

Cambridge
Preliminary English Test
3

*Examination papers from the
University of Cambridge
Local Examinations Syndicate*



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To the student

This book is for candidates preparing for the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES) Preliminary English Test (PET). It contains four complete tests based on recent PET papers. PET has three examination papers which test Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking.

PAPER 1 (1 hour and 30 minutes)

Reading

There are 35 questions in five Parts. You have to read notices, short texts and longer factual texts.

Writing

There are three Parts: sentence transformations, form-filling and a letter of about a hundred words.

PAPER 2 (about 30 minutes, plus 12 minutes to transfer answers)

Listening

There are four Parts, and you will hear each of them twice. As you listen, you choose or write your answers on the question paper. At the end, you have 12 minutes to copy your answers onto the answer sheet. From 2002, you will have six minutes to copy your answers onto the answer sheet.

PAPER 3 (10–12 minutes for each pair of candidates)

Speaking test

You take the Speaking test with another candidate. There are two examiners in the room. One examiner talks to you. This examiner sometimes asks you questions and sometimes asks you to talk to the other candidate. The other examiner listens to you. Both examiners give you marks. During the test the examiner gives you and your partner photographs and other pictures to look at and to talk about.

Preparing for PET by yourself

Reading

Have a look at some English language magazines, and read some articles about things that interest you. Look through some stories written in simplified English in your library or bookshop. Choose the ones which are interesting and just a little difficult for you, and guess the words you may not know before you look them up in your dictionary.

Writing

It can be very helpful to keep a diary in English, so that you find and learn the words that really mean something to you. You may also want to find an English-speaking pen friend, or to exchange letters in English with a friend who is learning with you. In those letters you can describe something interesting you have done, what you are doing at present or talk about your plans. In that way everything you practise will be real for you and not just an exercise.

Listening

Watch any interesting English language films at your cinema, or on TV or video whenever you can. Watch or listen to any English language teaching programmes on TV or radio. (A free list of such programmes is available from the BBC, Programme Guides, Bush House, PO Box 76, London WC2B 4PH, United Kingdom.) Listen to learning materials on cassette, so that you can hear many different kinds of voices. You may also hear people speaking English in shops, restaurants or hotels, or a tourist guide telling English-speaking visitors about places of interest in your area.

Speaking

Practise talking English with a friend who is also learning English, and arrange to spend time doing this regularly. Ask each other questions, tell each other what you have enjoyed doing, talk about your daily lives, your plans, your likes and dislikes – in English. It really does get easier, once you start practising!

Test 1

PAPER 1 Reading and Writing Test 1 hour 30 minutes

READING

PART 1

Questions 1–5

- Look at the sign in each question.
- Someone asks you what it means.
- Mark the letter next to the correct explanation – **A, B, C** or **D** – **on your answer sheet**.

Example

0



- A** Do not leave your bike touching the window.
- B** Do not ride your bicycle in this area.
- C** Broken glass may damage your bicycle tyres.
- D** Your bike may not be safe here.

Example answer:

Part 1				
0	A	B	C	D

1



- A** Do not park in front of this hotel.
- B** A new hotel car park will open shortly.
- C** It's better to park behind the hotel.
- D** The hotel has another parking area.

2

CITY BUSES
Please have ready
the exact fare for
your journey

- A** All City Bus journeys cost exactly the same.
- B** You need to have the correct money when you board the bus.
- C** You need to keep your ticket ready for checking.
- D** Tickets must be bought before boarding the bus.

3

**Lasts up to one week
in fridge.
Unsuitable for freezing**

- A** Don't keep this food longer than a week.
- B** Don't put this food in the fridge.
- C** This food will last longer in the freezer.
- D** This food will last over a week if frozen.

4

The Pizza Place
Between 12 and 2 p.m.,
minimum charge
£3 per person

- A** Each dish on the menu costs more than £3 at lunchtime.
- B** A charge of £3 is added to each bill at lunchtime.
- C** Each customer will have to pay at least £3 at lunchtime.
- D** You can buy a meal for only £3 at lunchtime.

5

**Pool closed until
further notice because
of improvements to
changing rooms.**

- A** The pool will close for improvements.
- B** Do not use the old changing rooms.
- C** The pool is not open at the moment.
- D** Read the notice about changes in opening times.

PART 2

Questions 6–10

- The people below all want to enjoy some entertainment.
- On the opposite page there are descriptions of eight festival performances.
- Decide which performance (**letters A–H**) would be the most suitable for each person (**numbers 6–10**).
- For each of these numbers mark the correct answer **on your answer sheet**.

Example answer:

Part 2								
0	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H

6



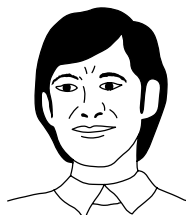
Peter is studying English. He hopes either to write plays or to be an actor. He particularly enjoys plays about real people who led interesting lives.

7



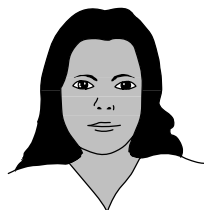
Glenda is studying the history of music at college. She wants to listen to as much music from the past as possible, and particularly likes listening to people singing.

