

Introduction

Pre A1 Starters, *A1 Movers* and *A2 Flyers* offer a comprehensive approach to testing the English of learners in primary and lower secondary education.

Pre A1 Starters is the first level in the system. Test instructions are very simple and consist only of words and structures specified in the syllabus.

The complete exam lasts for less than an hour and has the following components: Listening, Reading and Writing, and Speaking.

	length	number of parts	number of questions
Listening	approx. 20 minutes	4	20
Reading and Writing	20 minutes	5	25
Speaking	3–5 minutes	4	–

Candidates need a pen or pencil for the Reading and Writing paper, and coloured pens or pencils for the Listening paper. All answers are written on the question papers.

Listening

In general, the aim is to focus on the ‘here and now’ and to use language in meaningful contexts. In addition to multiple-choice and short-answer questions, candidates are asked to use coloured pencils to mark their responses to one task. There are four parts. Each part begins with a clear example.

part	main skill focus	input	expected response	number of items
1	listening for names and descriptions	picture, names and dialogue	draw lines to match names to people in a picture	5
2	listening for numbers and spellings	illustrated comprehension questions and dialogue	write numbers and names	5
3	listening for specific information of various kinds	3-option multiple-choice pictures and dialogues	tick box under correct picture	5
4	listening for words, colours and prepositions	picture and dialogue	carry out instructions; locate objects and colour correctly (range of colours is: black, blue, brown, green, grey, orange, pink, purple, red, yellow)	5

Reading and Writing

Again, the focus is on the 'here and now' and the use of language in meaningful contexts where possible. To complete the test, candidates need a single pen or pencil. There are five parts, each starting with a clear example.

part	main skill focus	input	expected response	number of items
1	reading short sentences and recognising words	words, pictures and sentences	tick or cross to show if sentence is true or false	5
2	reading sentences about a picture and writing one-word answers	picture and sentences	write 'yes' or 'no'	5
3	spelling of single words	pictures and sets of jumbled letters	write words	5
4	reading a text and copying words	cloze text, words and pictures	choose and copy missing words	5
5	reading questions about a picture story and writing one-word answers	story presented through three pictures and questions	write one-word answers to questions	5

Speaking

In the Speaking test, the candidate speaks with one examiner for between three and five minutes. The format of the test is explained in advance to the child in their native language, by a teacher or person familiar to them. This person then takes the child into the exam room and introduces them to the examiner.

Speaking ability is assessed according to various criteria, including vocabulary, pronunciation and interaction.

part	main skill focus	input	expected response
1	understanding and following spoken instructions	scene picture and object cards	point to the correct part of the picture and place object cards on the scene picture as directed
2	understanding and answering spoken instructions	scene picture	answer questions with short answers, including a response to one 'Tell me about ...' question
3	understanding and answering spoken instructions	object cards	answer questions with short answers
4	understanding and responding to personal questions	no visual prompt	answer questions with short answers

Further information

Further information about *Pre A1 Starters*, *A1 Movers* and *A2 Flyers* can be obtained from:

Cambridge Assessment English
 The Triangle Building
 Shaftesbury Road
 Cambridge
 CB2 8EA

www.cambridgeenglish.org/help
www.cambridgeenglish.org/starters

Test 1 Answers

Listening

Part 1 (5 marks)

Lines should be drawn between:

- 1 Grace and the girl swimming
- 2 Nick and the boy kicking a football
- 3 Anna and the girl fishing
- 4 Dan and the boy reading a book
- 5 Sue and the woman next to the table, drinking

Part 2 (5 marks)

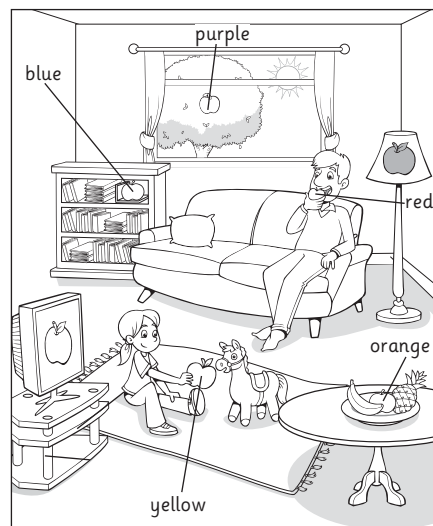
- 1 New 2 (room) (number) 13 3 Ask 4 4
- 5 Jump

Part 3 (5 marks)

- 1 C 2 A 3 B 4 A 5 C

Part 4 (5 marks)

- 1 Colour the apple in the bookcase – blue
- 2 Colour the apple being given to the toy horse – yellow
- 3 Colour the apple on the table between the pineapple and the banana – orange
- 4 Colour the apple being eaten by the man on the sofa – red
- 5 Colour the apple in the tree – purple



TRANSCRIPT *Hello. This is the Cambridge Assessment English Starters Listening Test.*

Part 1 *Look at Part 1. Now look at the picture. Listen and look. There is one example.*

GIRL: Here's a picture of my friends, Grandma.
 WOMAN: It is a great picture. Where are they?
 GIRL: At my friend Mark's house.
 WOMAN: Is that Mark in the boat?
 GIRL: Yes, he loves his boat.

Can you see the line? This is an example.

Now you listen and draw lines.

1

GIRL: And there's Grace.
 WOMAN: Which girl is Grace?
 GIRL: She's swimming.
 WOMAN: I can see her now. There's a duck next to her!
 GIRL: Yes, that's funny!

2

WOMAN: Where's your friend Nick?
 GIRL: Nick's playing football.
 WOMAN: Oh, right. He's kicking the ball.
 GIRL: Yes, that's him.

3

GIRL: And there's Anna.
 WOMAN: Which girl is Anna?
 GIRL: She's fishing.
 WOMAN: I can see her now. Does she catch a lot of fish?
 GIRL: I don't know, but she enjoys it.

4

WOMAN: That boy is reading a book.
 GIRL: That's my friend Dan.
 WOMAN: Does Dan enjoy reading?
 GIRL: Yes, he does. It's his favourite hobby.