

# PRACTICE TESTS **B1** PRELIMINARY

for the Revised 2020 exam

**Student's Book**

Peter Fullagar - Jenny Dooley



**Express Publishing**

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# Introduction

In B1 Preliminary, all four language skills are tested in four papers, as shown below.

## PAPER 1

**Reading** (32 marks – 45 mins)

This paper has six tasks with a total of 32 questions.

**Part 1 – Three-option multiple choice** (5 marks)

Five short texts with one question each.

*Test focus: reading short realistic texts (notices, messages and any other short texts) for the main message.*

**Part 2 – Multiple matching** (5 marks)

Five descriptions of people to be matched to eight short texts on the same topic.

*Test focus: reading for detail.*

**Part 3 – Four-option multiple choice** (5 marks)

One long text followed by five questions.

*Test focus: reading for detail, gist, inference and global meaning, as well as writer's attitude and opinion.*

**Part 4 – Gapped text** (5 marks)

One long text from which five sentences have been removed. Candidates choose the correct sentences from a list of eight.

*Test focus: reading for coherence and cohesion.*

**Part 5 – Four-option multiple-choice cloze** (6 marks)

One shorter factual text with six gaps.

*Test focus: reading and identifying appropriate vocabulary items, and sometimes grammar.*

**Part 6 – Open cloze** (6 marks)

One shorter text with six gaps to be completed with one word each.

*Test focus: reading and identifying appropriate grammatical structures, phrasal verbs and fixed phrases.*

## PAPER 2

**Writing** (40 marks – 45 mins)

In this paper, candidates complete two pieces of writing, with a maximum of 20 marks available for each. Candidates must answer Question 1, and either Question 2 or Question 3.

**Part 1 – (Question 1) – An email** (20 marks)

Write a short email in reply to an email with notes provided.

**Part 2 – (Questions 2 & 3) – An article or a story** (20 marks)

- Write an article answering questions from an announcement in a magazine or on a website.
- Write a story beginning with a given sentence.

*Test focus (for all writing tasks): ability to communicate in writing, focussing on content, communicative achievement, organisation and language.*

## PAPER 3

**Listening** (25 marks – about 30 mins including 6 mins to transfer answers to the answer sheet)

This paper has four tasks with a total of 25 questions.

**Part 1 – Three-option multiple choice** (7 marks)

Seven questions with pictures as answer options.

*Test focus: listening for specific information in short dialogues or monologues and selecting the correct visual.*

**Part 2 – Three-option multiple choice** (6 marks)

Six listening texts with one question each.

*Test focus: listening to short dialogues to identify gist.*

**Part 3 – Gap fill** (6 marks)

Six gaps to fill with one or two words, or a number, date or time.

*Test focus: listening to a monologue and completing the gaps in a page of notes or sentences.*

**Part 4 – Three-option multiple choice** (6 marks)

Six questions on a longer interview.

*Test focus: listening for detail, gist, attitude and opinion.*

## PAPER 4

**Speaking** (25 marks – 10-12 mins)

This paper has four tasks.

**Part 1 – Personal/Factual information** (2-3 mins)

The examiner asks each candidate in turn questions about personal details, daily routine, likes/dislikes, etc.

*Test focus: responding to personal questions.*

**Part 2 – Extended turn with visual prompt** (2-3 mins)

Each candidate describes one colour photograph.

*Test focus: using descriptive language.*

**Part 3 – Discussion with visual prompts** (2-3 mins)

Candidates are read a short imaginary situation and shown visual prompts to discuss it.

*Test focus: using appropriate language to make or respond to suggestions, give reasons for opinions, discuss alternatives, and negotiate agreement.*

**Part 4 – General conversation** (3-4 mins)

The examiner asks candidates questions based on the topic introduced in Part 3. The questions may be asked to one or both candidates, in turn or at the same time.

