

2025 national curriculum tests

# Key stage 1

## English grammar, punctuation and spelling

Administering the modified large print (MLP)  
version of Paper 2: questions

Key stage 1 tests are designed to be taken at the end of the key stage 1 programme of study. It is suggested that schools administer the tests during **May**, to help inform the support that can be given to pupils ahead of their transition to key stage 2.

Schools may choose to administer the non-statutory key stage 1 tests under test conditions. To help maintain the integrity of the tests for those doing so, we ask that all schools treat all test materials as confidential until **June 2025**.

### Pack contents:

- Administration instructions for the MLP key stage 1 English grammar, punctuation and spelling test Paper 2: questions (overleaf)
- One copy of the MLP Paper 2: questions

**For test administration**

## Key stage 1 English grammar, punctuation and spelling test

The key stage 1 English grammar, punctuation and spelling test consists of 2 papers. The papers should be administered in order. Pupils do not have to sit both papers on the same day. If both papers are administered on the same day, pupils may benefit from a break between papers. Both papers can be administered to the whole class, smaller groups of pupils or on an individual basis.

### Paper 2: questions

The following information explains how to administer the modified large print (MLP) version of the key stage 1 English grammar, punctuation and spelling test Paper 2: questions. Modified test administration guidance is available at [www.gov.uk/sta](http://www.gov.uk/sta).

<b>Format</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Paper 2: questions consists of a single test paper.</li> <li>● It is expected that the standard version of the test will take approximately 20 minutes to complete, but it is not strictly timed. Pupils using MLP versions are automatically entitled to up to 100% additional time.</li> <li>● Changes have been made to the layout of some parts of the standard test paper to create the MLP version.</li> <li>● You <b>should not</b> refer to the standard test questions when administering this test.</li> <li>● It is at your discretion to choose when, or if, a pupil requires a break during the test or whether, if appropriate, to stop the test early.</li> <li>● The paper includes some practice questions for you to use to introduce the contexts and question types to pupils. Test administrators should allow additional time to go through the practice questions with pupils.</li> </ul>
<b>Equipment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Each pupil will need the equipment specified below:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a pencil or blue or black pen.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Rubbers are allowed, but please encourage pupils to cross out answers they wish to change instead of rubbing them out.</li> <li>● Pupils may use the following, if this is normal classroom practice:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- computers, technical or electronic vision aids, including low-vision aids such as closed-circuit television or OCR scanners</li> <li>- highlighter pens.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Pupils are <b>not</b> allowed:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a dictionary or thesaurus</li> <li>- electronic spell checkers</li> <li>- bilingual word lists or electronic translators.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<b>Assistance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You should ensure that nothing you say or do during the test could be interpreted as giving pupils an advantage, for example, indicating that an answer is correct or incorrect, or suggesting the pupil look at an answer again.</li> <li>You should not explain any subject-specific terminology. If any other word in a question is unfamiliar to pupils, you may explain it, or show them objects or pictures to help them understand.</li> <li>You should not give alternative explanations, for example, explain 'commands' as 'instructions' or name punctuation.</li> <li>The document <b>Notes for readers in the English grammar, punctuation and spelling test</b><sup>1</sup> gives examples of how to read particular types of question in Paper 2.</li> </ul> <p>The examples below illustrate how to deal with some common situations:</p> <p><b>Question:</b> I don't understand the question.  <b>Answer:</b> Read the question again and underline the key words that tell you what to do.</p> <p><b>Question:</b> What does 'adverb' mean?  <b>Answer:</b> I can't tell you, but think hard and try to remember. We can talk about it after the test.</p>
<b>Guidance for specific questions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure pupils are able to locate all answer spaces correctly.</li> <li>You may draw attention to any enlarged words, underlined words or words in bold.</li> </ul> <p><b>Practice question b, Q3 and Q6.</b> Pupils with visual impairment may have difficulty circling words precisely and test administrators should be sympathetic to this, checking the intended position with the pupil if unclear.</p> <p><b>Q3, Q5, Q8, Q9, Q10, Q12, Q13, Q15 and Q17.</b> Test administrators may draw attention to the underlined word(s) or part-word(s).</p> <p><b>Q10.</b> Test administrators may draw attention to the words or position indicated by the arrow.</p> <p><b>Q1, Q9, Q13 and Q17.</b> Test administrators may draw attention to the line(s) indicating missing word(s) or part-word(s).</p> <p><b>Q2, Q4, Q10, Q11 and Q14.</b> Pupils with visual impairment may have difficulty placing or forming punctuation precisely and test administrators should be sympathetic to this, checking the intended position or type of punctuation with the pupil if unclear.</p> <p><b>Q18.</b> Test administrators may point out the four words in the box.</p>
<b>Before the test begins</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the list of pupils with particular individual needs, for example, pupils who may need a rest break, a scribe, a reader or a transcript made at the end of the test.</li> <li>Ensure you know how to administer any access arrangements correctly by referring to the key stage 1 access arrangements guidance.</li> </ul>
<b>What to do at the start of the test</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check seating is appropriately spaced and that no pupil can see another pupil's test paper.</li> <li>Check pupils do not have mobile phones or other disruptive items.</li> <li>Check pupils do not have any materials or equipment that may give them extra help.</li> <li>Ensure each pupil who needs it has one MLP copy of Paper 2: questions.</li> </ul>

