

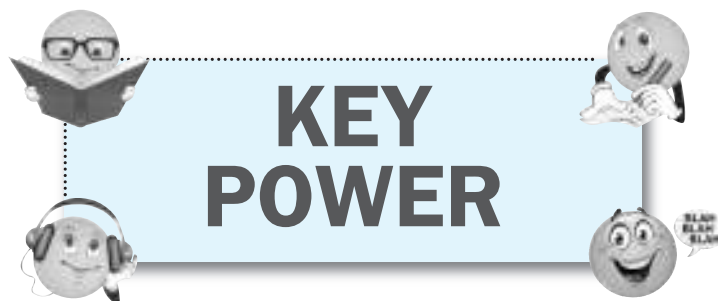
Lindsey Cook • Annabel Pope

KEY POWER

Four practice tests for
the Cambridge English
Language Assessments:
Key for Schools (KET)

edisco

Lindsey Cook • Annabel Pope



*Four practice tests and precise, concise advice
to students for the
Cambridge English Key for Schools (KET)*

edisco

Key Power

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FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

♦ **WHAT IS KEY FOR SCHOOLS?**

Key for Schools, also known as *Key English Test (KET) for schools*, is the first level, A2, of the Cambridge English Language Assessment for teenagers.

♦ **WHAT ARE CAMBRIDGE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ASSESSMENTS?**

These are a series of exams, certificates and diplomas at various levels provided by the University of Cambridge. Each qualification is recognized all over the world and over 3 million people in 135 different countries take them.

♦ **WHAT IS LEVEL A2?**

A2 is the second level in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (C.E.F.R.). This standard shows that you have an overall general ability in everyday English in social, tourist, work and study contexts.

♦ **WHAT IS THE C.E.F.R.?**

This is a guideline which was put together in the 1990's by the Council of Europe to provide a fair method of assessing and teaching languages in Europe. It is now used worldwide.

If you have a basic knowledge of the four skills, Reading - Writing - Listening - Speaking, and you want to improve your English and gain confidence,...

... GO AHEAD AND TAKE KEY FOR SCHOOLS!

CAN I TAKE KEY FOR SCHOOLS?

Key (KET) is the easiest of the Cambridge English exams so you have no need to worry. It isn't an academic test; they just want to know if you can use basic English to communicate in realistic, everyday, practical situations. It can be taken on a computer or on paper.

Key (KET) for Schools is exactly the same exam, but is specifically aimed at the interests and experiences of young people of school age.

CAN YOU...	YES	NO
• ...understand sentences and everyday expressions related to very basic personal information, shopping, school and local geography and jobs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• ...talk about basic routine tasks which require a simple, direct exchange of information on familiar and everyday topics?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• ...describe your family background, your day-to-day environment and ask for things you need?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you've ticked all the YES boxes,

START ON THE PRACTICE PAPERS!

HOW TO GET READY FOR *KEY FOR SCHOOLS*

TEN TOP TIPS

ASK

friends who go to English-speaking countries to bring you back tourist brochures and information leaflets for you to read.

CHANGE

the instructions on your mobile phone into English.

CHAT

on-line to English-speaking friends and relations or even write a letter to an English-pen friend and send it by post.

LISTEN

to songs in English and find the lyrics. You can have fun playing karaoke on your computer, too.

LISTEN

to video clips on YouTube in English. It may seem difficult at first, but you will soon get used to it.

SEND

short texts to your friends in English on your phone.

TAKE

every opportunity to read everyday English in books, magazines and advertisements. Think how many ads have English slogans!

USE

the Internet sensibly to read news headlines or watch interviews with famous people

WORK

through this book carefully and always find out where and why you make mistakes.

BE

prepared for the exam and know exactly...

...WHAT TO EXPECT FROM *KEY FOR SCHOOLS*.

HOW THE EXAM IS GRADED

The total marks of the exam are out of 100 and they are graded as follows:

PASS WITH DISTINCTION	90 – 100% (YOU SHOWED ABILITY AT B1 LEVEL)
PASS WITH MERIT	85 – 89%
PASS	70 – 84%
LEVEL A1	45 – 69% (YOU SHOWED ABILITY AT A1 LEVEL)
FAIL	0 – 44%

This means that you must get at least **70 marks** to pass the exam.