*Test focus: using appropriate language to talk about personal experiences and share opinions.*

# CONTENTS

<b>Test 1</b> .....	p.	4
<b>Test 2</b> .....	p.	22
<b>Test 3</b> .....	p.	40
<b>Test 4</b> .....	p.	58
<b>Test 5</b> .....	p.	76
<b>Test 6</b> .....	p.	94
<b>Test 7</b> .....	p.	112
<b>Test 8</b> .....	p.	130
<b>Test 9</b> .....	p.	148
<b>Test 10</b> .....	p.	166
<b>Candidate's Answer Sheets</b> .....	p.	184
<b>Speaking (Visual Material)</b> .....	p.	SI

# Reading

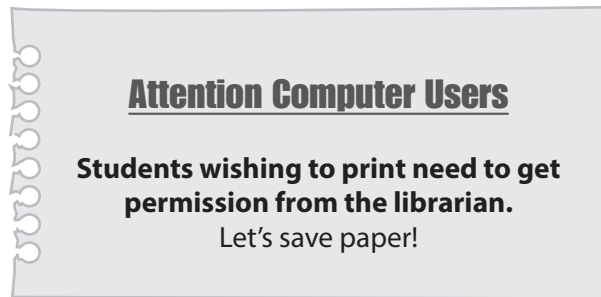
(45 minutes)

### PART 1

#### Questions 1 – 5

For each question, choose the correct answer.

1



**Attention Computer Users**

Students wishing to print need to get permission from the librarian.  
Let's save paper!

- A Printing is no longer allowed.
- B A member of staff must approve your printing.
- C Printing can only be done in the library.

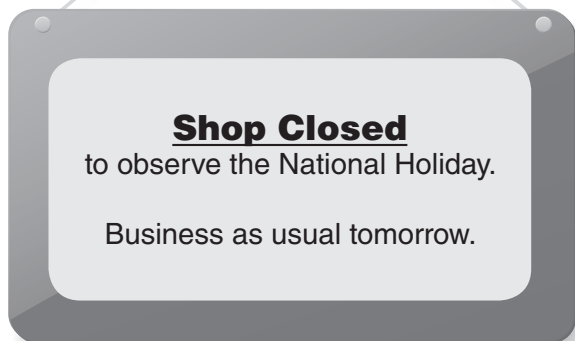
2



Jenny is

- A reminding Michael about something.
- B telling Michael off for missing a lesson.
- C saying Michael has to miss his lesson.

3



**Shop Closed**  
to observe the National Holiday.

Business as usual tomorrow.

- A The shop will open later than normal tomorrow.
- B Despite the holiday, the shop will open.
- C The shop is closed for one day.

4

4

**Warning**

This toy is not suitable  
for under-threes  
due to its small parts.  
3- to 5-year-olds might need an  
adult's help to set it up.

This toy is for

- A** babies.
- B** small children.
- C** teenagers.

5

Jack,  
Could you give the school a ring?  
I got an email from them about  
Simon's teacher, but I have a  
meeting all day. The number  
should be on the fridge.  
Thanks, Sue.

- A** Sue wants Jack to help with her meeting today.
- B** Sue would like Jack to write an email.
- C** Sue asks Jack if he can contact the school.

# Test 1

## PAPER 1

### PART 2

#### Questions 6 – 10

For each question, choose the correct answer.

The people below all want to visit a museum.  
On the opposite page there are descriptions of eight museums.  
Decide which museum would be the most suitable for the people below.

6

Simon is only in the city for a short time and would like a museum with easy transport access. He's keen on all things British and would like to experience a ride on old public transport.



7

Sarah wants a museum where her children can get involved in old ways of life. She would prefer to travel out of the city to be surrounded by nature and traditional homes.



8

Amy loves spending time with her young child, but wants to visit somewhere with her adult friends after her husband comes home from work at 5 pm. She is especially keen on finding out more about how the Internet has dominated late 20th century life.



9

Chris would like to show his grandchildren the kind of games he used to play as a young child, but needs somewhere near the city centre. He is happy to pay for tickets.



10

Rachel prefers to be guided around museums and loves somewhere quiet where she can read books on any topic. She would also like somewhere with a view to enjoy a coffee.



