

2025 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						
DfE number						



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Please do not write on this page.



## Instructions

### Questions and answers

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 number of marks available 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.**



N 0 0 0 3 0 A 0 3 2 8

**1**

What does the **prefix** anti- mean in the word anticlockwise?

Tick **one**.

never

☐

opposite

☐

before

☐

without

☐

1 mark

**2**

Circle the word that is a **synonym** of the word bumpy.

uneven

sore

smooth

low

1 mark



3

Tick **one** box to show where a **question mark** is needed in the sentence below.

“ Have you finished eating your lunch ” asked Hannah

↑  
☐

↑  
☐

↑  
☐

↑  
☐

1 mark

4

Tick one box in each row to show whether the sentence is a **statement** or a **command**.

Sentence	Statement	Command
Watch where you’re going.		
We watched the game together.		
My watch stopped working.		
Do not watch too much television.		

1 mark



**5**

Insert two **commas** in the correct places in the sentence below.

We lifted up the log and found worms woodlice snails and slugs.

1 mark

**6**

Which punctuation mark could be used at the end of the sentence below?

I can't wait to look after the school rabbit for the weekend

Tick **one**.

a question mark

☐

a comma

☐

an exclamation mark

☐

a colon

☐

1 mark



7

Circle the correct **verb form** in each underlined pair to complete the sentences below using **Standard English**.

We was / were going on a school trip to a concert.

The musicians did / done a sound check before the show.

1 mark

8

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

We have been learning about the Vikings they were a  
fascinating civilisation.

1 mark



N 0 0 0 3 0 A 0 7 2 8

9

Tick all the sentences that must end with a **question mark**.

Tick **all** the correct responses.

How good it would be if Jay could come

☐

Is Jay going to come on Tuesday

☐

Jay asked if we could meet him on Tuesday

☐

Do you know if Jay is coming on Tuesday

☐

1 mark

10

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

Our class visited a castle the oldest in the country to help us  
with our history project.

1 mark





11

Circle the most **formal** option in each underlined pair below to complete the passage.

The basketball club was set up / established by a group of friends last year.

They invited / got people who were interested in the game to join.

Now they play / compete in their local league.

1 mark

12

Which sentence starts with an **adverbial**?

Tick **one**.

She is feeling tired, so Kal is going to her room.

☐

After dinner, Kal is going to her room.

☐

Arun told me that Kal is going to her room.

☐

I wonder when Kal is going to her room.

☐

1 mark



N 0 0 0 3 0 A 0 9 2 8

13

Which sentence is the most **formal**?Tick **one**.

I can't wait for the game tomorrow!

☐

Kick-off is at 2pm.

☐

The coach has yet to announce the team.

☐

I really hope I'll be playing!

☐

---

1 mark

14

What punctuation could be used instead of **brackets** in the sentence below?

Tokyo (the capital of Japan) is one of the largest cities in the world.

Tick **one**.

hyphens

☐

colons

☐

semi-colons

☐

dashes

☐

---

1 mark

**15**

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

We saw various animals on our evening walk badgers, foxes,  
mice and an owl.

1 mark

**16**

Circle the three **adjectives** in the passage below.

The crumbling castle stood high on the rocky hill. The views over  
the countryside were glorious.

1 mark



N 0 0 0 3 0 A 0 1 1 2 8

17

Which sentence is punctuated correctly?

Tick **one**.

Swimming, which strengthens muscles in the arms, and legs is great exercise.

☐

Swimming, which strengthens muscles in the arms and legs, is great exercise.

☐

Swimming which strengthens muscles, in the arms and legs, is great exercise.

☐

Swimming which strengthens, muscles in the arms and legs, is great exercise.

☐

---

1 mark

18

Use the information in the box to complete the sentence below with a **relative clause**.

Remember to punctuate your answer correctly.

My uncle, \_\_\_\_\_, is going to

---

1 mark

My uncle lives on a farm.

plant potatoes.



19

In which sentence is space a **verb**?Tick **one**.Make space on the table for the laptop.☐Space yourselves out in the hall for PE.☐Our new playground has more space for lining up.☐Space is an interesting science topic.☐

1 mark

20

Draw a line to match each word to a **suffix** to create another word.**Word**

recruit



advert



class



alien

**Suffix**

ate



ise



ment



ify



1 mark



N 0 0 0 3 0 A 0 1 3 2 8

21

Why is there an **apostrophe** in the sentence below?

Who's been eating my ice cream?

Tick **one**.

to show that who's is the contracted form of 'who is'

☐

to show singular possession

☐

to show that who's is the contracted form of 'who has'

☐

to show plural possession

☐

1 mark

22

Which sentence uses a comma after a **fronted adverbial**?

Tick **one**.

We studied the menu at the noisy, crowded ice cream parlour.

☐

When the waitress came over, I asked which flavours were the most popular.

☐

I chose chocolate, Mum chose strawberry and Dad chose vanilla.

☐

My ice cream was covered in nuts, chocolate chips and toffee sauce.

☐

1 mark



23

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

I must repair my backpack the zip is broken and I need it for  
our camping trip.

1 mark

24

What is the grammatical term for the underlined words in the sentence below?

In 1961, the first manned spaceflight took place although a dog called Laika had travelled into space four years earlier.

