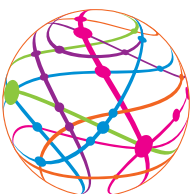




# Key English Test for Schools

## *Information for Candidates*



# Information for candidates – KET for Schools

## Why take the Key English Test (KET) for Schools?

Success in the Key English Test (KET) for Schools shows that you have a basic understanding of everyday English.

The content and topics in the test are targeted at the interests and experiences of school children.

You are tested in reading, writing, listening and speaking.

### ■ International recognition

KET for Schools is at Level A2 of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR).

Level A2 shows that the learner can, for example:

- understand simple questions and instructions
- express simple opinions or needs
- complete forms and write short, simple letters related to personal information.

KET is recognised as a qualification in basic English by organisations and educational institutions across the world.

You can find a full list at: [www.CambridgeESOL.org/recognition](http://www.CambridgeESOL.org/recognition)

### ■ Certificates

Learners who pass KET for Schools receive a certificate showing they have passed the Key English Test at Level A2.

Learners who show ability at the level below A2 are awarded a certificate showing they have achieved Level A1 of the CEFR.

For more information about KET for Schools, please visit:

[www.CambridgeESOL.org/KETforSchools](http://www.CambridgeESOL.org/KETforSchools)

## Why take a Cambridge ESOL test?

Cambridge ESOL is a part of Cambridge Assessment, which has over 150 years' experience in educational assessment.

We are committed to providing internationally recognised qualifications that help you to achieve your life goals.

For more information about Cambridge ESOL, please visit: [www.CambridgeESOL.org](http://www.CambridgeESOL.org)

# What does KET for Schools involve?

This booklet is a brief introduction to KET for Schools. We show examples from each part of the test, but in some cases we do not show the full text or all the questions. If you would like to see a full sample paper for KET for Schools, you can download one from our website at: [www.candidates.CambridgeESOL.org/cs/](http://www.candidates.CambridgeESOL.org/cs/)

The table below shows the different parts of KET for Schools and how long each paper takes. In KET for Schools, Reading and Writing are combined on one question paper.

<i>Name of paper</i>	<i>Content</i>	<i>Time allowed</i>	<i>Marks (% of total)</i>
Paper 1 Reading and Writing	9 parts / 56 questions Reading: Parts 1–5 Writing: Parts 6–9	1 hour 10 minutes	50%
Paper 2 Listening	5 parts / 25 questions	30 minutes (including 8 minutes' transfer time)	25%
Paper 3 Speaking	2 parts	8–10 minutes per pair of candidates (2:2 format*)	25%

\* 2 examiners, 2 candidates (2:3 format is used for the last group in a session where necessary)

## ■ Paper 1 Reading and Writing

Time: 1 hour 10 minutes

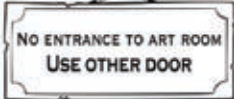

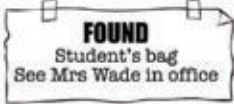
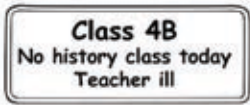
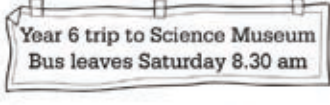

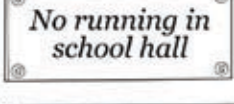
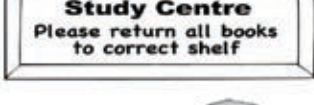
Paper 1 Reading and Writing consists of nine parts and 56 questions. It is worth 50% of the total marks for the exam.

### Reading

#### Part 1 (Questions 1–5)

In this part you have to understand the main message of a sign, notice or other very short text. These texts are usually the kind of text you can find on roads, in railway stations, shops, cafés, schools, etc. There are also five sentences and you have to match each sentence to one of the texts.

In the example on the next page you have eight signs (labelled A–H) and five sentences which explain what the signs mean. You have to match each sentence to the right sign.

