



**OXFORD
TEST OF ENGLISH**

B1 PRACTICE TEST 3



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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.

You ordered some new shoes online. Your new shoes have not arrived at your house.

Leave a voice message for the manager of the delivery company. In your message, you should:

- explain who you are
- describe the problem
- say what you want the delivery manager 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 a concert. Then, leave a voice message for your friend. In your message, you should:

- congratulate your friend
- explain why you cannot go to the concert
- give your friend some advice about being nervous.

Now listen to the message.

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

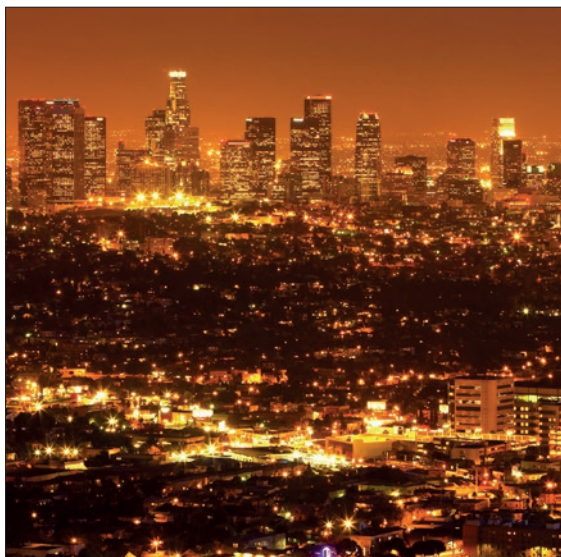
Part 3 Talk

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 protecting the natural world.

Choose **two** photographs. Tell your class what people can do to help with these problems.

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



Light pollution



Rubbish from people's homes



Air pollution



Plastic in the ocean

Part 4 Follow-up questions

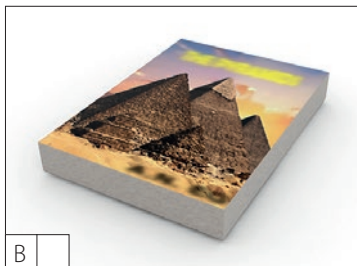
3.05 You are going to answer six questions about your talk. You have 30 seconds to answer each question. Start speaking when you hear the tone.

Listening

Part 1

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

- 1 A woman and her son are discussing a weekend away. What does the boy want to take with him?



- 2 A newsreader on local radio is giving some travel news. Why is Springfield Road closed to traffic now?



- 3 A man and a woman are talking about job applications. Where does the woman want to work?



- 4 A man is leaving a voice message about student accommodation. Which flat has the man decided to rent?



- 5 A man and a woman are discussing a photography competition. Which photograph is the man entering into the competition?



Part 2

03.07 Listen to a woman welcoming students to a company. 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.



Timetable for first day

- 0 Karen works in Hudson's**B**..... department.
A production
B marketing
C legal
- 1 The students will get to know each other by
A playing a group game.
B having coffee together.
C introducing themselves.
- 2 Around 10.30 Karen will talk about the company, focusing on
A its products.
B its history.
C its structure.
- 3 The training session about will be in the morning.
A health and safety
B data protection
C security
- 4 Lunch will be in the, followed by more training sessions.
A canteen
B meeting room
C conference room
- 5 At the end of the day, the students will
A write a few sentences.
B choose some words on a form.
C stand up and share their thoughts.




Part 3

03.08 Listen to a man and a woman talking about food. 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 Food is a source of pleasure.

		
woman	✓ man	both




1 Most people find that certain foods improve their mood.

		
woman	man	both




2 It is important for families to eat together.

		
woman	man	both




3 It is a good idea to try food from different places.

		
woman	man	both

4 Restaurants should provide food for people on special diets.

		
woman	man	both

5 It is best to cook your own food.

		
woman	man	both

Part 4

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

- 1** A woman is leaving a voice message for a friend. Why is the woman calling her friend?
 - A** to ask for information
 - B** to change an arrangement
 - C** to suggest that they meet

- 2** Two people are discussing a novel the man has written. What does the woman suggest changing in the novel?
 - A** the number of characters
 - B** the reasons for events
 - C** the way that it finishes

- 3** Two people are talking about an assignment. Who is the boy talking to?
 - A** the boy's classmate
 - B** the boy's sister
 - C** the boy's teacher

- 4** Two people are talking about giving a speech. How does the woman feel about it?
 - A** confident that she will give a good speech
 - B** surprised that she has been asked
 - C** excited that so many people will be watching her

- 5** A man is calling a furniture store. What does the man want to know?
 - A** how long the sale will continue
 - B** what the store opening hours are
 - C** if alternatives to a product are available

Reading

Part 1

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



www.foodwelove.oup.co.uk

Best for breakfast

Did you know that you should breakfast like an athlete? It's the most important meal of the day so it's essential to eat a lot of healthy stuff. I advise some of the following: oats, eggs, yoghurt with berries, nuts, wholegrain toast – a balance of everything you need for the day.

