



PRELIMINARY ENGLISH TEST
for Schools

Reading and Writing

SAMPLE PAPER 3

Time 1 hour 30 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Do not open this question paper until you are told to do so.

Write your name, centre number and candidate number on your answer sheets if they are not already there.

Read the instructions for each part of the paper carefully.

Answer all the questions in Reading Parts 1 – 5 and Writing Parts 1 and 2.

Answer only **one** question from Writing Part 3.

Read the instructions on the answer sheets.

Write your answers on the answer sheets. Use a pencil.

You **must** complete the answer sheets within the time limit.

At the end of the test, hand in both this question paper and your answer sheets.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

READING

Questions **1 – 35** carry one mark.

WRITING

Questions **1 – 5** carry one mark.

Part 2 (Question **6**) carries five marks.

Part 3 (Question **7** or **8**) carries fifteen marks.

Reading • Part 1

Questions 1 – 5

Look at the text in each question.

What does it say?

Mark the correct letter **A**, **B** or **C** on your answer sheet.

Example:

0



Why has Petra sent this text?

- A She's inviting Vicki to stay with her.
- B She wants to meet Vicki at school.
- C She's hoping Vicki will cook dinner.

Answer:

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

1

<p><u>From:</u> Meg <u>To:</u> Ros</p> <p>Are you OK for the band competition next weekend? If not I'll ask Clare to play keyboards instead. Let me know because we must sign up today.</p>

- A Meg is checking that her band member is available for the competition.
- B Meg would like to know if Clare wants to play keyboards next weekend.
- C Meg is asking Ros to put their names down today for a music competition.

2

<p>ABBAY LEISURE CENTRE</p> <p>LEATHER WALLET FOUND IN LADIES' CHANGING ROOM</p> <p>Contact reception for details</p>

Go to reception to

- A ask about an item of lost property left in the changing room.
- B report losing an item of value in the changing room.
- C find out if anyone in the changing room has lost a valuable item.

3

K- Festival
Bring ID if you look under 16
in order to be admitted.

- A** 16-year-olds are not allowed admission to the festival.
- B** If you look too young you will be refused access to the festival.
- C** You may have to prove your age for entry to the festival.

4

Hi Cara - Yes I'd love to come shopping with you this afternoon but I'm looking after Rachel. Will it be OK if I bring her with me?
Thanks,
Millie

- A** Millie is inviting Cara to join her and Rachel on a shopping trip.
- B** Millie wants Cara to look after Rachel during their shopping trip.
- C** Millie will accept Cara's invitation if Rachel can accompany them.

5

Remember!
All printers are turned off 15
minutes before this computer
room closes at the end of the
day

The aim of this notice is to

- A** remind students to turn off the printers at the end of the day.
- B** warn students to complete any printing in advance of closing time.
- C** inform students how long printing will take before the room closes.

Reading • Part 2

Questions 6 – 10

The young people below all want to have a week of activities during the school summer holidays. On the opposite page there are descriptions of some summer camps and courses. Decide which one would be the most suitable for the following people. For questions 6 – 10, mark the correct letter (A – H) on your answer sheet.

6



Garfield loves writing his own songs. He wants to try out the latest technology to record his music and talk to experts about performing. He would prefer not to stay anywhere overnight.

7



Jenni wants to forget about school for a week. She wants to live in a simple way and practise some useful outdoor skills, while making friends with people who enjoy similar things.

8



Twins Rafael and Tomas have designed a robot on their computer and would now like to build it. They want to go to a centre with modern technical facilities and indoor social activities.

9



Ben hopes to use his technical skills to be involved in a stage show. He'd like to go on at least one trip and is looking for a week with plenty of fun activities.

10



Lorna would like to spend a week enjoying some fresh air and making new friends. She wants to discover the area while trying out a variety of sports.

Summer Camps and Courses

A Wildwood

Set in unspoilt countryside this camp offers an opportunity to get back to nature. There are no luxuries but you'll have a great time building a hut to stay in together. You'll learn how to make a fire and cook in the open air, to recognise wildlife and locate safe places for swimming.