<p><b>1</b> You should put things back in the right place.</p> <p><b>2</b> Go here if you have lost something.</p> <p><b>3</b> You must walk in this place.</p> <p><b>4</b> These students do not have a lesson.</p> <p><b>5</b> You cannot go in through here.</p>	<p><b>A</b> </p> <p><b>B</b> </p> <p><b>C</b> </p> <p><b>D</b> </p> <p><b>E</b> </p> <p><b>F</b> </p> <p><b>G</b> </p> <p><b>H</b> </p>
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*Part 2 (Questions 6–10)*

This part is a test of vocabulary. You have five sentences and there is a missing word in each one. There are three possible answers and you have to choose the best word to fill each gap.

The examples below are sentences about an internet café. Read the sentences and decide which answer (A, B or C) is the correct one. In the test, there are two more questions like the ones below.

<p><b>6</b> The internet café quickly became ..... with Ivan and his friends.</p> <p><b>7</b> It only ..... Ivan five minutes to get to the café.</p> <p><b>8</b> Ivan often ..... his friends there after school.</p>	<p><b>A</b> favourite    <b>B</b> popular    <b>C</b> excellent</p> <p><b>A</b> takes        <b>B</b> has        <b>C</b> gets</p> <p><b>A</b> waits        <b>B</b> meets    <b>C</b> goes</p>
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### Part 3 (Questions 11–15 and 16–20)

In this part we test how well you understand and can use the language you need for everyday life. The first five questions are short conversations. The question is what the first person says and you then have three possible responses. To find the right answer, you have to think what the second person usually says in this situation.

In the example below, there are three typical questions (11–13). For each question, you have to choose the correct answer (A, B or C). In the test, there are two more questions like this.

<b>11</b> Why didn't you come to the pool yesterday?	<b>A</b> I didn't see them there.
	<b>B</b> It was a great time.
	<b>C</b> I was doing something else.
<b>12</b> I have to go home now.	<b>A</b> Have you been before?
	<b>B</b> It's still quite early.
	<b>C</b> How long was it for?
<b>13</b> Whose phone is that?	<b>A</b> It's not there.
	<b>B</b> Wasn't it?
	<b>C</b> I'm not sure.

The second five questions are part of a longer conversation which has missing sentences. The conversation may take place in a shop, a school, a café, etc. or in various social or study situations.

In the conversation below, Josh is talking to Matt, and you have to decide what Josh says in each case (16–18). You have a list of eight possible sentences (A–H) which you can use to complete the conversation. You have to choose one sentence for each space, so you don't need all of the sentences.


<i>Matt:</i> Oh, sorry. I'm phoning about the skateboarding competition this afternoon.	<b>A</b> I'd like a new one but I don't think I'm good enough to win.
<i>Josh:</i> <b>16</b> .....	<b>B</b> I didn't see it. Is the competition on all afternoon?
<i>Matt:</i> Really? There was some information about it in our club magazine.	<b>C</b> Hi. You're calling early!
<i>Josh:</i> <b>17</b> .....	<b>D</b> Do the winners get CDs like last year?
<i>Matt:</i> Just from 2.30 till 5 pm. They give out the prizes at 6 pm.	<b>E</b> I wasn't very good then.
<i>Josh:</i> <b>18</b> .....	<b>F</b> I didn't know that was today.
<i>Matt:</i> The prizes are better this time. The top prize is a skateboard.	<b>G</b> I haven't got one of those.
	<b>H</b> Maybe, we'll see. Shall we meet in the park at 2.00?

#### Part 4 (Questions 21–27)

This part consists of a longer text (about 230 words) and seven questions. These may be multiple-choice questions with three possible answers (A, B or C) or you may have seven statements and you have to decide if each statement is A – Right, B – Wrong or C – Doesn't say.

In the example below, you have to read the article about a young swimmer from Australia. For each of the statements (21–23), you have to decide if it is Right (A), Wrong (B) or if you can't find the information in the text, you should choose C (Doesn't say). In the test, there are four more questions like these.

