

**2026 national curriculum tests**

# **Key stage 2**

**English grammar, punctuation and spelling**

## **Paper 1: questions**

### **Modified large print**

**First name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Middle name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Last name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of birth**    **Day** \_\_\_\_\_ **Month** \_\_\_\_\_ **Year** \_\_\_\_\_

**School name** \_\_\_\_\_

**DfE number** \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Note to markers**

This paper should be marked using the standard mark schemes for KS2 English grammar, punctuation and spelling: Paper 1.

There is additional guidance on marking questions in this paper in the Key stage 2 English grammar, punctuation and spelling mark scheme amendments – MLP document.

# Instructions

## Questions and answers

**You have 45 minutes, plus your additional time allowance, to complete this test.**

**There are different types of question for you to answer in different ways.**

**The space for your answer shows you what type of answer is needed.**

- **Multiple-choice answers**

**For some questions, you do not need to do any writing. Read the instructions carefully so that you know how to answer each question.**

- **Short answers**

**Some questions are followed by a line or a box. This shows that you need to write a word, a few words or a sentence.**

# **Marks**

**Each question has one mark.**

**You should work through the booklet until you are asked to stop.**

**Work as quickly and as carefully as you can.  
If you finish before the end, go back and check your work.**

**[BLANK PAGE]**

**1. Which sentence must end with a question mark?**

**Tick one.**

☐

**Orla wants to know when you are coming to the cinema with us**

☐

**Will Orla buy tickets for all of us**

☐

**I will ask Mum if I can come today**

☐

**I need to find out what time the film starts**

**2. Which sentence is the most formal?**

**Tick one.**

☐

**Come on – find a seat!**

☐

**Sit down, won't you?**

☐

**Have a sit-down.**

☐

**Please be seated.**

3. Draw a line to match each word to the correct **suffix**.

Use each suffix only once.

## Word

develop

outrage

weak

power

## Suffix

ness

less

ment

ous

**4. Which sentence is punctuated correctly?**

**Tick one.**

☐

**Flo – my youngest – sister is  
in year three.**

☐

**Flo – my youngest sister – is  
in year three.**

☐

**Flo my youngest – sister – is  
in year three.**

☐

**Flo my youngest sister – is  
in year – three.**



5. Which sentence uses a **colon** correctly?

Tick **one**.

☐

Plants cannot live without:  
these three things light,  
water and nutrients.

☐

Plants cannot live: without  
these three things light,  
water and nutrients.

☐

Plants cannot live without  
these: three things light,  
water and nutrients.

☐

Plants cannot live without  
these three things: light,  
water and nutrients.

**6. Which sentence is **not** written in  
Standard English?**

**Tick one.**

☐

**We were all at the skate park  
yesterday evening.**

☐

**Jay did a brilliant trick on his  
skateboard.**

☐

**I am not as good at them  
tricks as Jay is.**

☐

**Jay said he would show me  
how to improve.**

**7. Which sentence is punctuated correctly?**

**Tick one.**

☐

**We saw horses from the train window?**

☐

**Look at that horse!**

☐

**What a lovely sight it was?**

☐

**Where are the horses.**

8. Which word is a **synonym** of apparent in the sentence below?

It was apparent that Yasir had worked hard on his model.

Tick **one**.

☐

**curious**

☐

**surprising**

☐

**exciting**

☐

**obvious**

9. Which sentence uses a **comma** correctly after a **fronted adverbial**?

**Tick one.**

☐

**According to the weather forecast, it will be sunny this afternoon.**

☐

**Whatever, the cost she was determined that she would own a horse one day.**

☐

**Unfortunately he overslept and, missed the school trip to the Science Museum.**

☐

**This is a new game that we learnt, in PE today.**

10. Draw a line to match each word to its synonym.

## Word

vast

unpleasant

agreeable

tiny

## Synonym

nasty

small

enormous

pleasant

11. Circle the more **formal** option in each underlined pair in the sentence below.

We are writing to ask / request that  
you consider / think about using  
some of the proceeds / money from  
the school fair to buy / purchase a  
wooden bench for the playground.

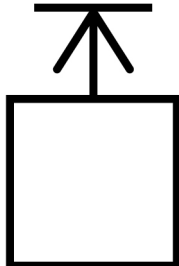
- 12. Insert a pair of brackets in the correct place in the sentence below.**

**Pepper a black cat from York  
hid in the back of his owner's  
car for a whole night.**

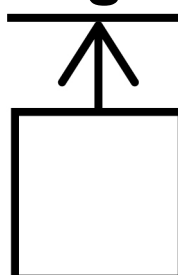
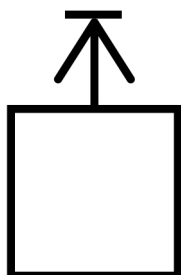


13. Tick one box to show which verb is in the wrong **tense** in the sentence below.

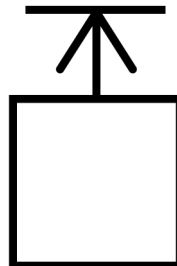
When you use watercolour paints, it



is important that you begin with



lighter shades and built up



colour gradually.

