



Pearson  
English

STUDENT EDITION

THIS TEST PAPER CAN BE  
COMPLETED DIGITALLY USING  
ADOBE ACROBAT READER

STUDENT NAME

# Pearson Test of English General

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Pearson English  
International Certificate

**Level 5  
Proficiency**

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WRITTEN  
PRACTICE  
TEST

1

Please check the table below for the total time given to complete the written test at this level and score points available for each section. Please use the accompanying audio files for sections 1–3. Answer keys and transcripts are provided at the back of this document.

Section	Skills	Score points	Level A1	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
1	Listening	10	1 hour 15 mins	1 hour 35 mins	1 hour 35 mins	2 hours	2 hours 30 mins	2 hours 55 mins
2	Listening and writing	10						
3	Listening	10						
4	Reading	5						
5	Reading	5						
6	Reading	8						
7	Reading	7						
8	Writing	10						
9	Writing	10						

The written test is scored out of 75 points in total at all levels. Please see the Guide to PTE General at this level for further information.

**Please note:** The design of the practice tests is not identical to actual PTE General tests, however the content is equivalent. .

This is the Pearson Test of English General Practice Test, to prepare for the Pearson English International Certificate, Level 5.

**This test takes 2 hours and 55 minutes.**

## SECTION 1

You will have ten seconds to read each question and the corresponding options. Then listen to the recording. After the recording you will have 10 seconds to choose the correct option

Put a cross ☒ in the box next to the correct answer, as in the example.

**Example: What is the speaker reporting?**

- ☐ A The effects of an airline pilots' strike
- ☒ B Hazards that prevent planes from flying
- ☐ C A systems breakdown in an airport

**1. What is the woman's profession?**

- ☐ A Orthodontist
- ☐ B Paediatrician
- ☐ C Veterinarian

**2. This is an extract from a talk on**

- ☐ A politics
- ☐ B linguistics
- ☐ C sociology

3. Who is this talk intended for?

- ☐ A acting school students
- ☐ B High School students
- ☐ C School teachers

4. According to the speaker

- ☐ A there is much about Europa that we don't know
- ☐ B there is no possibility of any life forms on Jupiter
- ☐ C on a clear day Europa can be seen from Earth

5. What does the woman say about graphology?

- ☐ A It describes activities that humans alone have mastered.
- ☐ B The word describes one kind of human artistic endeavour.
- ☐ C It is the study of the way that people communicate.

6. What does the man say had been found?

- ☐ A An unknown piece of Blues Music
- ☐ B An interesting old film clip
- ☐ C An old film which had been lost

7. The man speaking says that

- ☐ A a famous old fortified building was built of Purbeck stone
- ☐ B miners today wear the same clothing as they did many years ago
- ☐ C traditional work practices are favoured over today's technology

8. The man speaking is a

- ☐ A film critic
- ☐ B writer
- ☐ C musician

9. What is the woman describing?

- ☐ A Style and fashion in Ancient Rome
- ☐ B A recent archaeological discovery
- ☐ C A burial site in the town of Pompeii

10. Magna Carta was a historic

- ☐ A document
- ☐ B event
- ☐ C person

## SECTION 2



You will hear a short recording about linguistics. Listen to the whole recording once. Then you will hear the recording again with pauses for you to write down what you hear. Make sure you spell the words correctly.

### SECTION 3 (PART A)



You will hear part of a lecture. First, read the notes below, then listen and complete the notes with information from the lecture. You will hear the recording twice.

**Example:** The speaker is investigating the effect on the immune system of the death of a *loved one*.

12. When a close relative dies elderly people often suffer from \_\_\_\_\_.
13. Elderly people often feel down when they break their \_\_\_\_\_.
14. The researchers are attempting to delay the onset of \_\_\_\_\_.
15. The results of the research are relevant to \_\_\_\_\_ all over the world.
16. The speaker says that people are living longer but are liable to undergo \_\_\_\_\_.

### SECTION 3 (PART B)



You will hear part of the introduction to a talk about King Henry VII of England. First, read the notes below then listen and complete the notes with information from the talk. You will hear the recording twice.

**Example.** Henry became King at the age of 27

17. Soon after becoming King, Henry won a \_\_\_\_\_.
18. Henry wanted to be able to regard his enemies as \_\_\_\_\_.
19. During his time as King Henry made increasingly less use of \_\_\_\_\_.
20. Henry's marriage was largely at the instigation of \_\_\_\_\_.
21. Henry and Elizabeth were married as a result of a \_\_\_\_\_ from the Pope.

