

The test

The test is divided into two parts:

- 1) The first part tests your **Use of English**.
- 2) The second part tests your **Listening** skills.

The exact number of questions you have to answer depends on you.

After one or two mid-level questions, the test will start giving you slightly harder questions and keep giving you slightly harder questions until you start getting questions wrong. That borderline between where you get questions right and get questions wrong is your score.

The more inconsistent you are, the longer the test will take to judge your English level. So if you get some mid-level questions right but others wrong, the system will need to ask you more questions to make sure what level you are.

Please note:



There is a time limit. When you have only 15 minutes left, you will see this message.

If you leave a space blank you will see this error message.

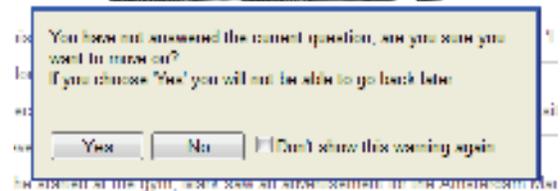
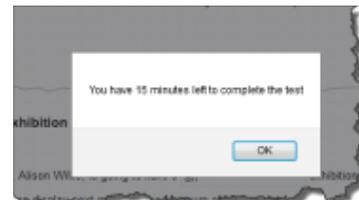
You cannot go back to questions you skipped.

Use of English:

Section 1:
Approximately 30
Questions

Listening:

Section 2:
Approximately 15
Questions



Section 1: Use of English

Use of English • Section 1: Approximately 30 Questions

In section 1, there are **three** main types of questions.

Type 1

You can see an example of the first type of question on the right.

What does it test?

These questions will be testing your knowledge of grammar and vocabulary.

Format

There is a short conversation and a dropdown menu gives you a choice of **four** answers.

How to tackle such questions

Select a word or phrase to complete the conversation shown below.

6



Man: I had to _____ that job offer in the end.
Woman: Why?
Man: The salary just wasn't good enough.

1) Try to recognize the grammar or vocabulary area that is being tested

The question will be testing an area of grammar or vocabulary. Try to work out what type of answer they are looking for **before** you click to see the four choices.

Very often it is easy to recognize the type of grammar they are looking for. For example:

Example 1:

Man: It's very hot in here.
Woman: Yes, it's boiling.
Man: Would you mind the window?

After the expression "would you mind", you normally have the gerund, or -ing form of the verb. So the correct answer will probably end in -ing. In fact, you have probably already worked out that the missing word is 'opening'.

2) Read the whole conversation

Concentrate on the words **after the gap**. Many students just read up to the gap and then pick the first answer that seems correct. This is not a good idea.

Example 2:

Man: Should we go for a walk the rain?
Woman: Why not? The forecast says it will stop soon.
Man: Let's go in an hour then.

In this case, it is crucial that you realize the importance of the fact that the word after the gap is a noun (the rain). Of the four choices only one:

- 1) is correct in its form. The expression is 'in spite of', not 'in spite', so 'in spite' is wrong.
- 2) fits the meaning. Only 'even though' and 'despite' fit the meaning of the sentence.
- 3) fits the grammar of being followed by a noun. So which is the correct answer? 'Even though' or 'despite'?

Type 2

These questions are slightly harder to answer.

What does it test?

These questions will be testing your knowledge of:

- I) [Phrasal verbs](#)
- II) [Idioms](#)
- III) [Irony and sarcasm](#)

Format

In this question type, you have to read the dialogue on the right of the screen.

The question will ask you about one of the comments/questions of one of the people talking and will be framed like this:

- What does the man mean?
- What does the woman mean?
- What does the **second** comment mean?

Make sure you select the right person/comment. In the example on the right, it is the woman's comment you need to analyze.

Only one of the three choices on the left repeats the information/meaning. It won't use the same words, but the meaning will be the same.

Very often all parts of the dialogue will have words you do not know or are unsure of, not just the comment you have to analyze. In most cases, however, you just need to concentrate on the comment itself.

Example:

Read the dialogue. Then select the correct answer for the options below.	
What does the woman mean?	
A I'm sorry I had to postpone the meeting.	
B I will pay next time.	
C The cost was too high.	
Man: I'm sorry I couldn't talk you round. Woman: It was the price that put me off.	

To be able to answer this question confidently you need to know the two phrasal verbs 'talk someone round' and 'put someone off'. Nevertheless, even if you don't understand what 'talk someone round' means it is possible to work out that something didn't work and she is explaining why.

Use of English • Section 1: Approximately 30 Questions Time allowed 20 min

Read the dialogue. Then, select the correct answer from the options below.

11. What does the man mean?

- A. I'm not worried about missing the start of the play.
- B. I need to leave at 8 pm to be on time for the play.
- C. I'm not going to miss any part of the play.


Woman: Don't you need to leave now if you want to see the beginning of the play?
Man: Don't worry about it. It doesn't start until 8 pm.

