

Benchmark Test Question Types

A Walkthrough Guide



Benchmark

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Introduction

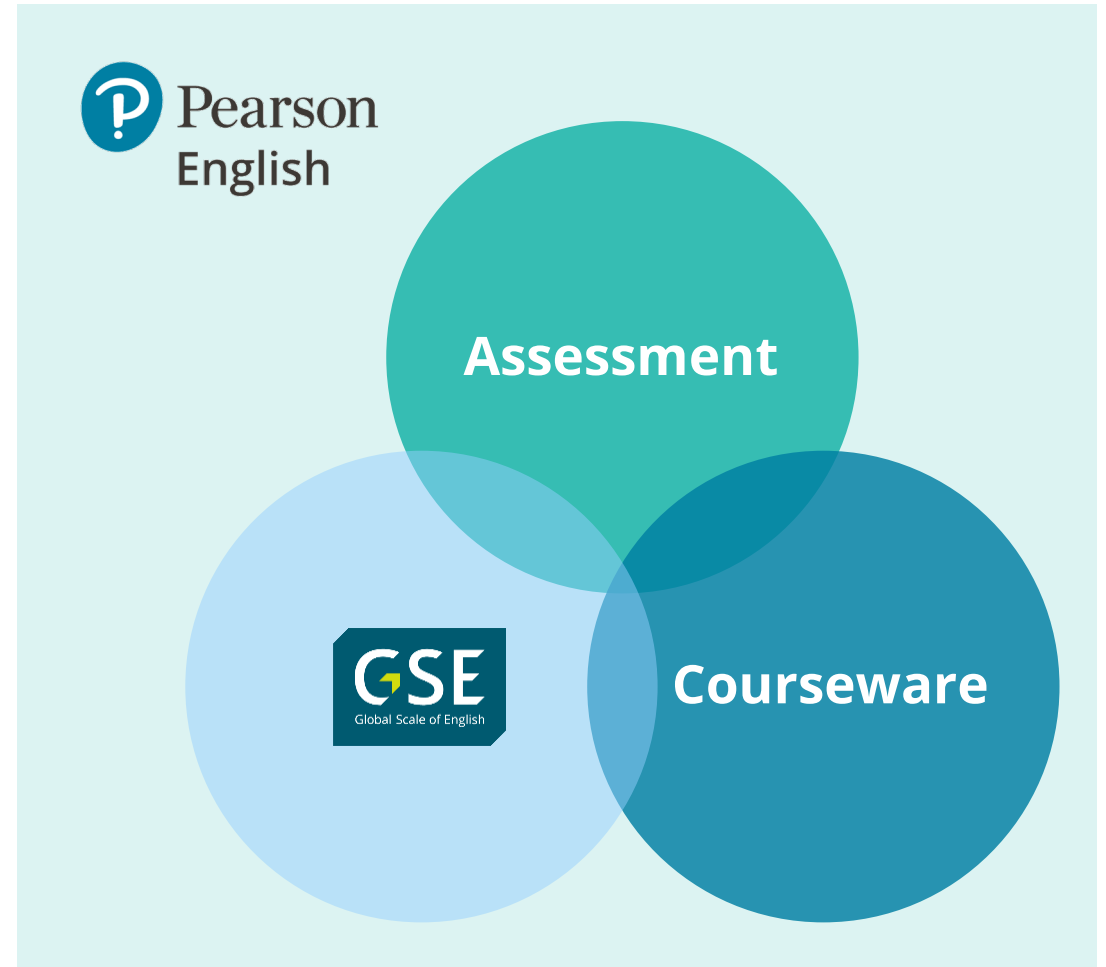
Pearson English: *The complete teaching, learning, assessment and measurement ecosystem*

Pearson English supports, drives and promotes the learning of the English language – for a truly connected global society, where everyone can reach their potential.

Our work is dedicated to English language learners and all those who have their interests at heart.

