

PTE Academic Offline Practice Test

Part 1: Speaking



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This part of the test consists of some questions where an audio is listened to and then a spoken response given. In the actual PTE Academic test a personal introduction is given, but this is not included in this practice test.

Section	Item type	Time allowed
Section 1	Personal introduction	1 minute
Section 2	Read aloud	30-35 minutes
	Repeat sentence	
	Describe image	
	Re-tell lecture	
	Answer short question	

The practice items are on pages 2-36 and the Answer Key and Transcripts on pages 37-52.

Audio prompts are provided in the folder **Prompts** and filed by item type, e.g., **Answer short question** and by item number, e.g., **Answer short question_Item 1**.

Audio sample responses are provided at B1, B2 and C1 levels in the folder **Sample responses** and filed by item type **Re-tell lecture** and by item number **Re-tell lecture_1**. It is important to record responses for comparison with these samples.

Commentaries on the sample responses are provided in the Answer Key.

This offline test does not have the same functionality as the actual online test. Recorded answer and audio countdowns are not included so if timing the test, only approximations can be applied.

Read aloud – Item 1

Look at the text below. In 40 seconds, you must read this text aloud as naturally and clearly as possible. You have 40 seconds to read aloud.

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 39 seconds.

Once most animals reach adulthood, they stop growing. In contrast, even plants that are thousands of years old continue to grow new needles, add new wood, and produce cones and new flowers, almost as if parts of their bodies remained "forever young". The secrets of plant growth are regions of tissue that can produce cells that later develop into specialized tissues.

Read the text aloud and record your response.

Read aloud – Item 2

Look at the text below. In 40 seconds, you must read this text aloud as naturally and clearly as possible. You have 40 seconds to read aloud.

Recorded Answer

Current Status:

Beginning in 40 seconds.

Analysts were impressed by the improvement in margins reported across all regions, apart from the United Kingdom, and said that this reflected a clear effort to improve profitability across the business. Although the turnaround is still in its early stages and the valuation looks full, given the challenge of turning around such a large and complex business, this is certainly an impressive start.

Read the text aloud and record your response.

Read aloud – Item 3

Look at the text below. In 40 seconds, you must read this text aloud as naturally and clearly as possible. You have 40 seconds to read aloud.

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 40 seconds.

The development of easy-to-use statistical software has changed the way statistics is being taught and learned. Students can make transformations of variables, create graphs of distributions of variables, and select among statistical analyses all at the click of a button. However, even with these advancements, students sometimes still find statistics to be an arduous task.

Read the text aloud and record your response.

Read aloud – Item 4

Look at the text below. In 35 seconds, you must read this text aloud as naturally and clearly as possible. You have 35 seconds to read aloud.

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 35 seconds.

In 2005, donor countries agreed on an accord to harmonize their practices. Since then, aid officials have complained that too little has changed on the ground. Conferences of donors in developing countries still tend to be dominated by a small group of north European governments, with the US often absent.

Read the text aloud and record your response.

Read aloud – Item 5

Look at the text below. In 35 seconds, you must read this text aloud as naturally and clearly as possible. You have 35 seconds to read aloud.

Recorded Answer

Current Status:

Beginning in 35 seconds.

The climate for doing business improved in Egypt more than in any other country last year, according to a global study that revealed a wave of company-oriented reforms across the Middle East. The World Bank rankings, which look at business regulations, also showed that the pace of business reforms in Eastern Europe was overtaking East Asia.

Read the text aloud and record your response.

Read aloud – Item 6

Look at the text below. In 35 seconds, you must read this text aloud as naturally and clearly as possible. You have 35 seconds to read aloud.

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 35 seconds.


In a genuine republic, the will of the government is dependent on the will of the society, and the will of the society is dependent on the reason of the society. In Federalist 51, for example, James Madison claimed that the extent and structure of the government of the United States make it dependent on the will of the society.

Read the text aloud and record your response.

Repeat sentence – Item 1

You will hear a sentence. Please repeat the sentence exactly as you hear it. You will hear the sentence only once.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 8 seconds.


Play audio file *Prompt_Repeat_sentence_Item_1* in the *Prompts* folder.

Repeat the sentence and record your response.

Repeat sentence – Item 2

You will hear a sentence. Please repeat the sentence exactly as you hear it. You will hear the sentence only once.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 10 seconds.

Play audio file *Prompt_Repeat_sentence_Item_2* in the *Prompts* folder.

Repeat the sentence and record your response.

Repeat sentence – Item 3

You will hear a sentence. Please repeat the sentence exactly as you hear it. You will hear the sentence only once.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume



Recorded Answer

Current Status:

Beginning in 7 seconds.


Play audio file *Prompt_Repeat_sentence_Item_3* in the *Prompts* folder.

Repeat the sentence and record your response.

Repeat sentence – Item 4

You will hear a sentence. Please repeat the sentence exactly as you hear it. You will hear the sentence only once.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 7 seconds.


Play audio file *Prompt_Repeat_sentence_Item_4* in the *Prompts* folder.

Repeat the sentence and record your response.

Repeat sentence – Item 5

You will hear a sentence. Please repeat the sentence exactly as you hear it. You will hear the sentence only once.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 9 seconds.


Play audio file *Prompt_Repeat_sentence_Item_5* in the *Prompts* folder.

Repeat the sentence and record your response.

Repeat sentence – Item 6

You will hear a sentence. Please repeat the sentence exactly as you hear it. You will hear the sentence only once.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 9 seconds.


