

OPEN BADGE: LEVEL B2

TO PASS THE EXAM, YOU MUST GET 60% OVERALL (72/120) AND A MINIMUM OF 15 IN EACH INDIVIDUAL TEST.

LISTENING (30 marks)

- PART 1: This is a conversation between two speakers on an everyday, social topic. This means that you listen to two people talking to each other about arranging a trip, organising an event, etc. The focus is on listening for specific factual information.
- PART 2: This is a talk by one speaker on a general topic. This means that you listen to one person giving information about a public event, a service provided, etc. The focus is on listening for specific factual information.
- PART 3: This is a lecture or talk by one speaker on an academic or study-related topic. This means that you listen to a person giving a lecture, a talk, etc. The focus is on listening for main ideas, specific factual information, attitude and speakers' opinions.

READING (30 marks)

The Reading component of the B2 Open Badge includes two reading passages with 30 questions. The questions will test your ability to understand main ideas and detailed factual information, ability to understand the opinions and attitudes of the author, and the ability to follow the development of ideas. The topics of the readings are of general interest to university students. You will have 40 minutes to complete the Task.

WRITING (30 marks):

The Writing Task requires you to write at least 250 words. You will be presented with a topic and will be tested on your ability to respond by giving and justifying an opinion, discussing the topic, summarizing details, outlining problems, identifying possible solutions and supporting what you write with reasons, arguments and relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience. You will have 40 minutes to complete the Task. If you write fewer than 250 words, you will be penalized.

SPEAKING (30 marks):

The examiner will give you a topic and will ask you to talk about it for one to two minutes. The topic will be handed to you on a card and you will also be given a piece of paper and a pencil for making notes. On the card, you will see the speaking prompt and some points you can cover in your talk relating to this.

Example prompts:

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| 1. Describe a memorable holiday or vacation you had. | 8. Discuss a challenging experience you faced and how you dealt with it. |
| 2. Talk about a historical place you visited. | 9. Describe a cultural tradition or festival celebrated in your country. |
| 3. Describe a person who has had a significant influence on your life. | 10. Discuss a recent technological advance that interests you. |
| 4. Discuss a book or movie that made a strong impression. | 11. Talk about a skill you would like to learn in the future. |
| 5. Describe a recent event or celebration you attended. | 12. Discuss a recent change in your life and its impact on you. |
| 6. Talk about a hobby/activity you enjoy doing. | |
| 7. Describe a place you would like to visit in the future. | |

You will have exactly one minute to prepare and make notes before you speak. The examiner will use a timer and will tell you when your time is up. This part of the test assesses your ability to speak at length on a particular topic, using appropriate language and organising your ideas in a logical way. You can use your own experience on the topic to help complete the long turn.