What is the main message of the blog?

- A You should eat as much as you can for breakfast.
- B You need to consider what you eat for breakfast.
- C You must only eat specific things for breakfast.

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

Single room in the city centre

Cool apartment – share with one other

Hi, I'm Chloe and I'm looking for a new flatmate from March. Most importantly, I'm looking for someone sociable. There aren't many rules – just keep your room clean and don't make a mess in the shared spaces. The bedroom was recently decorated and it will have a new bathroom soon. Message me for more information.

What is Chloe keen to find?

- A a flatmate who will want to chat with her
- B a flatmate who will help improve the flat
- C a flatmate who will divide the housework

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

Thank you for booking with Historic Buildings. A confirmation email with your tickets will be sent soon. Please download your tickets and have them ready to show on arrival. Don't forget to bring your discount card if you have bought a reduced-price ticket. We hope you enjoy your visit.

What is the main purpose of the text message?

- A to make sure visitors are prepared for their visit
- B to provide visitors with a receipt for their tickets
- C to remind visitors about cheaper tickets

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

TO: Locals
FROM: Boyles Building Company
SUBJECT: New Homes

We are writing to confirm that your property will be without water on 29th September for approximately 3 hours between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. As we previously mentioned, this has to happen while we replace the pipes for the new housing. Sorry for any problems this may cause.

What is the purpose of the email?

- A to warn locals about some building work being done to their homes
- B to tell locals that new houses are being built in their area
- C to give locals more information about some building work affecting them

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



Raoul Lyon reviews *The Bookkeeper's Dream* by K.T. Mews

A fascinating read

The Bookkeeper's Dream is a must-read for young adventurers. K.T. Mews transports readers to a strange world where books come to life when you read them aloud. If you're a fan of fantasy, *The Bookkeeper's Dream* will take readers to where dreams and reality mix together in a pleasant dance of words.

What does Raoul Lyon mention in his book review?

- A the author reading the book to children
- B the idea behind the story of the book
- C the feeling the book gives children

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



Dear Ms Calo,

As you know, Safi was off school yesterday with tooth ache. Fortunately, she's better now. She spoke to her classmates last night and found out about the work you covered yesterday. She'll do this by Monday, but I'd be grateful if you could explain anything she's unsure about.

Yours sincerely,

Kavita Balan

What does Kavita want to communicate to Ms Calo?

- A the fact her daughter was ill for a short amount of time
- B the reason her daughter may need some help with something
- C the way her daughter found out about the lesson she missed

Part 2

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

For the love of nature

Three young people talk about what nature means to them



Francesca

Recently, I've started a new career as a gardener. Now I spend most of my time outdoors in nature, rather than in an office surrounded by computers and I love it! Working outside means I get fresh air and exercise which is important for my physical and mental health. As I get up early and work hard all day, I sleep well every night, which wasn't the case when I had a less active job.

Being a gardener has been very positive for me. I love seeing the smiles on my clients' faces and I'm much happier since I started doing this for a living. Also I feel I can make a difference to the future of our planet by taking care of plants and trees, which in turn helps insects and animals. If you feel you need to become healthier, more creative and lower your stress levels, try a job in nature; you may find, like me, that it makes you a happier person.



Jessica

There was nowhere I was happier than on the local beach or in the woods behind our family house. I used to spend all my free time with my little brother exploring nature and collecting interesting things that I found – shells, leaves, rocks and even living things like ladybirds, snails and crabs.

Now nature has become a source of adventure and excitement. I still love exploring the countryside and camping under the stars, because it makes me feel free. It's time away from social media, screens and the stress of modern life.

However, these days, I'm always looking for something more exciting I can do in nature with my friends. For example, recently we went snowboarding for the first time – it was quite scary but I loved it. It wasn't quite as frightening as rock-climbing though. That's probably the most exciting thing I've ever done – an incredible experience that I will never forget.



Sammy

To me, nature is any place where I can escape daily life. Whether it's lunch in the park with a friend, a walk through the woods with my dog, or sitting alone by the lake, nature brings me a sense of peace. Whenever I feel a little stressed, I try to take a 'nature break'.

Weekends and holidays are a very special time when I like to go somewhere with my family so we can all connect with nature. Since childhood, we've loved travelling and discovering new spots: my favourite place is the ocean, whereas my brother prefers the mountains. Experiencing new places encourages me to learn even more about the world around me.

Being in nature also reminds me how incredible our world is. Every insect, animal and plant has a role to play, so we need to do more to help keep them alive. Realising this has taught me the importance of taking care of the planet for future generations.

- 1 Who uses nature to make other people feel better?
A Francesca B Jessica C Sammy
- 2 Who says they like to take a break from technology?
A Francesca B Jessica C Sammy
- 3 Who is helping nature with their way of life?
A Francesca B Jessica C Sammy
- 4 Who says being in nature makes them want to understand their surroundings better?
A Francesca B Jessica C Sammy
- 5 Who explains how they've changed since growing up?
A Francesca B Jessica C Sammy
- 6 Who has made a good change to their life?
A Francesca B Jessica C Sammy

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.

