B1 Preliminary: A Community Event

Paper 1 - Separate answers

Free original EWS skills practice | B1 | 20 practice marks

Original B1 reading and writing skills practice, not a full Preliminary test.

Answers, explanations and marking guidance

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Accept equivalent correct answers. For personal responses, the learner must use truthful details. These short-paper marks are for practice and are not official exam scores.

A. Read and understand - 5 marks

1. Experts fixing machines. [1 mark]

Use the information in the passage.

2. They learned alongside volunteers. [1 mark]

Use the information in the passage.

3. Qualified adults only. [1 mark]

Use the information in the passage.

4. Labelled tools OR recorded repaired items. [1 mark]

Use the information in the passage.

5. It created conversations between people who rarely meet. [1 mark]

Use the information in the passage.

B. Language practice - 5 marks

1. to see [1 mark]

Expect is followed by a to-infinitive.

2. were working [1 mark]

Past continuous describes the ongoing background activity.

3. was organised [1 mark]

Passive: was + past participle.

4. since [1 mark]

Since introduces a starting year.

5. Although it was busy, people had time to talk. [1 mark]

Although introduces a contrast.

C. Write for a purpose - 10 marks

1. Model response:
Hi Maya,
Last Saturday I went to a repair cafe at our community centre. I thought I would only watch, but a volunteer invited me to help. I labelled tools and recorded the bags and bicycles that people repaired. I learned that repairing something can save money and bring neighbours together. The volunteers were patient and explained each step clearly.
There is another event next Saturday from ten until one. Would you like to come with me? We could help at the welcome desk and learn something new. Let me know by Thursday, and I will ask the coordinator.
See you soon,
Joel [10 marks]

Award 4 for relevant task content, 3 for clear organisation and 3 for suitable vocabulary, grammar and punctuation. Accept equivalent correct responses.

B1 reading: main messages and coherent ideas

FREE EXTENDED PRACTICE - SEPARATE ANSWERS / MODELS

Models are examples. Accept other accurate responses. Give feedback on task completion, clarity and suitable language. Extension tasks are unscored unless stated.

1. 1 Only three people had registered. 2 A teacher shared the notice and twelve more signed up. 3 Use more than one advertising channel/place. 4 Willing to learn: she changed her approach and identified a lesson from the low early response.

2. A. Sorting the books follows collecting them and makes the final choosing stage possible. B and C do not continue the event sequence.

3. 1 for; 2 but; 3 in; 4 whether. Each word from the box is used once. If also fits the final sentence grammatically, but it is not one of the four supplied options.

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B1 writing: an article for students

FREE EXTENDED PRACTICE - SEPARATE ANSWERS / MODELS

Models are examples. Accept other accurate responses. Give feedback on task completion, clarity and suitable language. Extension tasks are unscored unless stated.

1. Model: A Skill I Use Every Week
Learning to cook simple meals has made my life easier. Last year, my aunt showed me how to prepare rice and vegetables. At first I forgot the order of the steps, so I wrote a short list and followed it carefully. After a few tries, I could cook without help. Now I sometimes prepare dinner when my parents are busy. Cooking is useful because it saves money and helps me understand what I eat. I would encourage other students to begin with one easy dish and practise it until they feel confident.
Feedback: the skill, learning process and usefulness should all be developed; check article style, organisation and language.

2. Model: I found it difficult to remember all the steps. Writing a short list helped me practise in the right order. What skill would you like to learn? Accept any relevant truthful or clearly imagined example. Assess clear sequencing, response to the question and interaction.

3. Personal answers vary. Example: "It was hard" becomes "At first, I found it hard to remember the order of the steps." The revision gives a specific difficulty. Accept improvements in clarity, accuracy or connection of ideas.