



## THE PET EXAM

\* The PET exam consists of three components, reading & writing, listening and speaking.

\* Here is the structure of the PET exam:

Paper	Part	Task type and format	Task focus	Number of questions
<b>Reading &amp; Writing</b> 1 hr 10 mins.	<b>READING</b>			
	1	Three-option multiple choice. Five short discrete texts: signs and messages, postcards, notes, e-mails, labels etc.	Reading real-world notices and other short texts for the main message.	5
	2	Five items in the form of descriptions of people to match to eight short adapted-authentic texts.	Reading multiple texts for specific information and detailed comprehension.	5
	3	True/False. Ten items with an adapted-authentic long text.	Processing a factual text. Scanning for specific information while disregarding redundant material.	10
	4	Four-option multiple choice.  Five items with an adapted-authentic long text.	Reading for detailed comprehension; understanding attitude, opinion and writer purpose. Reading for gist, inference and global meaning.	5
	5	Four-option multiple-choice cloze. Ten items with an adapted-authentic text drawn from a variety of sources. The text is of a factual or narrative nature.	Understanding of vocabulary and grammar in a short text, and understanding the lexicographical patterns in the text.	10
	<b>WRITING</b>			
	1	Sentence transformations. Five items, plus an integrated example, that are theme-related. Candidates are given sentences and then asked to complete similar sentences using a different structural pattern so that the sentence still has the same meaning.	Control and understanding of Threshold/PET grammatical structures. Rephrasing and reformulating information.	5
	2	Short communicative message. Candidates are prompted to write a short message in the form of a postcard, note, e-mail etc. The prompt takes the form of a rubric to respond to.	A short piece of writing of 35-45 words focusing on communication of specific messages.	1
	3	A longer piece of continuous writing. Candidates are presented with a choice of two questions, an informal letter or a story. Candidates are primarily assessed on their ability to use and control a range of Threshold-level language. Coherent organisation, spelling and punctuation are also assessed.	Writing about 100 words focusing on control and range of language.	1
<b>Listening</b> 35 mins.	1	Short neutral or informal monologues or dialogues. 7 discrete three-option multiple-choice items with visuals.	Listening to identify key information from short exchanges.	7
	2	Longer monologue or interview (with one main speaker). Six three-option multiple-choice items.	Listening to identify specific information and detailed meaning.	6
	3	Longer monologue. Six gaps to fill in. Candidates need to write one or more words in each space.	Listening to identify, understand and interpret information.	6
	4	Longer informal dialogue. True/False. Candidates need to decide whether six statements are correct or incorrect.	Listening for detailed meaning, and to identify the attitudes and opinions of the speakers.	6
<b>Speaking</b> 8-10 mins.	1	Each candidate interacts with the interlocutor. The interlocutor asks the candidates questions in turn, using standardised questions.		2-3 minutes
	2	Simulated situation. Candidates interact with each other. Visual stimulus is given to the candidates to aid the discussion task. The interlocutor sets up the activity using a standardised rubric.		2-3 minutes
	3	Extended turn. A colour photograph is given to each candidate in turn and they are asked to talk about it for up to a minute. Both photographs relate to the same topic.		3 minutes
	4	General conversation. Candidates interact with each other. The topic of the conversation develops in the theme established in Part 3. The interlocutor sets up the activity using a standardised rubric.		3 minutes