## SECTION 4

Read each section of the test and put a cross ☒ by the missing word or phrase, as in the example.

### Example: Compare quotes for pre-existing medical conditions

If you have an illness or medical condition for which you've had treatment, you need to \_\_\_\_\_ to your insurer. Heart problems, diabetes, cancer and respiratory illnesses are among the conditions that need to be declared as they could be excluded from your policy, and not mentioning them could invalidate your cover.

- ☐ A conceal it from
- ☒ B provide details
- ☐ C make a claim

### 22. Film Review

Mulholland Drive is as brilliant and disquieting as anything Lynch has ever done. It is psychotically lucid, oppressively strange, but with a powerful human dimension that Lynch never quite achieved elsewhere. It is a fantasia of \_\_\_\_\_ and identity; a meditation on the vital importance of finding the right role.

- ☐ A illusion
- ☐ B confusion
- ☐ C profusion

### 23. Filter traffic lights

Filter traffic lights let road users know who has priority. They're often used in areas prone to \_\_\_\_\_ and you'll see variations with arrows pointing left, right and straight ahead. When the green arrow is illuminated, you may proceed in that direction, regardless of what the other lights are saying.

- ☐ A congestion
- ☐ B restlessness
- ☐ C examination



#### 24. Our Message

The Liberal Democrats exist to build and safeguard a fair, free and open society, in which we seek to \_\_\_\_\_ the fundamental values of liberty, equality and community, and in which no-one shall be enslaved by poverty, ignorance or conformity. We believe that the role of the state is to enable all citizens to attain these ideals.

- ☐ A demand
- ☐ B illustrate
- ☐ C balance

#### 25. Slow play in Golf

Penalty strokes are likely to be imposed on slow players after the announcement of new measures to \_\_\_\_\_ up European Tour golf.

With slow play one of the hottest topics in the game, the Tour will impose stronger protocols next season. They are designed to ensure rounds at their tournaments take less time to complete.

- ☐ A build
- ☐ B follow
- ☐ C speed

#### 26. Food outlets to be banned

Fast food outlets \_\_\_\_\_ within 400 metres of schools in England. The Royal College of Paediatrics has urged the government to introduce the measure as part of its updated childhood obesity strategy, and the mayor of London has suggested a ban on any new fast food outlets being built within such distance.

- ☐ A must be closed
- ☐ B should be banned
- ☐ C could be excluded

## SECTION 5

Read the article and answer the questions below. Put a cross ☒ in the box next to the correct answer, as in the example.

### MAESHOWE

The parish of Stenness, in Orkney's West Mainland, is home to some of the county's best-known ancient monuments. Among these is the prehistoric chambered cairn, Maeshowe. Thought to date from around 2700BC, Maeshowe is one of the monuments that make up the Heart of Neolithic Orkney World Heritage Site.

Approximately 500 metres from the south-eastern shore of the Harray loch, Maeshowe is, by far, the largest and most impressive of Orkney's many chambered cairns. Appearing as a large grassy mound, it is clearly visible for miles around, including the nearby Standing Stones of Stenness, the Barnhouse Settlement and the Watchstone.

Archaeologist James Farrer first dug at the cairn in 1861, prior to which the mound had a distinctly different form than it has today. Maeshowe was once conical, with a deep depression in the top. It had a diameter of around 30m (100 ft) and stood 11m (36 ft) high. The cairn was taken into state care in 1910, at which time a concrete roof was added to the structure. At the same time, the outer mound was sculpted to give it its present "rounded" dimensions of 7.3m high and a 37m diameter.

Maeshowe was built in the Neolithic period. Constructed on a platform of levelled ground, like the nearby stone circles of Brodgar and Stenness, the monument is surrounded by a ditch and raised bank. Archaeological work in recent years hints that the cairn was built on top of an earlier structure - perhaps an early Neolithic house. It has been suggested that this house was replaced by a stone circle - four of the stones of which came to be incorporated into Maeshowe.

An excavation outside the chamber, in 1996, led to the discovery of a socket-hole on a platform to the rear of the mound. This added weight to the theory that the site had once housed a stone circle. The massive stone slabs used to line the entrance chamber may also have once been part of this stone ring. At the same time, it was suggested that the chamber's encircling ditch was originally intended to be filled with water. This would have had the effect of further isolating the world of those alive from that of those who had passed on.

Estimates for the labour required to build Maeshowe have been placed at 100,000 man-hours, compared to 10,000 hours required for its lesser contemporaries. This, suggest some, shows a society where the emphasis had shifted from the community as a whole, to one elevated class, or individual.

