

Wider World

EXAM PRACTICE PEARSON TEST OF ENGLISH GENERAL LEVEL A1

Wider World Exam Practice: Pearson Test of English General Level A1 offers students intensive exam practice and support, and works alongside the **Students' Book**. Powered by Practice Tests Plus, it combines realistic exam practice with guidance and strategies for dealing with each exam paper.

- Two complete practice tests
- Detailed overviews of each exam paper
- Guidance, strategies and tips on each paper
- Full-colour visual material for the Speaking tests
- A Writing Guide with model answers and useful language

This book contains new material for the *Pearson Test of English General Level A1* exam. *Pearson Test of English (PTE) General* is a six-level general English test that recognises achievement in English language learning. *PTE General* uses an integrated approach to test all four skills with a focus on communication in English. To maximise learners' chances of excelling, get even more practice for *PTE General* in the *Skills Booster* series.

COURSE LEVEL	CEFR	GSE	PTE GENERAL	CAMBRIDGE
Wider World 0	<A1/A1	10-25	Level A1	
Wider World 1	A1/A2	22-34		
Wider World 2	A2/A2+	32-42	Level 1	Key for Schools
Wider World 3	A2+/B1	40-50	Level 2	Preliminary for Schools
Wider World 4	B1/B1+	45-55		

ISBN 978-1-292-14883-0



Pearson Test of English General at a glance

Written Test

Section	Skills	Item types	Objectives	Number of questions
1	Listening	Graphical multiple choice	Understand the main idea of a short spoken text	10
2	Listening and Writing	Dictation	Understand and write down accurately a spoken text	–
3	Listening	Text, note completion	Understand specific information in longer spoken texts	10
4	Reading	Multiple choice/Gap fill	Understand the purpose, structure and main idea of short written texts	5
5	Reading	Graphical multiple choice	Understand the main ideas in short written texts	5
6	Reading	Comprehension questions (short answers)	Understand the main points of short written texts	8
7	Reading	Text, sentence or note completion	Understand specific information in a longer written text	7
8	Writing	Write correspondence	Write a short letter, email or postcard	–
9	Writing	Write a short text	Write a short text based on pictures	–

Spoken Test

Section	Skill	Item types	Objectives	Timing
10	Speaking	Monologue	Speak continuously on topics of personal information and interest	1.5 minutes
11	There is no Section 11 at Level A1			
12	Speaking	Describe picture	Speak about a picture	2 minutes
13	Speaking	Role play	Respond to basic language functions appropriately	1.5 minutes

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There is no Section 11 in PTE General Level A1.

Introduction

What is Pearson Test of English General?

PTE General is a suite of six tests at different levels (A1, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5). It tests your ability in English in practical skills for real-life situations such as writing messages, understanding talks, understanding newspaper and magazine articles or taking part in conversations. PTE General tests are taken three times a year in May, June, and December in centres all around the world.

The tests do not assume any experience of work or knowledge of the world and so are most suitable for teenagers and young adults who expect to use English in their future academic and professional lives.

Key Features

The sections and items in PTE General Level A1 are grouped together into themes or topics related to familiar and routine matters such as the home, the family, work, shopping, education, travel and entertainment. The listening and reading texts are specially written so that the level sounds authentic. The four skills – listening, speaking, reading and writing – are tested in an integrated way. For example, you listen to some information and write about what you have heard, or you read a text, and then answer questions or complete notes based on what you have read.

Test Structure

PTE General is divided into two parts – the Written Test and the Spoken Test.

The Written Test

The Written Test of PTE General consists of nine sections and takes 1 hour and 15 minutes at Level A1.

Section 1: Listening

Section 1 consists of ten short listening texts which are all monologues. Each text is followed by a question and three possible picture options. You must choose the correct answer by putting a cross (X) in a box. There is a short pause before each recording for you to look at the pictures before you listen, and another pause after the recording for you to choose which of the three pictures matches what you have heard. This section tests your ability to understand the main idea of what someone says. You will hear the recording only once.

Section 2: Listening and Writing

Section 2 is a dictation. You will hear one person speaking and you must write down exactly what you hear with the correct spelling. You will hear the recording twice, the second time with pauses to give you time to write. The recording can be a news broadcast, an announcement, instructions or factual information.

Section 3: Listening

In Section 3, you will hear two listening texts, including announcements and recorded messages. You have to complete notes for each listening using the information you have heard. There are five gaps to fill for each listening text. This section may test your ability to understand and write down detailed information including addresses, telephone numbers and website addresses. You will hear each text twice.

Section 4: Reading

In Section 4, you read five short texts, each containing a gap, and you choose which of three possible answers is the missing word or phrase that fills the gap. This section tests your ability to understand specific information and/or the overall meaning of the text. The reading texts can be instructions, signs, notices, labels, advertisements, menus or announcements.

Section 5: Reading

In Section 5, you read five short texts and for each one you choose one picture which matches the text from a choice of three. This section tests your understanding of the main idea of a text. The reading texts can give descriptions or directions, and the pictures can include maps or diagrams.

Section 6: Reading

There are two reading texts in this section. Each text is followed by four questions for you to answer using a word or a short phrase. They test your understanding of the main points of the texts. The types of reading can be letters, emails, articles from newspapers or magazines, leaflets, brochures or website articles.

Section 7: Reading

In Section 7, you read a text and use the information to fill in seven gaps in sentences or a set of notes. This section tests your understanding of specific detailed information you have read. The reading text can be an email, letter, advertisement, newspaper or magazine article, or a section from a website or textbook.

Section 8: Writing

Section 8 is a writing test. You have to write a piece of correspondence – an email, a formal or an informal letter, a postcard or notes – based on the information that you have read in Section 7. At Level A1, you have to write 30–50 words.

Section 9: Writing

In Section 9, you will be asked to write a text based on a picture. There are two pictures to choose from. The text to write at Level A1 is 50–80 words long. You will be asked to write a short story, a description or a diary entry.

The Spoken Test

The Spoken Test of PTE General consists of three sections (Sections 10, 12 and 13) and takes 5 minutes at Level A1.

Section 10: Speaking

In the first part of the Test, the examiner will ask you a question and you have to talk about yourself for about a minute. You will talk about your interests and hobbies, the sports you take part in, the films or books you like, etc. The examiner may ask you further questions to find out more information.

Section 11

There is no discussion section at Level A1.

Section 12: Speaking

In Section 12, you will be shown a picture and asked to describe it. You will be asked to describe people, interiors (for example, a home, a school, a shop, a restaurant), public places (for example, a street or a park) and everyday activities. You will have about 2 minutes to do this.

Section 13: Speaking

The final section of the Spoken Test is a role play. You will be given a card with details of your role and some instructions. The role play includes situations such as shopping, ordering food and drink, public transportation and asking for directions. This section of the test takes about 1.5 minutes.

Exam Practice: PTE General

The *Exam Practice: PTE General* series has been specially written to help you become familiar with the format and content of the PTE General Test. They contain two full practice tests, plus exam and writing guide sections to help you to improve your general level of English, as well as your score in the test. Level A1 contains:

- Two *Practice Tests* for both the Written and Spoken Tests, the first of which has tips giving advice on how to deal with specific questions, or aspects of questions.
- An *Exam Guide* with advice on how to approach each section and deal with particular problems that might occur.
- A *Writing Guide* which concentrates on the writing tasks you will meet in the tests, giving example answers, writing tips and useful language.