2025 national curriculum tests

Key stage 2

English grammar, punctuation and spelling

Paper 1: questions

48pt MODIFIED LARGE PRINT

Note to markers

This paper should be marked using the standard mark schemes for KS2 English grammar, punctuation and spelling: Paper 1.

There is additional guidance on marking some questions in this paper in the Key stage 2 English grammar, punctuation and spelling amendments   
to mark schemes – MLP document.

First name

Middle name

Last name

Date of birth

Day Month Year

School name

DfE number

Instructions

Questions and answers

You have 45 minutes, plus your additional time allowance, 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.

* 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

Each question has one mark.

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.

1. What does the prefix **anti−** mean in the word **anticlockwise?**

Tick one.

never

opposite

before

without

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

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| uneven |  | sore |  | smooth |  | low |

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

“ Have you finished eating your lunch ”

asked Hannah

**[BLANK PAGE]**

The test continues on the next page.

1. For each sentence, show whether it is a statement or a command.

Write either S for statement or C for

command in each box.

[Go to next page]

Watch where you’re going.

We watched the game together.

My watch stopped working.

Do not watch too much television.

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

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

**[BLANK PAGE]**

The test continues on the next page.

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

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

[Go to next page]

Tick one.

a question mark

a comma

an exclamation mark

a colon

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

[Go to next page]

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. 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. 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. 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.

[Go to next page]

Tick one.

hyphens

colons

semi−colons

dashes

1. 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. 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. 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. 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

My uncle lives on a farm.

to plant potatoes.

1. 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. Draw a line to match each word to a suffix to create another word.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Word |  | Suffix |
| recruit |  | ate |
|  |  |  |
| advert |  | ment |
|  |  |  |
| class |  | ise |
|  |  |  |
| alien |  | ify |

1. Why is there an apostrophe in the sentence below?

Who’s been eating my ice cream?

[Go to next page]

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. 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. 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. 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.

[Go to next page]

Tick one.

a noun phrase

a relative clause

a preposition phrase

a subordinate clause

1. For each sentence, show whether the underlined clause is a main clause or a subordinate clause.

Write either M for main clause or   
S for subordinate clause in each box.

[Go to next page]

I walked to school with Hazel   
as we live on the same road.

Hazel uses a wheelchair so   
we went up the ramp.

Before we entered the classroom, we greeted our friends.

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

[Go to next page]

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 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. 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. 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. Which prefix could be added to all three words below to make new words?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | charge |
|  |  | cycle |
|  |  | cover |

1. 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. 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 !

**[BLANK PAGE]**

The test continues on the next page.

1. For each sentence, show whether the underlined word is a verb, a noun or an adjective.

In each box, write V for verb, N for noun or A for adjective.

[Go to next page]

He folds the letter carefully.

The folded letter was put in   
the envelope.

The letter had folds in it.

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

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

[Go to next page]

1. 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. Circle the preposition in each sentence below.

Stef trained hard before the   
hockey tournament.

Concentrating intensely, Emma hit   
the ball into the net.

1. Circle the subject of the sentence below.

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

1. Rewrite the sentence below in   
   the passive.

Remember to punctuate your   
answer correctly.

Someone stole the treasure.

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

I my violin to school.

to bring

I it last week.

to forget

1. Circle the three nouns in the   
   sentence below.

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

1. Which word class is the underlined word in the sentence below?

On sunny days, Ben often plays outside before dinner.

[Go to next page]

Tick one.

an adverb

a conjunction

an adjective

a determiner

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

Remember to punctuate your   
answer correctly.

opened the door.

1. 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 did some incredible experiments however, Elise preferred our visit to Colchester Castle

1. Rewrite the sentence below in   
   the active.

Remember to punctuate your   
answer correctly.

The local park is maintained by the council.

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

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

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

While we

to talk

to our friend, his phone started ringing.

1. Circle the adverb in the  
   sentence below.

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

1. 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

to decide

them any homework.

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