



GENERAL PRACTICE TEST

Name		Level	B2
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Date			

The following assessment design deals with a test of topics related to the B2 First Qualifications exams to be applied in the Exam Preparation groups of the Online Language Community, in order to test some of the competencies required to take international English exams in the areas of reading comprehension and use of language, vocabulary related to the High Intermediate and Advanced levels, as well as the mastery of grammar and writing skills, commonly presented in this kind of tests.

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- A. For questions 1 – 8, read the text 1 Jane Austen and use your knowledge and comprehension of the text to decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

Jane Austen

Jane Austen (December 16, 1775–July 18, 1817) was a prominent English novelist whose work is considered part of the Western canon. She stands as a model of the writer (1)_____ apparently sheltered life did nothing to reduce the stature and drama of her fiction.

She was born at the rectory in Steventon, Hampshire, her father (2)_____ a clergyman, and lived for (3)_____ of her life in the area. She had six brothers, and an elder sister, Cassandra, to whom she was very close.

While her first novel, the posthumously published *Northanger Abbey*, (4) _____ fun at the Gothic novels of Ann Radcliffe, Austen is most famous for her later works, which took the form of socially conscious comedies of errors. These, especially *Emma*, are often cited for their perfection of form, while modern critics continue to unearth new (5) _____ on Austen's keen commentary regarding the predicament of young, unmarried, upper-class English women in the early 1800s.

The order in which she began and completed her novels is different (6) _____ that of their publication. Her novels were (7) _____ well received when they were published, with Sir Walter Scott in particular praising her work. Her reputation has only increased since, and she is now considered one of the greatest English novelists. Austen's chief gift

was to be a close observer of human society and social interaction. It should be noted, (8)_____, that almost every scene in her novels features women, purportedly because she did not know how men spoke when not in the presence of women.

Taken and modified from: <http://www.saberingles.com.ar/reading/jane-austen.html>

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|---|--------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1 | A. for | B. with | C. whose | D. who |
| 2 | A. being | B. living | C. be | D. lived |
| 3 | A. most | B. lots of | C. big | D. bit |
| 4 | A. lets | B. shows | C. pokes | D. mock |
| 5 | A. spots | B. opinions | C. suspicions | D. perspectives |
| 6 | A. so | B. on | C. Up | D. from |
| 7 | A. commonly | B. fairly | c. solely | d. only |
| 8 | A. immediate | B. instant | C. however | D. although |

B. For questions 1-6, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between two and five words, including the word given.

1) She was a prominent English novelist whose work is considered part of the Western canon
BELONG

She was a prominent English novelist whose work is considered _____ the Western canon.

2) She was once engaged to a younger man but changed her mind.

CALL

She decided _____ engagement to a younger man.

3) Having established herself as a novelist, she continued to live in relative seclusion.

AFTER

_____ herself as a novelist, she decided to live far from others.

4) Being sick, she travelled to Winchester to seek a cure.

GO

She was sick, so _____ Winchester to seek a cure.

5) Her lover was very patient; he'd never give up.

TOO

He was _____ give up.

6) I didn't take any notice of those facts.

ATTENTION

I _____ to those facts.

C. For questions 1- 5, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals by the end of some lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line.

Computers are generally associated with the latter half of the 20th century, but the story of computing devices goes much (1) _____ FAR back. In the 1830s Charles Babbage was a man who specialized in mechanical engineering, and he has been credited with the (2) _____ INVENT of the first computing device, the Analytical Engine.

This was a machine that acted like a giant (3) _____ MECHANISM calculator. The huge device consisted of thousands of individual hand-made parts which made it very hard to build and this is one of the reasons why it was never finished. Another reason was that Babbage depended on the (4) _____ GOVERN to invest in the project but political issues forced the government to stop funding. Babbage's failure to complete the (5) _____ ANALYSIS engine can be attributed to difficulties not only of politics and financing, but also to his desire to develop a more sophisticated machine than anyone else in the world was able to do.