Our products and services are backed by a wealth of expertise, world-leading technology and decades of specialised experience.

Offering a wide range of integrated courseware and assessment, mapped to the Global Scale of English, we work to ensure every individual's needs are met at each stage of a lifelong learning journey.

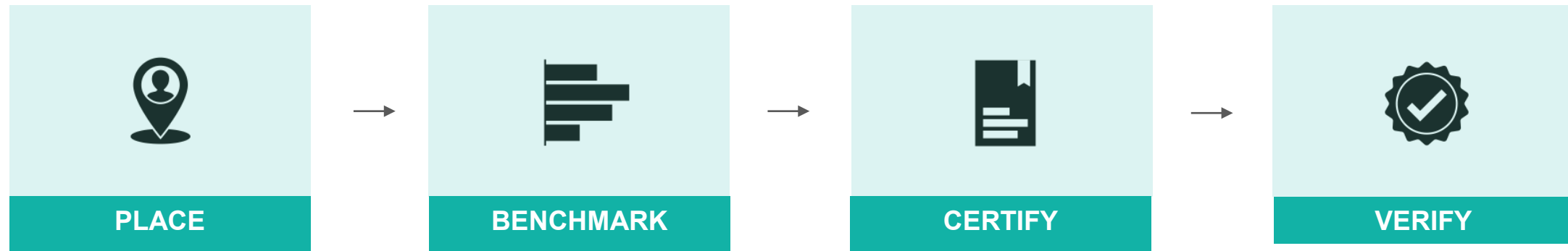


Pearson English Assessment:

Key moments on the journey to a life in English

Pearson English assessments **support learning, celebrate success** and **prove language ability** at key stages along the journey to fluency.

Our assessments are mapped to each other, to Pearson English courseware, to the Global Scale of English, and to this assessment journey:



These assessments help learners get off to a flying start by **placing them in the right English class** on their first day.






These assessments **monitor progress, show proficiency** and prepare students for English exams.

These assessments prove learners' English skills to potential employers or schools through **recognised certificates**.

These assessments **verify English language ability** for immigration and study abroad purposes.

Pearson English Assessment:

Key moments on the journey to a life in English

	 PLACE	 BENCHMARK	 CERTIFY	 VERIFY
YOUNG LEARNERS <i>Age 6-14</i>		ENGLISH BENCHMARK YOUNG LEARNERS	PEARSON ENGLISH INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATE - YOUNG LEARNERS	
ADULTS <i>Age 14+</i>	LEVEL TEST	 BENCHMARK TEST	PEARSON ENGLISH INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATE -	PTE ACADEMIC

Pearson English Benchmark Test

Gain thorough insight into your students' skills, measure their progress in detail and receive targeted direction for your teaching – in just 45 minutes.



Benchmark Test Question Types

Pearson English Benchmark Test

*The following
walkthrough includes:*

- The **introduction screens** that welcome and prepare the test taker for what to expect
- **Every item type** that may be featured in the test (samples taken from different levels)
- The **end of test screen** that concludes the test



Welcome

Welcome to the Pearson English Benchmark Test

Benchmark Test

Welcome to the Benchmark test. The test has 3 sections, covering different skills. In each section you will complete different tasks.

Section	Skills
1	Reading, Grammar and Vocabulary
2	Listening and Speaking
3	Writing

You will need a headset and microphone.

The test will usually take 45 minutes.

Click on 'Next' to move to the next screen. Check your work carefully as you cannot go back and change your answers.



Section 1

Reading, Grammar and Vocabulary

Section 1

Reading, Grammar and Vocabulary

Section 1

This section tests Reading, Grammar and Vocabulary. You will need to complete different tasks:

- Complete the table
- Choose the right word (vocabulary)
- Choose the right word (grammar)
- Correct the mistake
- Choose the right picture (reading)
- Read and write a short answer
- Read and choose the right word

Click on the Next button to start.