Play audio file *Prompt_Repeat_sentence_Item_6* in the *Prompts* folder.

Repeat the sentence and record your response.

Repeat sentence – Item 7

You will hear a sentence. Please repeat the sentence exactly as you hear it. You will hear the sentence only once.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 8 seconds.


Play audio file *Prompt_Repeat_sentence_Item_7* in the *Prompts* folder.

Repeat the sentence and record your response.

Repeat sentence – Item 8

You will hear a sentence. Please repeat the sentence exactly as you hear it. You will hear the sentence only once.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 8 seconds.


Play audio file *Prompt_Repeat_sentence_Item_8* in the *Prompts* folder.

Repeat the sentence and record your response.

Repeat sentence – Item 9

You will hear a sentence. Please repeat the sentence exactly as you hear it. You will hear the sentence only once.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 8 seconds.


Play audio file *Prompt_Repeat_sentence_Item_9* in the *Prompts* folder.

Repeat the sentence and record your response.

Repeat sentence – Item 10

You will hear a sentence. Please repeat the sentence exactly as you hear it. You will hear the sentence only once.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 8 seconds.

Play audio file *Prompt_Repeat_sentence_Item_10* in the *Prompts* folder.

Repeat the sentence and record your response.

Describe image – Item 1

Look at the map below. In 25 seconds, please speak into the microphone and describe in detail what the map is showing. You will have 40 seconds to give your response.



Recorded Answer

Current Status:

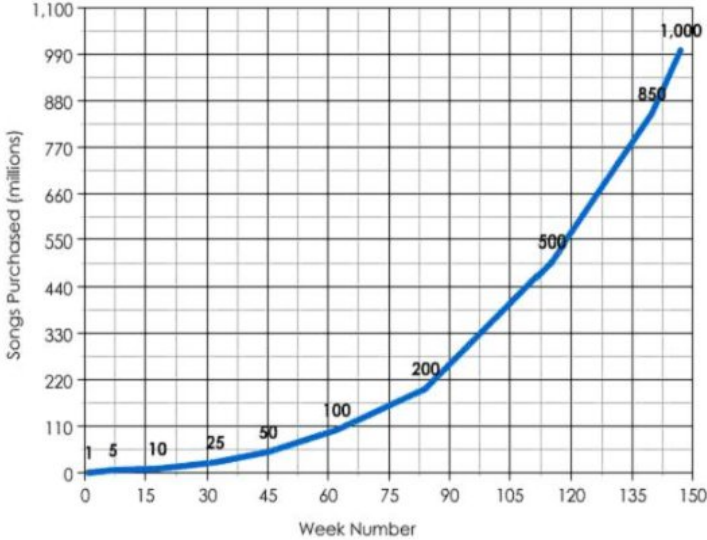
Beginning in 25 seconds.

Describe the image and record your response.

Describe image – Item 2

Look at the graph below. In 25 seconds, please speak into the microphone and describe in detail what the graph is showing. You will have 40 seconds to give your response.

iTunes Purchased Songs



Week Number	Songs Purchased (millions)
0	0
15	5
30	10
45	25
60	50
75	100
90	200
105	400
120	500
135	850
150	1,000

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 25 seconds.

Describe the image and record your response.

Describe image – Item 3

Look at the graph below. In 25 seconds, please speak into the microphone and describe in detail what the graph is showing. You will have 40 seconds to give your response.



Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 25 seconds.

Describe the image and record your response.

Describe image – Item 4

Look at the graph below. In 25 seconds, please speak into the microphone and describe in detail what the graph is showing. You will have 40 seconds to give your response.

Month	Rainfall (mm)	Avg Daily Temp (max) (°C)	Avg Daily Temp (min) (°C)
Jan	50	25	15
Feb	85	25	15
Mar	160	25	15
Apr	220	25	15
May	270	25	15
Jun	280	25	15
Jul	255	25	15
Aug	155	25	15
Sep	65	25	15
Oct	25	25	15
Nov	25	25	15
Dec	25	25	15

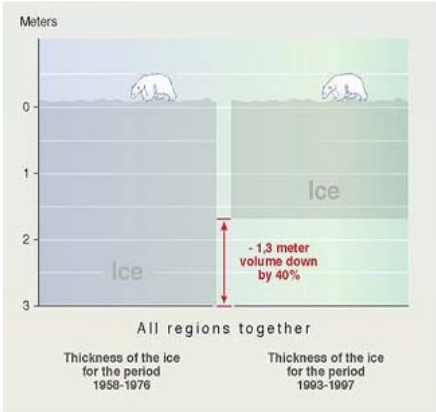
Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 25 seconds.

Describe the image and record your response.

Describe image – Item 5

Look at the graph below. In 25 seconds, please speak into the microphone and describe in detail what the graph is showing. You will have 40 seconds to give your response.



Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 25 seconds.

Describe the image and record your response.

Describe image – Item 6

Look at the graph below. In 25 seconds, please speak into the microphone and describe in detail what the graph is showing. You will have 40 seconds to give your response.

Benefit Recipient by Health Area in Sydney, 2004 (Per cent of eligible population)

The bar chart displays the percentage of the eligible population receiving two types of pensions: Age pension (blue bars) and Disability pension (green bars). The y-axis represents the percentage, ranging from 0 to 80 in increments of 10. The x-axis lists two health areas: Sydney South West and South Eastern Sydney & Illawarra. For Sydney South West, the Age pension is 73.3% and the Disability pension is 7.0%. For South Eastern Sydney & Illawarra, the Age pension is 64.9% and the Disability pension is 6.2%.

