

 CAMBRIDGE

**A2**

**KEY**

**FOR SCHOOLS 1**

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**WITH ANSWERS**

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**AUTHENTIC PRACTICE TESTS**

# Introduction

This collection of four complete practice tests contains papers from the *Cambridge English Qualifications A2 Key for Schools* examination. Students can practise these tests on their own or with the help of a teacher.

The *A2 Key for Schools* examination is part of a series of Cambridge English Qualifications for general and higher education. This series consists of five qualifications that have similar characteristics but are designed for different levels of English language ability. The *A2 Key for Schools* certificate is recognised around the world as a basic qualification in English.

Cambridge English Qualifications	CEFR Level	UK National Qualifications Framework Level
C2 Proficiency	C2	3
C1 Advanced	C1	2
B2 First for Schools	B2	1
B1 Preliminary for Schools	B1	Entry 3
A2 Key for Schools	A2	Entry 2

## Further information

The information contained in this practice book is designed to be an overview of the exam. For a full description of all of the above exams, including information about task types, testing focus and preparation, please see the relevant handbooks which can be obtained from the Cambridge Assessment English website at: [cambridgeenglish.org](http://cambridgeenglish.org).

## The structure of A2 Key for Schools: an overview

The *Cambridge English Qualifications A2 Key for Schools* examination consists of three papers:

### Reading and Writing: 60 minutes

Candidates need to be able to understand simple written information such as signs and newspapers, and produce simple written English.

### Listening: 30 minutes approximately

Candidates need to show they can follow and understand a range of spoken materials such as announcements, when people speak reasonably slowly.

### Speaking: 8–10 minutes

Candidates take the Speaking test with another candidate or in a group of three. They are tested on their ability to take part in different types of interaction: with the examiner, with the other candidate and by themselves.

	Overall length	Number of tasks/ parts	Number of items
<b>Reading and Writing</b>	60 mins	7	32
<b>Listening</b>	approx. 30 mins	5	25
<b>Speaking</b>	8–10 mins	2	–
<b>Total</b>	approx. 1 hour 40 mins		

## Grading

All candidates receive a Statement of Results and candidates whose performance ranges between CEFR Levels A1 and B1 (Cambridge English Scale scores of 100–150) also receive a certificate.

- Candidates who achieve **Grade A** (Cambridge English Scale scores of 140–150) receive the Key for Schools English Test certificate stating that they demonstrated ability at Level B1.
- Candidates who achieve **Grade B** or **C** (Cambridge English Scale scores of 120–139) receive the Key for Schools English Test certificate at Level A2.
- Candidates whose performance is below A2 level, but falls within **Level A1** (Cambridge English Scale scores of 100–119), receive a Cambridge English certificate stating that they have demonstrated ability at Level A1.

For further information on grading and results, go to the website (see page 5 for details).

# *Speaking: an overview for candidates*

The Speaking test lasts 8–10 minutes. You will take the test with another candidate. There are two examiners but only one of them will talk to you. The examiner will ask you questions and ask you to talk to the other candidate.

## **Part 1** (3–4 minutes)

The examiner will ask you and your partner some questions. These questions will be about your daily life, interests, likes and dislikes. For example, you may have to speak about school, hobbies or home town.

## **Part 2** (5–6 minutes)

You and your partner will speak to each other. The examiner will give you a card with some illustrations on it. You will then discuss the activities, things or places illustrated on the card with your partner. The examiner will then ask you and your partner some individual questions about the illustrations on the card.

# Test 1

## READING AND WRITING (60 minutes)

### PART 1

#### QUESTIONS 1–6

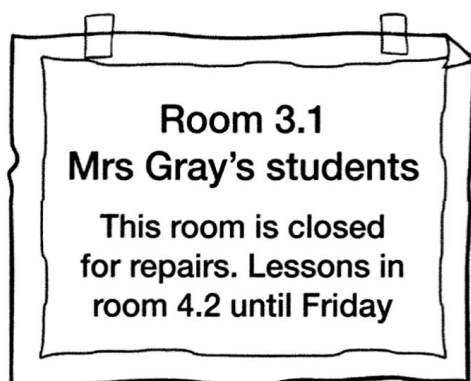
For each question, choose the correct answer.

