OXFORD TEST OF ENGLISH

B2 PRACTICE TEST 3

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

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Test 3

Speaking

Part 1 Interview

3.01 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 the tone. Try to speak for the full amount of time.

Part 2 Voice message 1

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

Your friend is doing an evening class to learn to paint. You want to join the class, but the class is full. Leave a voice message for the teacher of the class. In your message, you should:

- explain who you are
- describe why you want to join the class
- say what you want the teacher to do.

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

Part 2 Voice message 2

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

Listen to the message from your friend about moving house. Then, leave a voice message for your friend. In your message, you should:

- congratulate your friend
- explain why you cannot help
- say what you think your friend should do.

Now listen to the message.

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

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Part 3 Talk

3.04 You are going to give a talk. Read and listen to the task. You have 60 seconds to give your talk. Start speaking when you hear the tone.

You are going to give a talk to your English class about different ways of enjoying music.

Choose **two** photographs. Tell your class the advantages and disadvantages of enjoying music in these two ways.

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

Dancing

Singing

Listening to music

Playing an instrument

Part 4 Follow-up questions

3.05 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

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

1 A man is talking to his cousin about an exhibition. What was the most popular painting at the exhibition?

A

B

C

2 A man is talking to his cousin about her holiday. What problem has she had in the past?

A

B

C

3 A woman and her brother are planning an outing. Where do they decide to take their aunt and uncle?

A

B

C

4 A man is talking about his career options. What is he going to focus on?

A

B

C

5 A man is talking to his old personal trainer. What current activity does she approve of most?

A

B

C

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Part 2

3.07 Listen to a woman talking about an archaeological summer camp. Choose the correct answers to complete the notes. The first one has been done for you. You now have 30 seconds to look at the task.

The Neolithic Village

0 Most of the course participants are at ...A... level.
- A beginner
- B intermediate
- C advanced

1 The main purpose of the stay is to let students .....
- A carry out archaeological research
- B collect material for coursework
- C have an educational experience

2 Britain's relatively late Neolithic period reflects the fact that .....
- A communities migrated
- B the climate changed
- C food was hard to find

3 While at the village, the student's initial diet will ..... in Neolithic times.
- A reflect the development of agriculture
- B highlight the plants that were used
- C demonstrate the challenges of hunting

4 The lessons on essential skills are based on .....
- A recently discovered evidence
- B an interpretation of available information
- C developments made by Neolithic communities

5 The planned special events are .....
- A at some local attractions
- B given by members of staff
- C open to the general public

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Part 3

3.08 Listen to two environmental campaigners discussing the work that they do. Match the people (the woman, the man or both) to the opinions below. The first one has been done for you. You now have 30 seconds to look at the task.

0 Most environmental groups focus on influencing people's opinions.

1 Climate change organizations have been successful in getting their message across.

2 Failing to act in an environmentally friendly way makes you feel guilty.

3 It is important to follow the principles that you yourself are promoting.

4 It can be useful to involve celebrities to help with publicity.

5 It is helpful to focus on successful outcomes.

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Part 4

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

1 A man and a woman are talking about an app. Why do they agree the man's app is better?
- **A** It is good value for money.
- **B** It gives very accurate directions.
- **C** It shows information about traffic conditions.

2 Two cousins are discussing a night-time excursion. What did they find most impressive?
- **A** the silence of the location
- **B** the brightness of the stars
- **C** the power of the equipment

3 A woman and her cousin are talking about his sister. Who do they blame for his sister quitting her job?
- **A** his sister
- **B** his sister's boss
- **C** his sister's interviewer

4 Two professors are talking about a student. What does the man want to talk to the student about?
- **A** the topics she is going to study next
- **B** the quality of her current work
- **C** the number of assignments she has to do

5 Two colleagues are discussing a company's decision to move. What do they think of the idea?
- **A** It will be difficult to replace qualified staff.
- **B** The company will fail to make any overall savings.
- **C** Employees will need higher salaries to cover travel costs.

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Reading

Part 1

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

Welcome, Jonas! Many thanks for your recent payment. As a thank you for subscribing, all new members can participate in our big prize draw with a chance to win a £100 gift card – just click on the link below. We'll be sending regular texts to inform you of our latest offers. Reply 'stop' to this message to cancel this service at any time.

What is the main purpose of the text message?

A to advise Jonas how to stop his membership

B to invite Jonas to enter a competition

C to let Jonas know about future notifications

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

Sally Medina reviews *Simply food*

Before you even sit down, you know you're in for a treat just from the smells coming out of the kitchen. We were given a list of remarkable dishes with so many unique ones, we had to go for the tasting menu so we could experience more than one. Our waiter guided us with our choice and everything we tried was outstanding. It's expensive but definitely worth a visit!

The review tells readers about …

A why Sally chose to have a selection of food.

B how Sally knew it was going to be good value.

C what Sally expected the restaurant to be like.

