

National curriculum tests

# Key stage 2

## English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 1: questions

First name						
Middle name						
Last name						
Date of birth	Day		Month		Year	
School name						

# SAMPLE BOOKLET

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This sample test indicates how the national curriculum will be assessed from 2016.  
Further information is available on GOV.UK at [www.gov.uk/sta](http://www.gov.uk/sta).



PUPIL ID NUMBER



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## Instructions

### Questions and answers

You have 45 minutes to complete this test. There are different types of question for you to answer in different ways. The space for your answer shows you what type of answer is needed. Write your answer in the space provided. Do not write over any barcodes.

### Multiple-choice answers

For some questions, you do not need to do any writing. Read the instructions carefully so that you know how to answer each question.

### Short answers

Some questions are followed by a line or a box. This shows that you need to write a word, a few words or a sentence.

### Marks

The number under each line at the side of the page tells you the maximum number of marks for each question.

You should work through the booklet until you are asked to stop.

Work as quickly and as carefully as you can. If you finish before the end, go back and check your work.

**You have 45 minutes to answer the questions in this booklet.**



1

Tick the sentence that must end with a **question mark**.

Tick **one**.

What I wanted had already sold out

Ask Ryan what he thinks about it

What time will the film start

I didn't know what to say

1 mark

2

Which **pair of verbs** correctly completes the sentence below?

Pluto \_\_\_\_\_ now called a dwarf planet, but once it \_\_\_\_\_ classified as a planet.

Tick **one**.

was      is

was      was

is      is

is      was

1 mark



3

Draw a line to match each **prefix** to the correct word so that it makes a new word.

Prefix	Word
re	mature
de	understood
mis	legible
im	frost
il	do

1 mark

4

Which sentence has been punctuated correctly?

Tick **one**.

Immediately after, dinner we did the washing up.

Immediately after dinner we did, the washing up.

Immediately after dinner, we did the washing up.

Immediately, after dinner we did the washing up.

1 mark



5

Which sentence below is written in the **past tense**?

Tick **one**.

That is the oldest house in our village.

The original part of the house dates from 1760.

The roof was replaced in 1970.

The owners plan to open the house to the public.

1 mark

6

Circle one verb in each underlined pair to complete the sentences using **Standard English**.

We was / were planning to hold a cake sale at school.

I was / were chosen to design the posters.

1 mark



7

Write the **contracted form** of the underlined words in the box.

That decision does not seem fair.



1 mark

8

Tick the sentence that must end with a **question mark**.

Tick **one**.

Next week, I'll ask about joining the library

Please ask the librarian if you need any help

I asked for a joke book, but there were none

This is the book you asked for, isn't it

1 mark



9

Which sentence uses an **apostrophe** correctly?

Tick **one**.

The children's clothes were hanging up.

The childrens' clothes were hanging up.

The childrens clothe's were hanging up.

The childrens clothes' were hanging up.

1 mark

10

What does the word Others refer to in the passage below?

Some plants, such as sunflowers, die in winter. Others, such as daffodils, survive as bulbs underground.

Tick **one**.

plants

sunflowers

daffodils

bulbs

1 mark





11

Circle all the **pronouns** in the sentence below.

They bought new jumpers for themselves and a warm scarf  
for Dad.

\_\_\_\_\_   
1 mark

12

Complete the sentence with an **adjective** formed from the verb create.

The artist was very \_\_\_\_\_ and produced many  
original works.

\_\_\_\_\_   
1 mark



13

Tick one box to show which part of the sentence is a **relative clause**.

The table which is made of oak is now black with age.



1 mark

14

Tick the option that shows how the underlined words are used in the sentence.

My baby brother was born in the hospital where my father works.

Tick **one**.

as a preposition phrase

as a relative clause

as a main clause

as a noun phrase

1 mark



15

Tick one box in each row to show how the **modal verb** affects the **meaning** of the sentence.

Sentence	Modal verb indicates <b>certainty</b>	Modal verb indicates <b>possibility</b>
It will be very cold tomorrow.		
John might have missed the train.		
Ann can speak six languages.		
You could finish your work by the end of the lesson.		

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 mark

16

What is the name of the **punctuation mark** used between the two main clauses below?

My sister loves team sports; my brother, on the other hand, prefers individual sports – such as athletics.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 mark



17

Tick one box in each row to show if the underlined clause is a **main clause** or a **subordinate clause**.

Sentence	Main clause	Subordinate clause
Billie, <u>who was nine years old</u> , loved to play tennis.		
Billie's mum bought her a tennis racket <u>so that she could play more often</u> .		
<u>Billie could not play tennis with her friend Lana</u> because Lana did not have a racket.		

1 mark

18

Circle all the **conjunctions** in the sentences below.

Once Harry had checked the weather forecast, he set off on his walk.

Whilst climbing up the mountain, he was unaware of the dangers ahead.

He needed to turn back immediately since a storm was coming.

1 mark



19

Circle the two words in the sentence below that are **synonyms** of each other.

He was lucky to win first prize – he knew it was fortunate that his closest rival had decided not to take part.

\_\_\_\_\_   
 1 mark

20

Tick **all** the sentences that contain a **preposition**.

Ali locked the door before he left.

The shops are beyond the main road.

My brother is behind me in the race.

Barry is below Andrew in the register.

\_\_\_\_\_   
 1 mark



21

Write a sentence using the word cover as a **noun**.  
Remember to punctuate your answer correctly.

---

1 mark

Write a sentence using the word cover as a **verb**.  
Remember to punctuate your answer correctly.

---

1 mark

22

What does the root struct mean in the word family below?