Health Area	Age pension (%)	Disability pension (%)
Sydney South West	73.3	7.0
South Eastern Sydney & Illawarra	64.9	6.2

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 25 seconds.

Describe the image and record your response.

Re-tell lecture – Item 1

You will hear a lecture. After listening to the lecture, in 10 seconds, please speak into the microphone and retell what you have just heard from the lecture in your own words. You will have 40 seconds to give your response.



Status: Beginning in 2 seconds.

Volume

Recorded Answer

Current Status:

Beginning in 86 seconds.

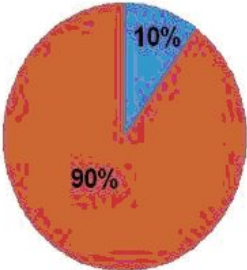
Play audio file [Prompt_Re-tell_lecture_Item_1](#) in the *Prompts* folder.

Re-tell the lecture and record your response.

Re-tell lecture – Item 2

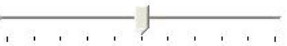
You will hear an interview. After listening to the interview, in 10 seconds, please speak into the microphone and retell what you have just heard from the interview in your own words. You will have 40 seconds to give your response.

Distribution of large fish 2005-06



Category	Percentage
Remaining in the oceans	10%
Caught and consumed by humans	90%

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 78 seconds.

Play audio file *Prompt_Re-tell_lecture_Item_2* in the *Prompts* folder.

Re-tell the interview and record your response.

Please note: In the actual PTE Academic test, a lecture is generally included for this item type.

Re-tell lecture – Item 3

You will hear an interview. After listening to the interview, in 10 seconds, please speak into the microphone and retell what you have just heard from the interview in your own words. You will have 40 seconds to give your response.



Status: Beginning in 2 seconds.

Volume

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 99 seconds.

Play audio file [Prompt_Re-tell_lecture_Item_3](#) in the *Prompts* folder.


Re-tell the interview and record your response.

Please note: In the actual PTE Academic test, a lecture is generally included for this item type.

Answer short question – Item 1

You will hear a question. Please give a simple and short answer. Often just one or a few words is enough.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 8 seconds.


Play audio file [Prompt_Answer_short_question_Item_1](#) in the *Prompts* folder.

Answer the question and record your response.

Answer short question – Item 2

You will hear a question. Please give a simple and short answer. Often just one or a few words is enough.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 11 seconds.


Play audio file [Prompt_Answer_short_question_Item_2](#) in the *Prompts* folder.

Answer the question and record your response.

Answer short question – Item 3

You will hear a question. Please give a simple and short answer. Often just one or a few words is enough.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 10 seconds.


Play audio file [Prompt_Answer_short_question_Item_3](#) in the *Prompts* folder.

Answer the question and record your response.

Answer short question – Item 4

You will hear a question. Please give a simple and short answer. Often just one or a few words is enough.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 7 seconds.


Play audio file [Prompt_Answer_short_question_Item_4](#) in the *Prompts* folder.

Answer the question and record your response.

Answer short question – Item 5

You will hear a question. Please give a simple and short answer. Often just one or a few words is enough.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 8 seconds.

Play audio file [Prompt_Answer_short_question_Item_5](#) in the *Prompts* folder.

Answer the question and record your response.

Answer short question – Item 6

You will hear a question. Please give a simple and short answer. Often just one or a few words is enough.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 15 seconds.

Play audio file [Prompt_Answer_short_question_Item_6](#) in the *Prompts* folder.

Answer the question and record your response.

Answer short question – Item 7

You will hear a question. Please give a simple and short answer. Often just one or a few words is enough.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume



Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 9 seconds.

Play audio file [Prompt_Answer_short_question_Item_7](#) in the *Prompts* folder.

Answer the question and record your response.

Answer short question – Item 8

You will hear a question. Please give a simple and short answer. Often just one or a few words is enough.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 8 seconds.


Play audio file *Prompt_Answer_short_question_Item_8* in the *Prompts* folder.

Answer the question and record your response.

Answer short question – Item 9

You will hear a question. Please give a simple and short answer. Often just one or a few words is enough.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:
Beginning in 9 seconds.

Play audio file [Prompt_Answer_short_question_Item_9](#) in the *Prompts* folder.

Answer the question and record your response.

Answer short question – Item 10

You will hear a question. Please give a simple and short answer. Often just one or a few words is enough.

Status: Beginning in 3 seconds.

Volume 

Recorded Answer

Current Status:

Beginning in 11 seconds.

Play audio file [Prompt_Answer_short_question_Item_10](#) in the *Prompts* folder.

Answer the question and record your response.

Part 1 Speaking: Answer Key and Transcripts

Read aloud – Item 1

Transcript

Once most animals reach adulthood, they stop growing. In contrast, even plants that are thousands of years old continue to grow new needles, add new wood, and produce cones and new flowers, almost as if parts of their bodies remained "forever young". The secrets of plant growth are regions of tissue that can produce cells that later develop into specialized tissues.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Read_aloud_Item_1_B1

Speech is staccato and labored. The rate of speech is uneven and phrasing is irregular. Inappropriate stress and incorrect pronunciation of some consonants might require listeners to adjust to the accent of the speaker.

