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Introduction

In A2 Key for Schools, all four language skills are tested in three papers, as shown below.

PAPER 1

Reading and Writing (60 mins)

Reading (30 marks)

This part of the paper has five tasks with a total of 30 questions.

Part 1 – Three-option multiple choice (6 marks)

Six short texts with one question each.

Test focus: reading short realistic texts (e-mails, texts, notes and notices) for the main message.

Part 2 – Three-option multiple matching (7 marks)

Seven questions followed by three short texts on the same topic to match the questions to.

Test focus: reading for detail.

Part 3 – Three-option multiple choice (5 marks)

One long text followed by five questions.

Test focus: reading for main idea(s) and detail.

Part 4 – Three-option multiple-choice cloze (6 marks)

Factual text with six gaps to be completed with one of three words.

Test focus: reading and identifying appropriate vocabulary items, and sometimes grammar, to complete the gaps.

Part 5 – Open cloze (6 marks)

Email with six gaps to be completed with one word each.

Test focus: reading and identifying appropriate grammatical forms and structural relationships.

Writing (30 marks)

This part of the paper has two tasks with a maximum of 15 marks available for each.

Part 6 – Guided writing (15 marks)

Writing a short message e.g. a note or email (25 words or more).

Test focus: ability to communicate in writing (focus on appropriacy, structure, vocabulary and cohesion).

Part 7 – Picture story (15 marks)

Writing a story (35 words or more) based on three picture prompts.

Test focus: ability to write a short narrative (focus on structure, vocabulary and cohesion).

PAPER 2

Listening (about 30 mins including 6 mins to transfer answers to the answer sheet)

This paper has five tasks with a total of 25 questions.

Part 1 – Three-option multiple choice (5 marks)

Five questions with pictures as answer options.

Test focus: listening for specific information in short dialogues and selecting the correct visual.

Part 2 – Gap fill (5 marks)

Five gaps to fill with a word, number, date or time.

Test focus: listening to a monologue and completing the gaps in a page of notes.

Part 3 – Three-option multiple choice (5 marks)

Five questions on a longer dialogue.

Test focus: listening to an informal conversation for key information. Answers come from both speakers. Attitude and opinions may be tested.

Part 4 – Three-option multiple choice (5 marks)

Five listening texts with one question each.

Test focus: listening to short monologues or dialogues to identify main idea, message, gist or topic.

Part 5 – Multiple matching (5 marks)

Five people to match to five out of seven options.

Test focus: listening to a longer dialogue between two people who know each other to identify key information.

PAPER 3

Speaking (8-10 mins)

This paper has two tasks with a maximum of 25 marks available in total.

Part 1 – Personal/Factual information

(3-4 minutes)

The examiner asks each candidate in turn for personal factual information, such as where he/she lives, about school, etc. followed by a longer 'Tell me something about ...' question.

Test focus: responding to personal/factual questions.

Part 2 – Picture prompt activity (5-6 minutes)

Candidates are shown a visual prompt on a topic related to daily life, school, free-time activities, transport, holidays, etc. They talk about all the illustrations, discussing likes and dislikes, and giving reasons.

Test focus: using appropriate language and interactive strategies to discuss likes and dislikes, giving reasons.

Reading and Writing

1 hour

PART 1

Section 1 - 6

Test 1

Reading and Writing

(1 hour)

PART 1**Questions 1 – 6**

For each question, choose the correct answer.

Rose Hill Car Park

Open: 8 am to 6 pm

Notice: Please do not leave your car in the car park overnight. The gate is locked after 6 pm.

- A** The car park opens at 6 o'clock in the morning.
- B** Customers can't park in the car park in the daytime.
- C** The gate of the car park is locked at night.

2

Ellen,
There's no table tennis practice today. Want to practise together at my house? I've got a new table we can use! Let me know.
Karen

- A** Ellen and Karen are in a club together.
- B** Karen is Ellen's table tennis teacher.
- C** Karen wants to practise in a sports centre.

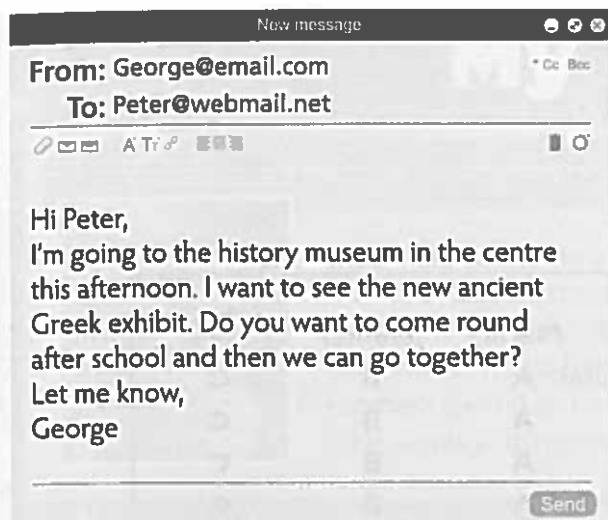
3

Rules for Carry-On Baggage

- Bag must not be more than 8 kilos.
- One bag per person.
- Staff will take away bags left on their own in the airport.

