

Practice Test 2 • Writing

Part 1

You **must** answer this question. Write your answer in **140–190** words in an appropriate style on the separate answer sheet.

- 1 In your English class you have been talking about the future of work. Now your English teacher has asked you to write an essay for homework.

Write your essay using **all** the notes and giving reasons for your point of view.



Some people think that in the future robots will do many of the jobs currently done by people.
Is this a good or a bad thing in your opinion?

Notes

Write about:

1. jobs that robots might do
2. public reactions to robots
3. _____ (your own idea)

Preparation • Writing

Part 2 Review

In Part 2 of the Writing paper you may be asked to write a review, usually for an English-language magazine, newspaper or website. The main purpose is to describe and express a personal opinion about something you have experienced, for example a film, a website, a shop, a music venue, a café, etc. The review normally includes a recommendation to readers.

TIPS

- The information in your review need not be true. Make up information if necessary. Examiners are interested in the language you use to express your ideas.
- Once you have chosen what to review, quickly note down your answers to any specific points or questions included in the task. You will need to include these points in your review.

- 1 Here are some possible things you may be asked to review in this part of the paper. Make a few notes about each and decide whether you would recommend it or not.

Subject of review	Points to think about	Recommend (✓/X)
a a shop where you have bought clothes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • description of shop • kinds of clothes 	
b a café you go to for snacks or drinks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • location • kinds of snacks and drinks 	
c a library you sometimes use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • description of facilities • pros and cons 	
d websites you use to help with school projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • description: easy to use? • what you have used them for 	
e a film you have seen in the last year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the story in brief • actors/the quality of acting 	
f a music venue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • description of venue • the music you've heard there 	

- 2 Here are some extracts taken from reviews of the six subjects listed in exercise 1. Which extracts relate to which subjects? Underline the words or phrases which helped you to decide.

They serve a great range of coffees.

I found several really useful sites.

The opening scene is an exciting car chase.

It's on the ground floor of our local supermarket.

This site is easy to use – you just type your questŝn into the search box.

It's not like a huge stadium or arena – it's more like a medium-sized club.

It's only been open for about six months, but all my friends buy things there.

You can book Internet access in advance.

The characters were very convincing.

Their programme includes everything from punk to jazz.

They always have a selection of the latest fashions.

They have a fantastic reference section.

3 Reviews should include a mixture of facts and opinions, both positive and negative. Are the following comments facts or opinions? Write **F** or **O**.

- a Everyone in the audience found it very funny. _____
- b I found the whole experience disappointing. _____
- c I know it's very popular, but it isn't really my idea of value for money. _____
- d I must admit, it was much better than I had expected. _____
- e I'd say it's fairly expensive – especially for students. _____
- f It took me over two days to play. _____
- g It's north of the river, not far from the park entrance. _____
- h It's on the top floor of the building, and the day I went the lift wasn't working. _____
- i One of the best games I've played for a long time. _____
- j The changing rooms are very small. _____
- k The service is excellent. _____
- l The whole place is clean and tidy. _____
- m I'd thoroughly recommend this to everyone I know. _____

4 Are the opinion comments in exercise 3 positive or negative? Write **P** or **N**.

5 Now read this exam task and make a paragraph plan. Make sure to include facts and opinions – your opinions can be positive and/or negative.

You have seen the following announcement in an English-language magazine.

Reviews wanted

Describe a website you have used to help with school work. Write a review of the website, describing how easy it is to use and saying what you have used it for. Would you recommend it for other people of your age?

Write your review in 140–190 words.

Preparation • Writing

Part 2 Set text

In Part 2 of the Writing paper you may be asked to write an essay or an article about a set text you have been studying. You may be asked about the important events, main themes, character development or relationships between characters.

TIPS

- As with other writing questions, read the question carefully and make a paragraph plan.
- If you are asked to write an essay, your style should be neutral or formal. If the question specifies a magazine article, your style can be more informal.

1 Read these three possible set text questions (A–C) and decide which one you would most like to answer. Think about the set text, or any novel you have read, play you have seen or film you have watched recently.