Vocabulary: *Fill in the Table*

Write a word or phrase to fill the gaps.

Room	Furniture
bathroom	shower
<input type="text"/>	sofa
bedroom	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	cooker
dining room	<input type="text"/>



Test A

What is being asked?

This question asks the learner to complete a set of vocabulary items with appropriate words. The words are presented as a table of related words.

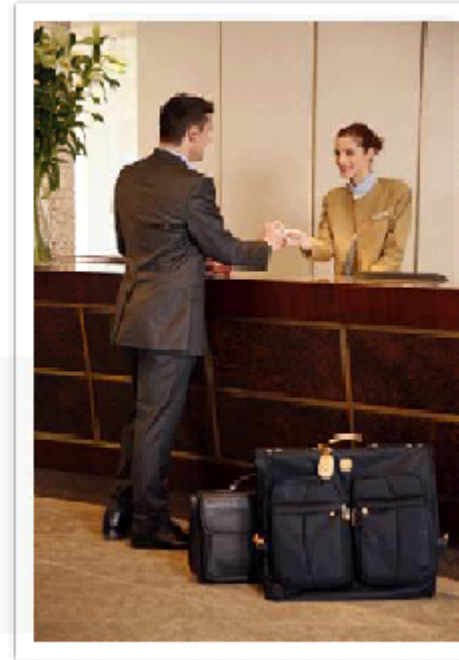
What is being tested?

This question tests the learner's knowledge of word families and related sets of words that they may have met in the classroom or when learning English. It tests the words the learner knows and the accuracy of the form of the word.

Vocabulary: *Choose the Right Word or Phrase*

Select a word or phrase to fill the gaps.

- 1 The women's and men's bathrooms are located to the of the main camping ground.
- 2 In case of fire, leave your belongings and move towards the door. The meeting point is on the of Green and Georgina Streets.
- 3 Parents are asked to wait outside the school and not to block the to the carpark.



*All
Levels*

What is being asked?

This question asks the learner to choose the correct word to complete a number of sentences. The sentences are related by a similar theme.

What is being tested?

This question tests the vocabulary knowledge of the learner in a written context. It tests the vocabulary the learner knows, the range of that vocabulary, and whether they can understand the use of the vocabulary in the context of a sentence.

Grammar: *Choose the Right Word or Phrase*

Select a word or phrase to fill the gaps.

- 1 When I got home today, I saw that Helen picked up the mail.
- 2 Peter had left before anyone else at the party.
- 3 David his homework earlier than Steven did



*All
Levels*

What is being asked?

This question asks the learner to choose the correct word or phrase to complete a number of sentences. The sentences are related by a similar theme.

What is being tested?

This question tests the learner's range of grammatical knowledge as well as the accuracy of grammar in a written context.

Grammar: *Complete the dialogue*

Complete the dialogue using words from the box.
Drag words into the gaps.

order begin time tomato menu salad price drink

Waiter: Are you ready to

Customer: Yes, I'll have the _____ soup, thanks.

Waiter: What would you like to _____?

Customer: Just water please.

Waiter: Anything else?

Customer: Actually I've changed my mind, I'll have a chicken _____ instead of the soup.

Waiter: Sure.

Customer: That's the same _____ as the soup, isn't it?

Waiter: Yes, that's \$11.



What is being asked?

This question asks the learner to select words from a word bank to complete a dialogue.

What is being tested?

This question tests the vocabulary of the learner in a spoken context. It tests the range of the vocabulary the learner knows, and whether they can understand the use of the vocabulary in the context of a conversation.

*Test B1,
B2, C*

Grammar: *Correct the Mistake*

The sentence below has a mistake. Choose the best option to correct the mistake.

I've never been to Spain but I was going to Portugal for three weeks last year.

- I've gone to
- I've been to
- I went to



*All
Levels*

What is being asked?

This question asks the learner to choose the correct word or phrase to replace a mistake in a sentence.