# City Museums

A

## MR BRIGHT'S TOY MUSEUM

Our museum is filled with all sorts of toys from all over the world. Enjoy our small museum with your family as you experience life as a child through the ages. In the heart of the city, we enjoy excellent transport links. There is a small charge for admission.

C

## NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM

Explore the history of the country at sea in this free-to-enter museum. Walk on board an old sailing ship and imagine what it was like at sea by listening to our tour guides. Relax in our café by the river and browse our naval library.

E

## Box Hill Living Museum

Situated in the surrounding countryside of the city, Box Hill takes the visitor back through time to see Iron Age houses, 18th century farms and cottages through time. Experience what life was like for country folk, dress up and become a Box Hill resident!

G

## The Science Museum

The history of technology, including space exploration, medicine and computing, all come together in this one space. Special late openings for adults every Wednesday evening from 6pm-10pm. Entrance is free but donations are welcome.

B

## The Transport Museum

Come and see our fantastic exhibits of British-made cars and London buses. Our exhibits are not toys, but real-life, working forms of transport. Enjoy a ride on a Blackpool tram in the heart of London. Children enter free with one adult.

D

## The Natural History Museum

The most popular museum in the city and it's totally free! Our famous dinosaur exhibition forms the backbone of your visit, plus the way early humans lived, rocks from Mars and the evolution of flight in birds. Our museum café serves hot and cold food for you to enjoy.

F

## The Space Centre

Located on the outskirts of the city, the Space Centre is an educational museum giving everyone the opportunity to learn about travelling in space, the role of computers in space missions and everyday life as an astronaut. Experience how it feels to wear a real space suit!

H

## The Food Museum

Although we've only been open for a few months, our small museum is making waves in the city. See our website for how! Discover the history of food culture not only in this country, but internationally too. Join us for our cooking workshops every weekend. Easy to reach by bus or train.



### PART 3

#### Questions 11 – 15

For each question, choose the correct answer.

## Writer Jasmine Lloyd on Gardening



When I was in my teens, there was no way that you would catch me working in the garden. At that time, I believed it was only for the elderly and as a teenager, it was not cool to be seen doing work that old people were connected to. Most of my friends were only interested in going shopping or playing their computer games and I have to admit that is what I was interested in doing too.

However, at my secondary school my ideas started to change. The school had a community garden, and we were supposed to work there every week. Some students saw it as a punishment, whereas others loved working in the garden, getting closer to nature. The Biology teacher, Mrs Briggs, was extremely excited and showed us how to care for the plants and vegetables that we were growing. I soon found that I was asking to go and work in the garden, mainly because I found it relaxing, but also because it allowed me to watch

things grow into beautiful flowers and delicious vegetables.

It didn't take long for me to become hooked, and so now, in my mid-twenties, I have my own garden all thanks to Mrs Briggs. My love of gardening has allowed me to write best-selling books on the topic of growing your own vegetables and if it wasn't for Mrs Briggs and the school garden, I doubt I would be doing what I love doing now. Who would have known that I would have a career doing something that I thought was only for old people?

Working in the garden now, I feel at home with my flowers and vegetables, and even though I don't believe talking to your plants works, I am more than happy to talk about my garden to anyone who will listen, and this includes school children when I visit to talk about my career. You never know where you might learn about your dream job from.

- 11 As a teenager, Jasmine believed that
- A gardening was better than shopping.
  - B old people were good at gardening.
  - C gardening wasn't for her age group.
  - D her friends did lots of cool things.
- 12 What does Jasmine say about the school community garden?
- A She thought it was a punishment.
  - B The staff member showed great excitement.
  - C She was expected to work there every day.
  - D The garden only had flowers in it.
- 13 Jasmine says she has written books
- A as a result of working in the community garden.
  - B because Mrs Briggs told her to.
  - C on many different topics.
  - D since she was a teenager.
- 14 How does Jasmine feel about gardening now?
- A She regrets talking about gardening.
  - B She believes gardening is her only career.
  - C She feels very comfortable in her garden.
  - D She thinks school is the best place to learn about it.
- 15 What would be a good introduction to this article?

