OXFORD TEST OF ENGLISH

B1 PRACTICE TEST 2

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Test 2

Speaking

Parts 1 & 2

Part 1 Interview

2.01 You are going to answer eight questions. You have 10 seconds per question for questions 1 and 2, and 20 seconds per question for questions 3–8. Start speaking when you hear this tone.

Part 2 Voicemail 1

2.02 You are going to leave a voicemail message. First read and listen to the task, then decide what you want to say. You have 40 seconds to leave your voicemail. Start speaking when you hear the tone.

You are on a two-week study holiday in England, staying in a room in a college. However, there are problems with the accommodation, making it difficult for you to study.

Leave a voicemail message for the manager of the accommodation. In your message, you should:

- say who you are
- describe the problems
- say what you want the manager to do.

You now have 20 seconds to think about what you want to say.

Part 2 Voicemail 2

2.03 You are going to reply to a voicemail message. First read and listen to the task, then decide what you want to say. You have 40 seconds to leave your voicemail. Start speaking when you hear the tone.

Listen to a message from your friend about going to watch a film at the cinema. Then, leave a voicemail message for your friend. In your message, you should:

- ask some questions about the film
- explain which evening is best for you
- suggest something to do before the film.

Now listen to the message.

You now have 20 seconds to think about what you want to say.

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Part 3

2.04 You are going to give a talk. Read and listen to the task, and start speaking when you hear the tone.

Your school's English department has been given some money to spend. You are going to give a talk to your English class about the best way of spending the money.

Choose **two** photographs. Tell your class how you think these would help students improve their English.

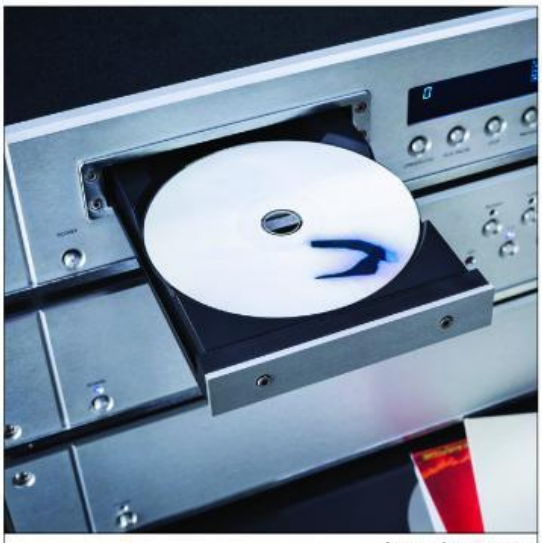
You now have 30 seconds to think about what you want to say.

You now have one minute to give your talk.

A visit to England

A screen and projector

English magazines and newspapers



A music system

Part 4

2.05 You are going to answer six questions about your talk. You have 30 seconds to answer each question. Start speaking when you hear the tone.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

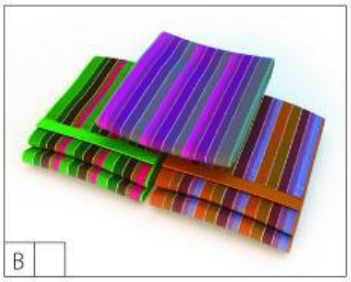
Listening

Part 1

2.06 Listen and choose the correct picture (A, B, or C).

1 A girl is talking to her father while she is packing her suitcase. What does she decide to leave behind?

A


B

C

2 A man and a woman are talking. What did the man get from the shops?

A

B

C

3 A student is calling his mother from his new room at university. What does he need?

A

B

C

4 A man and a woman are talking about clothes. What does the woman decide to wear?

A

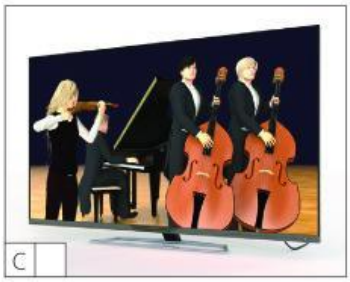
B

C

5 A man and woman are talking about what's on TV. What do they decide to watch?

A

B


C

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part 2

2.07 Listen to a student giving a friend information about university accommodation. Choose the correct answer (A, B, or C) for each gap (1–5). The first one (0) has been done for you. You now have 30 seconds to look at the task.