What is being tested?

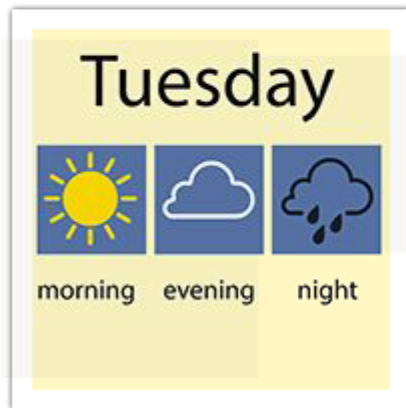
This question tests the knowledge of grammar of the learner in a written context and whether they can choose the right grammatical form in a sentence.

Reading: *Choose the Right Picture*

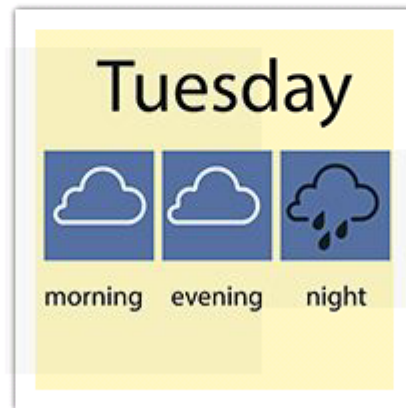
Read the text. Select a picture to answer the question.

On Tuesday it will be sunny in the morning, but in the evening it will become cloudy with rain overnight.

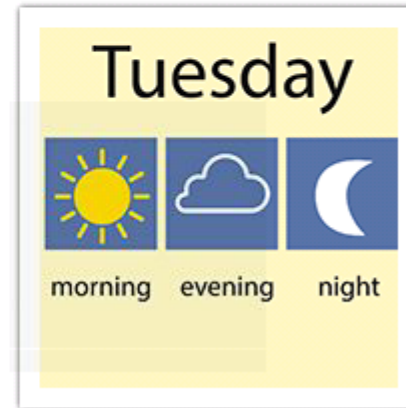
What will the weather be like on Tuesday?



A



B



C

What is being asked?

This question asks learners to read a short text and select the best picture to match with the text.

What is being tested?

This question tests the holistic understanding of short messages, notes and short pieces of writing.

Test A

Reading: *Short answer questions*

Read the article and answer the questions. Use no more than three words for each answer

Biofuels

Plant material, or biomass, is used to produce biofuels in the form of gas or liquid fuel. Environmental concerns have helped promote biofuels as a way to replace oil and natural gas. Unfortunately, biofuels seem to be exacerbating the problem of food shortage. Farmers in many industrialized nations have been encouraged by their governments to switch to growing fuel crops. This reduction in domestic farming means food must be imported, which increases the overall cost of food production worldwide. Rich nations are being asked to reconsider recently passed laws that promote biofuels as an alternate energy source.

Example:

What is biomass made up of?

plant material

1 What is one cause of the increasing use of biofuels?

environmental concerns

2 What is being grown increasingly in industrialized countries?

fuel crops

3 What are governments in wealthier countries encouraged to think again about?

recently passed laws

*Test B1,
B2, C*

What is being asked?

This question asks the learner to read a longer text and answer questions on the text.


What is being tested?

This question tests the reading comprehension of the learner. It tests specific information included in the text.

Reading:

Choose the Right Word or Phrase (Gapfill)

Read the text. Select a word or phrase to fill the gap.



Modern and Classic _____ Sale

We have items for every room in your home. Come and see our sofas, chairs, beds and tables.

A Furniture
B Carpet
C Clothing

*Test
A, B1*

What is being asked?

This question asks learners to read a short text and select the best word or phrase to complete the text.

What is being tested?

This question tests the learner's holistic understanding of short messages, notes and short pieces of writing.