- A** Passengers can take more than one bag onto the plane.
- B** Passengers can't have more than eight things inside their carry-on bag.
- C** Passengers should stay close to their bags in the airport.

4



If he wants to go to the museum, Peter should

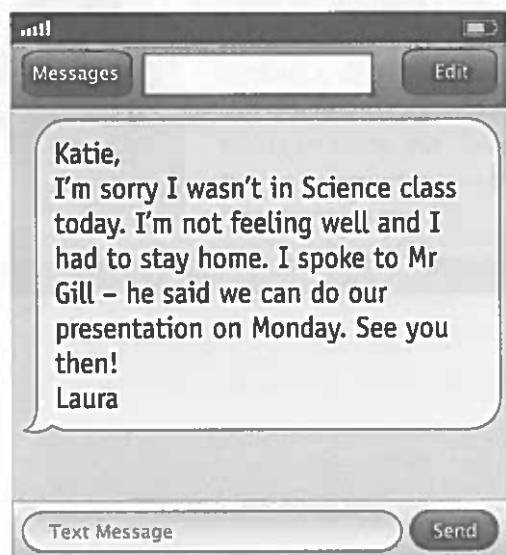
- A go to George's house.
- B meet George after class at school.
- C choose a place to meet George in the centre.

5



- A The autumn sale is only for online customers.
- B The autumn sale is for one day.
- C The autumn sale only includes summer shoes.

6



- A Katie stayed home from school today.
- B Mr Gill gave a test in Science class today.
- C Laura and Katie are doing a presentation together.

Test 1

PAPER 1

PART 2

Questions 7 – 13

For each question, choose the correct answer.

	Maria	Jennifer	Mira
7 Who does schoolwork in a special room in their house?	A	B	C
8 Who likes to play a sport at home?	A	B	C
9 Who has her own bathroom in her home?	A	B	C
10 Who has an extra building outside their house?	A	B	C
11 Who doesn't have an animal?	A	B	C
12 Who doesn't have any brothers or sisters?	A	B	C
13 Who has to share their bedroom?	A	B	C

My House

A

Maria



My family and I live in a small city in Arizona, USA. It's me, my parents and my older brother Jeremy. Our house isn't that big, but it's nice. My brother and I each have our own bedroom. We each have a desk there where we do our homework. We also have a living room, a kitchen and a dining room. We don't eat there very often, but my brother likes to play video games there and I play table tennis with my friends. It's lots of fun!

B

Jennifer



I live with my family on a farm in the countryside in Australia. We have horses and cows, and we grow corn in our fields. Our house is very big and old with lots of rooms. That's a good thing, because I have a big family – four brothers and one sister! So the bathroom is very busy in the morning before school! My brothers each have their own bedroom, but my sister and I are in the same one. We also have a study room where I can do my homework and there's a big shed behind the house where the animals stay. I love spending time in the shed with the animals, especially my horse, Snow!

C

Mira



I love the city life! I live in a flat in London with my mum, my dad and our dog, Max. Our flat isn't big, but it has enough room for us. We have a living room, a kitchen, a dining room, two bedrooms and two bathrooms – one is just for me! We live in the city centre, so it can be noisy at times. That's difficult when I'm trying to study. But I love having so much to do in my neighbourhood! There's a basketball court down the road where I play most days, as well as lots of shops, restaurants and cafés.

PART 3**Questions 14 – 18**

For each question, choose the correct answer.

An unusual visitor

by Tom Smith

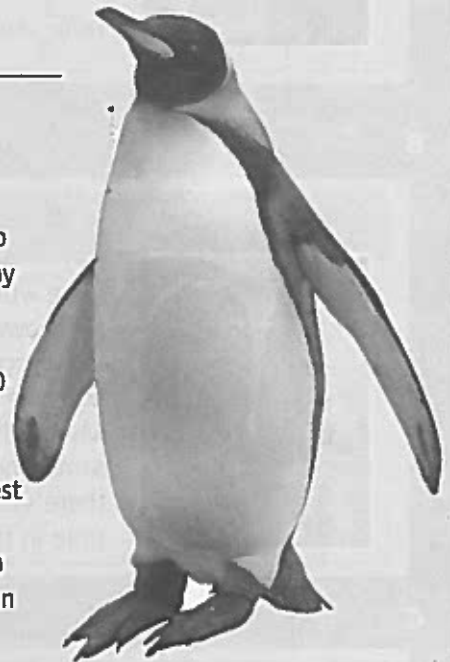
A young emperor penguin from the Antarctic arrived on a beach in New Zealand yesterday. It's the first time people have seen an emperor penguin in New Zealand in 44 years.