8



Wong is a dancer from China. He would like to see people performing dances from as many other parts of the world as possible to give him some new ideas.

9



Maria is celebrating her 20th birthday tomorrow. She wants to go out for the whole day with her friends. They all enjoy listening to pop music.

10



Ruth is a teacher who is planning to start a drama club for the children at her school. She would like to see some children acting if possible.

Summer Festival Programme

A *International Youth Celebrations*

Local youth groups, together with students from various countries including Spain, Finland, Austria and Estonia, are each performing three dance pieces. Then they will join together in a play about international friendship. The evening will finish with the singing of songs from different countries.

B *River Festival*

A day of fun on the river bank, with a Chinese theme. Street entertainers and pop musicians perform during the day, followed by fireworks in the evening. Something for everybody to watch, both children and adults.

C *Songs of Summer*

The *Hunton Consort* consists of eight voices singing music from hundreds of years ago right up to modern times. The group will perform songs, old and new, all of which are about the summer.

D *Music in the Open Air*

Well-known nationally for their traditional dance music, Jimmy Locke and his band play throughout the day in the open air on the Promenade Bandstand – if the weather allows!

E *Life Flows Between Us*

Kent Arts and Libraries present the first performance of a new dance group called the *Street Dancing Company*. The group will perform dances from the past on several of the bridges in the town.

F *A Star May Be Born*

Toni Arthur produces plays with seven- to eleven-year-olds, performed at the weekends for parents, family and friends. The plays come from children's stories, and encouragement from the audience is always very welcome.

G *Vita and Harold*

The *Image Theatre Company* dramatises the love-letters of Vita Sackville-West and Harold Nicholson. The play is about the couple's lives and their most unusual marriage. Unsuitable for children.

H *Variety Music Evening*

A great evening with the latest pop songs, and comedy and dancing from several great and unusual performers. Members of the audience will be invited to join in and will have the chance of winning tickets to a theatre show.

PART 3

Questions 11–20

- Look at the statements below about an outdoor activity centre.
- Read the text on the opposite page to decide if each statement is correct or incorrect.
- If it is correct, mark **A on your answer sheet**.
- If it is not correct, mark **B on your answer sheet**.

Example answer:

Part 3		
0	A	B
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- 11** In August, four people visiting the centre together by car would pay more than two people.
- 12** The centre has activities for a range of age groups.
- 13** There are windsurfing courses every weekend.
- 14** The centre has special equipment for people who are learning to windsurf.
- 15** There is an extra hire charge for the board on the windsurfing course.
- 16** The adventure course is suitable for beginners.
- 17** The centre is planning to add extra facilities to the Play Park.
- 18** It is possible for individual visitors to stay overnight at the centre.
- 19** On the holiday programme children are allowed to do any sport they are interested in.
- 20** Summer adventure holidays are open to any child between eight and fourteen years who can swim.

The Outdoor Centre

Opening times

Water sports: 10 am – 6 pm
Play Park: 10 am – 5.30 pm

Entrance/Car park fees

<i>Low season:</i>	Weekdays £2.00 per car	<i>High season:</i>	23 July – 11 September
	Weekends £3.00 per car		Weekdays and weekends £3.00 per car

Fees are for car with four people. Each extra person is 50p. Fees to be paid at main office.

The centre is not a private club; it is an organisation whose aim is to provide outdoor sport and recreation facilities for all members of the public.

Group visitors are requested to inform the centre in advance of their intended visit.

Windsurfing – One-day course

Beginner windsurfing courses are offered on Saturdays and Sundays when the weather is good enough. Learning to windsurf is a lot of fun. The excitement when you sail across the water for the first time is not easily forgotten. Boards with small sails are available for beginners.

Course fee: £32.50 (this includes all equipment)

One-day adventure course

This is an opportunity you have been waiting for. Come and try sailing, climbing, surfing and archery. This course is intended to introduce outdoor activities to adults in a fun, leisurely manner. You do not need to be extremely fit or to have had previous experience of the activities. All you need is to be interested.

Course fee: £22.50

Play Park

The Play Park is suitable for children from two to ten years of age. It is one of the best of its type in the country. It has sand and water play, slides, large ball pool, play castle and much, much more. Next year the centre will open a new Play Palace and Play Ship.

Group day and residential courses

We also offer day and long weekend courses for groups. We receive regular visits from schools, colleges and youth groups. There are three large rooms with twelve beds in each, which can be booked in advance for groups of up to 36 people (minimum 12).

Summer adventure holidays (for 8 – 14 years of age)

Sailing Climbing Windsurfing Fun Games

Safety is of primary importance at the Outdoor Centre. All staff are fully trained in First Aid, and qualified to teach the activities on offer. We also make certain that all children only take part in activities that are suitable for their age and physical abilities. For this programme children must be able to swim 25 metres and be in good physical health.

PART 4

Questions 21–25

- Read the text and questions below.
- For each question, mark the letter next to the correct answer – **A, B, C** or **D** – **on your answer sheet.**

Example answer:

Part 4				
0	A	B	C	D

“The best age to start learning the violin is between three and six,” says Margaret Porter, a violinist and music teacher. “It’s the time when you are learning about the world.” Margaret, who lives in London, prefers to take pupils at three and four, although she has made lots of exceptions for keen five-year-olds. When she started teaching the violin in 1972, her first class consisted of her children’s five-year-old school friends.