### Ana Johnson



Ana Johnson is a 13-year-old swimmer who lives in Melbourne in Australia. Her dream is to swim for Australia in the next Olympics. She swims in both long and short races and she has already come first in many important competitions.

As well as spending many hours in the pool, Ana also makes time for studying and for friends. 'I have lots of friends who swim and we're very close. It's much easier to have friends who are swimmers because they also have to get up early to practise like me and they understand this kind of life.'

**21** Ana hopes she will become an Olympic swimmer.  
A Right    B Wrong    C Doesn't say

**22** Ana knows that she is better at short races than long ones.  
A Right    B Wrong    C Doesn't say

**23** Ana has won a lot of swimming competitions.  
A Right    B Wrong    C Doesn't say

#### Part 5 (Questions 28–35)

In this part you have to show that you understand and can use English grammar correctly. There is a text for you to read, but some of the words are missing. These can be verb forms, prepositions, conjunctions, pronouns, etc. For each missing word, there are three possible answers and you have to choose the right one.

The example on the next page is an article about a circus with three sets of answers (28–30). You have to choose the best word (A, B or C) for each space. In the test, there are five more sets of answers like these.

### A famous circus



The circus, Cirque du Soleil, began (0) *in* Montreal, Canada. It was started (28) ..... the Canadian Guy Laliberté in 1984. When he left college, Laliberté travelled around Europe and earned money (29) ..... music in the streets. Not long after he returned home, he started Cirque with (30) ..... friend, Daniel Gauthier.

28 A from B by C of

29 A played B plays C playing

30 A their B his C its

### Part 6 (Questions 36–40)

The focus of Parts 6–9 of Paper 1 is on writing.

This part is about vocabulary. You have to find the right word for something and spell it correctly. All five words will be from the same topic, for example, hobbies, food, things you can find in a house, etc. For each word you have to find, there is a definition in simple English and we give you the first letter of the word to help you.

In the example below, there are some descriptions of things people like to do in their free time and you have to find the correct word being described. After each sentence, we give you the first letter of each word you have to find. We also show you how long the word is by giving you a dash (–) for each of the remaining letters in the word. In the test there are two more questions like the ones below.

36 People who like watching football often go to this place. s \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

37 If you enjoy taking photographs, you will need this. c \_ \_ \_ \_

38 People who like swimming in the sea often go here. b \_ \_ \_ \_

### Part 7 (Questions 41–50)

This part tests grammar and vocabulary. You have to read a short text which may be a note, and a reply to that note. It may also be a single letter. In the test there are some missing words and you have to find the right word to fill each space. You must spell the words correctly.

In the example on the next page, a girl from Mexico City has left a message on the internet. Read the message and try to find the missing words for the spaces (41–50).

My name **(0)** ..... Elisa Valdez. I'm twelve and I live in Mexico City. I **(41)** ..... two brothers, Emilio and Miguel. Both of **(42)** ..... are a few years older **(43)** ..... me. My sister, Maria, is **(44)** ..... youngest in my family and it was her tenth birthday **(45)** ..... week.

I love spending time **(46)** ..... my friends. We often **(47)** ..... shopping or play volleyball together. I really enjoy dancing too. I joined a dance school five years **(48)** ..... and I go there twice **(49)** ..... week to practise. I've learned a **(50)** ..... of interesting things about my country's music and dancing.

Part 8 (Questions 51–55)

In this part we test reading and writing. You have to read one or two short texts (note, email, advertisement, etc.) and use the information to fill in a form, diary entry or other similar document.

The example below is about an ice-skating party. You have to read the invitation from Sara and the email from Carla. Then you have to complete Louisa's notes (questions 51–55).

**Come to an ice-skating party**  
on Saturday  
at  
Park Ice Rink  
*Starts at 1.30 p.m.*

You won't need any money  
but bring a warm sweater.