The rise of the podcast

Podcasts have had a big impact on pop culture since the first digital listening file was available on the internet at the beginning of the 21st century. Although this medium hasn't been around for long, it has changed life for listeners worldwide, as they can choose to listen to one of the millions of podcasts covering a wide range of topics whenever they like.

The rise of the podcast has caused changes in other ways too. For example, there is a wider variety of comedy shows with something to suit everyone. In the past, people could only listen to comedy programmes when they were played on the radio.¹ What's more, they can choose to hear their favourite comedians or discover new ones from the thousands of possibilities online.

Another consequence of the success of some podcasts is that they provide good-quality, exciting content for other types of entertainment. For example, some true-crime podcasts have become so popular that they have become TV programmes. Some TV producers have taken advantage of this.² If the podcast is popular then it is changed for TV.

Chat podcasts are programmes with a presenter talking on a wide range of topics which often include conversations with guests. Listeners report that they sometimes feel very close to the presenter of these programmes.³ This type of close relationship is something only certain presenters can achieve and makes the difference between a good podcast and a great one.

Music lovers also have plenty of choice in podcasts – whether you're interested in a particular style, artist or decade, there is something for everyone.⁴ For example, they may tell listeners about the stories behind the track, but they need to play the music too.

.....⁵ All you need to do is choose a topic you love and know a lot about, then record your programme. Actually, it's more hard work than it sounds – you need to be determined to succeed and of course, have a great personality.

So what's for the future of podcasts? Some people think that they are just a trend.⁶ The fact that there are nearly 500 million podcast listeners around the world, I think the future looks secure for podcasts.

- A However, it is more likely that podcasts are here to stay.
- B They say they feel like they're sitting in their front room with an old friend.
- C For example, people rarely say they love TV more than they love podcasts.
- D Now listeners can enjoy them at any time of day they like.
- E Podcasts are said to be a great way of becoming famous, at least for some people.
- F The presenter is key, but they need to make sure they only talk for the right amount of time.
- G In other words, they sometimes use podcasts to test an idea for the screen.

Part 4

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



The wonders of walking

By George Blunkett

Did you know that walking for just 30 minutes a day can make you both physically and mentally healthier? I decided to try it by walking home from work every day for a month. It was a 45-minute walk and I found that between leaving the office and getting to my front door, I'd left all the stresses of the day behind. I learned that walking increases the blood flow to the brain which improves your mood, so why aren't we all walking more?

Many people think going out in the rain can make us catch a cold. However, there are many health benefits to walking in bad weather. For example, the sound of rain can be very relaxing. Even better if you're near trees, plants and grass, as they produce an amazing smell when the rain hits them which helps to calm you down. What's more, walking in the rain requires more attention and clears your mind.

If you really don't want to get wet, go out immediately after the rain has stopped. Whilst it may not require the same focus, there are other benefits. Rain reduces the amount of pollution in the air, making breathing easier. And it's not just rain, walking in windy conditions can be as good as running. The force of the wind means your body has to work harder, making it a better workout.

So, get out for a walk whenever you can and experience these incredible benefits first hand. If you're brave enough to go in wet weather, wear suitable clothing and avoid thunderstorms. Now you know that being out in the rain or shine has so many benefits... what are you waiting for?

1 What did the writer learn from his experiment?

- A Walking makes you a better worker.
- B Walking helps you feel calmer.
- C Walking improves your memory.

2 What does the writer say about walking in the rain?

- A Our experience of the environment is different.
- B The temperature of our body changes.
- C Our ability to concentrate improves.

3 The writer says that people who want to get the most exercise should ...

- A walk in the wind.
- B run instead of walk.
- C walk in clean air.

4 The writer's main purpose in writing the text is to ...

- A explain the best conditions for walking.
- B describe what walking in nature feels like.
- C persuade people to go for a walk more frequently.

Writing

Part 1

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

You and your friend Alex are planning a trip to the beach. First, read the email below from Alex about the trip. Then write an email to Alex, including the three notes you have made.

FROM: Alex
SUBJECT: Trip to the beach

Hi, how are you?

We talked about going to the beach next week, but I don't know how to get there. What do you think is the best way?

Say how.

My brother would like to come, too. I hope that's OK with you.

Yes, because...

Maybe we could stay longer than a day. There are a lot of nice hotels near the beach. What do you think?

No – say why not.

Hope to hear from you soon,

Alex

Part 2

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

Part 2 Essay

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

You have had a class discussion on students helping each other at school. Your teacher now wants you to write an essay.

The title of the essay is:

How important is it for students to help each other at school?

Write your essay.

Part 2 Review

You have 25 minutes to write a review. Write 100–160 words.

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

Write a review for the magazine.

Reviews wanted

Write a review of a clothes shop you have visited. What happened in the shop? Was it better or worse than shopping online?

Write your review.

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