Read the dialogue. Then, select the correct answer from the options below.

12. What does the woman mean?

- A. It's being a lot of money.
- B. It's bringing in a lot of money.
- C. It's badly making any money.


Man: Timothy's business seems to be doing well.
Woman: Actually, I think he's only just about breaking even.

Type 3: Cloze test

What is a cloze test?

<http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/L%C3%BCckentexttest>

The computer system compares the answer you type into the gap with the correct answer, or answers, it has stored in the system.

What does it test?

This section will be testing your reading comprehension and ability to understand a text. In particular, it will be testing your knowledge of grammar and vocabulary.

How hard will it be?

The cloze test you get depends on how well you answered the previous questions.

Type only one word in each space.

Complete the text below. Write **ONE** word only into each space. There is an example (0) at the beginning.

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The Microwave

The first microwave produced for domestic use is _____ (0) _____ launched in 1947. This was after two decades spent making improvements to the first commercially-used microwave. **21** _____ was tested in a restaurant in Boston, USA, in 1946. This restaurant machine stood almost two metres high, weighed 340 kg, and cost \$1,000.

The early domestic microwaves were out of the world," says Elizabeth Slater. **22** _____ ran a microwave cookery school in London in the 1970s. "One of the best things was that you could adjust the power and cooking speed." She **23** _____ to do cakes and demonstrate how to simmer sauces and make casseroles. There was hardly anything you **24** _____ not do! However, the microwave has **25** _____ considerable criticism from professional cooks, in spite of its speed and efficiency. "We always hated them," says a head chef at a well-known London restaurant. "I don't really know **26** _____ I feel that way. Perhaps it's **27** _____ microwaves represent speed and a lack of skill." Many chefs still think this way. Nonetheless, the domestic microwave remains a standard part of the modern kitchen.

Technique

- i) Read the whole text first.
- ii) Reread sentence by sentence, paying particular attention to the words immediately after the gap. These are often very important.

Some students just read the sentence up to the gap then type in a word that makes sense. Then they jump to the next sentence with a space. This is a big mistake.

When you have finished this question, the first section is over.

Listening



Put on your headphones and double check the sound is on.

You can play each recording twice.



On very rare occasions the recording won't play a second time.

In this case, just pick an answer at random and move onto the next question. If it happens again, put your hand up and inform the teacher. Keep in mind it is technically impossible for the teacher to replay a question. The only remedy would be to let you retake the test from the beginning.

There are **two** types of questions

Type 1: Only one question per recording

Type 2: There are two questions per recording

Read the sentences below. Then, listen to the recording. Select the correct answer from the options below. You will have time to play the recording twice.

33 Two colleagues are discussing their company's annual sales conference. What do they both agree about?

- A The venue proved more suitable than ones used previously.
- B It would be good to have a dinner for everyone on the final evening.
- C The chairman managed to gauge the level of expertise of the audience well.
- D It would be a good idea to hold such conferences every other year in future.

Listening - section 2: Approximately 15 questions (1000 answered)

Read the sentences below. Then, listen to the recording. Select the correct answer from the options for each question below. You will have time to play the recording twice.

34 A woman is talking to a man about her recent holiday. What does the woman say about her trip?

- A It was fun being in a large group of other nature lovers.
- B It was worth going to have a brief view of some whales.
- C She found it difficult to tell the dolphins from the porpoises.
- D She was upset that she didn't manage to see any humpback whales.

35 The woman suggests that the photos she took included

- A good ones of dolphins.
- B great shots of the water.
- C close-ups of whale backs.
- D many shots of the other travellers.

Technique:

1) Listen for meaning not words

They are testing your understanding of meaning.

They are not testing your ability to hear words that you have just read.

Don't assume that if you hear the same word(s) in the recording as you have read in the answers that this is the correct choice. In most cases, but not all, the correct answer will not use any of the words in the recording.

2) As you read the answers, think of synonyms for the words

Let's imagine this was one of the answers:

A The venue proved more suitable than ones used previously.

As you read, think of some possible alternatives for these words.

- Venue = location, or something specific such as hotel or conference hall.
Proved = turned out to be
Suitable = appropriate
Ones = location, or something specific such as hotel, conference.
Previously = in the past, or something specific such as last year.

If you are lucky you will hear these words in the recording.

3) *Some of the answers are indirect, especially as they get harder*



A man and a woman are shopping for a new kitchen

Man: What about this kitchen? It has everything we need.

Woman: Our curtains are green.

What is the woman trying to say? It's not so easy to tell. What do you think?

Answer: She is rejecting this kitchen as a good choice because of the color. Obviously, the color of the kitchen does not match the green color of the curtains they already have.

End of Test

Thank you for taking this test.

Your results are available from the institution that provided you with your login and password.

Check with the person overseeing the test to see if you have to switch off the computer.

In most cases: Don't turn off the computer.