



**OXFORD
TEST OF ENGLISH**

B1 PRACTICE TEST 1



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 **LIVEWORKSHEETS**

Reading

Part 1

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

FROM: Mr Stevens
SUBJECT: Learning English words

Learning long lists of vocabulary isn't a very good idea – I know you can learn maybe 200 words in a day, but you soon forget them. Some people learn by watching films regularly and that sounds a lot more fun.

What does Mr Stevens say about vocabulary?

- A It is important to make learning an enjoyable experience.
- B It is always difficult to remember new vocabulary.
- C You should not try to learn too many words at once.

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

Hi Jane

I went to see that car your friend is selling – it was very kind of you to send me the info, I'm really grateful. It's really good value, too, but I think I'll keep looking for a five-door model.

Tom

Why has Tom written this text message to Jane?

- A to thank Jane for trying to help him
- B to explain what sort of cars he likes
- C to suggest Jane buys a car he has seen

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

FROM: Thomas
SUBJECT: Help with cooking

I watched that new programme you recommended – 30-minute Cook – and I'll definitely try a few of those recipes. I can't quite see why every cookery programme these days has to be a competition, but I suppose they think that's what viewers want.

What does Thomas think about the TV programme Jack recommended?

- A It was an exciting programme to watch.
- B It is certain to be popular with audiences.
- C It showed some interesting things to cook.

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

FROM: Laura
SUBJECT: Your party

Hi Jan

Thanks for the invite, only we can't make it to the party on Friday as it's my mum's birthday. Still, that other weekend you mentioned would be fine and, as you say, it'll be fun to see your new place.

Why is Laura writing to Jan?

- A to accept an invitation
- B to suggest a new date to visit
- C to apologize for cancelling

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

We hope you will be delighted with this 30 ml *Sage and Sea Salt* perfume. Please find enclosed a voucher for 20% off your next order, which will come with a free 5 ml bottle of *Sensation*. Offer ends in 30 days.

The note to the customer has information about ...

- A what the benefits of accepting the offer are.
- B how the customer should apply for a free gift.
- C why it is important to place an order immediately.

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

Hi everyone

Just a reminder about the time for next week's book club – 8:30 at my place. And as we agreed at the last meeting, it would be great if everyone could actually read it this time. It would be nice to hear each other's opinions rather than everyone's excuses.

Annie

Why is Annie writing to the members of her book club?

- A to persuade them to come to a meeting
- B to encourage them to finish a book
- C to inform them of a change in plan

Part 2

The people below are looking for things to buy. Read the information about the people and the places and choose the best place (A, B, C, or D) for each person.

Town guide Shopping

A Middle Market

Middle Market is a charming, old-fashioned market in the centre of the city, just off the high street, behind the Marathon Sports Superstore. With over 40 individual shops, it's the perfect place for anything from designer clothes for kids, to fine footwear for adults, to fun covers for your mobile phone. Famous for its butchers and greengrocers, it's also a great place for original modern jewellery. Top tip: stop for a hot drink and a snack at Georgina's – everyone's favourite café, just across from the flower shop.

B Westway Walk

Westway Walk is a bright shopping centre with over 20 modern stores including two discount sports stores, the town's biggest bookshop, and the Bucket Shop which sells really cheap flights. The burger bar opposite the phone shop is always popular with kids, and teenagers love the clothes at Cool Gear – and their amazing prices. For older shoppers, there's also a branch of P&Q with a good range of traditional good quality clothes for men and women.

C The Old Factory

On your first visit, you'll find this place a confusing mix of tiny stalls. Next to a woman selling antique rings – some with real diamonds – you may easily find another selling old books or tables and chairs, or second hand children's clothes and boots. So take your time, look around, there's lots to see and do – and finish up at Polly's on the ground floor – open from 12:00 every day, it's a great place for a hot chocolate and a slice of cake.

D Pettifer Street

This lively part of town is a popular area for young people. The street has an international feel, with a famous night market selling Asian food to take away. More famous for its food than its fashion, this is the place to go to for unusual fruit and vegetables. Further down the street, past the newsagent's selling papers and magazines and the jeweller's, there is a wider variety of businesses, including a travel agent, a sofa and bed shop, a shoe shop, and even a mobile phone repair shop.

1



Bella wants some roses for her sister and a new dress as a birthday present for her five-year-old niece. She also wants a nice place where she can meet a friend for a cup of tea and a chat.

2



Dieter wants to get a cheap T-shirt for a friend in his class at school and needs some tennis balls for a game next weekend. He also needs to buy a new battery for his mobile.