In your English class you have been studying a modern novel. Now your teacher has asked you to write an article about two of the most interesting characters in the novel and say how their relationship changes as the story progresses. **A**

In your English class you have been studying a play by William Shakespeare. Now your teacher has asked you to write an essay about what you think is the most important theme of the play. Say whether you think this theme is still relevant to people today. **B**

In your English class you have been studying a novel. Now your teacher has asked you to write an essay about the main events that take place in the novel. Say how these events affect the main characters. **C**

- 2 Now make a paragraph plan for the question you have chosen. Don't spend more than 2–3 minutes on this.

TIP

Each paragraph you write should start with a 'topic sentence'. This should express the main idea of the paragraph and be as interesting to the reader as possible.

- 3 The sentences in these three first paragraphs (A, B and C) are not in the correct order. Rewrite them, starting with the topic sentence. Then decide if they are from an essay or an article.

A This happens early in the book and is a shock to everyone. At first they're very happy because the family is very poor. The moment when the family realize that the coins are fake is my second key event. Their discovery means they'll be able to sell the coins and buy things they need. The first event I've chosen is Mike's discovery of the gold coins.

B In my opinion the most important theme is fate. We know from the beginning of the play that fate controls their lives and their future. They probably believe that the main theme is love. My view is a little different. I imagine that everyone in the world knows something about Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*.

C They have similar interests but quite different personalities. Laura is rather shy whereas Matt is outgoing, the sort of person who loves parties. As far as I'm concerned, the most interesting characters in this novel are Laura and Matt. This is mainly because they seem so perfect for each other when they meet.

- 4 Choose one of the set text questions in exercise 1 and write your answer following the paragraph plan you made in exercise 2. Remember to start each paragraph with a topic sentence.

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Part 2

Write an answer to **one** of the questions 2–5 in this part. Write your answer in 140–190 words in an appropriate style on the **separate answer sheet**. Put the question number in the box at the top of the answer sheet.

- 2 You have received an email from your English-speaking penfriend.

Can you help me with a class project? I have to write about why people like or dislike particular songs or pieces of music. Can you tell me about a particular song or piece of music you like or dislike? Please could you name and describe your choice, and explain why you like or dislike it?

Write your email.

- 3 You see this advert in an international magazine for teenagers.

Reality TV reviews wanted

There are more and more reality shows on television. Write a review of a reality show you have watched recently. Briefly describe the show, then say whether you would recommend it to other people. Give reasons for your opinions.

Write your review.

- 4 You have seen this announcement in an English-language magazine for young people.

STORIES WANTED

We are looking for stories for our new English-language magazine for young people. Your story must begin with this sentence:

Jo was an hour from home when she noticed that her bicycle had a flat tyre.

Your story must include:

- a thunderstorm
- a stranger

Write your story.

- 5 Answer the following question based on the set text.

In your English class you have been discussing the set text. Now your teacher has asked you to write an article about it for the school magazine.

Describe how the story ended and how effective this ending was. Would you have liked a different ending to the story?

Write your article.

Practice Test 2 • Listening

Part 1

1.18 You will hear people talking in eight different situations. For questions 1–8, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

- TIP**
Remember: In Part 1, you will have 8 seconds to read the three possible answers for each question before you listen. You will hear each piece twice.
- You hear a teenager talking about herself and her sister. What made her annoyed?
 A Her sister went out more than she did.
 B Her parents were less strict with her sister. 1
 C Her parents would not let her go to university.
 - You hear part of a radio interview with a singer. What is she looking forward to?
 A She has a new recording about to come out.
 B She is flying to America to perform. 2
 C She is spending the next fortnight in London.
 - You hear two friends trying to arrange an evening out together. Why do they decide to go out in the evening?
 A The film they want to see is only on in the evening.
 B They are busy at other times of the day. 3
 C They think evenings are more special.
 - You hear a teenager telling a friend about a situation he once found himself in. Why was he embarrassed?
 A He had left his passport on the plane.
 B His passport was out of date. 4
 C He had caught the wrong plane.
 - You hear a conversation between a student and a teacher. What does the teacher think the student should do?
 A make up his own mind about which subjects to take
 B follow his parents' advice about which subjects to take 5
 C choose subjects which will be useful to him in the future
 - You hear a news report about an important sports event. How does the reporter describe the event?
 A It was one of the most exciting matches he'd ever been at.
 B The two halves of the match were very different. 6
 C The match became less interesting in the second half.
 - You hear a teenager talking about a night he'll never forget. What did he find surprising about the event he describes?
 A that there was no damage to the house itself
 B that his sister wasn't frightened by the storm 7
 C that not everyone was woken up by the storm
 - You hear a teenager talking about something he's always been afraid of. How does he explain his fear?
 A A dog bit him when he was very young.
 B The fear was passed on to him by his father. 8
 C He was attacked by a dog belonging to someone he visited.