1. [www.gov.uk/government/publications/notes-for-readers-in-the-english-grammar-punctuation-and-spelling-test-short-answer-questions](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/notes-for-readers-in-the-english-grammar-punctuation-and-spelling-test-short-answer-questions)

## How to introduce the test

- It is important to brief pupils fully at the start of each test. Use these instructions to introduce Paper 2: questions.
- The wording of these instructions can be adapted, provided the meaning is retained.

*This is the English grammar, punctuation and spelling test  
Paper 2: questions.*

*The test will take around 40 minutes. This includes your additional time allowance.*

*You should have Paper 2: questions in front of you.*

*Write your name on the front of your test paper.*

*If you want to change an answer, you should put a line through it or rub out the answer you do not want to be marked.*

*Now turn to page 2.*

*There are 2 practice questions that we'll do together.*

- Read the sentence to the pupils.

*The punctuation mark is missing from the end of each of the sentences below.*

- Then read the question.

*Which sentence is a **command**?*

- Direct pupils towards the options and give them the opportunity to answer the question in their booklet. If any pupil is not sure what to do, explain what they need to do to answer the question.

- Read the sentence to the pupils.

*Circle the word in the sentence below that must have a **capital letter**.*

- Then read the sentence.

*my class is singing in assembly.*

- Give pupils the opportunity to answer the question in their booklet. If any pupil is not sure what to do, explain what they need to do to answer the question.

**This section continues on the next page.**

<b>How to introduce the test</b> (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Tell the pupils: <i>There will be other types of question. If you are unsure how to answer, you should put up your hand to ask.</i> <i>You need to work on your own. You need to think of your own answers and you should not talk about them with anyone else.</i> <i>Try to answer all of the questions. If you can't answer a question, move on to the next one and come back to it later if you have time.</i> <i>Read each question carefully so you know what it is asking.</i> <i>Remember to check your work carefully.</i> <i>If you have any questions during the test, you should put your hand up and wait for someone to come over. Remember that we can't help you answer any of the test questions.</i> <i>Do you have any questions?</i> <i>Turn to page 3 and start the test.</i> </li> </ul>
<b>What to do at the end of the test</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● If you need to make a transcript of a test script, complete it with the individual pupil at the end of the test under test conditions. Particular care should be taken to ensure accurate transcriptions are made and the pupil's answers, including spelling, are not corrected or amended.</li> </ul>
<b>Marking the test</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Use the key stage 1 test mark schemes to mark the test, following both the general guidance and any specific guidance for each question. There are no modified mark scheme amendments for this test paper.</li> <li>● Be sympathetic to the fact that the handwriting of pupils with visual impairment may be of inconsistent size and formation. They may also have difficulty circling or ticking answers. Award marks where there is a clear and unambiguous indication of the correct answer.</li> <li>● If pupils have missed any answer lines or spaces within the text, their answers may be elsewhere on the page. Any unambiguous indication of the correct answer should be credited, working within the parameters of the mark schemes.</li> </ul>

**[BLANK PAGE]**

This page is intentionally blank.

**[BLANK PAGE]**

This page is intentionally blank.



Standards  
& Testing  
Agency

Key stage 1 English grammar, punctuation and spelling

Administering the modified large print (MLP) version of Paper 2: questions

Print version product code: STA/25/8942/p ISBN: 978-1-83507-396-4

Electronic version product code: STA/25/8942/e ISBN: 978-1-83507-408-4

### **For more copies**

Additional copies of this modified large print test paper can be ordered by contacting the national curriculum assessments helpline on 0300 303 3013. It can be downloaded from [www.primaryassessmentgateway.education.gov.uk](http://www.primaryassessmentgateway.education.gov.uk) during May 2025, or afterwards from [www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum-assessments-past-test-materials](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum-assessments-past-test-materials).

© Crown copyright

The materials in this booklet are Crown copyright. You may re-use them (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium in accordance with the terms of the Open Government Licence v3.0, which can be found on the National Archives website and accessed via the following link: [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence).



If you have any queries regarding these test materials, please contact the national curriculum assessments helpline on 0300 303 3013 or email [assessments@education.gov.uk](mailto:assessments@education.gov.uk).