Let me know if you can come  
by Thursday.

Sara

<b>From:</b>	Carla
<b>To:</b>	Louisa

Shall we go to Sara's ice-skating party together? My dad will take us in the car but we'll need to come back by bus. We'll drive to yours and get you at 12.30. Ring me this afternoon on my mobile (07816 212185) or after 6 p.m. at home (366387) to let me know.

**Louisa's Notes**  
*Ice-skating party*

Person having party: Sara

Day: **51**

Time: **52**  p.m.

Take: **53**

Travel there by: **54**

Carla's evening phone number: **55**



Part 9 (Question 56)

For the last part of Paper 1 you have to write a short message (25–35 words). This could be a note or an email to a friend. The instructions tell you who you are writing to and what type of message to write.

In the example below you have to write a note to a friend about visiting their house. Remember to respond to all of Alex's questions.

Read the email from your English friend, Alex.

<b>From:</b>	Alex
<b>To:</b>	

It's great you can come to my house this evening to watch a DVD. What time can you come? Which DVD do you want to watch? What would you like to eat?

Write an email to Alex and answer the questions.  
Write **25 – 35** words.  
Write the email on your answer sheet.

## ■ Paper 2 Listening

Time: approx. 30 minutes including 8 minutes' transfer time

In the Listening paper there are five parts and 25 questions. The types of exercises you will have to do are: multiple choice, gap-filling and matching. The texts you will hear are monologues and dialogues, including interviews, discussions, telephone conversations and messages. You will hear each conversation twice. The Listening paper is worth 25% of the total marks.

### Part 1 (Questions 1–5)

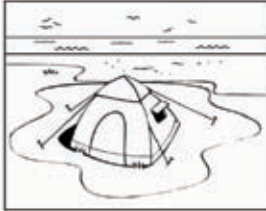


In this part you will hear five separate short conversations. The conversations are either between friends or relatives, or between a member of the public and a shop assistant, etc. You have to listen for information like prices, numbers, times, dates, locations, directions, shapes, sizes, weather, descriptions of people and current actions. For each question there are three possible answers which are pictures or drawings.

Below you can see two questions from a test paper. You have to read the question, listen to the recording and choose the right answer (A, B or C). In the test, there are three more questions like the ones below.

**1** How many children went on the school trip?

<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>

**2** Which campsite did Josh stay at last year?

		
<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>

### Part 2 (Questions 6–10)

In this part you will hear a longer conversation and you have to identify simple factual information. The conversation is between two people who are talking about things such as daily life, school or free time. You have to listen to the conversation and match the words on two lists to each other. For example, you may have a list of names and a list of food. When you listen to the recording you will hear what food each person likes to eat.

In the example on the next page, Nick is talking to a friend about his birthday presents. You have to listen to the recording and write down which present each person gave him. There is a list of people (6–10) and a list of different presents (A–H). You have to write the correct letter next to each person. You have to choose one present for each person so you won't need to use all the presents.

**Example:**

**0** Cousin

<b>PEOPLE</b>		<b>PRESENTS</b>	
<b>6</b>	Mum	<input type="text"/>	<b>A</b> bike
<b>7</b>	Brother	<input type="text"/>	<b>B</b> book
<b>8</b>	Aunt	<input type="text"/>	<b>C</b> cinema tickets
<b>9</b>	Uncle	<input type="text"/>	<b>D</b> clothes
<b>10</b>	Grandmother	<input type="text"/>	<b>E</b> computer game
			<b>F</b> mobile phone
			<b>G</b> money
			<b>H</b> music CD

*Part 3 (Questions 11–15)*

In this part of the Listening test you will hear an informal conversation between two people. You have to listen to factual information to answer the questions. There are five questions and each question has three possible answers.

In the example below, Susie is talking to Matt about going to the cinema. You have to listen to the recording and choose the correct answer (A, B or C) for each question (11–13). In the test, there are two more questions like the ones below.