There are four parts to the exam: **Reading, Writing, Listening** and **Speaking**, which are divided up into three different papers.

PAPER 1

- contains both the **Reading** and **Writing Tests**
- lasts 1 hour 10 minutes and is worth 50% of the total marks
- has nine parts with 56 questions.

PAPER 2

- is the **Listening Test**
- lasts 30 minutes plus 8 minutes to transfer your answers to the special answer sheet
- is worth 25% of the total marks
- has five parts to it and a total of 25 questions.

PAPER 3

- is the **Speaking Test**
- lasts 8-10 minutes and is worth 25% of the total marks
- has two parts to it and you take it together with another candidate; sometimes, if there are three remaining students at the end of an examining session, they will take it together.

HOW TO BE PREPARED FOR THE EXAM

Your teacher will certainly know how to help you in the best possible way, but you can also help yourself by remembering the following:

DO

- read the instructions and look carefully at each example given to you before you begin
- write your answers clearly and be careful of your spelling
- check your answers at the end – you should have plenty of time to do this.

DON'T

- worry if there are some words that you don't understand – you will still be able to guess the meaning from the rest of the text
- leave a blank. If you write something, you have a 50% chance of getting a mark!

WHAT TO EXPECT ON THE EXAM DAY

BEFORE

DO remember to

- go to bed early the night before
- have a good breakfast
- get there early, too!

DON'T forget to

- check the date, time and address of your KET exam
- find out how long it will take you to travel to the exam.

ON THE DAY

DO bring

- your I.D.
- pencils, sharpener and rubber. You only use a pencil in the exam.
- a watch or small clock – it helps to keep a check on the time.

DON'T bring

- any food into the exam room
- your bag, phone or any other electronic device into the room.

AT YOUR DESK

DO

- listen carefully to the instructions given by the invigilator
- make sure you read all the instructions carefully, too
- put up your hand if you need help or to ask any questions before the exam starts
- put up your hand immediately if you are doing the Listening Part and cannot hear properly.

DON'T

- talk to anybody else in the exam room or try to see what other people are writing
- worry, just do your best.

WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED

DO

- put up your hand if you have any serious queries about the exam
- check your answers again if there is still time.

DON'T

- leave your seat until you have permission to leave
- talk about what you did right or wrong, forget about it until the results come out.

WHAT'S DONE IS DONE!

Key for Schools is the first step up the ladder of the Cambridge English Language Assessment. The first practice paper is a chance to test yourself on each part with some advice to help you. When you have completed this, then you are ready to work on all the practice tests.

REMEMBER:

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT!

A HELPING HAND WITH...

... READING AND WRITING

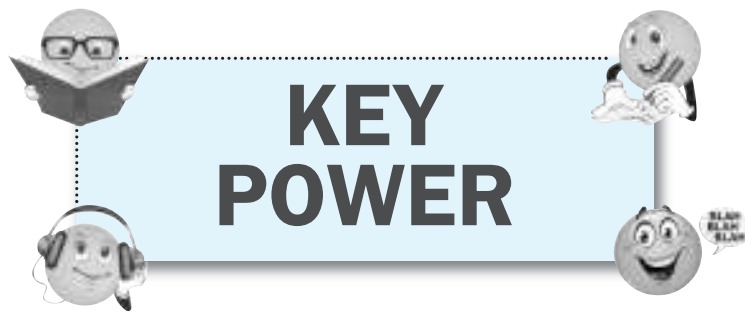
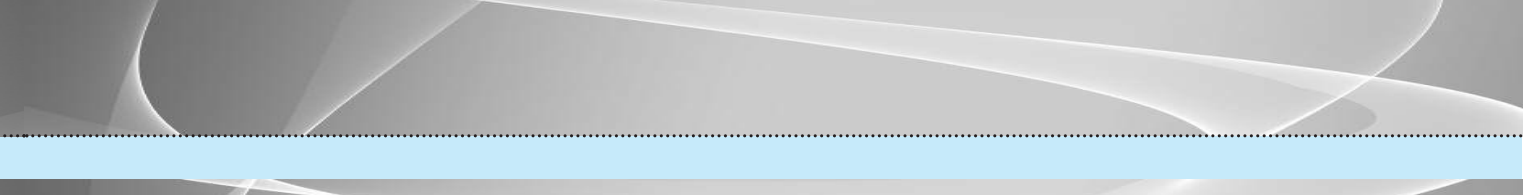
- Prepare for the reading part by reading easy stories at level A2. Your teacher will be able to suggest some titles.
- If you use Facebook, change the language to English. You will find some useful expressions.
- Keep a notebook with all the new vocabulary. You could draw a picture beside it to help you remember it.
- When you do the practice tests, remember to time yourself. In Practice Test One there is advice on how long each part should be.