B2

Sample_response_Read_aloud_Item_1_B2

One word is omitted and one word is read inaccurately. Phrasing is somewhat staccato and there are two repetitions. Omission of words or incorrect pronunciation of some consonants does not affect understanding.

C1

Sample_response_Read_aloud_Item_1_C1

One word is omitted. Speech is spoken at a conversational rate and demonstrates appropriate phrasing. Minor pronunciation errors do not affect understanding.

Read aloud – Item 2

Transcript

Analysts were impressed by the improvement in margins reported across all regions, apart from the United Kingdom, and said that this reflected a clear effort to improve profitability across the business. Although the turnaround is still in its early stages and the valuation looks full, given the challenge of turning around such a large and complex business, this is certainly an impressive start.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Read_aloud_Item_2_B1

Speech is slow and labored. Most phrases are uneven and stress is placed inappropriately. Several words unclear because of incorrect pronunciation of some vowels and consonants and inappropriate stress.

B2

Sample_response_Read_aloud_Item_2_B2

Speech is staccato and the rate of speech is uneven. There is one repetition. Several words are unclear because of incorrect pronunciation of vowels and consonants.

C1

Sample_response_Read_aloud_Item_2_C1

The response is spoken at a conversational rate, with correct placement of stress at the sentence-level and on words. Phrasing is appropriate and pronunciation is standard.

Read aloud – Item 3

Transcript

The development of easy-to-use statistical software has changed the way statistics is being taught and learned. Students make transformations of variables, create graphs of distributions of variables, and select amongst statistical analyses all at the click of a button. However, even with these advancements, students sometimes still find statistics to be an arduous task.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Read_aloud_Item_3_B1

Incorrect pronunciation of vowels and consonants and inappropriate phrasing make several words unclear. The rate of speech is uneven and phrasing is irregular.

B2

Sample_response_Read_aloud_Item_3_B2

One word is read inaccurately. Speech is staccato and the rate of speech is uneven. Minor pronunciation errors do not affect understanding.

C1

Sample_response_Read_aloud_Item_3_C1

This response is spoken at a conversational rate and demonstrates good phrasing and smooth word emphasis. Stress is placed incorrectly on some words. Minor pronunciation errors do not affect understanding.

Read aloud – Item 4

Transcript

In 2005, donor countries agreed on an accord to harmonize their practices. Since then, aid officials have complained that too little has changed on the ground. Conferences of donors in developing countries still tend to be dominated by a small group of north European governments, with the US often absent.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Read_aloud_Item_4_B1

A few words are read inaccurately. The rate of speech is uneven and phrasing is irregular. Incorrect pronunciation of vowels and consonants and inappropriate stress make several words unclear.

B2

Sample_response_Read_aloud_Item_4_B2

Fluency is negatively affected by multiple repetitions and irregular phrasing. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonants and vowels does not affect understanding.

C1

Sample_response_Read_aloud_Item_4_C1

This response is spoken at a conversational rate and demonstrates good phrasing and smooth word emphasis. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonants and vowels does not affect understanding.

Read aloud – Item 5

Transcript

The climate for doing business improved in Egypt more than in any other country last year, according to a global study that revealed a wave of company-oriented reforms across the Middle East. The World Bank rankings, which look at business regulations, also showed that the pace of business reforms in Eastern Europe was overtaking East Asia.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Read_aloud_Item_5_B1

Speech is staccato and labored. Words are not grouped into meaningful phrases and word-level stress is inappropriate. Incorrect pronunciation of vowels and consonants make several words unclear.

B2

Sample_response_Read_aloud_Item_5_B2

One word is read inaccurately and some phrasing is slow and staccato. There are no hesitations, false starts or repetitions. Incorrect pronunciation of vowels and consonants make several words unclear.

C1

Sample_response_Read_aloud_Item_5_C1

This response is spoken at a conversational rate and demonstrates good phrasing and smooth word emphasis. The pronunciation is standard.

Read aloud – Item 6

Transcript

In a genuine republic, the will of the government is dependent on the will of the society, and the will of the society is dependent on the reason of the society. In Federalist 51, for example, James Madison claimed that the extent and structure of the government of the United States make it dependent on the will of the society.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Read_aloud_Item_6_B1

Phrasing is staccato and there is one hesitation. The stress on some words is incorrect. Incorrect pronunciation of vowels and consonants make several words unclear.

B2

Sample_response_Read_aloud_Item_6_B2

Phrasing is appropriate, the rate of speech is acceptable and there are no long pauses, repetitions or false starts. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonants and vowels does not affect understanding.

C1

Sample_response_Read_aloud_Item_6_C1

This response is spoken at a conversational rate and demonstrates good phrasing and correct word emphasis. The pronunciation of most vowels and consonants is standard.

Repeat sentence – Item 1

Transcript

Most teaching staff make their lecture notes available online.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_1_B1

Speech is staccato and has weak phrasing. Several words are unclear because of incorrect pronunciation of some vowels and consonants.

B2

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_1_B2

The pace of speech is acceptable, but some words are staccato and word stress is inappropriate. Minor pronunciation and stress errors do not affect understanding.

C1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_1_C1

Most of the words are repeated accurately. Word stress, sentence-level stress and phrasing are appropriate. The pronunciation is standard.

Repeat sentence – Item 2

Transcript

There will be a conference here next summer on using the web for academic research.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_2_B1

There are several hesitations, one repetition and one long pause. The pace of speech is uneven. Several words are unclear because of incorrect pronunciation of some vowels and consonants.