A woman who was walking her dog on the beach saw something white on the sand. At first, she thought it was a child's toy, but when she got closer, she saw the young penguin standing there on the beach. She couldn't believe her eyes!

Experts say it's quite unusual to see a penguin in New Zealand. They believe that the young penguin got lost while hunting for fish and is now thousands of miles from home.

This strange visitor has brought many curious people to the beach. Everyone is asked not to upset the penguin in any way and to keep their dogs on leads.

The penguin is about 10 months old and 80 cm tall. Emperor penguins are the tallest and largest of the penguin species. They grow up to 122 cm tall and weigh more than 40 kg.



- 14 Why was the penguin's visit a special event?
A The penguin travelled further than any other.
B Emperor penguins don't come there very often.
C It was the first time an emperor penguin came there.
- 15 The woman who saw the penguin was
A swimming in the sea.
B taking her pet for a walk.
C playing with her child on the sand.
- 16 Experts think the penguin
A wanted to leave its home.
B came from an area close to New Zealand.
C got lost while looking for food.
- 17 Visitors to the beach are asked to
A play with the penguin.
B leave their dogs at home.
C keep away from the penguin.
- 18 Emperor penguins
A stop growing after 10 months.
B are bigger than other types of penguins.
C don't grow taller than 80 cm.

PART 4

Questions 19 – 24

For each question, choose the correct answer.

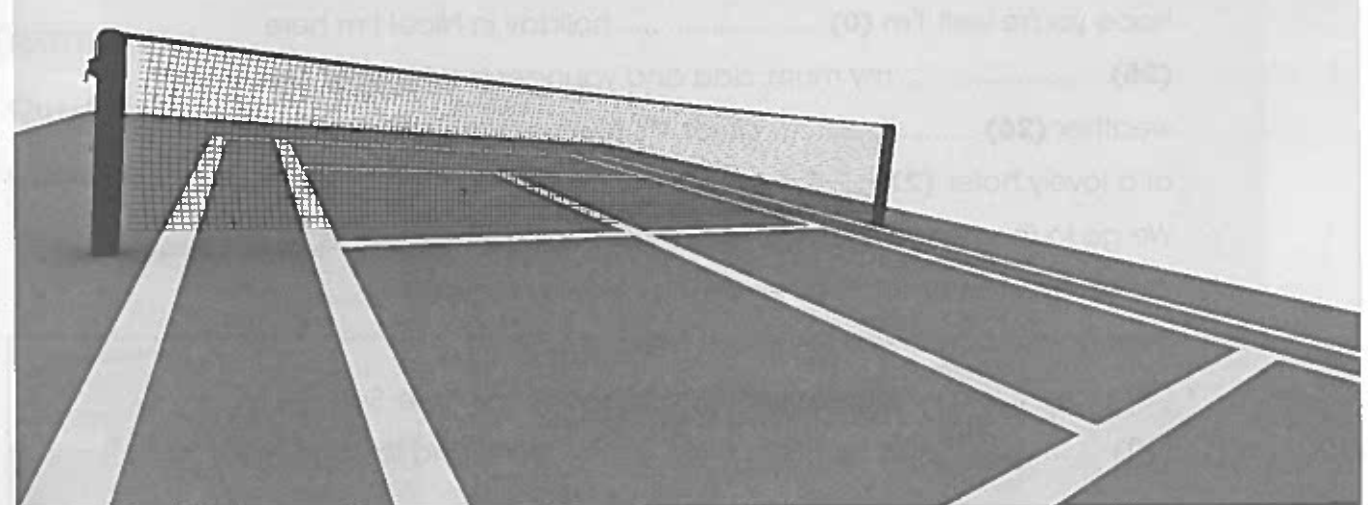
A famous tennis competition

For tennis players, the most (19) competition of the year is Wimbledon, played in London, England. It's the oldest tennis competition in the world, going back to 1877. A big (20) between Wimbledon and most other competitions is that it is played on grass. Some players find this difficult because the ball doesn't bounce very (21)

Players need to follow some special rules at Wimbledon. For example, all the players must wear

white, and if the Queen is in the (22), the players should bow to her!

Every year, some lucky English teenagers are ball boys and girls in the competition. It's their job to (23) the balls between points and give the players their towels and water. Tennis fans love visiting Wimbledon, too. They can see excellent tennis matches and eat strawberries and cream – it's the famous (24) at Wimbledon!



- | | | |
|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| 19 A friendly | B important | C interested |
| 20 A change | B break | C difference |
| 21 A full | B high | C wide |
| 22 A people | B crowd | C group |
| 23 A pass | B bring | C collect |
| 24 A dish | B dessert | C meal |