Text from: <https://ieltstutors.org/lessons/academic-collocations-5-reading-and-listening/#h5pbookid=84&chapter=h5p-interactive-book-chapter-75385d70-5261-419c-b62e-b8d3db805fb3§ion=0>

D. Match the words in **bold** in the sentences (1-8) with their synonyms on the right (a-j)

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|--|--------------------|
| 1) They didn't know whether their invention could work. _ | a) in order to |
| 2) The device was never finished because of the number of parts it had. _ | b) because |
| 3) Baggage failed although he had a good idea. ____ | c) as though |
| 4) They wanted to create it so as to be able to calculate data ____ | d) in the event of |
| 5) It seems as if some people opposed to the idea. ____ | e) if |
| 6) The government is forced to stop funding in case of conflicts. ____ | f) even though |
| 7) She decided to go shopping as she didn't have any food at home. ____ | g) on account of |
| 8) He has made a lot of money in the last few years. ____ | h) during |

E. For questions 1-8, read the text "Sarah had a problem" and think of the word which fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap.

Sarah had a problem

For a long time Sarah wanted to go (1) ____ with a very handsome man called James, and then one day he turned up at her door. Just like that! She asked him (2) _____. James took his coat (3) _____ and sat down. Then he explained that while driving past her house his car broke down. It was outside. Sarah said James could call out a mechanic and she looked (4) _____ the nearest garage in the phone book. She offered him a cup of tea. He accepted. But then she realized there was no milk. "We've run (5) _____ of milk" she said and popped (6) _____ to buy some more. While Sarah was away the mechanic turned up. He got on with mending the car and James watched. When it was mended James got in his car and drove (7) _____. In the shop Sarah suddenly remembered her little baby sister who she was looking (8) _____ was at home. She ran back to the house and saw that James had left. Her little sister was crying inside, and she had no keys!

From: <https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/teaching-resources/teaching-adults/activities/upper-intermediate-b2/making-it-phrasal-verb-stories>

F. Classify the group of linkers (1-6) for its function, write down if they are for illustration, result, opinion, concluding, reason, sequencing, addition or contrasting

1. _____ It is often said that / Nowadays / It goes without saying that / These days	2. _____ As far as / am concerned / From my point of view / I am under the impression that	3. _____ To start with / Finally / First of all / Secondly / Last but not least / Thirdly
4. _____ In spite of / Although / On the one hand / However / Even though / On the other hand	5. _____ For instance / Such as / Namely / Especially / In other words / To illustrate / In particular	6. _____ In summary / To sum up /Overall / All things considered / All in all / For the most part

G. Write an opinion paragraph to answer the following question: What is the best thing of living in your country?

H. Do you know the structure of a review? Match the paragraphs on the left with the description of their content.

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|---|---|
| 1. First Paragraph
(Title) ____ | a. Give more details of what you are reviewing linked to the questions. Here, you need to give the negative features. |
| 2. Second Paragraph
(Introduction) ____ | b. Summarize your view, using different words from the introduction. Include an overall assessment of the work. |
| 3. Third Paragraph
(Body) ____ | c. Introduce the topic and attract the reader's attention. Summarize all the background information of the book, play etc. |
| 4. Fourth Paragraph
(Body) ____ | d. State the name or title of the book, magazine, film, play, exhibition, concert etc. at the beginning of the review. |
| 5. Fifth Paragraph
(Recommendation) ____ | e. Give your opinion of what you are reviewing linked to the question. Here, you need to give the positive features based on your task. |

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- I. For one of your courses, you are building a web page to share digital English study tools. Your teacher has asked you to write a review of an English study app you have tried. Write a review below, including the advantages and disadvantages of the application.

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- J. Think back to the last book you read or the last movie you watched. Summarize it briefly by telling the name of the main character, his/her intentions, what gets in the way to obtain what he/she wanted and what he/she does to overcome the obstacle. Use the formula: (Somebody) wanted + but + so.