

Your English teacher has asked you to write a story.

Your story must begin with this sentence.

It was raining heavily when Peter left for school.

Write your **story**.

Listening

(about 30 minutes)

PART 1

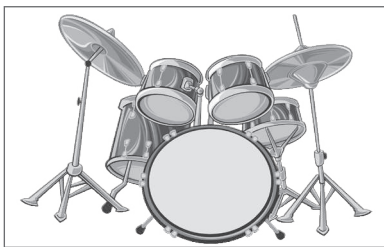
Questions 1 – 7

For each question, choose the correct answer.

1 What instrument will the boy learn to play?



A



B



C

2 What time is the film they are going to see?



A



B



C

3 What was on the radio before Greg James?



A

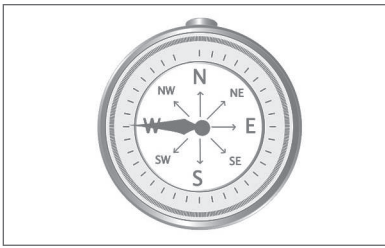


B

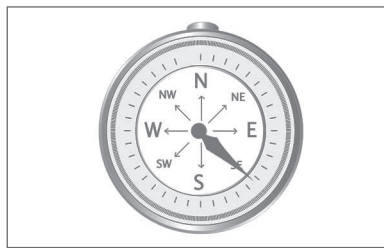


C

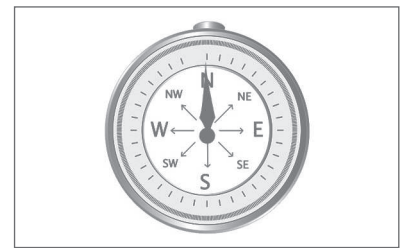
4 Which area will have less rain?



A

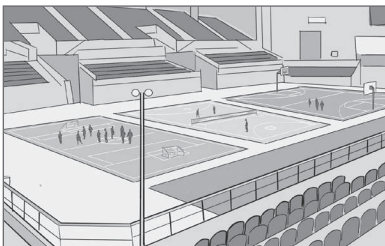


B



C

5 Where did Sports Day take place last year?



A



B



C

6 What has the boy bought for the woman?



A



B

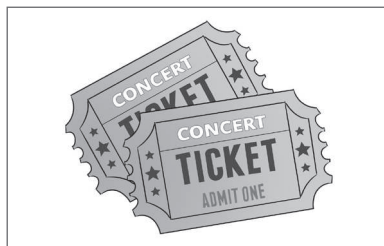


C

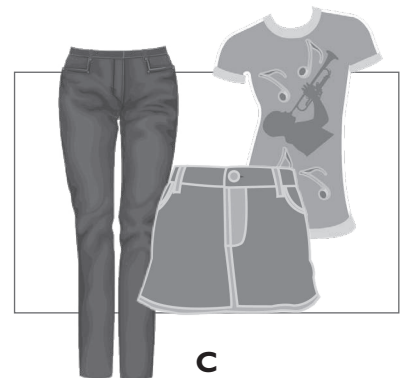
7 What present did the woman get for Linda?



A



B



C

PART 2

Questions 8 – 13

For each question, choose the correct answer.

- 8 You will hear two friends talking about a film they have watched. What did the boy find confusing about it?
- A the large number of characters
 - B the romantic part of the story
 - C the actors' accents
- 9 You will hear two friends talking about an exam. When the girl studies alone, she
- A loses interest after a while.
 - B enjoys herself more.
 - C ends up calling her friends.
- 10 You will hear a boy telling his friend about a school outing. How does he feel about it?
- A disappointed with the food
 - B excited to go again
 - C grateful it is over
- 11 You will hear two friends talking about a birthday party. The boy advises the girl to
- A make food for the party.
 - B ask what kind of party her guests prefer.
 - C check the weather forecast.
- 12 You will hear two friends talking about a cafeteria. They agree that the food
- A is more expensive than at the old cafeteria.
 - B has a better taste than at the old cafeteria.
 - C has more variety than at the old cafeteria.
- 13 You will hear two friends talking about a class they attended. They think that
- A the students were all a little bored by the end.
 - B the teacher spoke for too long.
 - C the teacher didn't know a lot about the topic.

PART 3

Questions 14 – 19

For each question, write the correct answer in the gap.
Write **one** or **two words** or a **number** or a **date** or a **time**.

You will hear a woman talking about a first aid course for young people.

Safety First

Safety First is a first aid course that is useful for
(14)

The course deals with common illnesses and (15)
that can happen at summer camps.

Students are taught to decide when they need to get help from the
(16)

Safety First courses are available in June and (17)
in London.

The course fee is (18) £, which includes
accommodation costs.

When students complete the course, they receive
a (19)

PART 4**Questions 20 – 25**

For each question, choose the correct answer.

You will hear an interview on a school radio station with a teenager called Mark.

- 20** How did Mark feel in the London Dungeon?
- A** scared by the staff
 - B** interested in what he was learning
 - C** entertained by the stories he was reading
- 21** What does Mark say about the Great Fire of London exhibit?
- A** It felt like real life.
 - B** It was extremely scary.
 - C** It was quite dangerous.
- 22** Mark recommends the London Bus Tour because
- A** it's very cheap.
 - B** it's very short.
 - C** it's very convenient.
- 23** The London Bus Tour allows tourists to
- A** get off the bus frequently.
 - B** buy photos of attractions.
 - C** call a bus to collect them.
- 24** How long does the London Eye ride last?
- A** 15 minutes
 - B** 30 minutes
 - C** 1 hour
- 25** Which attraction does Mark want to experience again most?
- A** the London Bus Tour
 - B** the London Dungeon
 - C** the London Eye

You now have 6 minutes to write your answers on the answer sheet.

Speaking

(10-12 minutes)

PART 1

Introductions – Giving personal information (2-3 minutes)

Phase 1

What's your name?
How old are you?
Where do you live?
Who do you live with?

Phase 2

Do you prefer to stay at home or go out in your free time? (Why?)
What is your favourite book? (Why?)
Tell us about a singer you like.
How often do you exercise?

PART 2

Describe photographs (2-3 minutes)

Photograph A shows someone preparing food. **Photograph B** shows people doing exercise (see S1). Each candidate talks about their own photograph.

PARTS 3 & 4 (6 minutes)

PART 3

Talk together about a situation using visual stimulus (2-3 minutes)

In pairs, talk about the situation below. Use the pictures for ideas (see S1).

A boy is going to visit his cousin in the city for a day. Talk together about different things that they could do together and then decide what would be the best.

PART 4

Discuss the topic further (3-4 minutes)

- 1 How do you spend your weekends?
- 2 Do you prefer to go out with your family or your friends? (Why?)
- 3 When do you think is the best time of year for someone to visit your town/city? (Why?)
- 4 What makes your town/city a nice place to live in?
- 5 Where would you like to travel? (Why?)

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Practice Tests B1 Preliminary for Schools is a collection of ten complete practice tests written in line with the specifications for the B1 Preliminary for Schools examination for the Revised 2020 Exam. The tests in this collection reflect the B1 Preliminary for Schools specifications, both in content and format, and therefore provide thorough, systematic exam preparation and practice.

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- The Teacher's Book contains all the Student's Book material with the answers overprinted, model answers for the Writing parts, audioscripts of the recorded material and expanded versions of all Speaking Tests with suggested answers.

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