

A2

# Key for Schools Practice Tests 1-5



By Terry Phillips

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**Innova Press**

**Cambridge English Qualifications**

**A2 Key for Schools**

**Practice Tests 1–5**

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INNOVATING LANGUAGE EDUCATION

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# Test Format

## What is A2 Key?

A2 Key is an English language exam at Level A2 of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR).

You can take A2 Key as a paper-based exam or a computer-based exam.

## What's in the exam?

Here's a summary of what's in the exam.

Paper details	What's in the paper?	What do you need to do?
<b>Reading and Writing</b> 60 minutes	The Reading and Writing paper has seven parts. The tasks include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• answering multiple-choice questions on short and longer texts, including messages, signs, articles and websites</li><li>• completing gap-fill tasks (with and without multiple-choice options)</li><li>• writing a message using information you're given</li><li>• writing a story from three pictures.</li></ul>	You need to be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• understand real-world messages</li><li>• read and choose the correct word</li><li>• read and choose the correct answer</li><li>• choose the correct words to complete a text</li><li>• write a message, e.g., a note or email</li><li>• write a short story.</li></ul>
<b>Listening</b> 60 minutes	The Listening paper has five parts. The tasks include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• filling in missing words on a form while listening to one or two people speaking</li><li>• answering multiple-choice questions while listening to short and longer texts</li><li>• matching a list of nouns to people while listening.</li></ul>	You need to be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• listen for important information in short and long conversations and monologues</li><li>• listen and write down important information and spell words correctly</li><li>• listen for the main idea or message in short monologues or conversations.</li></ul>

<b>Speaking</b> About 8 minutes	The Speaking test has two parts. In the first part, the interlocutor asks the candidate 'getting to know you' type questions. In the second part, candidates talk to each other about pictures on a specific topic.	You need to be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• answer questions about yourself</li><li>• discuss a topic with your partner, using pictures to help you</li><li>• talk about likes and dislikes, giving reasons.</li></ul>
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You don't need to pass all of the papers to pass the whole exam. For example, if you do very well in the Reading and Writing paper and the Speaking paper, but you don't do so well in the Listening paper, it is still possible to pass. The Reading and Writing paper tests two skills, so this paper has double the weight of the Listening and the Speaking papers.

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A2 Key for Schools  
Practice Test 1

Paper 1  
Reading and Writing

(60 minutes)

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Part 1

Questions 1 – 6

For each question, choose the correct answer.

1

**Sorry. We are closed!**  
**Hours:**  
**Mon–Fri: 9.00–5.30**  
**Sat: 9.00–4.00**  
**Lunch break: 1.00–2.00**

You cannot buy things from this shop

- A before 10.00 on Saturday.
- B after 5 p.m. on a weekday.
- C on Saturday at 1.30.

2

New Message

To: May

Cc:

From: Ellen

Hi.

You know that great café we went to in town last month? Can you remember where it is? I know it's near the museum but I've forgotten the street and the number.

Send

- A Ellen wants the address of a café.
- B Ellen can't remember the name of a café.
- C Ellen wants to meet May in a café.

3

**After-school clubs**  
This is to remind all students that there will be no clubs this week because there are exams in the rooms at that time.

- A Students with exams can't go to an after-school club this week.
- B Students can go to an after-school club this week if they don't have an exam at the same time.
- C After-school clubs will not take place this week because there will be exams in those rooms.

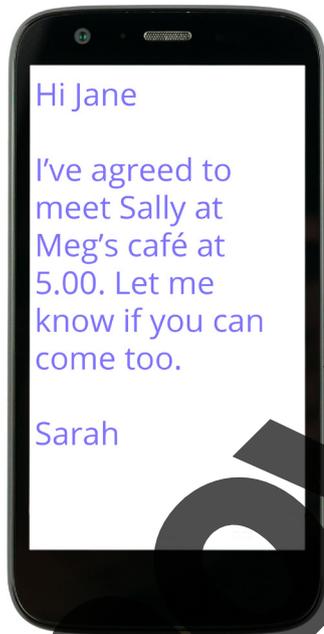
4



**Bicycle for sale!**  
Nearly new!  
I can bring it at 4.00 on any school day to the back entrance of the school. Just call me on 04456 3421 first.