B2

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_2_B2

Some words in the sentence are omitted, and some words that are not in the sentence are added. Phrasing is uneven, and there are a few hesitations and one repetition. Incorrect pronunciation of vowels and consonants make several words unclear.

C1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_2_C1

Phrasing is somewhat uneven, but the response is spoken at a conversational rate. Minor pronunciation errors do not affect understanding.

Repeat sentence – Item 3

Transcript

The university has a world-renowned school of archaeology.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_3_B1

Some words in the sentence are omitted, and some words that are not in the sentence are added. The speed of the response is acceptable, but there are two hesitations. Incorrect pronunciation of vowels and consonants make several words unclear.

B2

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_3_B2

Some words in the sentence are omitted. The response is spoken at a conversational rate, but phrasing is somewhat uneven. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonants might require listeners to adjust to the accent of the speaker.

C1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_3_C1

The response is spoken at a natural rate, phrasing is appropriate, and stress is placed correctly on all words. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonants does not affect understanding.

Repeat sentence – Item 4

Transcript

Successful applicants will work with a large team of researchers.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_4_B1

Some words in the sentence are omitted. There is one hesitation, a repetition and a false start. Speech is also staccato. Incorrect pronunciation of vowels and consonants make the sentence unclear.

B2

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_4_B2

Some words in the sentence are omitted. Fluency is affected by two hesitations and one repetition. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonants and vowels might require listeners to adjust to the accent of the speaker.

C1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_4_C1

The first few words are somewhat staccato, but there are no long pauses, repetitions or false starts. The pronunciation of most vowels and consonants is standard.

Repeat sentence – Item 5

Transcript

Higher numbers of patients were infected than during previous outbreaks of the illness.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_5_B1

Many words in the sentence are omitted. Fluency is negatively affected by two hesitations and a false start. The sentence is unclear because of incorrect pronunciation of some vowels and consonants.

B2

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_5_B2

Some words that are not in the sentence are added. Several hesitations negatively affect fluency. The pronunciation is standard.

C1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_5_C1

One word is repeated incorrectly. The rate of speech is acceptable and phrasing is appropriate. Minor pronunciation errors do not affect understanding.

Repeat sentence – Item 6

Transcript

The final year will consist of four taught courses and one project.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_6_B1

Speech is slow, includes one long pause and is notably uneven. Incorrect pronunciation of consonants and vowels might require listeners to adjust to the accent of the speaker.

B2

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_6_B2

There is appropriate word stress and the rate of speech is acceptable, but there is one clear hesitation. Minor pronunciation errors do not affect understanding.

C1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_6_C1

One word in the sentence is repeated incorrectly. Despite one hesitation, the rate of speech is acceptable, and both the rhythm and phrasing are appropriate. Minor pronunciation errors do not affect understanding.

Repeat sentence Item 7

Transcript

He started his tutorial presentation right on time.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_7_B1

Speech is labored and phrasing is inappropriate. The sentence is unclear because of incorrect pronunciation of some vowels and consonants.

B2

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_7_B2

Two words that are not in the sentence are added. Speech is staccato and sentence rhythm is weak. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonants and vowels does not affect understanding.

C1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_7_C1

Speech is spoken at a natural rate and phrasing is appropriate. There are no repetitions, hesitations or false starts. Minor pronunciation errors do not affect understanding.

Repeat sentence – Item 8

Transcript

The nearest automatic teller is in front of the anatomy labs.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_8_B1

The two missing words in the response are important content words. Speech is slow and there are two hesitations. Minor pronunciation errors do not affect understanding.

B2

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_8_B2

There is one hesitation and speech is uneven. Minor consonant, pronunciation and word-stress errors do not affect understanding.

C1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_8_C1

Speech is somewhat slow, but all phrasing is appropriate. There are some slight hesitations, but pronunciation is standard.

Repeat sentence – Item 9

Transcript

Newspapers are supported primarily by the sale of advertising space.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_9_B1

Some words in the text are omitted, and one word that is not in the text is added. Speech is slow with irregular phrasing, and there is one hesitation. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonants and vowels does not affect understanding.

B2

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_9_B2

One word is not repeated accurately. Some phrases are spoken at a conversational rate, but one long pause negatively affects fluency. Word stress is appropriate. The pronunciation of most words is standard.

C1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_9_C1

One word is not repeated accurately. The rate of speech is acceptable, and both the rhythm and phrasing are appropriate. Pronunciation is standard.

Repeat sentence Item 10

Transcript

Sydney is Australia's largest city, chief port and cultural center.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_10_B1

Some words in the text are omitted, and some words that are not in the text are added. Speech is slow, includes one long pause and is staccato. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonants and vowels does not affect understanding.

B2

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_10_B2

Some words that are not in the sentence are added. The rate of speech is good, but there is one hesitation and a repetition. Incorrect pronunciation of vowels and consonants make several words unclear.

C1

Sample_response_Repeat_sentence_Item_10_C1

The response is spoken at a conversational rate and the phrasing is appropriate. There are no repetitions, hesitations or false starts. Pronunciation is standard.