Source: <http://www.orkneyjar.com/history/maeshowe/>

Status: authentic – modified for length. One or two words changed for level.

**Example: Maeshowe**

- ☐ A consists of a ring of standing stones set on a grassy bank.
- ☐ B is thought to have been constructed before the Neolithic period.
- ☒ C is one of several ancient monuments on the Orkney Islands.

**27. The Maeshowe cairn**

- ☐ A was excavated thoroughly and restored in 1910.
- ☐ B has changed in shape since a 19th Century excavation.
- ☐ C was originally built as a semi-spherical construction.

**28. Archaeologists believe that Maeshowe**

- ☐ A may have incorporated stones from an earlier construction.
- ☐ B once included standing stones from nearby stone circles.
- ☐ C was first built in a hollow surrounded by a bank and ditch.

**29. In recent years**

- ☐ A the ditch around the site has been refilled with water.
- ☐ B blocks of stone have been placed to support the walls of the cairn.
- ☐ C archaeologists found evidence of a stone circle at Maeshowe.

**30. The original ditch is thought to have**

- ☐ A acted as the foundation for a circle of standing stones.
- ☐ B been built as a protective moat to keep out strangers and enemies.
- ☐ C represented the separation between the living and the dead.

**31. According to the writer, the estimated manpower required to build the site**

- ☐ A indicates how important Maeshowe was when it was first built.
- ☐ B may imply a change in social structure of the people who built Maeshowe.
- ☐ C shows how committed the people of the time were to their belief systems.

## SECTION 6

Read the article below and answer the questions.

### PEWTER PLATE

I'm always searching for the rare and unusual to round out my collection. Just recently I came upon a large pewter plate, also referred to as a charger, that looked quite rare. I noticed its wide rim was etched with the date 1658, which, for some reason, immediately led me to think of Oliver Cromwell.

The charger displayed a wonderfully detailed decoration with elaborate scrolls incorporating birds and animal heads, while the center exhibited an interesting family coat of arms. The dealer had no idea of its origin, but my gut feeling was that it most certainly was English, because the coat of arms reminded me of other English crests of the 17th century that often were etched onto silver and other early objects.

The dealer told me the plate was not hallmarked, indicating the absence of the pewter maker's hallmark. I made a decent offer, he accepted and I was about to acquire a rare, early pewter item to add to my collection of pewter pieces.

When the plate arrived a few days later, I finally was able to examine it closely and saw that the date was original to the plate. It was better than I'd imagined; the photographs the dealer supplied really hadn't done the piece justice.

Source: Inspired by text at [https://www.silive.com/homegarden/2011/11/rare\\_pewter\\_plate\\_adds\\_subtle.html](https://www.silive.com/homegarden/2011/11/rare_pewter_plate_adds_subtle.html)  
Status: authentic – modified for length and lexis.

**Example:** What did the writer find that looked rare and unusual? *Plate*

32. What caused Cromwell to enter the writer's mind?

.....

33. What could be seen in the middle of the plate?

.....

34. Where did the writer think the charger came from?

.....

35. What was missing on the charger?

.....

Read the advertisement below and answer the questions.

### THE SARAGOSSA MANUSCRIPT

Certainly not for the casual moviegoer, "The Saragossa Manuscript" was filmed in 1965 by Polish filmmaker Wojciech Has and quickly gained the favor of legendary Grateful Dead frontman Jerry Garcia. Garcia reportedly funded a print to the Pacific Film Archive on the grounds that he'd be able to screen the film at anytime.

Before long, the film also gained favor with equally legendary directors Francis Ford Coppola and Martin Scorsese. The trio eventually raised the money needed to have the print fully restored, and the resulting film played at film festivals globally over the past year.

Starring Zbigniew Cybulksi, who was widely recognized as the Polish James Dean and similarly died at a young age, "The Saragossa Manuscript" kicks off during the Napoleonic Wars when a French officer discovers the manuscript as his army raids the Spanish city of Saragossa.

The Saragossa Manuscript is available on DVD by Facets Video, and while the film itself is infinitely involving and well presented throughout its entire three-hour runtime, the packaging itself leaves a bit to be desired and the film's aspect ratio is undeniably a tad off (particularly a distraction given the film's already unusual presentation).

Source: Inspired by text at [https://theindependentcritic.com/saragossa\\_manuscript](https://theindependentcritic.com/saragossa_manuscript)

Status: authentic but modified for length and vocab level.