**A** Jasmine Lloyd explains how she became a gardener through her love of reading books on growing vegetables.

**B** After discovering how to grow vegetables late in life, writer Jasmine Lloyd describes her feelings about staying in the garden.

**C** In this article, Jasmine Lloyd describes how one of her teachers at school persuaded her to go in a different career direction and choose writing.

**D** Writer Jasmine Lloyd explains in the article how she came to her career through a hobby she thought was only for old people.

### 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.

## A Special Home

I used to work as a solicitor in the city of London and had been doing that for many years. Living in the city was exciting, but I always felt that there was something missing.

16

The ad was in a national newspaper, and it was advertising for someone who was tired of city life and looking for a new adventure. 17 It was written on behalf of a national park in the south west of the country and they were advertising for a park ranger to live in a lighthouse right next to the coast. The person had to love nature, enjoy spending time alone and be willing to study to become a qualified ranger. 18 I had always loved being in the countryside and I was looking for something completely different to my city life. This could



be it. I contacted the company and arranged an interview. To my surprise, everything went very well. Three weeks later, I got the call offering me the job.

Since that phone call, it has been a whirlwind of activity. I quit my job in the city. I sold my house. 19 As soon as I moved my possessions into the lighthouse, I knew that I had made the right decision. I no longer have to deal with the crowds in the city and my commute to work is just a short bicycle ride along the beach instead of a one-hour tube journey. 20 It's difficult to get used to the extreme weather out here on the coast, but I'm finding it an exciting experience and one that I wouldn't trade for anything.

- A** It sounded like the perfect challenge for me.
- B** The work is much easier than I was expecting.
- C** It was then that I saw an advertisement.
- D** It hasn't always been easy though.
- E** I decided to make a big change in my life.
- F** I put everything in my car and drove down.
- G** It sounded just like me, so I read on.
- H** I didn't know exactly what I was going to do.

### PART 5

#### Questions 21 – 26

For each question, choose the correct answer.



# Bonsai

Bonsai is the Japanese **(21)** ..... form of growing tiny trees in small containers that copy the shape of normal-sized trees. Although **(22)** ..... practices exist in other Asian cultures, the Japanese version of bonsai dates back to over a thousand years ago.

The reason for bonsai is not for **(23)** ..... food or medicine, but for the pleasure of growing a thing of beauty. However, growing a bonsai tree is more difficult than you might think and you need to follow specific rules of design. One of the **(24)** ..... rules is that the tree must not appear to have been designed. Any **(25)** ..... of the designer must be hidden at the back of the tree, which is not shown when on display.

Whether you grow your own or just enjoy **(26)** ..... at bonsai trees, it is one of those amazing art forms which needs to be seen to be believed.

- |    |           |            |            |             |
|----|-----------|------------|------------|-------------|
| 21 | A design  | B art      | C creative | D plant     |
| 22 | A similar | B same     | C familiar | D like      |
| 23 | A and     | B both     | C or       | D either    |
| 24 | A single  | B main     | C first    | D important |
| 25 | A scene   | B sight    | C sign     | D notice    |
| 26 | A viewing | B watching | C seeing   | D looking   |

## PART 6

## Questions 27 – 32

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

## *The Tower of London*

I think my favourite place to visit in London is the Tower of London. I've been there at (27) ..... three or four times, and I always discover something different every time I go! It's really easy to get to as there are both tube stations (28) ..... bus stops nearby, so there is no problem accessing it. The building itself is fantastic and I love (29) ..... photos of it from every angle. If you like history, then this is the place (30) ..... you. It can get very busy though, so it's probably best to go during the week when there won't (31) ..... so many visitors. I learned so much when visiting the Tower, but I think the (32) ..... interesting part is that it used to be a prison as well as a castle – it has such an interesting history!

# 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 English-speaking friend Robert and the notes you have made.

**From:** Robert  
**Subject:** Next week

Hi!  
I'm really happy to be coming to see you next week and I can't wait to stay with you at your house.