Describe image – Item 1

Main points to be included in the description

- The map shows the gorilla distribution in Africa.
- Gorillas are only found in a very small part of Africa.
- There are three types of gorillas found in Africa.
- The territory of different species of gorillas doesn't overlap.
- There are more Western Lowland gorillas in Africa than any other type.
- There are fewer Eastern Lowland gorillas in Africa than any other kind.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Describe_image_Item_1_B1

While the response describes some aspects of the map, several key details are misinterpreted and the description is disorganized. The response is hesitant, making it uneven and discontinuous. There are noticeably long pauses. There is a clear non-native, phonological simplification as the test taker tries to deliver the word "gorilla". This response demonstrates limited control over simple grammatical structures. This response lasts for 34 seconds.

B2

Sample_response_Describe_image_Item_1_B2

The major aspects of the map are accurately described. The test taker produces stretches of language at a fairly even tempo. This test taker pronounces most of his words correctly. Stress is placed incorrectly on some sentences. The test taker does not conspicuously search for words and does not make errors which cause misunderstanding. Language use is acceptable. This response lasts for 28 seconds.

C1

Sample_response_Describe_image_Item_1_C1

The major aspects of the map and relationships between elements are accurately discussed. The test taker expresses himself fluently and spontaneously with a smooth flow of language. His pronunciation is clear and natural with very few instances of consonant and vowel distortion. This response demonstrates good control of standard English grammar with few grammatical errors. The vocabulary used is precise and appropriate for the context. This response lasts for 35 seconds.

Describe image – Item 2

Main points to be included in the description

- The graph shows iTunes purchased songs from week 0 to week 150.
- The number of songs purchased has risen sharply since week 90.
- There were 1,000 times more songs sold in week 148 than in week 0.
- The number of songs sold by iTunes has exploded in the past 150 weeks.
- iTunes only sold 1 million songs in its first week.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Describe_image_Item_2_B1

There is no discussion of the relationships between elements of the graph. Only the content of the graph is described and the description is disorganized. The rate of the response is uneven. Fluency is negatively affected by several hesitations and at least two repetitions. Several words are unclear because of incorrect pronunciation of some vowels and consonants. This response demonstrates limited control over simple grammatical structures. There is frequent pausing for lexical planning, and the overall response is labored. This response lasts for 39 seconds.

B2

Sample_response_Describe_image_Item_2_B2

While the response describes basic elements of the graph, it is disorganized, and there is little discussion of the relationships between elements. The speech is somewhat uneven, but the rate is acceptable and there are several long utterances. Several words are unclear because of incorrect pronunciation of some vowels and consonants. Ideas are expressed through linked discourse. Language use is acceptable, although several grammar and vocabulary errors are present. This response lasts for 30 seconds.

C1

Sample_response_Describe_image_Item_2_C1

The major aspects of the graph are accurately described. The discussion of the relationships between elements contains one misinterpretation. This response contains several long runs of language with an even tempo. Word and phrase stress is appropriate. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonant clusters does not affect understanding. The test taker demonstrates good control of standard English grammar with very few errors. The vocabulary used is precise and appropriate for the context. This response lasts for 35 seconds.

Describe image – Item 3

Main points to be included in the description

- This graph shows the number of people who have had motor vehicles stolen within the period of 1998 to 2002.
- Car/vehicle theft was highest in 1998.
- It was the lowest in 2002.
- It was about the same in 1999 and 2000.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Describe_image_Item_3_B1

While the response describes some major aspects of the graph, several key details are not included or misinterpreted. Several hesitations, repetitions and false starts negatively affect fluency. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonants makes several words unclear. There is limited control over simple grammatical structures. This response lasts for 39 seconds.

B2

Sample_response_Describe_image_Item_3_B2

While the response includes a description of the graph, several key details are not included. The rate of speech is acceptable, but has an unnatural rhythm. Most words can be understood, but certain consonants are omitted. This might require listeners to adjust to the accent of the speaker. Language use is weak and grammar errors are present. This response lasts for 38 seconds.

C1

Sample_response_Describe_image_Item_3_C1

The major aspects of the graph and relationships between elements are accurately discussed. The response is spoken at an acceptable rate of speech, although several phrases are said very quickly. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonant clusters does not affect understanding. This response demonstrates adequate control of standard English grammar. This response lasts for 35 seconds.

Describe image – Item 4

Main points to be included in the description

- The graph shows the rainfall and average daily temperature from January to December.
- Most rain fell in June.
- The least rain fell in October and November.
- The average daily temperature was stable from January to December.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Describe_image_Item_4_B1

Two basic elements of the graph are described, but the main idea is not discussed. While there are a few phrases spoken at a natural rate, fluency is negatively affected by multiple hesitations and long pauses. Incorrect pronunciation of consonants might require listeners to adjust to the accent of the speaker. There is limited control over simple grammatical and lexical structures. This response lasts for 31 seconds.

B2

Sample_response_Describe_image_Item_4_B2

The major aspects of the graph are accurately described, although there is no discussion of the relationships between the elements. While some phrases are spoken at an acceptable rate, several hesitations make the response uneven. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonants and vowels does not affect understanding. The vocabulary is basic and word choice is limited to words that appear on the graph. This response demonstrates control over simple grammatical structures. This response lasts for 39 seconds.

C1

Sample_response_Describe_image_Item_4_C1

The major aspects of the graph and several relationships between elements are accurately discussed. The response is spoken at an acceptable speed and in continuous phrases. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonants and vowels does not affect understanding. Minor grammatical errors do not lead to misunderstanding. Precise vocabulary and cohesive devices are used. This response lasts for 36 seconds.

