



OXFORD TEST OF ENGLISH

A2 Practice Test 2

Answer key

Speaking Part 1 Interview Page 3

- 1 Students' own answers
- 2 Students' own answers
- 3 Sample answer

Last summer I went to Scotland with my family. We went camping and we stayed in some very beautiful places. We also climbed a mountain called Ben Nevis, which is the biggest mountain in the UK.

- 4 Sample answer

I prefer going on holiday with my family because we can go to different countries. Last year we went to Greece for two weeks, and we had an amazing time. Next year we are going to visit Turkey.

- 5 Sample answer

If I could go on holiday anywhere in the world, I would go to Costa Rica. I saw a TV programme about it last year. It's a very beautiful country, it has amazing animals, and it's always warm and sunny.

- 6 Sample answer

I live in a small village in the countryside with about five hundred people. We have a pub, a post office and a small shop. It is quiet but it is very beautiful, and I have lots of friends here.

- 7 Sample answer

I speak to my neighbours every day. They have a boy and a girl, and they are the same age as me and my sister. I also know most of the people in the village, and I say hello to them when they walk past our house.

- 8 Sample answer

I would always prefer to live in a quiet village. I don't like cities – there are too many people and there is too much noise. I know there are lots of things to do in a city, but I think villages are much better.

Speaking Part 2 Voice message 1 Page 3

Sample answer

Hi, my name is Sam Moreton from Westfield, and this is a message for the manager. I want to complain about my food delivery yesterday. I had some friends at my house and we ordered three pizzas at 6 o'clock and my Dad paid with his bank card. We waited a long time, and I rang you again at 7 o'clock. The pizzas finally arrived at 7.30, but they were cold. I am not happy about this and I would like my money back.

Speaking Part 2 Voice message 2 Page 3

Sample answer

Hi Jo, that's great news! I'm really glad to hear that – we are going to have a great time when you get here. Have you looked at some places to live? What were they like? I think you should try and find a place in the centre of town. That's where all the students live, and there are lots of cinemas, theatres and restaurants. Don't go and live in a village! You will never see your friends and there is nothing to do. Give me a call and we can chat about it.

Speaking Part 3 Talk Page 4

Sample answer

I would like to talk about two activities, horse riding and surfing. Horse riding is a great activity for teenagers. You can ride through the fields and forests, and you can see all sorts of new places. The horses are usually very safe, so it's a great activity for people who want to learn. It's also good fun to spend some time with animals. The other activity is surfing. It's a great sport for young people. If you don't know how to surf, you can have lessons and it's always good to learn a new skill. The nice thing about surfing is that you also spend lots of time on the beach, and it's nice to spend time in the sun.

Speaking Part 4 Follow-up questions Page 4

1 Sample answer

I really like sailing. I started sailing because my dad has a boat and he taught me how to sail. Now I am a member of a sailing club near my home. I can get there on my bike, and I go every weekend. The sailing club has lots of boats and a big lake, and I have classes every Saturday with a group of other teenagers. Sometimes we learn new things, sometimes we have races, and sometimes we just go out in our boats and relax.

2 Sample answer

When people have lots of free time, I think they should do something. I think it's very sad when old people have lots of free time and just sit at home and watch TV. When you have lots of free time, you can start a hobby – maybe you can learn to paint or learn how to play the piano. You should also do some sport – it's good for you, it keeps you healthy, and it's a good way to meet new people and make friends.

3 Sample answer

One of the advantages of having a hobby is that you don't get bored. My sister likes horse riding, and she has a horse. Some of her friends say they have nothing to do on Saturdays and Sundays, and they get bored. But every Saturday my sister goes to her horse, goes riding, and then cleans up after. There is always a lot of work for her to do, but she really likes it.

4 Sample answer

I don't think young people should work less. I work hard all day and I do my homework, but I like studying. Also, there are so many things to learn, and I want to go to university, so studying is important. For older people, maybe it's a good idea. Some people say they want to work four days week, not five days a week. These days we have computers and the internet, so maybe people could do their jobs four days a week.

5 Sample answer

Yes, I think it's important to make time to play team sports like football, rugby or volleyball. It's very important for young people because it helps us stay healthy. If you play a team sport, it's also a great way to meet new people. You meet two or three times a week and you make lots of friends. Competitions can also be really exciting and they are lots of fun.