1



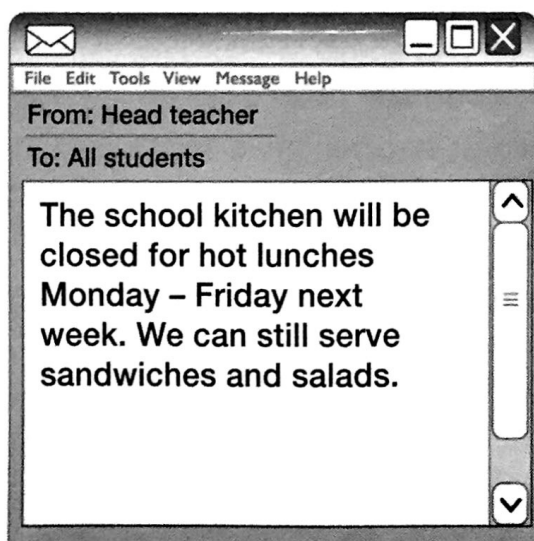
- A A student has found the wrong ID card in his sports bag.
- B The person who lost his bag can get it from the school office.
- C If you find a lost sports bag, please take it to the school office.

2



- A Mrs Gray is not coming to the school until Friday.
- B Mrs Gray's class is going to be on a different day this week.
- C Mrs Gray isn't able to use her usual room at the moment.

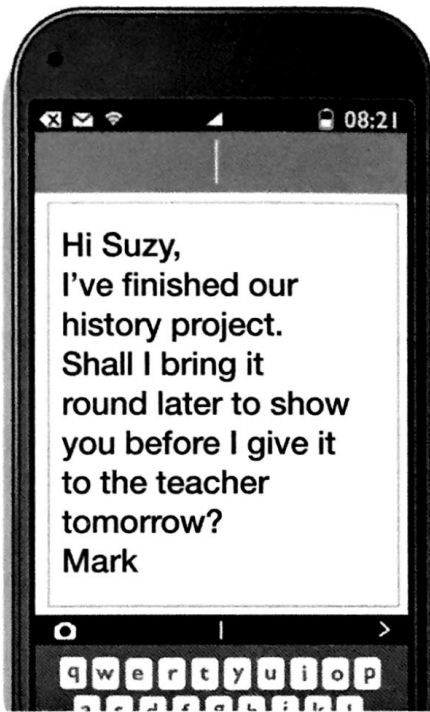
3



- A Students have to bring their own food to school for lunch next week.
- B The school is going to stop offering lunch to students after next week.
- C Only a few types of food will be available for student lunches next week.

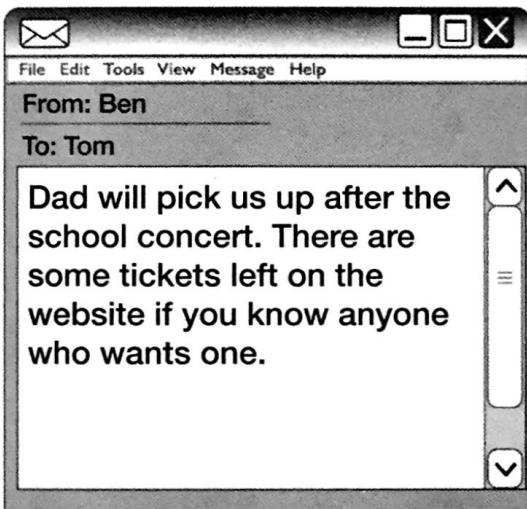
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4



- A Mark is asking Suzy if he should visit her today.
- B Mark wants Suzy to help him complete their project.
- C Mark thinks Suzy should give the project to the teacher.