Describe image – Item 5

Main points to be included in the description

- This chart compares the thickness of Arctic sea ice between the periods 1958-1976, and 1993-1997.
- The thickness of Arctic sea ice decreased by 40% between the period of 1958 to 1976 and the period 1993 to 1997.
- Arctic sea ice was 40% less in volume in the 1990s than in the period 1958 to 1976.
- In the period 1993 to 1997, Arctic ice had decreased by 40% compared to the period of 1958 to 1976.
- From 1976 to 1997 the volume of sea ice in the Arctic was down by 1.3 meters.
- The volume of Arctic ice has declined significantly since the period 1958-1976.
- Over four decades, the volume of Arctic sea ice decreased by 40 percent.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Describe_image_Item_5_B1

The test taker reads one sentence from the image and does not describe any elements in the graph. Incorrect pronunciation of vowels and consonants make most phrases unclear. Stress placement is not standard on common words, and phrase stress is misplaced. Speech is slow and labored. This response lasts for 10 seconds.

B2

Sample_response_Describe_image_Item_5_B2

While the response describes several major aspects of the graph, the response is limited to words that appear in the graph. Speech is staccato. Incorrect pronunciation of consonants and vowels might require listeners to adjust to the accent of the speaker. There are minor word and phrase stress errors. This response demonstrates moderate control of standard English grammar. This response lasts for 26 seconds.

C1 response

Sample_response_Describe_image_Item_5_C1

While major aspects of the graph are accurately described, specific details are omitted. The response is spoken at a natural rate and in continuous phrases. Sentence-level stress is not standard. Pronunciation is standard. This response demonstrates good control of standard English grammar with few grammatical errors. This response lasts for 26 seconds.

Describe image – Item 6

Main points to be included in the description

- (In 2004) approximately (about) 73.3% of the eligible population of (Sydney - South West / South Western Sydney) received an age pension, while 7% received a disability pension.
- This compares with 64.9 % and 6.2% (respectively) in South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Describe_image_Item_6_B1

Basic elements of the graph are described but the image is misinterpreted. While a few phrases are spoken at a natural rate, other phrases are irregular and staccato. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonants makes several words unclear. The response demonstrates limited control over standard English grammar. This response lasts for 13 seconds.

B2

Sample_response_Describe_image_Item_6_B2

While the response includes a description of the graph, key information is misrepresented or omitted. Speech is slow and several hesitations make the response uneven. Incorrect pronunciation of several vowels and consonants make some words unclear. There is moderate control over simple grammatical and lexical structures. This response lasts for 38 seconds.

C1

Sample_response_Describe_image_Item_6_C1

While the major aspects of the graph are accurately described, several key details are omitted and there is no discussion of the relationships between the elements in the graph. The initial phrases are spoken slowly, but there are no hesitations, repetitions or false starts. Pronunciation is standard and stress is placed correctly on common words. This response demonstrates good control of standard English grammar. This response lasts for 29 seconds.

Re-tell lecture – Item 1

Transcript

The shuttle was designed to be a space truck; it's a multi-purpose vehicle. We've done a tremendous number of different things with it. It's the most versatile space vehicle that has ever been built. We've used it to launch satellites. We've used it to repair satellites in orbit and put them back into orbit. We've used it to capture satellites and bring them back to Earth for repair. We've outfitted it with the space lab built by our European partners and used it before the era of the space station to do scientific research. We used it as part of our partnership with the Russians, which is still continuing, first as part of the Mir space station, where we actually prolonged the useful life of Mir by several years through logistical supply visits with the shuttle. And now, of course, we're using it to build the new international space station, which is a ... a huge international partnership.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Re-tell_lecture_Item_1_B1

The response includes some main points from the presentation, but with a degree of inaccuracy. Speech is uneven and contains several hesitations. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonants and vowels might require listeners to adjust to the accent of the speaker. This response demonstrates limited control over simple grammatical structures. The vocabulary is basic. This response lasts for 32 seconds.

B2

Sample_response_Re-tell_lecture_Item_1_B2

Several main points are re-told, but the omission of key details demonstrates only a moderate understanding of the lecture. Speech is somewhat staccato and there are instances of hesitation and reformulation. Minor pronunciation and grammatical errors do not lead to misunderstanding. This response lasts for 36 seconds.

C1

Sample_response_Re-tell_lecture_Item_1_C1

The test taker accurately re-tells most of the main points in the lecture. Although phrasing is somewhat uneven, speech is comprehensible and at an acceptable speed. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonant clusters and vowels does not affect understanding. This response demonstrates good control of standard English grammar. The vocabulary used is appropriate for the context and varied. This response lasts for 39 seconds.

Re-tell lecture – Item 2

Transcript

Interviewer: In an article that you wrote that I just read, you said you wished you could take everyone back to decades ago to look at the Florida Keys.

Interviewee: Fifty years ago. Think about how much change has taken place in that short period of time. We have managed to consume on the order of 90% of the big fish in the ocean: the tunas, the swordfish, the sharks. They're mostly gone. Until recently people have had the belief that there isn't much we puny human beings can do to change the nature of the ocean. But in fact, we have, not just because of what we've been taking out, and the destructive means often applied to take fish and other creatures from the sea, but also what we're putting into the sea, either directly or what we put into the atmosphere that falls back into the sea.

Interviewer: So if you were going to give a grade on the health of the oceans today, what would it be?