Tick **one**.

a noun phrase

☐

a relative clause

☐

a preposition phrase

☐

a subordinate clause

☐

1 mark



N 0 0 0 3 0 A 0 1 5 2 8

25

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
I walked to school with Hazel <u>as we live on the same road</u> .		
Hazel uses a <u>wheelchair</u> so we went up the ramp.		
<u>Before we entered the classroom</u> , we greeted our friends.		

1 mark

26

Draw a line to match each sentence to its **form**.

Sentence	Form
Are you coming to the film night at school	question
What a shame you can't come	command
Don't worry about it	statement
There will be another one next term	exclamation

1 mark





27

Which sentence has a **modal verb**?Tick **one**.

Please help me find the blue pencils.

☐

What are we having for lunch?

☐

Alex had been yawning all day.

☐

I must be at school early tomorrow.

☐

1 mark

28

Explain why the word they makes the meaning of the sentence unclear.When Kate and Ravi met the other tennis players, they were excited.

---

---

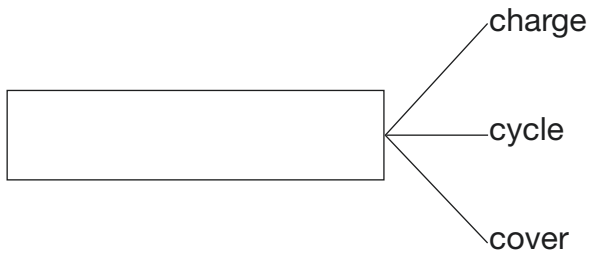
1 mark



N 0 0 0 3 0 A 0 1 7 2 8

29

Which **prefix** could be added to all three words below to make new words?



---

1 mark

30

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

At the museum, we enjoyed dressing up in the old fashioned costumes and fancy hats.

---

1 mark

**31** Insert **inverted commas** in the correct places in the passage below.

I think it is over here ! shouted Reena , pointing at the map .  
Follow me !

1 mark

**32** Tick one box in each row to show whether the underlined word is a **verb**, a **noun** or an **adjective**.

Sentence	Verb	Noun	Adjective
He <u>folds</u> the letter carefully.			
The <u>folded</u> letter was put in the envelope.			
The letter had <u>folds</u> in it.			

1 mark



**33**

Explain how the **comma** changes the meaning of the second sentence.

1. Did you call Raheem?
2. Did you call, Raheem?

---

---

---

---

1 mark**34**

Underline the **relative clause** in the sentence below.

After her dance class, Jamila has a strawberry milkshake, which she buys from the local cafe.

---

1 mark

**35**Circle the **preposition** in each sentence below.

Stef trained hard before the hockey tournament.

Concentrating intensely, Emma hit the ball into the net.

---

1 mark**36**Circle the **subject** of the sentence below.

After the heavy rain, Mum decided not to water the garden.

---

1 mark

N 0 0 0 3 0 A 0 2 1 2 8

37

Rewrite the sentence below in the **passive**.  
Remember to punctuate your answer correctly.

Someone stole the treasure.

---

1 mark

38

Complete the passage below with the **simple past** of the verbs in the boxes.

I \_\_\_\_\_ my violin to school. I \_\_\_\_\_ it last week.

---

1 mark

to bring

to forget

39

Circle the three **nouns** in the sentence below.

He played the piano with great confidence and rarely  
made mistakes.

---

1 mark


40

Which **word class** is the underlined word in the sentence below?

On sunny days, Ben often plays outside before dinner.

Tick **one**.

an adverb

☐

a conjunction

☐

an adjective

☐

a determiner

☐

1 mark

41

Write a **noun phrase** containing at least three words to complete the sentence below.

Remember to punctuate your answer correctly.

\_\_\_\_\_ opened the door.

1 mark



N 0 0 0 3 0 A 0 2 3 2 8

42

Insert **full stops** and **capital letters** in the passage below so it is punctuated correctly.

This year, we have been on a number of school trips my favourite was to the Science Museum because we saw some incredible experiments however, Elise preferred our visit to Colchester Castle

---

1 mark

43

Rewrite the sentence below in the **active**.  
Remember to punctuate your answer correctly.

The local park is maintained by the council.

---

1 mark



44

Circle the **possessive pronoun** in each sentence below.

Dad told me that Mum's favourite sport is cycling and his is cricket.

Tennis is Karen's favourite sport and mine is football.

1 mark

45

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

Since Billy has started swimming lessons, he has been going to the pool every Saturday and sometimes on Wednesdays too, if his dad has time to take him.

1 mark



46

Circle the verb that is in the **subjunctive** in the sentence below.

If I were to help, I would start by clearing the tables.

1 mark

47

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

There are some biscuits in this tin but there are not any chocolate ones.

1 mark

48

Complete the sentence below using the **past progressive** form of the verb in the box.

While we \_\_\_\_\_ to our friend, his phone started ringing.

1 mark

to talk



49

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

Although Jane was a speedy runner, she was almost beaten in the race.

1 mark

50

Complete the sentence below with the **past perfect** form of the verb in the box.

The teacher told the class that he \_\_\_\_\_ not to give them any homework.

1 mark

to decide



N 0 0 0 3 0 A 0 2 7 2 8



Standards  
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Agency

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