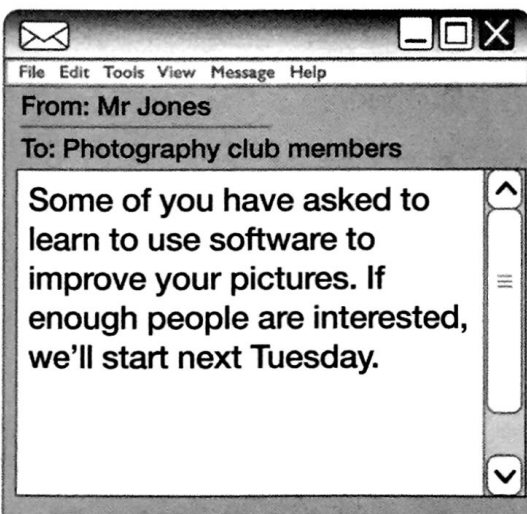
5



What should Tom do?

- A go online to check if there are still concert tickets available
- B tell people that it is still possible for them to come to the concert
- C ask if his father can collect them after the concert

6



- A Mr Jones is offering to teach club members something new.
- B Some people have told Mr Jones they want to leave the photography club.
- C Mr Jones wants to find out more about photography software.

**PART 2**

**QUESTIONS 7–13**

For each question, choose the correct answer.

	<b>Jian</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Kojo</b>
<b>7</b> Who does not like the way the book ends?	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>8</b> Who enjoyed the pictures in the book?	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>9</b> Who explains how he got the book?	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>10</b> Who enjoyed learning about lives which are different from his own?	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>11</b> Who says something about what happens in the story?	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>12</b> Who says the book is not very well-known?	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>13</b> Who felt sad when he finished the book?	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>

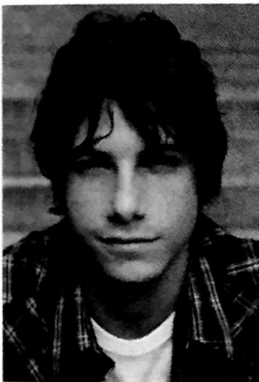
## My favourite book

**Jian**



This well-known book was in a box of old books that a neighbour gave me. I wasn't sure about it when I picked it up because I saw the pictures and thought it was a book for little children. But I was bored, so I started reading. After a few pages I couldn't stop, and when I got to the last page, I was quite upset that there wasn't more. It's about two friends who play a game, and how it changes their lives. It's brilliant!

**Max**



This was one of the first books I ever had, but it's still a favourite. Even before I could read, I loved looking at the drawings as my parents read the story to me. Now my little sister's got it, and she loves it too. The writer has become quite famous, but this is the first book she wrote, and not many people have heard of it. It's very different from the books she wrote later. I suppose what you write about changes as your life changes.

**Kojo**



I read this book for the first time when I was about eight. One of the reasons I liked it was that it was about people growing up in a place which I knew nothing about. My friend read it too, and our ideas for games often came from this book. I read it again recently, and I still think it's great, except the last few pages. What happens in them doesn't seem real.



## PART 3

### QUESTIONS 14–18

For each question, choose the correct answer.

#### **A young cheesemaker**

16-year-old Pat Tulloch has an unusual hobby. She makes cheese on the family farm in Australia. She began by making yoghurt with her mother when she was little. Then she started watching her father's workers make cheese. When she was ten, she made some herself for the first time. 'It wasn't great,' she says, 'but the workers told me what I was doing wrong and that helped me to slowly get better.'

Pat always needs good milk for her cheese, but she doesn't have to buy it. Her mother and father keep 100 cows on their farm. Pat can just ask them when she needs more. Last year, Pat's neighbour gave her a young cow to keep and look after, but it doesn't produce milk to make cheese yet.

Pat and her family make several types of cheese. Recently they won a prize for one of them. 'It's been great for helping customers find out about us,' says Pat. 'Last month we started selling cheese in New Zealand. People there read about our prize in a food magazine. Soon we're going to do some advertisements, too.'