Interviewee: Well, it depends on which aspect. Across the board. Huh. The oceans are in trouble. It's hard for me to assign a specific grade. Maybe C-.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Re-tell_lecture_Item_2_B1

While the response includes a few points, other key information is not discussed and some details are misinterpreted. Although some words are spoken in continuous phrases, several hesitations, false starts, and long pauses negatively affect fluency. Incorrect pronunciation of some consonants and vowels does not affect understanding. The test taker demonstrates limited control over simple grammatical structures. This response lasts for 39 seconds.

B2

Sample_response_Re-tell_lecture_Item_2_B2

While the response includes some main points and a conclusion, other key information is omitted. Fluency is negatively affected by staccato speech, numerous hesitations and false starts. Minor pronunciation errors do not affect understanding. Language use is weak; grammar and vocabulary errors are present and word choice is repetitive. This response lasts for 36 seconds.

C1

Sample_response_Re-tell_lecture_Item_2_C1

The topic has been accurately discussed and several supporting points included. There are a few instances of reformulation and hesitation, but speech is continuous. Pronunciation of most consonants and vowels is standard. The vocabulary used is appropriate for the context and varied. This response lasts for 32 seconds.

Re-tell lecture – Item 3

Transcript

Interviewer: What nutritional guidelines should we be following?

Interviewee: Well, probably the best source of nutritional guidelines are those that are issued by the American Cancer Society or the National Cancer Institute. And the American Cancer Society, for example, offers four really basic, simple nutrition guidelines. The first guideline, which in my mind is the most important, is to choose most of the foods that you eat from plant sources, and we can talk in more detail about that in a moment. The second guideline is to limit your intake of high fat foods, particularly from animal sources. The third guideline is to be physically active and achieve a normal, healthy body weight. And the final guideline is to limit consumption of alcoholic beverages if you choose to drink at all.

Interviewer: So Susan, one of the things we always hear about ... from the American Cancer Society is this five-a-day recommendation. Maybe if you could explain to our listening audience what that actually means.

Interviewee: The five-a-day recommendation is a very simple way of communicating the message to increase consumption of these plant foods. And what five-a-day means is five servings per day of fruits and vegetables in total. And some people misunderstand this guideline, and they may think it's okay if I have five glasses of fruit juice a day, and I've met my five-a-day guideline. The goal is really to choose both fruits and vegetables as part of the five-a-day guideline, to vary the fruits and vegetables that you eat on a daily basis, and that alone is a very major step forward in terms of reducing your risk for cancer.

Sample responses

B1

Sample_response_Re-tell_lecture_Item_3_B1

While the response includes some main points, other key information is misrepresented. Intonation is incorrect at times. Multiple hesitations and uneven phrasing negatively affect fluency. Some words are unclear because of incorrect pronunciation of several vowels and consonants. This response demonstrates limited control over simple grammatical structures. The vocabulary is basic and the word choice is repetitive. This response lasts 34 seconds.

B2

Sample_response_Re-tell_lecture_Item_3_B2

While the response includes some main points, other key information from the lecture is omitted. Speech is somewhat slow, and there are a few hesitations and repetitions that negatively affect fluency. Several syllables are skipped and additional sounds are added to words. Certain vowels and consonants are consistently mispronounced. This response demonstrates good control of standard English grammar with very few grammatical errors. This response lasts for 37 seconds.

C1

Sample_response_Re-tell_lecture_Item_3_C1

While the response includes some main points, other key information is omitted and there is one inaccuracy. There are a few hesitations and repetitions, but overall the response is spoken at a conversational rate. Incorrect pronunciation of some vowels does not affect understanding. The test taker demonstrates adequate control of standard English grammar and there are very few grammatical errors. The vocabulary used is appropriate for the context. This response lasts for 39 seconds.

Answer short question – Item 1

Transcript

What organ do cardiologists specialize in?

Correct: (the) heart / hearts

Incorrect: (the) body / medicine / lungs / liver / stomach / skin / kidneys

Answer short question – Item 2

Transcript

If telescopes are used to locate distant objects, what instrument is employed to magnify miniscule objects?

Correct: (electron) microscope / microscopes

Incorrect: telescopes / binoculars

Answer short question – Item 3

Transcript

Which kind of punishment for a crime is the less severe, an imprisonment or community service?

Correct: community service

Incorrect: imprisonment

Answer short question – Item 4

Transcript

How many sides are there in a bilateral agreement?

Correct: two

Incorrect: any other number

Answer short question – Item 5

Transcript

Which is the longest: a decade, a millennium or a century?

Correct: a millennium

Incorrect: a decade / a century

Answer short question – Item 6

Transcript

A manufacturing process releases noxious gases. What is the most important safety measure for workers at this plant - ensuring good ventilation, or appropriate footwear?

Correct: (ensuring good) ventilation

Incorrect: appropriate footwear / noxious gases / threats to health / safety

Answer short question Item 7

Transcript

A list of events placed in time order is usually described as what?

Correct: a chronology / a timeline

Incorrect: history / schedule / order / time / story / book/ news

Answer short question – Item 8

Transcript

If a figure is hexagonal, how many sides does it have?

Correct: six

Incorrect: one / two / three / four / five / seven / eight / (any other number) / square / rectangle

Answer short question – Item 9

Transcript

What key mineral makes sea water different from fresh water?

Correct: salt

Incorrect: seaweed / fish / oceans / rivers

Answer short question – Item 10

Transcript

In the animal kingdom, is the purpose of camouflage to attract a mate, to find food or to hide?

Correct: (it's) (the purpose is) (to) hide

Incorrect: to attract mate / to find food