6 Sample answer

No, I don't agree that extreme sports should not be allowed. If someone wants to climb a mountain, then they should go and climb it. Why should I stop them? Of course, climbing a mountain is dangerous, but that's what they want. Anyway, lots of other things are dangerous – crossing the road, driving a car, flying in an aeroplane. Let people do what they want.

Listening Part 1 Page 5

1 C

The man says he put his phone on the chair. Before that, he took it out of his bag. He did not put it in his jacket.

2 A

The girl says there is a climbing wall, and the boy says he has booked it for next weekend. He can't use the cycling track because it isn't ready. He does not say he wants to play tennis.

3 B

Hotel guests have to buy a ticket for the gym. They do not have to pay extra to use the pool. They must pay for the car park, but the hotel will give them the money back, so it is free.

4 C

The man says 'we do not provide pillows or bedclothes', so students must bring these. They don't have to bring posters and pictures, but they can if they want. They don't need to bring a fridge because there is one in the shared kitchen.

5 A

The woman says 'let's go and look at the art', which is in the museum. She thinks it'll be a bit boring, but she really doesn't want to go to a castle, and he doesn't want to walk in the park in the rain.

Listening Part 2 Page 6

1 C

The man says they should come to the university by bus. They should not come into the city centre by car because the traffic is bad. They can come by train, but it is expensive.

2 B

The man says they should not forget the email because it is important. The people at the reception desk will give visitors an ID card and a welcome pack.

3 C

The man says they can ask questions when they hear the teachers' talks. He says they have probably chosen their subject already. The student guides are there to give them directions.

4 A

The man says that a shared room costs £120. Your own room with a shared bathroom is £135. Your own room with your own bathroom is £150.

5 B

The museum is open Monday to Friday, so it is open on Wednesday. The art gallery is only open on Saturdays. The castle is closed on Wednesdays.

Listening Part 3 Page 7

1 man

The man says the barbecue in the garden was fun. The woman says she liked the food, but she was cold and wet.

2 woman

The man says the colour of the walls was 'awful', but the woman says that dark colours like that are her favourite.

3 man

The man says the house was 'too expensive'. The woman disagrees and says they got the house for 'a good price'.

4 both

The woman says there is nothing to do in the country. The man agrees and says there are no cinemas or good restaurants.

5 woman

The woman says that the bus John uses is fast and cheap. The man disagrees and he says buses are crowded and it's better to travel by car.

Listening Part 4 Page 8

1 B

The woman decides to go shopping for shoes with her friend. She will try and borrow a hat and will wear a dress she already has.

2 A

They are neighbours because he has helped put the rubbish out and will water the plants next week. They are not husband and wife because he would have his own key. They are not work colleagues because she talks about 'my company', not 'our company'.

3 A

The man is ringing to say they should leave the parcel in the garage next to the house. He says the time of day is not important. He complains that they left the parcel outside in the rain last time, but that is not the main reason for the call.

4 C

He says the lessons were not interesting because he 'studied the same things at school last year'. He says the teachers are nice and 'want to help us' and he enjoys being alone because he can 'focus better' on his work.

5 B

The sister says the novel about two sisters looks good, and at the end the boy agrees to buy the book because their grandmother 'likes reading fiction'. They don't buy a cookbook because she 'has lots of books like that already'. They don't buy the art book because of the price.

Reading Part 1 Pages 9–10

1 C

Mark is arranging to pick Jack up from the cafe at 7.30. They can then go to Oscar's party, which starts earlier, at 7.00.

2 A

The blog says that doing anything to help the environment – 'even something small' – is a good idea. They 'didn't save the world' yesterday by cleaning up the beach, but it made a difference.

3 C

If you book adult tickets two weeks early, they will cost £25, not £30. Children over 5 must pay to get in and large families don't get any special deals.

4 B

The important message is that students should go to the Head Teacher's office for a new time for their exam. He explains that this is because a teacher is ill, and he tells them they should keep working.

5 A

We know he is surprised it is ready because he says 'I can't believe that they have finished it already'. He thanks everyone who helped, but does not say if he helped. He does not say the playground is dangerous.

6 B

The notice asks everyone to 'wash and put away the things' they use and to keep the kitchen 'free from rubbish'. They can eat and drink at their desks but must tidy up after. He does not say what the cleaners do.

Reading Part 2 Page 11

1 C

Molly says she is 'pleased with the clothes' she makes. Piotr says that his customers 'are really pleased'.

2 B

Piotr says his customers 'have their own ideas for the clothes they buy'. Esra says his customers tell other people about his work.