Pat's next idea is to post some online recipes for cooking with cheese. 'One of my favourites is cheese with eggs for breakfast. It's great! Our cheese is also lovely with pasta – I hope a restaurant might buy some one day.' But right now Pat is still at school. 'Making cheese is fun and winning a prize for it is great, but doing well in my studies matters more for now.'

- 14 Pat learned to make good cheese
- A by listening to the advice she got.
  - B by seeing how her mother did it.
  - C by practising at home on her own.
- 15 Where does Pat get the milk for her cheese?
- A from her neighbour's farm
  - B her father helps her to buy it
  - C her parents give it to her
- 16 Pat says winning the prize means
- A more people know about her family's cheese.
  - B she can be the star of the family's new advertisements.
  - C she was invited to visit another country.
- 17 What's the most important thing for Pat at the moment?
- A writing a new cookbook
  - B being successful at school
  - C selling cheese to a restaurant
- 18 In this article, Pat is explaining
- A why her family started making cheese.
  - B how to win a competition for making cheese.
  - C how she has become part of a cheese-making business.

**PART 4**

**QUESTIONS 19–24**

For each question, choose the correct answer.

**Philo T. Farnsworth**

Philo T. Farnsworth was born in the USA in 1906. As a child, he was very interested in science and electricity and spent a lot of time **(19)** ..... about it. He also won a national **(20)** ..... for young engineers when he was just 13.

When he was 20, Farnsworth **(21)** ..... his own business. In 1927, he showed everyone his new idea: a **(22)** ..... of sending pictures using electricity. Many other people were working on ideas for a machine to do this, but Farnsworth's was the first that had no moving parts. In fact, it was the first true electronic TV.

After many business problems, Farnsworth had success in 1938 when another company **(23)** ..... him \$1 million for his idea. He is not very famous these **(24)** ..... , but, as the father of electronic television, Farnsworth changed the world.

- |           |                   |                   |                        |
|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| <b>19</b> | <b>A</b> learning | <b>B</b> studying | <b>C</b> understanding |
| <b>20</b> | <b>A</b> game     | <b>B</b> match    | <b>C</b> competition   |
| <b>21</b> | <b>A</b> became   | <b>B</b> turned   | <b>C</b> started       |
| <b>22</b> | <b>A</b> plan     | <b>B</b> way      | <b>C</b> thing         |
| <b>23</b> | <b>A</b> offered  | <b>B</b> took     | <b>C</b> sold          |
| <b>24</b> | <b>A</b> times    | <b>B</b> days     | <b>C</b> years         |

## PART 5

## QUESTIONS 25–30

For each question, write the correct answer.

Write **ONE** word for each gap.

Example:

0

from

From:

Rachel

To:

Chris

We're back **(0)** ..... our family holiday in the US. It was amazing! It's **(25)** ..... biggest country I've ever been to. We travelled from Los Angeles to Seattle **(26)** ..... car. It's nearly 2000 km and the trip took us **(27)** ..... very long time – nearly a week.

My family liked Los Angeles best, **(28)** ..... I didn't agree – Seattle was my favourite place. It's smaller **(29)** ..... Los Angeles, and the food was better. Seattle is near the sea and we ate lots of fish. The only problem was that **(30)** ..... rained almost every day!

Let's meet for a chat soon. I have a present for you!

*Test 1*

**PART 6**

**QUESTION 31**

You are going camping next weekend with your family.  
Write an email to your English friend, Lee.

In your email:

- ask Lee to come camping with you and your family
- say why you are going camping
- tell Lee what to bring.

Write **25 words** or more.

