

Beginners Practice Tests Ideas

This is a summary of what students CAN DO at this level.

Listening and Speaking

Students CAN:

- **understand letters** of the English alphabet.
- **understand simple spoken instructions** given in short, simple phrases.
- **understand simple questions** about name, age, favourite things and routine.
- **understand simple descriptions** of everyday things (colour, size, location and how many there are).
- **understand short conversations** about familiar topics.
- **name people or things** (family, animals, school objects, home objects).
- **give basic descriptions** of objects or animals (colour, size, location and how many there are).
- **respond to very simple questions** (frequently with single words).

Reading and Writing

Students CAN:

- **read and understand simple sentences and questions.**
- **follow short stories** written in simple language.
- **write the letters** of the English alphabet.
- **write names.**
- **copy** words, phrases and short sentences.
- **spell** simple words.

Beginners Practice Tests Ideas

Listening

Part 1 Matching Draw lines to match names to people in a picture.

- Do plenty of practice with describing pictures.
- Make sure students know what names are male or female.
- Remind students about drawing straight lines rather than curvy ones.
- Remind students that they will need six names only – 1 for the example and 5 for the questions. They won't use them all.
- Before doing this task, ask students to read all the names and have them identify which are for boys and which are for girls.
- Assessment of ability to listen for names and descriptions.

Part 2 Note-taking Write numbers and names.

- Have students explain what the situation is – set the context.
- Explain that the answer for each question could be a name or a number.
- Show students how to identify in the question what information to listen for.
- Have plenty of practice with spelling - all the names will be spelt – pay special attention to letters like A, E, I, G, J, S, C, Z, etc.
- Explain that numbers can be written as digits.
- Assessment of ability to listen for names and numbers.

Part 3 Multiple choice Tick the correct box.

- Ask students to describe the three pictures for each question – have them identify how they are different.
- Explain that things about the three pictures will be mentioned, but only one picture shows the answer to the question.
- Assessment of ability to listen for specific information – different situations.

Part 4 Colouring Listen and locate objects, and colour correctly.

- Have students identify what the situation is.
- Have students make a list of all the items they can see.
- Make questions about location – Where is the dog?
- Students must find the things mentioned and colour them with the correct colour.
- Students must colour only the things mentioned – not colour anything else.
- Explain that colouring skills are not assessed.
- Assessment of ability to listen for words, colours and prepositions.

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Part 5 Answer questions

Write one-word answers.

- Do plenty of practice with describing pictures.
- Have students identify and explain what the situation is.
- Students must write one-word answers.
- Make sure students learn the correct spelling of all the words for this level.
- Show students how to identify *in the question* what information they have to write.
What are the kids doing? Cutting papers
- Make sure students understand *When* and *Where*.
- Assessment of ability to answer questions.
- Assessment of productive lexical knowledge.

Beginners Practice Tests Ideas

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What is this? sandwich

Do you like eating sandwiches? yes

What do you eat for lunch? fruit

3

What's this? sweater

Are you wearing a blue sweater today? yes

Is your sweater new or old? new

- “Notice that the three questions are related to the same picture, which means: You have 8 pictures, times 3, that equals 24 opportunities to get your students to speak.
- Assessment of understanding and answering to spoken questions.

Part 4 Interlocutor – candidate

Answer questions with short answers.

Personal questions

- Do plenty of practice with responding to personal questions like:
How old are you? I am seven years old.
What's your friend's name? His name is Carlos. or My friend's name is Carlos.
Is your house big or small? It is big. or My house is big.
Can you play basketball? No, I can't. or Yes, I can.
What's your favourite colour / animal / sport / food? My favourite colour is blue.
- Remind students about giving complete answers.
- Make sure students understand the questions and feel confident to respond.
- Assessment of understanding and responding to personal questions.