Section 2

Listening and Speaking

Section 2

Listening and Speaking

Section 2

This section tests Listening and Speaking. You will need to complete different tasks:

- Read out loud
- Listen and repeat a sentence
- Describe a picture
- Listen and read a text
- Listen and then write a sentence

Click on the Next button.

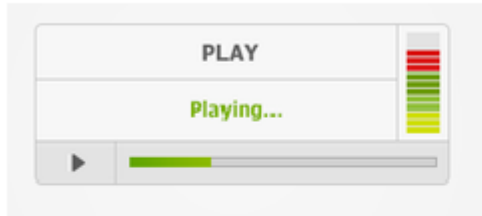


Section 2

Listening and Speaking

Section 2

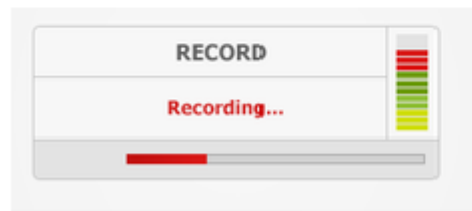
Press play to listen to the audio.



For speaking questions, a timer will count down the time.

When it says 'Recording', speak clearly into the microphone to give your answer. It is important to speak naturally during the test

You can practice these sample questions more than once and listen to your voice recording.



Click on the Next button.



Section 2

Listening and Speaking

Section 2

It is important to speak naturally during the test.

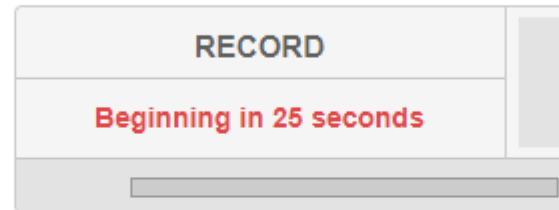
Here are some tips:

- Speak at a **normal speed** like you would during a conversation.
- Speak like you are **talking to a person** on the phone. There is no need to speak too carefully or slowly.
- Speak at a **normal volume**, not too loud or too soft.

Click on the Next button to start.

Speaking and Reading: *Read Aloud*

You have 25 seconds to prepare. After the beep, read the text aloud in a clear voice.



The White Rabbit Gallery has one of the largest collections of modern Chinese art in the world. The gallery has four floors as well as a theatre, a library and a teahouse. From Thursday to Sunday, gallery attendants give guided tours, beginning at midday.

*All
Levels*

What is being asked?

This question asks the learner to read aloud a sentence or short text.

What is being tested?


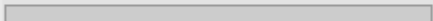

This question tests accurate pronunciation and how fluent the learner is at speaking. It tests if the words in the text are understood and repeated accurately.

Speaking and Listening: *Listen and Repeat*



Click to hear recording

Listen to the recording. Repeat the sentence exactly as you hear it.
You will hear the sentence only once.

PLAY	
Ready	
	
RECORD	
	

*All
Levels*

What is being asked?

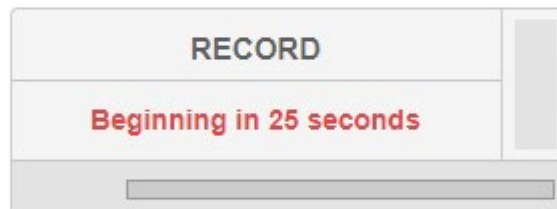
This question asks the learner to listen to a sentence or short text and then repeat it.

What is being tested?

This question tests listening comprehension at the word and sentence level. It tests pronunciation and fluency. It tests if the words heard are understood and repeated accurately.

Speaking: *Describe the Image*

Look at the picture. You have 25 seconds to prepare.
After the beep, speak into the microphone and describe the picture.
You have 25 seconds to give your response.



What is being asked?

This question asks the learner to look at a photograph or picture and describe what they see.

What is being tested?

This question tests the learner's ability to speak in an extended way linking concepts and ideas. It tests the accuracy of speech including accurate grammar, pronunciation and stress as well as the fluency of the speech. It tests the use of appropriate words to describe the photograph or picture.