Margaret’s pupils have group lessons. Each group has about a dozen pupils and each lesson lasts an hour, once a fortnight. In addition, each pupil has one individual lesson a week with her. Parents also have to attend the classes. It is important that the parents take an active interest in the lessons.

From the earliest lessons pupils learn to play by ear. They do not even try to read music until they have been playing for several years, and for a long time there is a big difference between their playing and reading of music. Margaret says that her method is not supposed to produce great violinists, and always suggests that pupils who perform particularly well should leave and study the violin using more traditional methods.

- 21** What is the writer trying to do in the text?
- A** explain why Margaret likes teaching the violin
 - B** describe a different way of learning the violin
 - C** give advice on how to find a music teacher
 - D** explain why Margaret has a lot of pupils
- 22** Why should someone read the text?
- A** to discover how Margaret learnt the violin
 - B** to learn why it is important to read music
 - C** to find out about Margaret’s teaching method
 - D** to learn why children should play the violin

23 What opinion does Margaret have about her best pupils?

- A They ought to find another teacher.
- B They will become great violinists using her method.
- C They could try harder.
- D They take several years to learn to read music.

24 Who were Margaret's first pupils?

- A her children
- B three and four-year-olds
- C her own friends
- D her children's friends

25 Which of the following would Margaret include in an advertisement for her classes?

A

Learn to play the violin with your children – 2 lessons a week.

B

Watch your children learn to play the violin.

C

Group violin lessons for children – no more than 5 per group.

D

We'll look after your children while you learn the violin.

PART 5

Questions 26–35

- Read the text below and choose the correct word for each space.
- For each question, mark the letter next to the correct word – **A, B, C** or **D** – on **your answer sheet**.

Example answer:

Part 5				
0	A	B	C	D
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

NEW OPPORTUNITIES WITH AN OPEN UNIVERSITY DEGREE

Like any other university, the Open University can **(0)** you a degree. However, you don't have to **(26)** working to study. It can also open up a whole variety **(27)** interests.

If you have **(28)** studied before, you will enjoy the special, new pleasure of **(29)** your knowledge. You will make friends of **(30)** kinds. You may also **(31)** that your qualification provides new career opportunities.

You don't actually **(32)** to the Open University for lectures, but study at home, using television, radio and computer software. You can **(33)** one class a month if you wish at an Open University centre. Of course, there are exams to take, as in **(34)** university.

If you **(35)** like to know more, all you have to do is complete the form below. It could be the start of a wonderful new period in your life.

- | | | | | |
|-----------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 0 | A give | B take | C sell | D buy |
| 26 | A stop | B end | C break | D leave |
| 27 | A from | B of | C in | D for |
| 28 | A ever | B never | C often | D always |
| 29 | A growing | B changing | C adding | D increasing |
| 30 | A all | B each | C both | D every |
| 31 | A suggest | B find | C wish | D want |
| 32 | A join | B enter | C arrive | D go |
| 33 | A give | B attend | C learn | D study |
| 34 | A any | B some | C many | D most |
| 35 | A did | B will | C would | D can |

WRITING

PART 1

Questions 1–5

- Here are some sentences about going to the theatre.
- For each question, finish the second sentence so that it means the same as the first.
- The second sentence is started for you. **Write only the missing words on your answer sheet.**
- You may use this page for any rough work.

Example: Theatre tickets are more expensive than last year.

Last year *theatre tickets were cheaper than now.*

- 1 The theatre has two cafés.

There

- 2 Alison said that the booking office telephone was always engaged.

Alison said: " "

- 3 Peter said: "Why don't you go to the booking office yourself?"

Peter said: "How about "

- 4 Many theatres accept credit cards.

At many theatres you can

- 5 You can't smoke in the theatre.

Smoking

PART 2

Questions 6–15

- You want to study English abroad.
- An agency has sent you an application form to complete.
- Look at the form below and answer each question.
- **Write your answers on your answer sheet.**
- You may use this page for any rough work.

Worldwide English Language Holidays

PO Box 30

Adelaide

Australia

Full name: **(6)**

Address (including your country): **(7)**

.....

Nationality: **(8)**

Date of birth (day/month/year): **(9)**

Present occupation or course of study: **(10)**

How long have you studied English? **(11)**

In which month would you like to start studying? **(12)**

In which English-speaking country would you prefer to study? **(13)**

What is your favourite hobby? **(14)**

.....

Signature: **(15)**

PART 3

Question 16

- An English-speaking friend is coming to stay with you for a few days, but you will not be able to meet him/her at the station.
- Now you are writing a letter to your friend.
- Explain why you cannot go to the station, tell your friend the best way to get to your home, and suggest what you could do together that evening.
- **Finish the letter on your answer sheet, using about 100 words.**
- You may use this page for any rough work.

Dear ,

I'm really looking forward to your visit.

.....

**You must write your answer
on the separate answer sheet.**