C Radlett

No experience just lots of energy is required on this introduction to film-making. You'll learn skills such as directing actors both in the studio and outdoors. There will be at least one trip to film on location nearby and the sports centre can be used in your free-time.

E Dramatica

You'll spend half of each day learning about acting with our expert theatre coach. For the rest of each day you can choose from over 50 activities on our exciting programme. With a different entertainment on offer each evening you'll learn loads of new skills!

G Elvedon

You'll take a picnic lunch with you when you set off on a different activity trip each day: maybe horse-riding, mountain-biking, sailing or rock-climbing. After a delicious barbecue dinner, the fun continues with your new friends, with songs and other activities in the well-equipped games room. Accommodation is in top quality private rooms.

B Platformer

Join us if you dream of inventing your own computer game. Create environments, add characters, lighting and sound using our incredible software. And with our outdoor swimming pool and climbing wall, you'll exercise your body as well as your mind on this fun-filled week.

D Powerhouse

This creative course includes studio sessions using the newest recording equipment. Professional record producers will give advice on voice and stage skills, and the live concert at the end can be downloaded. Local teenagers can attend as day-students, while full-time members will enjoy the evening social programme.

F Rugeley

Using the school's excellent theatre, you will prepare a live performance for the end of the week, either acting, directing or working with the new sound and lighting system. A visit to a theatre is included and with the fantastic social programme the week will fly by.

H Fillbrook

On this one-week course you can use digital technology to create your own inventions and then make a working model, whether it's a spaceship or even a new musical instrument! Our accommodation sleeps four to a room and free time in the evenings can be spent joining in quizzes and games.

Reading • Part 3

Questions 11 – 20

Look at the sentences below about an island with a mystery.

Read the text on the opposite page to decide if each sentence 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.

- 11 People first became curious about Oak Island during the last century.
- 12 The boys thought the site by the tree might contain goods stolen by pirates.
- 13 The wooden sections of the tunnel were equal distances apart.
- 14 The boys intended to continue their search on another occasion.
- 15 The businessmen's team managed to dig further than the boys had done.
- 16 The letters on the stone in the Money Pit were written in English.
- 17 All the tunnels that the team made filled up with water from the sea.
- 18 Scientists disagreed with the digging team about how the tunnels were formed.
- 19 People hunting for the treasure have had a negative effect on the island's environment.
- 20 The public are starting to lose interest in the mystery of Oak Island.

The Mystery of Oak Island

Oak Island lies just off the north-eastern coast of Nova Scotia, Canada. This empty island is the location for a mystery that has interested people for several hundred years.

The story began in 1795, when three local farm boys went on a fishing trip to Oak Island and started exploring. At the foot of an old tree they came across a piece of ground, about four metres wide, that was lower than the surrounding area. Thinking that perhaps robbers at sea had buried stolen money or other items of valuable treasure there, they went back to the mainland to fetch their tools.

As they began to dig, they found a man-made tunnel. After a metre or so they discovered some flat stones like a pavement. When these were removed the tunnel underneath was completely filled with thick pieces of tree trunk. As they went on digging they kept finding similar blocks of wood every three metres along the tunnel. When they had reached nine metres underground, the boys were exhausted and gave up their search and all their hopes of becoming rich.

Early in the next century, a group of businessmen organised an expedition to the Money Pit, as it was now called. Their team dug for 27 metres, through more wooden blocks until, to their great excitement, they found a large flat stone covered with strange letters. This was later translated as *'Ten metres below two million pounds are buried.'*

But when the team tried to dig further to reach the money, sea-water flooded into the tunnel. The same thing happened to a second tunnel which they had dug in an attempt to approach the money from a different direction. The team believed that whoever originally built the Money Pit had designed these tunnels to flood on purpose to prevent anyone accessing the treasure. However scientists thought it more likely that the tunnels had developed naturally and gradually filled up with rubbish from the sea.