**Example:** Who is said to have paid so he could watch the film whenever he wanted? *Jerry Garcia*

36. What did Coppola and Scorsese help to finance?

.....

37. During which historical period is the film set?

.....

38. What are James Dean and Zbigniew Cybulksi said to have in common?

.....

39. What physical aspect of the DVD does the reviewer find fault with?

.....

## SECTION 7

Read the article and complete the notes. Write no more than three words in each gap from the article.

### **HEN HARRIER CHICKS TO BE REARED IN CAPTIVITY TO PLACATE GROUSE MOOR OWNERS**

Hen harrier chicks will be removed from their parents and reared in captivity this summer in a controversial “brood management” scheme to placate grouse moor owners.

Removing young hen harriers from nests on grouse moors is designed to prevent concentrations of the bird of prey on grouse shooting estates. Stopping hen harriers from feeding on young grouse is designed to reduce the illegal killing of the species, which is on the brink of extinction as a breeding bird in England.

Last summer was the bird’s most successful breeding season for more than a decade with 34 chicks fledged from nine nests across northern England.

Natural England, the government’s conservation watchdog, announced its brood management scheme would begin this summer with “active” hen harrier nests meeting the criteria for chick removal and landowners willing to be part of the trial.

The chicks would be raised in captivity and then released into suitable habitat away from grouse moors. The hen harrier tends to nest in clusters and proponents of the scheme argued that brood management provided reassurance to grouse moor owners that concentrations of hen harriers would not build up on their moors, predating grouse populations. This, it has been argued, would stop gamekeepers and others illegally killing the bird.

Tony Juniper, the chair of Natural England, said: “Conservation and protection of the hen harrier is at the heart of what we are doing in licensing this trial of brood management. This decision takes forward but one element in a far broader recovery strategy for the species.

“Natural England is ready to take the next careful step, aware that the licensed activity and the research will rightly come under close scrutiny from the scientists on the advisory group, from ourselves as the licensing authority and by those both supportive of and opposed to this trial.

“We, as an organisation, must pursue all options for an important bird such as the hen harrier, so that our children may enjoy this majestic species in the wild.”

Critics said the trial was appeasing the grouse shooting industry rather than tackling the illegal persecution of the bird.

Mark Avery, a wildlife campaigner who launched an unsuccessful crowdfunded legal challenge against the trial, said: “This is a daft idea invented by grouse moor owners and of no use at all to hen harriers.”

Avery said he is currently appealing against the high court decision that found the trial to be legal. The RSPB has also applied for permission to appeal.

Chris Corrigan, director of RSPB England, said: "This is disappointing to hear. As we've said all along, brood management is the wrong tool to help restore hen harriers to their rightful place across the English landscape. The RSPB believes the first step in hen harrier recovery should be the ending of illegal persecution. The evidence is now clear that this is the main reason driving the decline of this iconic bird."

Source: Inspired by text at

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/jun/06/hen-harrier-chicks-to-be-reared-in-captivity-to-placate-grouse-moor-owners>

Status: authentic – but shortened and slightly modified.

**Example:** The rehousing of young hen harriers is designed to *placate owners of grouse shooting estates*.

40. The hen harrier is on the point of becoming \_\_\_\_\_ as a resident breeder in England.
41. Hen harrier chicks were bred from \_\_\_\_\_ separate sets of parents in England last year.
42. It is proposed that young harrier chicks be released far from \_\_\_\_\_.
43. The nests of the hen harrier are often found \_\_\_\_\_ together.
44. The licensing authority for the project is \_\_\_\_\_.
45. Some people feel that rather than addressing the maltreatment of harriers this scheme is \_\_\_\_\_ the grouse moor owners.
46. According to the RSPB the most important thing is to stop \_\_\_\_\_ of the hen harriers.

## SECTION 8

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Use the information in **Section 7** to help you write your answer.

**Use your own words.**

**47.** You have just read the article about hen harriers. Now write an email to a friend. Write **150–200** words and tell him/her about the problem. You should include the following information:

- Discuss the threats to an already endangered harrier population.
- Describe the effect that harriers have on the lucrative grouse-shooting industry.
- Assess the potential efficiency of the new scheme being proposed.



## SECTION 9

48. Choose **one** of the topics below and write your answer **in 250–300 words**.

**Either: A – Travel helps to promote understanding and communication between countries? Do you agree?**

**A** ☐

**Or: B – Education is the single most important factor in the development of a country. Do you agree?**

**B** ☐

Put a cross ☒ in the box next to the task you have chosen.

**Write your answer here. Do not write outside of the box.**