... LISTENING

- Prepare for the test by listening to lots of songs, dialogues in your school text-book and CDs in English magazines with recorded interviews and conversations.
- It's a good idea to revise your knowledge of times, dates, numbers, days, directions, home, travel, food and clothes vocabulary.
- Don't forget to revise the English alphabet, too. You may need to write a name which the speaker spells out.
- When you take the test, remember that you will hear each part twice. If you miss an answer to a question, you can complete it when you listen the second time.
- Remember: if you really don't know an answer, GUESS!

... SPEAKING

- Make sure you revise your vocabulary on personal information, hobbies, animals, family, school, food, transport, countries and nationalities.
- Practise asking questions with *when, where, why, who, how much*, etc.
- During the exam, be polite, natural and spontaneous. Try and enjoy it!
- Listen carefully to the questions the examiner asks you and focus on the appropriate answer. Don't just talk about what you want to.
- In Part Two, don't panic if you can't think of the question immediately, it will come to you if you stay calm. Don't worry if your partner gives you the wrong answer or asks you a question which you don't understand. Just behave normally and ask him/her to repeat it.





Part 1 *The matching part*

ADVICE

- Focus on the meaning of the whole message; don't just look at individual words. You will find that you can still understand it.
- There are three extra notices. Don't forget to always check why the extra notices don't match the sentences.
- Suggested time: 3 minutes.

Questions 1-5

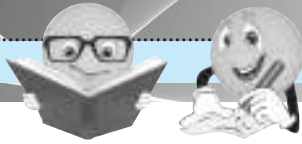
- ♦ Which notice (A-H) says this (1-5)? For questions 1-5, mark the correct letter A-H on the answer sheet.

Example

(0) You do not need to pay to park here in the evening.

Answer: 0 **A** **B** **C** **D** **E** **F** **G** **H**

<p>1. Bad weather. Go carefully.</p> <p>2. This is the way to the fair.</p> <p>3. If you are over 14, you can go to the cinema.</p> <p>4. You may find traffic-jams here.</p> <p>5. Anyone spending less than £10 will not be able to have a free gift.</p>	<p>A) Free parking after 7pm</p> <p>B) TURN LEFT FOR THE SHOW</p> <p>C) Children under 14 are not allowed into the cinema</p> <p>D) FOG DRIVE SLOWLY</p> <p>E) IF YOU SPEND £10. YOU WILL GET A FREE GIFT</p> <p>F) You are not allowed to walk on the green</p> <p>G) LEAVE SUITCASES IN LUGGAGE RACK NEAR THE DOOR</p> <p>H) DELAYS ON MOTORWAY UNTIL MAY 30TH</p>
---	--

**Part 2** *The multiple choice part***ADVICE**

- Read the instructions and try to imagine the situation and the people in the story. You are reading a story so each sentence connects to the next one.
- Numbers 6-10 form a complete conversation.
- Sometimes, instead of a story, the sentences are linked by a topic. See Test 4, page 75 for this type of task.
- Take about 3 minutes

Questions 6-10

- ♦ Read the sentences about Jane and her birthday. Choose the best words (A B or C) for each space.
- ♦ For questions 6-10, mark A, B, or C on your answer sheet.

Example

(0) Jane up early last Sunday because she was excited.

- A) fed B) stood C) got

Answer: 0 A B C

6. It was birthday.

- A) my B) Jane C) her

7. She wanted to open her birthday cards and

- A) doors B) presents C) windows

8. Her family was in the waiting for her to have breakfast together.

- A) garage B) bathroom C) kitchen

9. That afternoon all her friends came for a

- A) meeting B) party C) lesson

10. They all enjoyed themselves and had a lot of

- A) funny B) fun C) smile





Part 3A The multiple choice and...