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

TO: Mrs Winstone
FROM: Jessie McCormick
SUBJECT: Repairs

I'm writing about Flat 2. You assured us the fridge would be replaced before we moved in. This still hasn't happened and two months later the problem has grown worse. It is now leaking water, spoiling the floor. We have decided to take matters into our own hands, the replacement will be delivered next week. Please see the attached receipt. We'll be taking the amount out of next month's rent.

Jessie is emailing …

A to ask the landlord for cheaper rent.

B to request the landlord buys a new fridge.

C to tell the landlord how much the new fridge cost.

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

Please read.

Due to extreme weather conditions, completion of the new wall has been put back to the end of March. Therefore, this footpath will now be closed until then. Please continue to use the alternative route indicated on the map. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us (see below). Sorry for the inconvenience.

Why has this notice been placed?

A to direct people on another path

B to inform people the footpath is closed

C to announce the work on the footpath has been delayed

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

Hi Charlie,

Sorry the kitchen's a bit of a mess, we were rushed off our feet last night – every table was full! We've run out of almost everything. Don't worry about getting to the shop, the delivery's arriving before we open this evening. Could you chop the ingredients we do have as soon as you arrive, please? I'll be with you no later than usual.

See you later,

Miriam

Why has Miriam written the note to Charlie?

A to tell him how busy it was the day before

B to set him his task for the morning

C to let him know she will be late

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

My latest fashion obsession: vintage jeans

I'd never really come across any comfortable jeans, until I got my hands on a pair of vintage jeans. They fit like a dream – so much better than having to wear a stiff pair of new jeans. Plus, I'm helping the environment. Everyone should get themselves a pair.

What does the blogger say about vintage jeans?

A They are better quality.

B They feel good immediately.

C They have become very popular.

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Part 2

Read the questions (1–6) and match them to the correct text (A–C) about a person talking about what music means to them.

Young people and music

Three young people talk about what music means to them.

A Freya

For me, music is not just a hobby; it's a way to connect with my feelings and express myself and it's my way of life. When I'm not playing keyboards with my rock band in London, I'm listening to my favourite tracks on my headset – it's something I can't live without.

When I'm feeling stressed or anxious, I listen to reggae music as a way to feel better. It's been found that listening to music of around 60 beats per minute helps to calm us down as that's the speed of our heart when relaxed. In the morning, if I feel tired, I use lively music to give me the energy to get up. Recently, I've started song writing. I write from the heart, so when I sing and play, I feel like I'm sharing a piece of my soul with the world. Although the lyrics I create talk about my own personal experiences, I hope other people can relate to them too.

Before gigs, I love watching the audience arrive. There are usually people of all ages and backgrounds – with music, differences don't matter – it can make us feel the same.

B Malachy

Music, to me, is a way of exploring different places and eras and I spend most of my free time listening to music of different genres.

Lately, I've been enjoying the sounds of West African drumming and learning about how it influenced Afro-Caribbean music and jazz. At one point I was in love with Latin American dance music, such as cumbia and salsa – I thought it was the only music worth listening to, but now I've also learned to appreciate relaxing to classical music in my room.

When I go out, I take music with me. In the gym, I need the energy of rock and pop; when I study in the library, I want the peace of gentle piano music to help me focus. I have a playlist for almost every moment, with the exception of work when I leave my music in my pocket.

Beyond that, music is a social experience for me. I've made friends at concerts and music festivals. Next month, I'm meeting up with some of them at a music gig. It's incredible how music can unite people, and I love being a part of that connection.

C Laila

For me, music can be a wonderful therapy – people with anxiety or depression could all benefit from music as it can change people's mood and improve their mental health. Whenever I feel worried, I use music as my medicine. If I get distracted by my problems, I play jazz music on my piano or guitar: the process of creating music helps me centre my mind.

Listening to music helps just as much. If I am surrounded by sound, I keep my mind on the present moment. It brings a sense of peace to my world. Whether it's classical music or more modern relaxing sounds, music makes me feel calm.

Next year, I'm going to Newcastle University to study music. In the future, I'd like to have a career in music therapy, so I can show others how to use music as a tool for getting better. I've witnessed the power of music to help me make changes in my own life, and I want to share that gift with others.

1 Who says that they enjoy connecting with other people through music?
   A Freya B Malachy C Laila
2 Who prefers to listen to different types of music in different locations?
   A Freya B Malachy C Laila
3 Who explains two ways of using music to concentrate?
   A Freya B Malachy C Laila
4 Who thinks that music can make people feel equal?
   A Freya B Malachy C Laila
5 Who finds that music is with them constantly?
   A Freya B Malachy C Laila
6 Who wants to use music to communicate with others?
   A Freya B Malachy C Laila

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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.

Film photography

Why is it so popular again?

In a world dominated by digital technology, film photography is experiencing a remarkable return. You may wonder what is driving people to take photos with films in an age of smartphones and digital cameras. The reasons behind the current popularity of film photography are as diverse as the photographers themselves.