3



Hasan wants a place where he can get something quick to eat for lunch and then start looking for a necklace for his wife's birthday. He also needs to get some fruit and salad for tonight's dinner.

4



Jana wants to meet a friend in a café this afternoon. She is looking for some old-fashioned jewellery for herself and something for her mother, who loves old furniture.

5



Ken wants to go shopping after work to get some boots. He also wants some information about last-minute holidays. He then wants to buy something so he doesn't have to cook tonight.

6



Marie-Claire wants a smart jumper for her dad's birthday and also wants to find something to read on the plane when she goes on holiday next week. She needs somewhere quick and easy to have lunch.

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.

Cambodia Calling

Leading Australian designer Mina Lim talks about how her family history and her travels have played a part in her success.

My parents left Cambodia in 1980 when I was just two years old and I've grown up feeling that I belong to both Australian and Cambodian cultures.¹ My brother and I love Australia too, and we were always encouraged to join in and enjoy the way of life here.

My first trip to Cambodia was when I was eight, and it was a big culture shock. It was so different to our life in Australia, where we weren't rich but we didn't need anything.² Nevertheless, they seemed really happy and spent a lot of time helping each other out. I have never forgotten that first trip – I left Cambodia with a heart full of love for the country and I promised that I would be back.

After leaving university, I got a job with a small independent fashion designer and my boss was great to work for.³ Looking back, I now realize how lucky I was – there aren't many people who get such a good start.

Even so, by the time I was 26, I felt the need to try something different and I thought about Cambodia again.⁴ So that is what I did and I started working with families and small businesses that made clothes.

I stayed a lot longer than I had planned – in the end it was more than two years, but it gave me the chance to meet some jewellers and designers, and they introduced me to their friends, who often invited me to their homes to show me their own artwork.⁵ Before long, I was connected with a whole network of talented jewellers, sculptors and designers, and that is when I started my own business.

I now have a dream job – designing beautiful products and working with the artists in Cambodia who make them.⁶ This means the customer is connected to the maker. It also means that, in a small way, I am helping the people I work with in Cambodia, and I hope that we will continue to work together in this way for many more years.

- A Back in Cambodia we had family who were poor and had very little.
- B It seemed like a good opportunity to visit and live there for a few months.
- C I learned a huge amount about business in my time working there.
- D At home, we learned about Cambodian traditions and the Khmer language.
- E Because a lot of them live in the same area, they all know each other.
- F My dad was always keen that we should work hard and do our best at school.
- G The people who buy them love them because no two pieces are exactly the same.

Part 4

Read the article about Charles Rennie Mackintosh. For questions 1–4, choose the correct answer (A, B, or C).

Charles Rennie Mackintosh (1868–1928)

Like most teenagers, I had not paid much attention to the buildings around me in my home city of Glasgow in Scotland until a student friend of mine suggested meeting her at the Glasgow School of Art. I went along and looking up at it from the street, I suddenly realized how beautiful a building could be; once I was inside, it seemed even more special, and from then on I started appreciating the architecture I saw.

The School of Art – and, I later found out, many other buildings in the city that still seem so beautiful today – was the work of the brilliant architect Charles Rennie Mackintosh. As a young man, he disliked the dark, dull buildings of the time and designed ones that were completely different, full of light, with huge windows and stylish lines.

One attitude that made Mackintosh so different from other architects was that when he agreed to do a job, he turned his attention to absolutely everything, inside and out. You didn't just get the house, you got Mackintosh furniture, Mackintosh wallpaper, Mackintosh curtains, door handles, and even lights.

Yet while Mackintosh was famous throughout Europe, few in his own country actually admired his designs during his lifetime. With little demand for his services, his difficult financial situation led him to retire to France, where he remained for several years following his interest of painting landscapes and flowers, until poor health forced him to return to London. While Mackintosh was never to design another building, his importance in the world of architecture is recognized today.

1 What was the writer's reaction to seeing the Glasgow School of Art?

- A He wanted to learn more about the building's architect.
- B He started to feel differently about buildings.
- C He was surprised he had not noticed the building before.

2 What does the writer say about the other Mackintosh buildings in the city?

- A They are as attractive today as they were originally.
- B They are painted in bright colours.
- C They were designed to replace some older buildings.

3 What was unusual about the way that Mackintosh worked?

- A He preferred designing the inside to the outside.
- B He made sure that everything was built perfectly.
- C He liked to be in control of every detail of a project.

4 Mackintosh retired to France because ...

- A he no longer wanted to design buildings.
- B he was unable to find work as an architect.
- C he was too ill to continue with architecture.