

THE PET EXAM

- The PET exam consists of four components: Reading & Use of English, Writing, Listening and Speaking.
- Here is the structure for the PET exam:

PAPER 1: READING & USE OF ENGLISH 45 MINUTES				
Part	Number of questions	Task types		What do candidates have to do?
1	5	3-option multiple choice		Read five real-world notices, messages and other short texts for the main message.
2	5	Matching.		Match five descriptions of people to eight short texts on a particular topic, showing detailed comprehension.
3	5	4-option multiple choice		Read a longer text for detailed comprehension, gist, inference and global meaning, as well as writer’s attitude and opinion.
4	5	Gapped text		Read a longer text from which five sentences have been removed. Show understanding of how a coherent and well structured text is formed.
5	6	4-option multiple choice cloze		Read a shorter text and choose the correct vocabulary items to complete gaps. An element of grammatical knowledge may be tested, e.g. complementation.
6	6	Open cloze		Read a shorter text and complete six gaps using one word for each gap. Show knowledge of grammatical structures, phrasal verbs and fixed phrases.
PAPER 2: WRITING 45 MINUTES				
Part	Number of questions	Task types		What do candidates have to do?
1	1	An email		Write about 100 words, answering the email and notes provided. Candidates are assessed using four subscales: - Content, Communicative Achievement, Organisation and Language.
2	1	Choice between an article or a story		Write about 100 words, answering the question of their choosing. Candidates are assessed using four subscales: - Content, Communicative Achievement, Organisation and Language.
PAPER 3: LISTENING 30 MINUTES (APPROX.)				
Part	Number of questions	Task types		What do candidates have to do?
1	5	3-option multiple-choice		Identify key information in seven short monologues or dialogues and choose the correct visual.
2	5	3-option multiple choice		Listen to six short dialogues and understand the gist of each.
3	5	Gap fill		Listen to a monologue and complete six gaps.
4	5	3-option multiple choice		Listen to an interview for a detailed understanding of meaning and to identify attitudes and opinions.
PAPER 4: SPEAKING 12 MINUTES (APPROX.)				
Part	Timing	Interaction	Task types	What do candidates have to do?
1	2 mins.	Interlocutor ↓ Candidate	Interlocutor asks questions to each candidate in turn	Respond to questions, giving factual or personal information.
2	3 mins.	Candidate extended turn	Extended turn	Describe one colour photograph, talking for about 1 minute.
3	4 mins.	Candidate ↕ Candidate	Discussion task with visual stimulus	Make and respond to suggestions, discuss alternatives and negotiate agreement.
4	3 mins.	Candidate ↕ Candidate	General conversation	Discuss likes, dislikes, experiences, opinions, habits, etc.