In the 20th century more attempts were made to find the treasure using heavy machinery. This damaged the island's plants and trees and completely destroyed the original tunnel. In 1965 a road was built across the sea to the island and later two visitor centres were built by different exploration companies.

In fact, despite its name, not a single coin has ever been found in the Money Pit. No-one really knows whether the money exists or not, but one thing is certain: the mystery of Oak Island is sure to continue to attract treasure-hunters for many years to come.

Reading • Part 4

Questions 21 – 25

Read the text and questions below.

For each question, mark the correct letter **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** on your answer sheet.

Jamie Douglas

Jamie Douglas is spending his gap year before going to university as a video blogger. While he was at school he'd had a few minor acting roles: a tiny part in a TV show and an advert for fried chicken. Now there's a huge pile of fan mail that he's too busy to open in the corner of his bedroom.

Jamie's blog, called Jimsblog, started as a video diary for his family and friends. In it he chats to the camera in his bedroom about his opinions and experiences, and the website also contains comedy clips from his own home-made films. Within weeks he had a regular audience of two hundred thousand and his film clips have had millions of viewers. Jamie is now recognised wherever he goes. 'It's pretty scary' he says. 'It's not as if I'm a celebrity.' What's more, every time somebody clicks on the website, Jamie gets money from adverts on the site. 'It goes straight into my account and the total just goes up and up. It's amazing' he says, 'I try to spend most of it on new camera equipment, but if there's enough left over why shouldn't I have some fun with it? It's paid for my trips to Ibiza and Thailand.'

However, life will change for Jamie at the end of the summer when he's supposed to go to university. 'It's so hard to decide what to do' he says. 'My website makes money, but if I go to uni that will stop and I'll probably end up owing large amounts. And the online world is moving so fast I don't want to miss any opportunities while I'm studying.'

- 21** What is the writer's main aim in this text?
- A** to advise teenagers about using the internet
 - B** to explain what blogging is about
 - C** to describe a teenager's online success
 - D** to introduce a project to raise money
- 22** A visitor to Jamie's website will see
- A** Jamie talking about himself.
 - B** links to Jamie's favourite movies.
 - C** interviews with Jamie's friends.
 - D** advertisements Jamie appeared in.

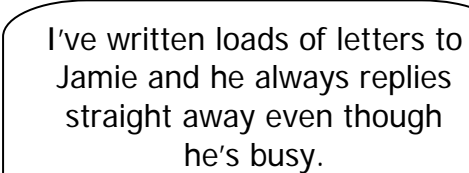
23 What does Jamie find surprising?

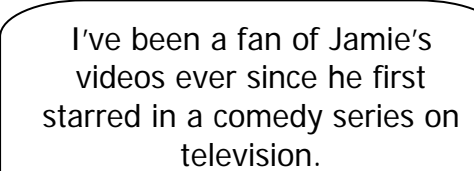
- A** The price of photographic equipment.
- B** The number of reviews of his website.
- C** The cost of holidays abroad.
- D** The way his money is growing.

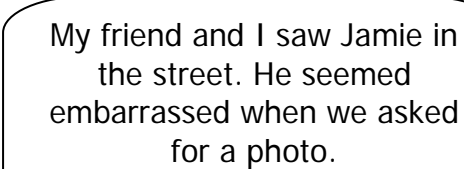
24 How does Jamie feel about going to university?

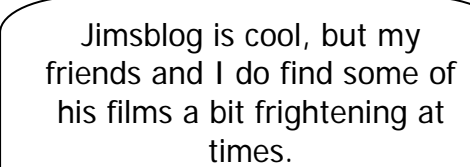
- A** looking forward to returning to full-time education
- B** worried about missing new internet developments
- C** anxious about the subjects he has chosen
- D** confident about his financial situation

25 What would one of Jamie's fans say?

A  I've written loads of letters to Jamie and he always replies straight away even though he's busy.

B  I've been a fan of Jamie's videos ever since he first starred in a comedy series on television.