University accommodation

0 The caller is in her ...B... year.
- A first
- B second
- C third

Parker Building

1 This building is special because …
- A it's quiet.
- B it's modern.
- C the rooms are big.

2 One disadvantage is the distance to the …
- A French department.
- B sports centre.
- C maths department.

Wilson Building

3 The main problem is …
- A there are no cooking facilities.
- B it's expensive.
- C the food isn't great.

4 Students at Wilson are …
- A mainly scientists.
- B friendly.
- C different ages.

Palladian House

5 Palladian House is …
- A an attractive building.
- B good value.
- C cold.

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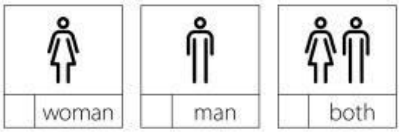
Part 3

2.08 Listen to a man and a woman talking about working for big companies. Match the people (woman, man, or both) to the opinions below. The first one (0) has been done for you. You now have 30 seconds to look at the task.

0 Large companies are good places for young people to work in.

1 It's important to spend free time with friends who are not from work.

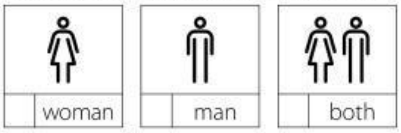
2 You need to make the right contacts at work to succeed.



3 Big companies offer good starting salaries.

4 Working for a large company can be unsatisfying.

5 It is easier to get promoted in a small organization.



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Part 4

2.09 Listen and choose the correct answer (A, B, or C).

1 Two people are talking on a train. What is the woman's opinion of travelling by train?
- A It is unreliable.
- B It is too expensive.
- C It is uncomfortable.

2 A woman is talking to her mother. What did the woman think of the play?
- A The actors needed more preparation.
- B The performance was of a high quality.
- C The new actress was popular with the audience.

3 A man is talking to his wife. What does the man think about going to university?
- A It is necessary for a successful career.
- B It suits some people more than others.
- C It is important to choose a course that interests you.

4 A woman is talking to her father. What does the woman say about Hilltop Garage?
- A Their work is excellent.
- B It is surprisingly cheap.
- C The staff work quickly.

5 A man is talking to a colleague. What did the man think of the restaurant on his last visit?
- A He was disappointed by the food.
- B He was surprised by the new menu.
- C He was pleased about the improved service.

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Reading

Part 1

1 Read the email and choose the correct answer (A, B, or C).

FROM: Tom
TO: Joe
SUBJECT: Our holiday

Hi Joe,
I've just got the e-tickets, so thanks for that. As you know, I've booked a room at the airport hotel because the flight leaves so early, so let me know if you want me to book you one, too.

Why is Tom writing to Joe?

A to tell him about a plan
B to offer to do something for him
C to thank him for some information

2 Read the advertisement and choose the correct answer (A, B, or C).

A Brighter Whiter Smile

Our popular tooth-whitening special offer is still open, so sign up and save when we see you at your next appointment. It is much better than brushing alone, and it's a quick and painless way to get the smile you've always wanted every day!

What is the purpose of this advertisement from a dentist?

A to persuade patients to come and visit the dentist
B to inform patients of a discount that they can have
C to encourage patients to clean their teeth more often

3 Read the notice and choose the correct answer (A, B, or C).

Petra – Important

Dear Guests,
We regret that Friday's trip to the ancient city of Petra is cancelled. Unfortunately, the floods mean that the road is closed. We will let you know if there is any change to the situation.

What is the purpose of this notice in a hotel?

A to explain the reasons for a decision
B to apologize for changing a plan late
C to inform guests that a trip has been postponed

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4 Read the blog and choose the correct answer (A, B, or C).

www.sportsdiary.uk

I paid a fortune last weekend to go to a motor race. I had a good seat at the front, but unfortunately when you're there you have no idea of who's winning. It's much simpler when it's on TV.

What does the blogger think of his day at the race track?

A It was not as exciting as watching it at home.

B It was not worth what he paid for the experience.

C He was disappointed that he couldn't see the cars very well.

5 Read the text message and choose the correct answer (A, B, or C).

I've been told you may have news of my missing suitcase from flight BA 251 last Tuesday. Apparently it should be possible to check by web link rather than getting a taxi to the airport. Is that right?

The airline passenger wants to know …

A where she needs to go to collect the suitcase.