**Write the email on your answer sheet.**

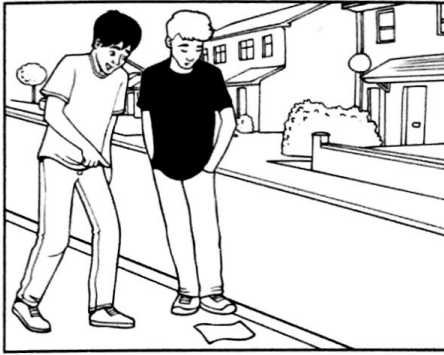
**PART 7**

**QUESTION 32**

Look at the three pictures.

Write the story shown in the pictures.

Write **35 words** or more.



Write the story on your answer sheet.

**LISTENING** (approximately 30 minutes)

**PART 1**

**QUESTIONS 1-5**

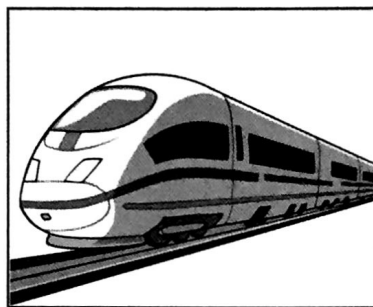
For each question, choose the correct answer.



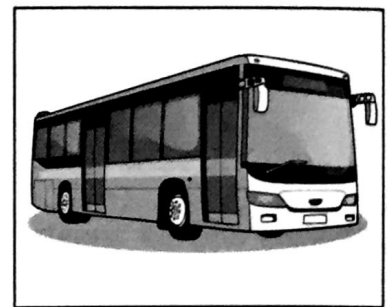
1 How did Stan and his dad get home from the concert?



**A**

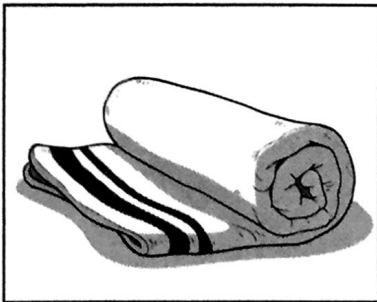


**B**

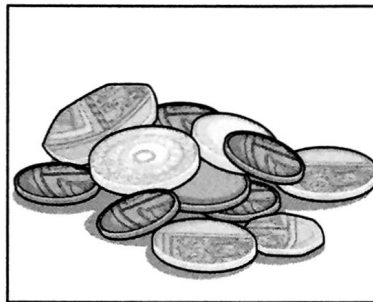


**C**

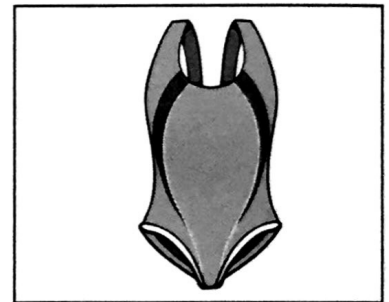
2 What's the girl forgotten?



**A**



**B**



**C**

3 What will the boy do first after he gets home from school?



**A**

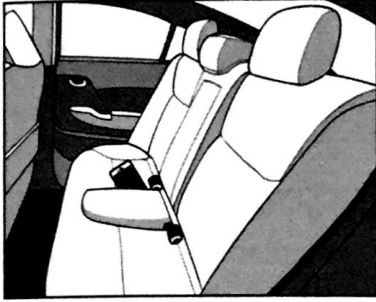


**B**

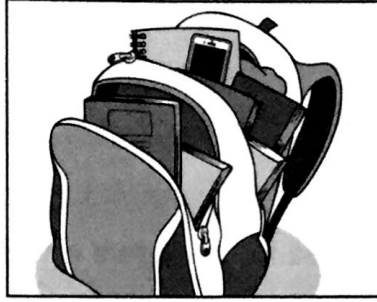


**C**

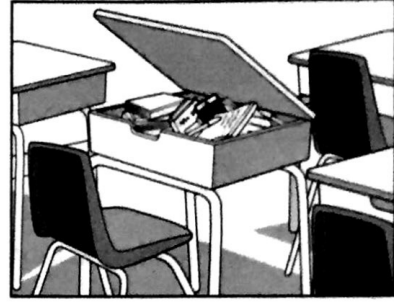
4 Where did the girl find her phone?



