FIRST CERTIFICATE IN ENGLISH
for Schools
Writing

SAMPLE TEST 1

Time  1 hour 20 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Do not open this question paper until you are told to do so.

Write your name, centre number and candidate number on your answer sheet if they are not already there.

Read the instructions for each part of the paper carefully.

Answer the Part 1 question and one question from Part 2.

Write your answers on the answer sheet.

Write clearly in pen, not pencil. You may make alterations, but make sure your work is easy to read.

You must complete the answer sheet within the time limit.

At the end of the test, hand in both this question paper and your answer sheet.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Each question in this paper carries equal marks.
Writing • Part 1

You must answer this question. Write your answer in 140 – 190 words in an appropriate style on the separate answer sheet.

1 In your English class you have been talking about education. Now your English teacher has asked you to write an essay for homework. Write your essay using all the notes and giving reasons for your point of view.

Some parents teach their children at home rather than sending them to school. Is this a good or a bad thing for the children?

Notes
Write about:

1. having a parent as a teacher
2. making friends
3. ....................... (your own idea)

Writing • Part 2

Write an answer to one of the questions 2 – 5 in this part. Write your answer in 140 – 190 words in an appropriate style on the separate answer sheet. Put the question number in the box at the top of the answer sheet.

2 You have received a letter from your English-speaking pen friend.

Can you help me with a class project? I have to write about places which are special to people. Can you tell me about a place that is special to you? Where is it? What does it look like? It doesn't have to be a famous place. Just explain why it's important to you.

Write your letter.

3 You see this advert in an international fashion magazine:

Reviews Wanted

Teenage Clothes Shop

We are looking for reviews of a clothes shop for teenagers where you live. Your review should include information about what the shop looks like, the kind of clothes it sells and the shop assistants. Would you recommend this shop to other people your age?

The best reviews will be published in next month's magazine.

Write your review.

4 You have seen this announcement in a new English-language magazine for young people.

Stories wanted

We are looking for stories for our new English-language magazine for young people. Your story must begin with this sentence:

Tom got off the train and as the train left, he realised he was holding the wrong suitcase.

Your story must include:

• an address
• a surprise

Write your story.

5 Answer the following question based on the title below.

Macbeth by William Shakespeare

Your English class has had a discussion about the story of Macbeth. Now your teacher has given you this essay for homework:

Which character do you find most interesting in Macbeth and why?

Write your essay.
Writing • Part 1

You must answer this question. Write your answer in 140 – 190 words in an appropriate style on the separate answer sheet.

1 In your English class you have been talking about education. Now your English teacher has asked you to write an essay for homework.

Write your essay using all the notes and giving reasons for your point of view.

Some parents teach their children at home rather than sending them to school. Is this a good or a bad thing for the children?

Notes
Write about:

1. having a parent as a teacher
2. making friends
3. .................., (your own idea)

Writing • Part 2

Write an answer to one of the questions 2 – 5 in this part. Write your answer in 140 – 190 words in an appropriate style on the separate answer sheet. Put the question number in the box at the top of the answer sheet.

2 You have received a letter from your English-speaking pen friend.

Can you help me with a class project? I have to write about places which are special to people. Can you tell me about a place that is special to you? Where is it? What does it look like? It doesn’t have to be a famous place. Just explain why it’s important to you.

Write soon, Sam

Write your letter.

3 You see this advert in an international fashion magazine:

Reviews Wanted
Teenage Clothes Shop
We are looking for reviews of a clothes shop for teenagers where you live. Your review should include information about what the shop looks like, the kind of clothes it sells and the shop assistants. Would you recommend this shop to other people your age?
The best reviews will be published in next month’s magazine.

Write your review.

4 You have seen this announcement in a new English-language magazine for young people.

Stories wanted
We are looking for stories for our new English-language magazine for young people. Your story must begin with this sentence:
Tom got off the train and as the train left, he realised he was holding the wrong suitcase.
Your story must include:
• an address
• a surprise

Write your story.

5 Answer the following question based on the title below.

Macbeth by William Shakespeare
Your English class has had a discussion about the story of Macbeth. Now your teacher has given you this essay for homework:
Which character do you find most interesting in Macbeth and why?

Write your essay.