B whether she needs to come and see the suitcase in person.

C if the manager can send her some more information about the suitcase.

6 Read the note and choose the correct answer (A, B, or C).

Anna is doing well in her guitar lessons and she tells me she is playing for an hour a day at home. However, she now requires a higher quality instrument so that she can continue to make progress.

The guitar teacher's note says that Anna …

A needs to improve faster.

B needs to get a better guitar.

C needs to practise for longer.

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Part 2

The people below are looking for activity holidays. Read the information about the people and the holiday descriptions, and choose the best holiday (A, B, C, or D) for each person.

Activity holidays

A Zamsky National Park

From your hotel in the lovely Zamsky National Park, a region that only very few tourists have discovered, our guides will take you on trips across the hills and through the forests. You'll need a good pair of boots and a strong pair of legs, but in the evening you can relax in the warm waters of Lake Vlad or, for a small charge, you can try the hotel's fantastic restaurant. In very bad weather, at the hotel at no extra cost you can also sign up for classes on local cookery, beginner's language classes so you can learn to speak to the locals, or the history of the park and its ancient monuments.

B Agia Paola

Famous for its clubs and rock bands, Agia Paola is a fabulous resort with lots to offer in the daytime, too. The beach offers a full range of watersports and at the marina you can hire boats of any kind – or sign up for lessons if you are a beginner. At the friendly 1,000-room Dolphin Hotel, single and double rooms are the same low price, and they also offer a great value 'Recover your health' package with a personal trainer.

C Campofiore Hotel

Our break at the Campofiore Hotel is all about fun and learning. We'll have meals at some of the area's top restaurants, and back at the hotel you can discover the secrets of making great Italian food – or there are beginners' language lessons if you prefer. You can keep fit by walking in the gentle hills – or there's a shop nearby where you can hire bikes – and our hotel is only minutes from the historic town of Palazzo and its famous international arts and music festival.

D Kostakis Hotel

Set in the hills with distant views of the busy city of Patiri, the family-run Kostakis Hotel will offer you a warm welcome whether you are travelling alone or in a group. With breakfasts and simple evening meals included in the price, this is great value for money. You can take a bus or cycle down to the beach where you can do sailing classes – or aqua-aerobics if you really want to get fit. At night the village comes alive – at lots of the cafés and restaurants you can watch traditional Greek musicians and dancers performing into the early hours.

1
Amy wants to learn how to sail, and would also like a resort with lively discos. She does not want to pay any extra for travelling alone. .....

2
Christina would like a holiday where she can take some language classes. She would also like to go to a place where she can go cycling and she wants to visit somewhere that has lots of interesting old buildings. .....

3
George wants a holiday where he can do a short cookery course some of the time. He would like there to be lots of cultural activities on offer and he wants to try out some great places to eat. .....

4
Heinrich wants to go on holiday where he can find out about the best way of getting fit. He also wants to go windsurfing in the day and to see some live music at night. .....

5
Joanna wants to go on a walking holiday. She wants to stay somewhere quiet in the countryside which offers the chance to do some swimming. .....

6
Tomas wants to go to a place where he can see some live music. He wants somewhere small and friendly and would like a place where he does not have to pay extra for food. .....

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Part 3

Six sentences are missing from this text. Choose the correct sentence (A–G) for each gap (1–6). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

What is the best way to learn?

There are some things that we don't often bother to think about – like breathing or walking – because there is no real need to; and there are other things we don't often bother to think about – like learning – but we should.

All through our lives, we are learning new things. And learning doesn't just mean what happens between our first day at school and our last day at university. .....[1] We start from the moment we are born and are always learning new skills at work, new languages for pleasure or new hobbies for fun.

Many of us, however, have no real idea what the best way to learn is, so scientists at the University of California set up a research project to try and find some answers. They interviewed students at some of the top universities in the USA. .....[2] The hope was that, by finding out how they learned, they might discover some useful tips.

It became clear fairly quickly that some things do not work as well as many people imagine. Students often write notes on the page or underline things that they are reading. .....[3] The problem is that most students do this when they are reading something for the first time, when they do not really know whether it is important or not.

Re-reading is a technique that almost all students use when they are trying to learn new information. .....[4] It works best if you re-read something after about four days. If you re-read something as soon as you have finished it the first time, there is almost no benefit.