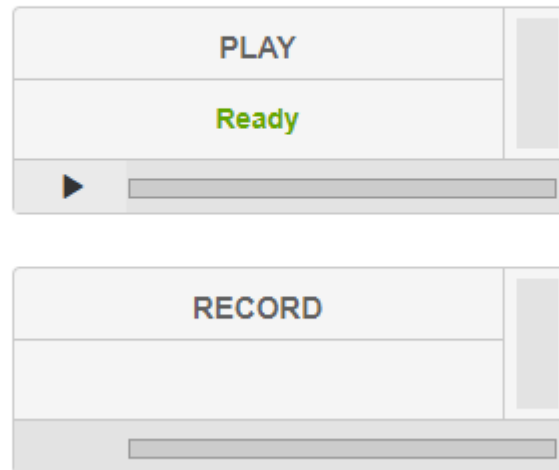
*All
Levels*

Speaking and Listening: *Retell the Story*



Click to hear recording

You will hear a short story. After the story, you will have 30 seconds to retell the story in English. Try to retell as much of the story as you can, including the situation, characters, actions, and ending.



What is being asked?

This question asks the learner to listen to a short narrative and then retell the narrative using their own words.

What is being tested?

This question tests listening and speaking. It assesses understanding of a short narrative.

*Test B1,
B2, C*

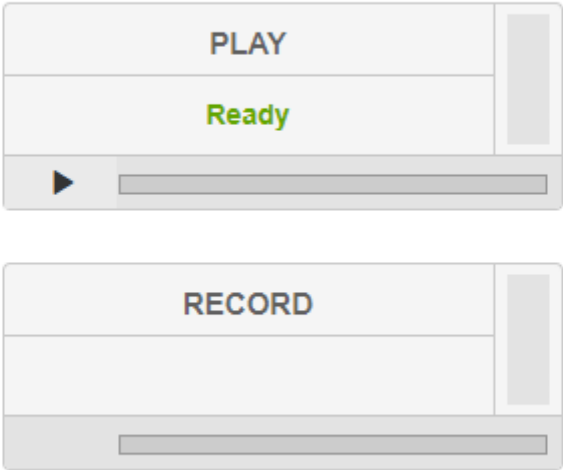
Listening and Speaking:

Listen to the Conversation



Click to hear recording

Listen to the conversation. Give a short, simple answer to the question.



The image shows a digital audio player interface. At the top, it says 'Listen to the conversation. Give a short, simple answer to the question.' Below this, there are two main sections. The first section is labeled 'PLAY' and contains a green 'Ready' indicator and a play button. The second section is labeled 'RECORD' and contains a record button. Both sections have a progress bar at the bottom.

What is being asked?

This question asks the learner to listen to a short conversation and then answer a question about the conversation.

What is being tested?

This question tests listening comprehension. It tests the accuracy of the listening comprehension of the learner.

*Test B1,
B2, C*

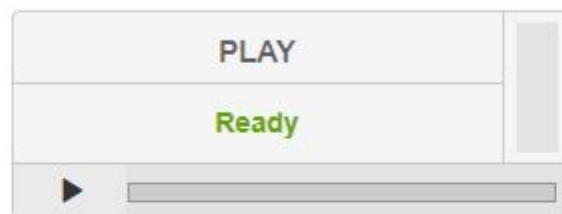
Listening and Reading:

Listen and Read (Hotspots)



Click to hear recording

Listen to the recording. Click on the words in the text that are different from what you hear.



When visiting the Library there are a couple of main Library rules you need to know about. Firstly if you have a mobile phone, please change it to silent mode and keep conversations to a minimum. This is so that you don't disrupt other Library users as there are people studying surrounding you. Secondly, food cannot be consumed inside the Library past the turnstiles, but you can eat within the Escape area at the entrance. You are allowed to bring in drinks, as long as they have re-sealable lids.