- A Call the number before going to the back entrance to see the bicycle.
- B You can see the bicycle if you call the number.
- C Go to the back entrance of the school to see the bicycle, then call the number.

5



What should Sarah do?

- A go to Meg's café at 5.00
- B tell Jane if she can come to the café at 5.00
- C ask Sally if she is going to see Jane at 5.00

6



**The school play**  
This year we are doing a musical!  
Miss West is choosing the main parts at lunchtime today in the school hall.  
All are welcome ... but you must be able to sing and dance.

- A Anyone can take the main parts in the school play.
- B This competition is for people who like musicals.
- C If you can sing and dance, you might get a main part in the school play.

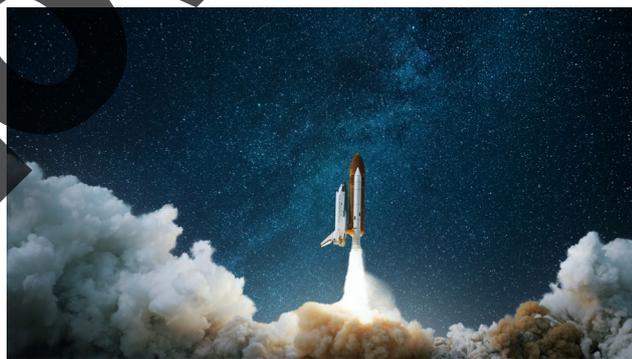
Turn over ►

## Part 2

### Questions 7 – 13

For each question, choose the correct answer.

	Emma	Holly	Sophia
7	A	B	C
8	A	B	C
9	A	B	C
10	A	B	C
11	A	B	C
12	A	B	C
13	A	B	C



## Short story competition

Send us your story with some information about you and where the idea came from.

**Emma**



My name is Emma and I'm 13. I have three brothers and two sisters and we have to share a lot of things, including bedrooms and clothes, so we often get angry with each other. Last week, we had a big problem with the family meal on Sunday. We each wanted something different. Finally, my mother said that we had to make the dinner ourselves and, well, the story is about what happened next. We all learnt an important lesson.

**Holly**



I'm Holly and I'm 12. I live with my father in a small flat near the school. I wrote about the problems my father has in understanding a 12-year-old girl. He makes strange things for dinner and always gets me strange presents for my birthday. I love sports and stories about space travel, but he bought me a doll last year and a book about horses. My story is about a birthday party which he planned for me and the funny things which happened there.

**Sophia**



My name is Sophia. I'm 14 and I live with my parents in a house which is a long way from the school. I have to travel on a train every day with a group of children from the school. We have had many adventures on the journey, and my story is about one of them. Something funny or interesting happens nearly every day, but I chose to write about a frightening thing which happened one day.

### Part 3

#### Questions 14 – 18

For each question, choose the correct answer.

#### My grandmother's career

*By Richard Black, age 12*

Our English teacher asked us all to write about the working life of a person in our family. I decided to write about my grandmother, Rose, because she is the most interesting person I know.

Rose was born over 85 years ago. She grew up in a small village where there were no cars or buses and no train station for miles. There were only bicycles and lots of horses. She didn't see her first car until she was six. She was walking to the shop in the village when a sudden noise frightened her. She turned to see a car coming into the village very fast. She stopped and looked at this amazing machine. The car drove past her very fast, but suddenly it made a strange noise and stopped.

Rose walked up to get a closer look at the car. The driver had the front of the car open. He was looking at the engine, which had wires and pipes all over the place. He kept touching different parts and then, after a few moments, he said, 'Ah! That's the problem!' He pushed something hard, got back in the car and turned the key. The engine started again. As the car drove out of the village, my grandmother said to herself, 'When I grow up, I'm going to work with cars.'

She finished school and went to college, where she studied mechanical engineering. Then she got a job with a big car company and stayed with them for the whole of her working life. During that time, she was responsible for making several important improvements to car engine design.

Last week, I went to an airport for the first time and saw a plane take off. As it rose into the air, I made a decision.