Rather like the rise in popularity of music records, one motivation for the return of film photography is the desire for something of a different quality. Many photographers, both experienced and new, are drawn to the warm look and feel of traditional photos. .....[1] The final picture often transports us to times gone by.

Film photography can be a slower process. Photographers must carefully select their shots and take a limited number of photos (a standard film roll has a maximum of 36 images). .....[2] In sharp contrast, digital cameras can encourage you to point and shoot, letting the camera do the work for you, and they have the ability to store hundreds of images.

For many, the journey of learning film photography is an exciting adventure. With no immediate feedback, photographers must develop patience, awareness, and learn how to use their equipment properly. .....[3] Or you could choose to go on a face-to-face or online course. Whatever route you choose, the learning process is rewarding and connects individuals with the real meaning of photography.

Many photographers report that in this digital era, film photography offers a break from screens and the rapid pace of modern life. .....[4] The photos have to be developed in the dark which further separates the photographer from the digital world, creating a peaceful escape. If this is a step too far, you could choose to get a professional to do this work.

Check in your local area for assistance: the film photography trend has given rise to many lively and helpful communities. .....[5] Film photography often results in unique and happy accidents that couldn't be predicted and sharing these shots on social media leads to innovation across the community.

While photos are most commonly taken on smartphones, film photography's rising popularity demonstrates that it's become fashionable to take things slowly. .....[6] Whatever the immediate future holds, the appeal of this analogue art form, where the process of taking the shot is as much a part of the art as the final image, is something worth holding on to.

A These neighbourhood groups can advise you on most things, create a sense of union and drive creativity.

B Luckily, there is no shortage of advice online; a quick search will generate websites by enthusiastic photographers.

C The varied and old-fashioned appearance of film photography adds unique character to each image.

D Some say it's more than a trend; it's a return to the soul of photography, and it's here to stay.

E Unfortunately, this appeals to people who have limited time and love to push their creativity to its limits.

F Being restricted encourages photographers to be more accurate and become more aware of the value of every shot.

G They add that people enjoy stepping away from digital and enjoy a slower type of art.

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Part 4

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

Scientists and astronomers are fascinated by mysterious space rocks, known as asteroids. But it's important to consider if we should spend resources on studying these objects. The answer lies in the knowledge they offer and how they may affect our future.

In my opinion, to look after the planet and its people, we should observe asteroids closely, as they have the potential to cause damage here on Earth. Every day, about 100 tons of dust and material falls on Earth from space. While dangerous impacts are rare, understanding and tracking near-Earth asteroids is essential for taking care of our planet; it could save lives and property. From a scientific point of view, studying asteroids contributes to our knowledge of space weather and the dynamic forces of the solar system, as well as helping us to discover what certain planets are made of.

Asteroids can contain a wealth of resources, including water, precious metals and minerals. These resources could prove critical for future space missions, potentially supporting trips to the moon, Mars, and beyond. Investigating and extracting asteroids might even become a growing industry as civilization expands its presence in space. Space missions such as NASA's OSIRIS-REx and Japan's Hayabusa2 collected samples from asteroids and improved our understanding of space rocks and their potential impact on Earth. NASA's Dawn mission explored the two largest objects in the asteroid belt, Vesta and Ceres, providing valuable data about their composition and history.

In my view, it is highly probable that humans will live in space in the future, and asteroids may well be a stepping stone. Their resource potential, including materials for life support systems, fuel and construction, could enable humans to live in space. It's a vision I find both inspiring and exciting. Whether solving the mysteries of the history of our solar system or defending against possible threats, asteroids remain deeply significant in the field of space science and exploration.

1 The writer believes we must study asteroids because…

A it is highly likely they will cause serious harm on Earth.
B it is key to forecasting the weather.
C it is important to know where they are located.

2 Why does the writer give the example of three space missions?

A to explain how people will be able to survive in space
B to explain how trips to space have helped develop knowledge
C to explain which trips to space have been successful

3 What does the writer say about asteroids' role in human life in space?

A They will be crucial to security.
B They will assist in transporting people.
C They will improve the chances of success.

4 What would be the best title for this article?

A Why should we study asteroids?
B How can asteroids contribute to life in space?
C What are the effects of an asteroid impact?

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Writing

Part 1

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

You have offered to help plan a local history festival. First, read the email from Ms Playford, the festival organizer. Then write an email to Ms Playford, including the three notes you have made.

FROM: Ms Playford
SUBJECT: Next year's local history festival

Dear volunteer,

Thank you for offering to help plan next year's local history festival. I am interested to hear why you have offered.

Tell her.

I want to make a list of possible activities for the planning team to discuss. Have you any ideas?

Suggest one and explain why.

We will need lots of help on the day of the festival. Are you available to help on that day?

No – say why not.

Yours sincerely,

Joanna Playford

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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 spending time in nature. Your teacher now wants you to write an essay.

The title of the essay is:

Should children spend more time in nature?

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.

> An interesting journey
>
> Write an article about an interesting journey you have made. Why did you make the journey? What was it like? Would you recommend the journey?

Write your **article**.

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