A

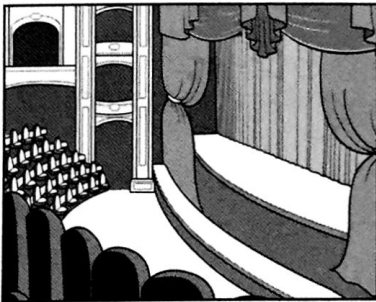


B

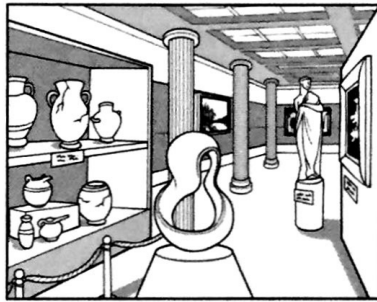


C

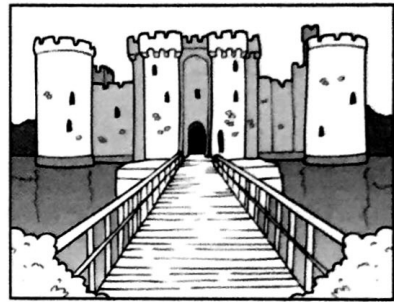
5 Where are the two friends going to go first today?



A



B



C



**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 man talking about a course for teenagers who are interested in working on the radio.

## Radio camp for teenagers

Address: 102 Golden Street

Date first course starts: (6) .....

Learn to write: (7) .....

Meet world famous: (8) .....

Each person receives: (9) .....

Discount price: (10) \$.....

**PART 3****QUESTIONS 11–15**

For each question, choose the correct answer.



You will hear Edward talking to his friend Michaela about dance classes.

- 11** Where does Edward go for his dance classes?
- A** a college
  - B** a dance school
  - C** a sports centre
- 12** Michaela started going to classes
- A** one week ago.
  - B** four weeks ago.
  - C** eight weeks ago.
- 13** Why does Edward like his teacher?
- A** She's very funny.
  - B** She gives students presents.
  - C** She explains things clearly.
- 14** What does Michaela wear to her dance classes?
- A** trousers and a shirt
  - B** shorts and a T-shirt
  - C** trainers and a sweater
- 15** What does Edward enjoy most about the classes?
- A** learning new dances
  - B** listening to the music
  - C** meeting his friends

**PART 4**

**QUESTIONS 16–20**

For each question, choose the correct answer.



- 16** You will hear a brother and sister talking about a present for their cousin, Ben.  
Why did the girl choose the bag?
- A** It was the right price.
  - B** It was the right size.
  - C** It will be very useful.
- 17** You will hear a boy talking to a friend about a computer game.  
Why doesn't he buy it now?
- A** He's played it before.
  - B** He thinks it's too expensive.
  - C** He can borrow it from his friend.
- 18** You will hear two friends talking together.  
Where are they?
- A** at a farm
  - B** in a forest
  - C** on a mountain
- 19** You will hear a girl, Kate, talking to her father.  
What's Kate's father going to do?
- A** book a holiday
  - B** enter a competition
  - C** buy a magazine
- 20** You will hear two friends talking about last weekend.  
What did the boy do?
- A** He went shopping.
  - B** He stayed at home.
  - C** He visited a classmate.

**PART 5****QUESTIONS 21–25**

For each question, choose the correct answer.



You will hear Beth talking to Jack about a class trip.  
What will each person bring on the trip?

**Example:**

0 Jack  **B**

**People**

21 Edward

22 Beth

23 Dan

24 Yolanda

25 Gordon

**Things to bring**

**A** board game

**B** camera

**C** drum

**D** guitar

**E** pencils and paints

**F** picnic bag

**G** quiz

**H** sports equipment

**You now have 6 minutes to write your answers on the answer sheet.**