- 14 Why did Richard choose to write about his grandmother?
- A Because she has had an interesting life.
  - B Because she is an interesting person.
  - C Because she is part of his family.
- 15 How did she feel about the first car she saw?
- A It frightened her.
  - B It was wonderful.
  - C It was going too fast.
- 16 How did the driver find the problem with the car?
- A He opened the front of the car.
  - B He got back into the car and started it.
  - C He touched different parts of the engine.
- 17 What did Richard's grandmother decide as the car drove away?
- A She wanted a career working with cars.
  - B She wanted to drive cars in the future.
  - C She wanted to own a car when she was older.
- 18 What did Rose do during her career?
- A She studied mechanical engineering.
  - B She improved engine design in several ways.
  - C She became a mechanic with a top car company.

## Part 4

### Questions 19 – 24

For each question, choose the correct answer.

#### Forest Summer Camp

Do you want to be a cook when you **(19)** ..... school? Perhaps you are interested in being a sports coach? Or you **(20)** ..... want to teach young children to speak English. If you are interested in any of these jobs, then Forest Summer Camp is perfect for you. We offer six weeks of work this summer. We will pay you to **(21)** ..... a better cook, coach or language teacher.

Children from six to ten from all over the world **(22)** ..... to Forest Summer Camp each year. We teach them to speak English better, and we prepare good food for them every day. We take them to interesting places like castles and palaces, and we **(23)** ..... the history of each place. We teach them to play sports – not only kicking, hitting or throwing a ball, but also playing in a **(24)** .....

- |    |   |         |   |         |   |        |
|----|---|---------|---|---------|---|--------|
| 19 | A | go      | B | leave   | C | take   |
| 20 | A | might   | B | can     | C | could  |
| 21 | A | arrive  | B | receive | C | become |
| 22 | A | bring   | B | come    | C | get    |
| 23 | A | explain | B | say     | C | talk   |
| 24 | A | group   | B | game    | C | team   |



Part 5

Questions 25 – 30

For each question, write the correct answer.  
Write **ONE** word for each gap.

Example: 

0	you
---	-----

To	Michael
From	Harry
Hi Michael	
I hope (0) ..... are well. I'm having a great time here (25) ..... Kenya. It is very hot (26) ..... everything is exciting. Yesterday we went (27) ..... look for big cats – lions and leopards. It was amazing! The guide took us to a lake (28) ..... we saw a group of lions. I took hundreds of photos. I'll send (29) ..... to you later.	
Tomorrow, we're going to Mount Kenya, (30) ..... is the second highest mountain in Africa.	
More later.	
Harry	