I was wondering if I needed to bring anything with me – of course I'll bring my clothes and personal items, but is there anything else I need?

I've read that there is a new action film coming out at the cinema, and I was thinking we should go and see it – or would you prefer to stay at home and watch a DVD?

Are you still meeting me at the train station?

See you next week,  
Robert

*Me too!*

*Say which I prefer*

*Yes!*

*Answer Robert*

*Robert*

Write your **email** to Robert 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 an English-language magazine.

**Articles wanted!**

**WRITE FOR US!**

What kind of books do you like reading?

Do you prefer electronic books or paper books? Why?

Write an article answering these questions and get published in our magazine!

Write your **article**.

**Question 3**

Your English teacher has asked you to write a story.

Your story must begin with this sentence.

*As the boat got closer to the harbour, Jane saw a face she knew.*

Write your **story**.



# Listening

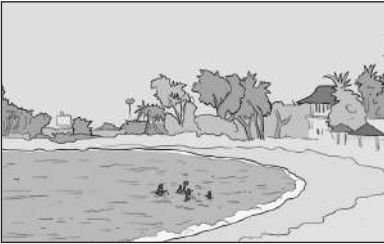
(about 30 minutes)

## PART 1

### Questions 1 – 7

For each question, choose the correct answer.

1 Where does the man want to go today?



A



B



C

2 Who will the woman interview?



A



B



C

3 What did the woman do on Saturday?



A

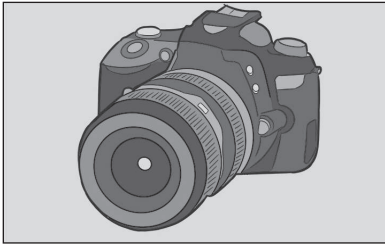


B



C

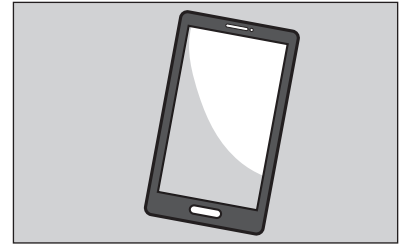
4 What did the boy buy in the shop?



A



B



C

5 What time will the office open on Tuesday?



A



B



C

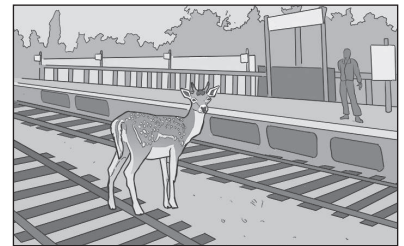
6 Why is the train delayed?



A

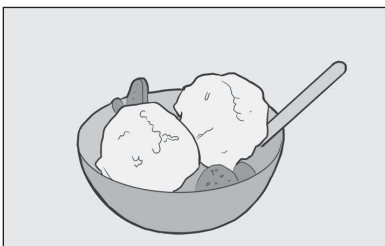


B

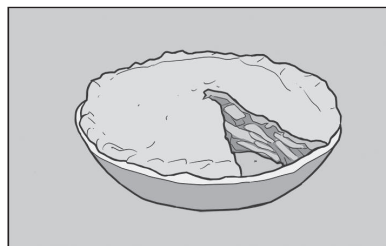


C

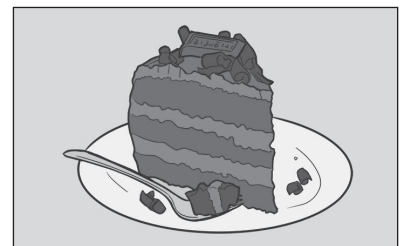
7 Which dessert does the boy choose?



A



B



C

### PART 2

#### Questions 8 – 13

For each question, choose the correct answer.