**destruction    structure    reconstruct**

Tick **one**.

break

build

carry

touch

1 mark



23

Draw a line to match each word to its correct **antonym**.

Word	Antonym
meandering	confront
sympathetic	unfeeling
evade	unbelievable
plausible	straight

1 mark

24

Rewrite the sentence below, adding a **subordinate clause**.  
Remember to punctuate your answer correctly.

The children played on the swings.

---

---

1 mark



25

Label the boxes with **V (verb)**, **S (subject)** and **O (object)** to show the parts of the sentence.

Nadia ate strawberries.

↑      ↑      ↑  
□    □    □

1 mark

26

Circle all the words in the sentences below that should start with a **capital letter**.

henry tudor married his first wife, catherine, in june 1509. they  
married in london.

1 mark





27

Which sentence is written in the **active voice**?

Tick **one**.

The book was returned to the library yesterday.

The assembly was held in the hall.

The bad weather led to the cancellation.

The floods were caused by the heavy rain.

1 mark

28

Which sentence is punctuated correctly?

Tick **one**.

The wind was blowing howling, actually, so we headed – for home.

The wind was blowing – howling, actually – so we headed for home.

The wind was blowing, howling – actually – so we headed for home.

The wind was blowing howling actually – so we headed for home.

1 mark



29

Tick one box to show where a **dash** should go in the sentence below.

African elephants are the largest animals in the world they can weigh up

to 10 tonnes.

1 mark

30

Tick to show which sentence uses the **past progressive**.

Tick **one**.

After Ali finished his homework, he went out to play.

Gemma was doing her science homework.

Jamie learnt his spellings every night.

Anna found her history homework difficult.

1 mark



31

Which of the sentences is a **command**?

Tick **one**.

After you wash the dog, you will need to dry it with a towel.

Before you go out, ask your mother for the shopping list.

I want you to clean out the playhouse this afternoon.

Here is a list of jobs you must finish before lunchtime.

1 mark

32

Rewrite the sentence below as **direct speech**.  
Remember to punctuate your answer correctly.

She asked if he wanted a banana.

She asked him, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

1 mark



33

Insert a pair of **brackets** in the correct place in the sentence below.

Lisa who had been playing the piano since she was nine had achieved Grade 7.

1 mark

34

Tick one box in each row to show whether the underlined word is an **adjective** or an **adverb**.

Sentence	Adjective	Adverb
It is a <u>direct</u> flight to Spain.		
I hate arriving <u>late</u> .		
The door opened <u>wide</u> .		
That is the <u>wrong</u> spelling.		

1 mark



35

Explain how the use of **commas** changes the meaning in the two sentences.

Mangoes, which are grown in hot countries, taste delicious.

Mangoes which are grown in hot countries taste delicious.

---

---

---

1 mark

36

Which sentence uses the **hyphen** correctly?

Tick **one**.

There are thirty seven year-olds in Class 2.

There are thirty seven-year-olds in Class 2.

There are thirty-seven year olds in Class 2.

There are thirty-seven-year-olds in Class 2.

1 mark



37

Rewrite the sentence below so that it is written in the **passive voice**. Remember to punctuate your answer correctly.

The pouring rain drenched us.

---

1 mark

38

Tick one box in each row to show whether the word after is used as a **subordinating conjunction** or as a **preposition**.

Sentence	<u>after</u> used as a subordinating conjunction	<u>after</u> used as a preposition
He moved here <u>after</u> the end of the war.		
Entry is free <u>after</u> 5pm in the evening.		
I went to the cinema <u>after</u> I had eaten my dinner.		

1 mark



39

Complete the table below by adding a **suffix** to each noun to make an **adjective**.

Noun	Adjective
care	
nature	
mess	
danger	
beauty	

---

 1 mark

40

Tick one box in each row to show if the underlined conjunction is a **subordinating conjunction** or a **co-ordinating conjunction**.

Sentence	Subordinating conjunction	Co-ordinating conjunction
I like ice-skating <u>and</u> roller-skating.		
Jamie likes roller-skating, <u>but</u> he has never tried ice-skating.		
Jamie will go ice-skating <u>if</u> I go with him.		

---

 1 mark


41

Complete the sentence below so that it uses the **subjunctive form**.

If I \_\_\_\_\_ to have one wish, it would be for good health.

\_\_\_\_\_   
 1 mark

42

Circle all the **determiners** in the sentence below.

Two apple trees screened the open windows on one side.

\_\_\_\_\_   
 1 mark

43

Underline the longest possible **noun phrase** in the sentence below.

That book about the Romans was interesting.

\_\_\_\_\_   
 1 mark





44

Underline the **verb form** that is in the **present perfect** in the passage below.

Rachel loves music and has wanted to learn how to play the piano for years. She was hoping for piano lessons, and was delighted when her parents gave her a keyboard for her birthday.

1 mark

45

Write a sentence that lists all the information given in the box below. Remember to punctuate your answer correctly.

**Milkshake ingredients**

bananas

semi-skimmed milk

honey

marshmallows (for decoration)

1 mark



46

Complete the sentence below with a **possessive pronoun**.

They are \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ **1 mark**

47

Circle the **adverb** in the sentence below.

“Soon,” he thought, “I’ll be able to see my family.”

\_\_\_\_\_ **1 mark**



48

Insert a **colon** in the correct place in the sentence below.

The school offered three clubs for its pupils art and craft,  
dance and chess.

1 mark

49

Which **punctuation mark** should be used in the place indicated by the arrow?

“Why did you do that?” he asked Harry was surprised by his  
classmate’s actions.



Tick **one**.

exclamation mark

full stop

question mark

comma

1 mark



Sample key stage 2 English grammar, punctuation and spelling test

Paper 1: questions

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