- 11** Which film will they see?
- A** Sunny Day
  - B** Field of Green
  - C** Heart of Gold
- 12** They are going to the cinema
- A** by the market.
  - B** in the shopping centre.
  - C** opposite the park.
- 13** How will they get there?
- A** by car
  - B** on foot
  - C** by bus

#### Part 4 (Questions 16–20)

In this part of the Listening test, you have to listen to a dialogue and write down some information. The dialogue takes place in an informal or neutral context, for example a shop or a classroom. After you listen to the recording, you have to complete a message or note on the question paper with the information you have heard. This may be numbers, dates, prices, spellings and words.

In the example below, the recording is of a girl asking a friend about guitar lessons. You have to write down the missing information for questions 16–20. For each question, you have to write one or two words or numbers.

<u>Guitar lessons</u>	
Day:	Saturday
Teacher's name:	(16) .....
Price per hour:	(17) £ .....
Place of lesson:	34 Purley Lane, near the (18) .....
Teacher's phone number:	(19) .....
Must call before:	(20) ..... p.m.

#### Part 5 (Questions 21–25)

Part 5 is similar to Part 4 but it is a monologue. It may be a recorded message.

In the example on the next page, you hear some recorded information about a new TV quiz show. You have to fill in the missing information for questions 21–25. You have to write one or two words or numbers in each space.

## New quiz show

Name:	Answer That!
Day:	(21) .....
Number of teams:	(22) .....
Questions will be about:	Films, TV and (23) .....
This week's prize:	(24) .....
To be on the show, phone:	(25) .....

At the end of the paper-based version of the Listening test, you have 8 minutes to transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

## ■ Paper 3 Speaking

Time: 8–10 minutes per pair of candidates

For the Speaking test there are two oral examiners and you take the test in a pair with another candidate. At centres with an uneven number of candidates, the last single candidate is examined with the last pair in a group of three. The Speaking test is worth 25% of the total marks.



### Part 1

The first part of the test takes 5 to 6 minutes and you have to show that you can use the English you need when you meet someone for the first time. One of the examiners will talk to you and you will have to give personal information (for example, your name and where you come from) and talk about your daily life, interests, likes, etc.

### Part 2

This part takes 3 to 4 minutes and you have to talk to the other candidate. The examiner will give you a prompt card like the one below and you have to ask and answer questions.

In the example below, Candidate A has some information about a skateboarding competition and Candidate B has a card with some question prompts. Candidate B has to use the prompts and ask some questions about the competition. After 4 or 5 questions, the examiner will stop your conversation and give out two new prompt cards with different information. This time Candidate A has to ask questions and Candidate B has to answer.

Candidate A – your answers	Candidate B – your questions
<p><b>Skateboarding Competition</b> for anyone 11 – 15 years old</p> <p>at <b>Green Park</b> 20 June</p>  <p><b>1<sup>st</sup> prize</b> New Skateboard visit <a href="http://www.citynews.com">www.citynews.com</a> for more information</p>	<p><b>Skateboarding Competition</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>♦ where ?</li><li>♦ for children ?</li><li>♦ date ?</li><li>♦ website ?</li><li>♦ what / win ?</li></ul>

## Preparing for KET for Schools

If you would like more practice material to help you prepare for KET for Schools, there are past paper packs available to buy which include an audio CD of the Listening test. You can find more information, prices and details on our website at:

**[www.CambridgeESOL.org/resources/past-papers.html](http://www.CambridgeESOL.org/resources/past-papers.html)**

## Next steps

We wish you every success in taking KET for Schools and we hope that you will take other Cambridge ESOL tests in the future. The Preliminary English Test (PET) for Schools is the next level of Cambridge tests. You can find more information about PET for Schools on our website at:

**[www.CambridgeESOL.org/PETforSchools](http://www.CambridgeESOL.org/PETforSchools)**

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