Turn over ►

Part 6

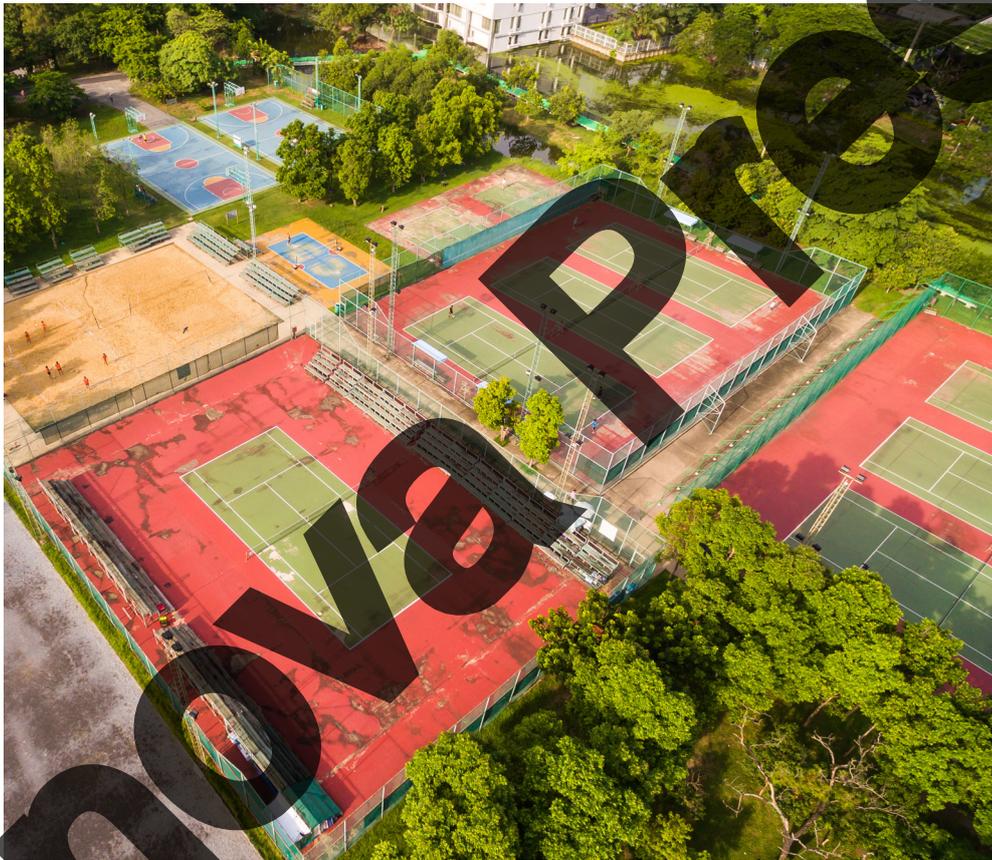
Question 31

You are going to go to the sports centre with your English friend Jo this weekend. Write an email to Jo.

Say:

- where you want to meet
- what time you want to meet
- what you want to do at the sports centre

Write **25 words** or more.



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Question 32

Look at the three pictures.  
Write the story shown in the pictures.  
Write **35 words** or more.



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Practice Test 1

Paper 2  
Listening

(approximately 30 minutes)

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Part 1

Questions 1 – 5

For each question, choose the correct picture.

1 Where did Mary go last Saturday?



A



B



C

2 How much are the train tickets?



A



B



C

3 Who is Helen going to play tennis with?



A



B



C

4 What kind of film have they just seen?



A



B



C

5 How does George get to school each day?



A



B



C

Turn over ►

## Part 2

### Questions 6 – 10

For each question, write the correct answer in the gap. Write **one word** or a **number** or a **date** or a **time**.

You will hear a teacher telling students about the school sports day.



#### School Sports Day

Day and date: Friday ..... 10th June .....

Place: (6) Town .....

Starts: (7) .....

Travel for students: (8) school .....

Bring: (9) .....

Go home from: (10) .....

Part 3

Questions 11 – 15

For each question, choose the correct answer.

---

You will hear Katy talking to her friend Robert about her summer holiday.

- 11 Katy went away for
- A nearly three weeks.
  - B three weeks.
  - C more than three weeks.
- 12 How long did the journey to the hotel take?
- A three days
  - B six days
  - C two weeks
- 13 Where was the hotel?
- A on the beach
  - B a ten-minute walk from the beach
  - C a ten-minute drive from the beach
- 14 Katy preferred
- A not to go swimming.
  - B to swim in the sea.
  - C to swim in the hotel pool.
- 15 Katy spent most of the journey to and from Italy
- A reading.
  - B playing computer games.
  - C looking at the countryside.

Turn over ►

## Part 4

### Questions 16 – 20

For each question, choose the correct answer.

---

- 16** You will hear a teacher talking to her class.  
What must each student do first?
- A** bring a letter from his or her parents
  - B** pay for the trip
  - C** give in a copy of his or her passport
- 17** You will hear a grandfather talking to his granddaughter, Betty, on the phone.  
What's the weather like in Betty's town?
- A** It's snowing.
  - B** It's raining.
  - C** It's windy.
- 18** You will hear a teacher talking to one of his students called Lucy.  
Why didn't Lucy do her homework?
- A** She forgot to make a note of the page numbers.
  - B** She left her homework book at school.
  - C** She was ill.
- 19** You will hear a boy, Oliver, talking about his hobby.  
What has he just done?
- A** He has built a robot.
  - B** He has won a competition.
  - C** He has drawn a picture.
- 20** You will hear a man talking to his daughter, Julia.  
What does he want her to do?
- A** her homework
  - B** look after her sister
  - C** the washing-up

Part 5

Questions 21 – 25

For each question, choose the correct answer.



You will hear Zoe talking to her teacher about a special day at school. What will each person help with?

Example:

O Alice  B

Students

Things to do

21 Daisy

A flags

22 Kim

B food

23 Nick

C drinks

24 Ben

D timetable

25 Zoe

E music

F balloons

G quiz questions

H tickets

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Practice Test 1

Paper 3  
Speaking

(8 – 10 minutes)

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Do you like these different hobbies and interests?