What is being asked?

This question asks the learner to read a text and at the same time listen to the text. The learner has to find the differences between the written text and the spoken text.

What is being tested?

This question tests reading and listening comprehension. It tests the ability to recognise individual words in a text.

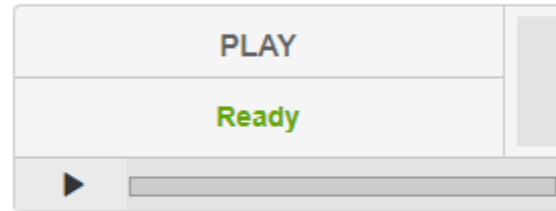
*All
Levels*

Listening and Writing: *Dictation*



Click to hear recording

Listen to the recording and type what you hear. You will hear the sentence only once.



*All
Levels*

What is being asked?

This question asks the learner to listen to a sentence or short text and write what they have heard.

What is being tested?

This question tests listening comprehension at the word and sentence level. It tests the ability to write accurately and understand sentence structure, word order and connectors.

Section 3

Writing

Section 3

Writing

Section 3

This section tests Writing. You will need to complete different tasks:

- Read and then write
- Describe a picture.

Click on the Next button to start.

Reading and Writing: *Read and then Write*

Read the passage. After 30 seconds, the passage will disappear. Rewrite the passage in your own words. You have 90 seconds to write your response.

Jim and his family wanted to go to Spain for a holiday. They took a lot of bags. Jim forgot his passport so he couldn't get on the plane. His family went to Spain and Jim went home.

*All
Levels*

What is being asked?

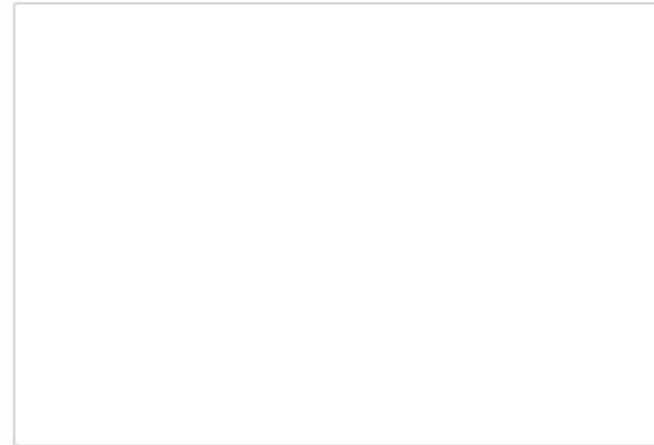
This question asks the learners to read a short story or short piece of factual text. The text then disappears and the learner has to reconstruct the text.

What is being tested?

This question tests reading comprehension. It tests the ability to write accurately and understand sentence structure, word order and connectors.

Writing: *Describe the Image*

Look at the picture. You have 9 minutes to write about the picture.
You must write 25-50 words.



Test A

What is being asked?

This question asks the learner to write a short essay in response to a prompt. For lower levels, test takers need to write a short description of an image.

What is being tested?

This question tests writing skills. It tests paragraph and sentence structure, the range and accuracy of the language used, the ability to structure an argument or discussion in a written context. It tests grammar and vocabulary as an essential part of writing.

Writing: *Short Essay*

**Read the question. You have 10 minutes to write your response.
You must write at least 75 words.**

Teachers should always give their students homework. Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Why or why not?

*Test B1,
B2, C*

What is being asked?

This question asks the learner to write a short essay in response to a prompt. For lower levels, test takers need to write a short description of an image.

What is being tested?

This question tests writing skills. It tests paragraph and sentence structure, the range and accuracy of the language used, the ability to structure an argument or discussion in a written context. It tests grammar and vocabulary as an essential part of writing.

End of test

End of Test

Thank you for taking the Benchmark Test.



ALWAYS LEARNING