ADVICE

- Each number is a mini-conversation. Imagine you are answering your friend's question or comment.
- Take about 10 minutes for 3A and 3B

Questions 11-15

- ◆ Complete the five conversations.
- ◆ For questions 11-15, mark A, B or C on your answer sheet.

Example

(0) How old are you?

A) I'm fine, thanks. B) I'm 14. C) She's 3 years old. Answer: **0** A B C

11. Where's the train station?

A) It's near the bank. B) They're over there. C) The train leaves at 6 pm.

12. Whose bag is this?

A) It's that one. B) They're mine. C) It's hers.

13. What time did the film start?

A) It starts at 8 pm.
B) It always starts at 5 in the evening.
C) It started at 6 o'clock. Why?

14. Who's that girl near the table?

A) She's writing a letter.
B) My cousin.
C) No, she doesn't like pizza.

15. Those puppies are so sweet.

A) Which ones? The black ones?
B) There are five.
C) Do you like puppies?





Part 3B ...the matching part

ADVICE

- Read the whole dialogue to get an idea of the topic of conversation. Then read the sentences before and after the gap. This is very important to decide which sentence is missing.
- Decide if the missing sentence is a question or comment. When you have chosen the sentence from A to E, make sure it fits with the next one.
- Cross out the sentence you have used. It's easier to see what is left.
- If you have difficulty deciding which one fits, try all of them and choose the best one.

Questions 16-20

- ◆ Complete the conversation between two friends. What does Sue say to Julie?
- ◆ For questions 16-20, mark the correct letter A-H on your answer sheet. Choose from the list below.

Example

(0) Sue: This homework is difficult.
Julie: Do you want any help?

Sue: Yes, please. It's Geography. Have you done it yet?

Julie: **(16)**.....

Sue: When we finish, shall we go out?

Julie: **(17)**.....

Sue: **(18)** Ok. Do you know what film is on? We could go to the cinema.

Julie:

Sue: Good. I haven't seen that one.

Julie: **(19)**.....

Sue: OK, I think I can finish the work now. You can go home if you want.

Julie: **(20)**.....

- A) It's *Star Wars* 3.
- B) Ok, see you later.
- C) Yes, it's gone.
- D) I saw it last week but I want to see it again.
- E) Yes, good idea. I'm fed up studying all the time!
- F) A cup of tea please.
- G) It's fine.
- H) Yes, it's easy.



Part 4 *The right/wrong/doesn't say part*

ADVICE

- Read the title. It may help you to understand the text.
- Read the text through quickly.
- Go back to the beginning. The questions are in the same order as the text.
- In this question you decide if the sentences 21-27 are right, wrong or there isn't any information about it. BUT look at Test 3 on page 58: this is also Part 4 but the task is different. You must decide which answer is correct from three possibilities.
- Take about 10 minutes.

Questions 21-27

- ◆ Read the article about Mila's strange school. Are sentences 21-27 'Right' (A) or 'Wrong' (B)? If there is not enough information to answer 'Right' (A) or 'Wrong' (B), choose 'Doesn't say' (C).
- ◆ For questions 21-27, mark A, B or C on your answer sheet.

SCHOOL FROM HELL



My name is Mila. I go to a strange school and I don't think you would like it very much. My day starts at 5 am. Why? Well, I have to travel two hours to get there because I live on a little island with only fifty inhabitants. I have to catch a bus, then a ferry from the port to get to the mainland from my island. Then I catch a train to school.

Before leaving home, I have a quick shower, drink some milk and eat some toast with jam. This gives me energy for my long day. When I get to school at 8.30, I chat with my friends before lessons start. The teachers are very strict so we can't speak during the lessons. We study all morning and at lunch-time I have a quick lunch, then I play a game of football or, if it's cold outside, I stay inside and play. In the afternoon we have a lot of difficult subjects like Physics, Chemistry and Latin. After school, I have to travel all the way home again and I don't get home till really late. Then I still have to do my homework. I don't have time to watch TV or chat with my friends because I have to go to bed to get enough sleep. Next year I will change to another school near home!