---

- 8 You will hear two friends talking about a theatre that has just re-opened. What has NOT changed in the theatre?
- A the café and bar
  - B the ticket prices
  - C the seats
- 9 You will hear two friends talking about a picnic. What will the man bring?
- A plates
  - B sandwiches
  - C drinks
- 10 You will hear a man talking about work. How does he feel?
- A excited to start a new job
  - B relieved to have finished his old job
  - C upset to be leaving his old colleagues
- 11 You will hear two friends talking about a film they watched. What do they agree was good about it?
- A the main actors
  - B the special effects
  - C the script
- 12 You will hear a woman talking about her flat. The flat would be better if
- A the balcony faced the sun.
  - B the kitchen was updated.
  - C the bathroom was bigger.
- 13 You will hear two friends talking about a tennis match. What did the woman find annoying?
- A not being able to hear the umpire
  - B the other spectators being noisy
  - C the noise from the players

## 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, Clare, talking about her visit to Japan.



**CLARE'S TRIP  
TO JAPAN**

Clare arrived in Tokyo in **(14)** .....

On the trip to the temple, she was impressed by the **(15)** .....  
outside.

When she went shopping, she bought a **(16)** .....

She didn't climb Mount Fuji because the **(17)** ..... wasn't  
right.

Clare was surprised that **(18)** ..... was a popular sport in  
Japan.

On her final day, she saw some wonderful **(19)** ..... in  
a museum.

### PART 4

#### Questions 20 – 25

For each question, choose the correct answer.

---

You will hear an interview with a man called Pedro Angelo, a professional ballet dancer who now works as a teacher.

- 20 Pedro went to a professional dance school because
- A his parents wanted him to.
  - B he wanted to move away from home.
  - C his dance teacher recommended it.
- 21 How did Pedro feel about moving to a new city?
- A He was pleased because his mother came with him.
  - B It was hard, but it was a good decision.
  - C He worried about his family.
- 22 What was the most important thing Pedro discovered at dance school?
- A to look after himself
  - B that his teachers were his best supporters
  - C the importance of friendship to success
- 23 What was a surprise for Pedro?
- A that his mother entered him in the competition
  - B that his teachers suggested he should enter
  - C that there was a scholarship as a prize
- 24 Why did Pedro stop dancing professionally?
- A He was getting too old.
  - B His health was not at its best.
  - C He wasn't getting the roles he wanted.
- 25 What does Pedro miss most about dancing professionally?
- A his friends and colleagues
  - B performing for the public
  - C the training schedule

# Speaking

(10-12 minutes)

## PART 1

**Introductions – Giving personal information (2-3 minutes)**

### Phase 1

What's your name?  
Where do you live/come from?  
Do you work or are you a student?  
What do you do/study?

### Phase 2

Do you like going to the cinema?  
How do you get to work/university/college/school every day?  
Tell us about your best friend. (What is your best friend like?)  
What did you do last night?

## PART 2

**Describe photographs (2-3 minutes)**

**Photograph A** shows people playing a sport. **Photograph B** shows people celebrating something. (See SI.) 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 SI).**

*A young woman has just moved to a new city and she would like to find some new friends. Talk together about the different activities she could do, and say which would be the most helpful in finding new friends.*

## PART 4

**Discuss the topic further (3-4 minutes)**

- 1 What activities do you like doing with different people? (Why?)
- 2 Do you prefer being with friends or being alone? (Why?)
- 3 Is it important to have a lot of friends? (Why?)
- 4 Do you think that you can be good friends with people online? (Why?)
- 5 Do you think it is easy to make friends? (Why?)

# PRACTICE TESTS B1 PRELIMINARY

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

## Key features

- The ten tests cover the range of topics, vocabulary and structures included in the B1 Preliminary syllabus.
- The recorded material on the accompanying audio CDs, with instructions, pauses and repeats, provides genuine examination conditions for the Listening Test.
- Photocopiable sample answer sheets provide students with valuable practice in transferring their answers from the exam papers within the time limits of the real exam.
- 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.

## Components

- Student's Book
- Teacher's Book (overprinted)
- audio CDs (set of 5)
- Digital component



Express Publishing

ISBN 978-1-4715-8966-9



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