C  My friend and I saw Jamie in the street. He seemed embarrassed when we asked for a photo.

D  Jimsblog is cool, but my friends and I do find some of his films a bit frightening at times.

Reading • Part 5

Questions 26 – 35

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

Example:

O **A** mistake **B** trouble **C** fault **D** difficulty

Answer:

O	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
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Dictionaries

A dictionary isn't just a book or a website you check when you make a spelling **(0)** in your homework. If you know the meanings of words and **(26)** to use them, you will be able to **(27)** your thoughts and feelings exactly to other people. Dictionaries are **(28)** updated to include new inventions and words **(29)** language is always changing. Some of the everyday words that people **(30)** ten years ago are probably already **(31)** of fashion. Samuel Johnson is famous for completing the first reliable English dictionary in 1755. Before then, words in dictionaries were **(32)** according to topic and Johnson set out to **(33)** every word in the language. It **(34)** him and his team nine years to copy out all the words and list them in the order of the alphabet. **(35)** work on the 'D' section, to explain 'dull' he wrote "To make dictionaries is dull work."

- 26 A what B when C which D why
- 27 A realise B discuss C communicate D mention
- 28 A nearly B finally C previously D regularly
- 29 A unless B because C whenever D despite
- 30 A talked B spoke C used D thought
- 31 A out B behind C past D instead
- 32 A arranged B confirmed C achieved D involved
- 33 A require B remind C record D remember
- 34 A gave B spent C kept D took
- 35 A While B Among C Within D During

Writing • Part 1

Questions 1 – 5

Here are some sentences about a writer called Michael Morpurgo.

For each question, complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first.

Use no more than three words.

Write only the missing words on your answer sheet.

You may use this page for any rough work.

Example:

0 Michael Morpurgo believes in the importance of reading for children.

Michael Morpurgo believes that reading is very for children.

Answer:

0

important

1 Michael is the author of over a hundred books for children.

Michael has..... over a hundred books for children.

2 Michael became a full-time writer after working as a teacher for ten years.

Michael worked as a teacher for ten years becoming a full-time writer.

3 Michael's books have won prizes in both England and France.

Michael's books have won prizes not in England but also in France.

4 Steven Spielberg made Michael's book War Horse into a film.

Michael's book War Horse made into a film by Steven Spielberg.

5 Michael and his wife have three farms, which city children can stay at.

Michael and his wife have three farms for city children stay at.

Writing • Part 2

Question 6

Your class visited a museum yesterday and you bought a postcard for your friend Alex in the museum shop.

Write the postcard to Alex. In your postcard, you should:

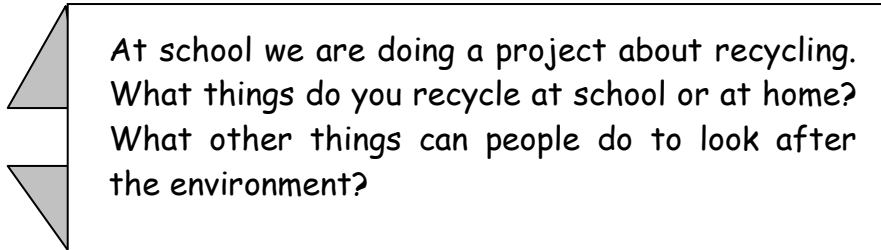
- tell Alex about your visit to the museum
- explain what you liked best at the museum
- say what else you bought at the museum shop.

Write **35-45 words** on your answer sheet.

Writing • Part 3

Question 7

- This is part of a letter you receive from an English friend.



- Now write a letter, answering your friend's questions.
- Write your **letter** in about 100 words on your answer sheet.

Question 8

- Your English teacher has asked you to write a story.
- Your story must begin with this sentence:

Jack was amazed when he opened his schoolbag.

- Write your **story** in about 100 words on your answer sheet.

**Do not write your answer
on this page.**

**You must write your answer for
Writing Part 3 on
the separate answer sheet.**



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www.cambridgeenglish.org/teaching-english/resources-for-teachers