Practice Test 2 • Listening

Part 2

1.19 You will hear a teenager talking about his project on lightning. For questions 9–18, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

TIP
Remember: In Part 2, you will have 45 seconds to read the sentences before you listen. You will hear each piece twice.



LIGHTNING

- Oliver says people are afraid of lightning because they don't 9 _____ it.
- The most well-known myth about lightning is that it never 10 _____ twice.
- The physical 11 _____ of a place can affect how often it is struck by lightning.
- People who spend a lot of time in 12 _____ are more likely than others to be struck more than once.
- Most people believe that lightning only travels 13 _____ from the sky.
- Rainstorms and changes in temperature are two of the 14 _____ associated in many people's minds with lightning.
- 15 _____ evidence shows that lightning can be caused when volcanoes erupt.
- Oliver says that ball lightning is about the size of a 16 _____.
- Playing golf and going fishing are two of the 17 _____ we should avoid if we expect lightning.
- Sudden increases in electrical power can damage 18 _____ such as computers and televisions.

Practice Test 2 • Listening

Part 3

1.20 You will hear five people talking about seasons they like or dislike. For questions 19–23, choose from the list (A–H) how each speaker feels about them. Use the letters only once. There are three extra letters which you do not need to use.

TIP

Remember: In Part 3, you will have 30 seconds to read the sentences before you listen. You will hear the pieces twice.

- A I'd describe myself as someone who enjoys the outdoor life.
- B I used to feel differently about this part of the year.
- C I don't mind how hot or cold it is. Speaker 1 19
- D I can see how this season makes a difference to other people as well as myself. Speaker 2 20
- E This season is associated in my mind with enjoyable family mealtimes. Speaker 3 21
- F I have a special personal connection with this season. Speaker 4 22
- G For me, this is a good time of the year to catch up with school work. Speaker 5 23
- H I love this season, but for me there is one disadvantage to it.

Practice Test 2 • Listening

Part 4

1.21 You will hear an interview with a young musician. For questions 24–30, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

TIP

Remember: In Part 4, you will have 1 minute to read the questions and options before you listen. You will hear the piece twice.

- 24 How does Ruby think of herself? 24
 A as an international celebrity
 B as someone who is no different from her friends
 C as someone with a special talent
- 25 How did Ruby react to her early music lessons? 25
 A She doesn't have a clear memory of them.
 B She objected to having to go to them.
 C She remembers really enjoying them.
- 26 When did Ruby decide playing the violin would be an important part of her future? 26
 A after her teacher came to her house to talk to her parents
 B when she realized that she was more talented than other children
 C while she was watching television with her friends
- 27 What did Ruby have to agree to before her parents said she could enter the competition? 27
 A that she would take the minimum time off school
 B that she would not tell her school friends about the competition
 C that she would not do any less studying
- 28 On the day of the competition what did Ruby feel? 28
 A very nervous
 B relaxed
 C very tired
- 29 How did Ruby respond to the result of the competition? 29
 A She was glad she had taken part.
 B She was disappointed that she didn't come first.
 C She was glad it was all over.
- 30 Why does Ruby consider herself to be fortunate? 30
 A She performs mainly as a solo performer.
 B A lot of her time is spent doing something she enjoys.
 C She still lives an ordinary life with her family.