The study did, however, recommend two methods that appeared to be useful. The first one was self-testing, and this can take many different forms. It could involve just answering questions at the back of a book and checking the answers. Another way of doing the same thing would be to ask and answer questions with a friend. .....[5] Studies show that self-testing is one of the best ways of remembering new material.

The study also looked at the best way of spending your time when you are trying to learn and remember something new. Researchers found that spending hours and hours studying something without stopping was not very efficient. They say it is much better to try and learn less at any one time and to study it over several days or weeks. .....[6] Giving students lots of small exercises or quizzes would be the easiest way of helping them to learn and remember.

A This advice is something that teachers could easily follow.
B Doing things in this way could make a real difference to them.
C It begins earlier and continues for much longer than that.
D It can be useful, but it depends on how soon you do it.
E Both of these techniques are quick and easy, and they work well.
F The reason they did this was simple.
G It appears, however, that marking text like this does not help with learning.

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Part 4

Read the article about dolphins. For each question (1–4), choose the correct answer (A, B, or C).

The Human Beings of the Sea

Researchers have always known that both chimpanzees and dolphins are intelligent creatures; they believed that chimpanzees, which can be as intelligent as a three-year-old child, were cleverer than dolphins. More recently, however, studies of dolphins of several different types have suggested that it could be the other way round.

Candy Havholm, a scientist at the Institute for Marine Science in Belize, was not surprised when she heard about these studies. In an experiment on a small group of dolphins living in the open sea, she has trained them to recognize and come to her boat. She is seeing if she can teach them a range of hand signals and is already making good progress.

Although we cannot understand dolphin sounds, we know they are used to communicate thoughts and feelings. Dolphins help each other when they are hunting for fish and they will warn each other of danger. They live in big groups, and young dolphins can learn from older ones.

Dolphins have abilities that are very different from our own. For example, by using sound rather than their eyes, they can 'see' something up to 50 metres away; they can see if it is made of metal, plastic or wood; they can even listen to other dolphins and know what they are looking at.

'Dolphins are in danger,' says Candy, 'and we are the problem. It is wrong to keep them in amusement parks to perform tricks for tourists. And at sea, we know that dolphins are often killed by fishermen by accident, but we don't know how many. We need new laws to keep dolphins safe; we need to start thinking of them as the human beings of the sea.'

1 Research into dolphins suggests that …

A some kinds of dolphin are cleverer than others.
B they may be more intelligent than chimpanzees.
C they can learn more quickly than a three-year-old child.

2 The aim of Havholm's experiment is to see …

A how well dolphins can recognize humans.
B what signs dolphins can be taught to understand.
C whether dolphins living in the sea can learn anything.

3 The main point of paragraph three is that …

A dolphins are social creatures.
B dolphins work together to catch food.
C dolphins have a language we cannot understand.

4 Which dolphin skill is mentioned in the text?

A The ability to find things that are safe to eat.
B The ability to work out how far away objects are.
C The ability to communicate with another dolphin.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Writing

Part 1

You have 20 minutes to write an email. Write 80–130 words.

You are arranging a trip to a museum for your class. First read the email from the museum about the trip. Then write an email to Jenny Smith, including the three notes you have made.

FROM: Jenny Smith
SUBJECT: Petersfield Museum

Dear Visitor,

Thank you for your enquiry about arranging a school visit to our new 'Monsters in History' exhibition at the museum. If you wish to go ahead, please give me the details of your preferred date and the group size.

Yes – give details

May I also remind you that we offer school groups a 5% discount in our restaurant, but we would appreciate it if you could book this in advance.

Thanks but no.

Please contact me if you require any further information.

Best way from station? Tube/Bus?

Best wishes,

Ms Jenny Smith
School Visits Coordinator

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part 2

For Writing Part 2, choose one question, the essay OR the article.

Part 2 Essay

You have 25 minutes to write an essay. Write 100–160 words.

You have had a class discussion on public transport. Your teacher now wants you to write an essay.

The title of the essay is:

What are the advantages and disadvantages of using public transport?

Write your **essay**.

Part 2 Article

You have 25 minutes to write an article. Write 100–160 words.

You have seen the following advert in an online magazine for English language students.

Write an article for the magazine.

> My favourite time of the year
>
> What is your favourite time of the year? What is special about it?
> What sort of things do you do?
>
> The best article will be published in the magazine next month.

Write your **article**.

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