3 A

Esra says he 'will need to employ someone' if his success continues. Molly says she hopes her business will develop, but she doesn't say that she wants to give someone a job.

4 C

Molly says she often buys clothes from charity shops so she can 'make them into something else'.

5 A

Esra says his customers are 'lovely'. We don't know how Piotr and Molly feel about their customers.

6 B

Piotr says 'it's not easy working seven days a week'. Molly says the first things she made 'weren't brilliant', but she has improved since then.

Reading Part 3 Page 12**1 D**

The sentence after the gap talks about a negative feeling that could spoil a holiday. Sentence D explains what this feeling is – just before he goes away he wishes he could stay at home.

2 F

The sentence before the gap says that 'we always prepare carefully'. After the gap the sentence mentions that 'we start putting everything into our 'holiday box'. The gap needs to be about how the family prepare – and that is 'we make a list of all the things we need', Sentence F.

3 A

The paragraph is about staying in contact with people. In Sentence A, he explains that he tells his work colleagues he is away on holiday. The sentence after the gap begins with 'however', and he says that 'they' (his colleagues) can reach him 'if something important happens.'

4 G

The paragraph is about the different jobs each member of the family has to do. He says his wife's job is to check the documents. He says the children's job is to find places to visit. Sentence G says that his job is to get directions to the hotel.

5 B

The paragraph is about a joke the children played on him. The sentence after the gap refers back to something lost, because he says that he 'started to look everywhere'. Sentence B talks about his son's lost passport. The joke was that the passport wasn't really lost, but he didn't think the joke was very funny.

6 C

Before the gap, he says he thinks some other people must feel like him. Sentence C talks about sharing the feelings on a social media group. After the gap he says he imagines there is 'one', and the word 'one' refers back to the social media group.

Reading Part 4 Page 13**1 B**

The writer says that 'some people sleep much longer' than eight hours, some people sleep five or six hours, and some parents of young children sleep even less. He does not say that we all need eight hours – he just asks if this is true or not.

2 A

The word 'this' refers back to 'feeling tired'. He is saying that some people wake up in the morning feeling tired because they have not slept very well.

3 C

He says that for most people who can't sleep, 'stress is the biggest factor', and they lie awake thinking about work or relationships. He says that only a few people have sleep problems because of a painful headache or because of eating the wrong food.

4 B

He says you should always follow the same routine and 'go to bed at the same time every night'. He says that if you have something to eat, you should eat a long time before you go to bed. He is not sure about using a phone – some people say it's bad to use your phone, but other people say it's fine.

Writing Part 1 Page 14

Sample answer

Hi Sam

Thanks for your email – I am really glad you can come to the film festival with me. It's going to be great, I'm sure.

As I said, it's a film festival, so there will be all sorts of different films. So yes, there will be some science fiction films for you. I've looked at the programme and it says there are comedies and action films, too.

You asked about food, and there's a note in the programme about that. It says you can't take food into the cinema, but you can get sandwiches and crisps. You can eat them at the coffee bar or outside.

It's fine to bring your sister, and I am sure she will have a great time, too.

Sandy

[125 words]

Writing Part 2 Page 15

Sample answer – essay

Tourism is very important to our country. It gives people jobs in places like hotels and restaurants. But the environment is also important, and we have to take care of that, too. I'd like to say what I think we could do.

Our beaches are very popular with tourists. In the summer, thousands of people visit them every day. The problem is, they often bring plastic water bottles or bottles of soft drinks and leave them on the beach. We need to make sure that there are lots of rubbish bins near the beach, and this will help.

Cars are also a problem. A lot of tourists hire a car to travel around, and this creates pollution. But we can make things better – we can make sure we have really good buses, then the tourists won't need cars. Maybe the buses could be free.

In conclusion, I think we can make sure tourism doesn't damage the environment.

[157 words]

Sample answer – review

I use an app called *French Friends*, and it helps me to speak French when I am on holiday in France.

I use it to find words I don't know when I am in a restaurant or when I am talking to a French person. I open the app on my phone and say the word in English, for example 'ice cream'. Then the app translates this into French. This is great because then I know how to say the word as well.

The app improves my life because I really like to practice my French now. If I don't know a word, I know I can get help from my phone. Now, when I'm in France, I talk to lots of different people and my French is getting better all the time.

The only problem with the app is that you need the Internet – it would be great if the app did everything on the phone.

[156 words]