- 14. Insert a pair of commas in the correct place in the sentence below.**

**She decided although she was feeling tired that she would still go to Rita's party.**

**15. Explain how the change of modal verb affects the meaning of the second sentence.**

**1. We will walk home from the station.**

**2. We might walk home from the station.**

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**16. What is the grammatical term for the underlined part of the sentence below?**

**You cannot borrow books from the local library unless you are a member.**

**Tick one.**

☐

**a preposition phrase**

☐

**a subordinate clause**

☐

**a main clause**

☐

**a noun phrase**

17. For each sentence below, show whether it is a **statement**, a **command** or an **exclamation**.

Write either **S** for statement, **C** for command or **E** for exclamation in each box.

How I hate tidying my bedroom

Your bedroom is always neat and tidy

Before we go out on our bikes, help me tidy my bedroom

**18. Circle the conjunction in the sentence below.**

**Salma decided to cook dinner  
while her mum enjoyed a rest after  
a tiring day at work.**

**19. Which sentence uses the **past progressive**?**

**Tick one.**

☐

**What did you do?**

☐

**What are you doing?**

☐

**What were you doing?**

☐

**What could you have done?**

20. Draw a line to match each **prefix** to a word to form its **antonym**.

Use each prefix only once.

## Prefix

im

in

dis

de

## Word

direct

loyal

construct

perfect



**21. Which option completes the sentence in the **past perfect**?**

**\_\_\_\_\_ before school.**

**Tick one.**

☐

**I eat breakfast**

☐

**I was eating breakfast**

☐

**I had eaten breakfast**

☐

**I have eaten breakfast**

**22. Circle the three verbs in the sentence below.**

**Jackson waited for everyone else to choose their food before he served himself.**

**23. Insert a relative pronoun to complete the sentence below.**


**The gymnast, \_\_\_\_\_  
has represented his country at the  
Olympics, will visit our sports club  
next week.**

**24. Insert inverted commas in the correct places in the passage below.**


**Imran looked up from the microscope . I can see the bacteria really clearly ! he exclaimed .**

25. Rewrite the underlined verbs so that they are in the **simple past**.


The plane flies high above the clouds,



while the passengers sit in their seats



and relax.



**26. Underline the relative clause  
in the sentence below.**

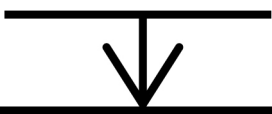
**One of the greatest inventions was  
the wheel, which first appeared  
over 5000 years ago.**

**27. Insert a **semi-colon** in the correct place in the sentence below.**


**The lovely county of Cornwall  
has a long, rugged coastline its  
secluded coves provide safe,  
sheltered harbours.**

28. Write the **contracted form** of the underlined words in the boxes below.

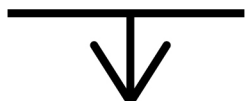
I never send my aunt emails because  
she does not own a computer.



I send her letters instead, but they  
do not reach her for several days.



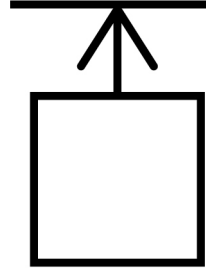
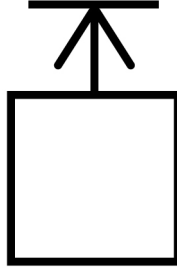
I hope she will come and visit us soon.



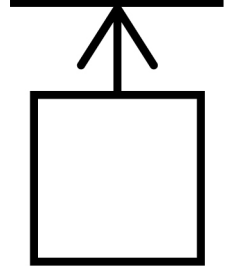
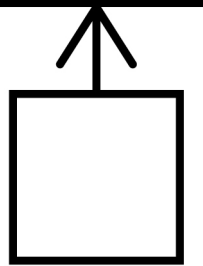


29. Tick one box to show which word is a **preposition** in the sentence below.

The bridge over the stream was



broken so we had to paddle across.



**30. Insert a dash in the correct place in the sentence below.**

**My fruit salad will include strawberries, blueberries and grapes they're so delicious.**

**31. Complete the sentence below with a word from the same **word family** as motivated.**

**The girl was motivated to go swimming every day.**

**Her \_\_\_\_\_ was the chance to swim for her county.**

**32. In which sentence is right an adjective?**

**Tick one.**

☐

**Rani wanted to make the right decision.**

☐

**We went right to the top of the tower.**

☐

**You have the right to fair treatment.**

☐

**Kyle tried to right his mistakes.**

- 33. Insert two *apostrophes* in the correct places in the sentence below.**

**T o m s   o n e   o f   t h o s e   b o y s  
w h o s   a l w a y s   h a p p y   t o  
h e l p   .**

**34. Circle the subordinating conjunction in the sentence below.**

**Unfortunately, the youth club will be closed until we have completed the repairs and replaced the sports equipment.**

**35. Insert a hyphen in the correct place in the sentence below.**

**After the long shopping trip, we did not have a lot of time to cook dinner, so we bought a ready made pasta sauce and garlic bread.**

**36. Sam wants to know what time the game starts.**

**Write a question he could ask to find out.**

**Remember to punctuate your sentence correctly.**

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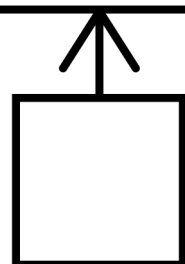
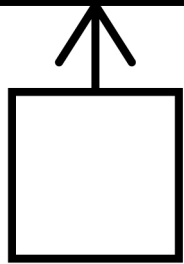
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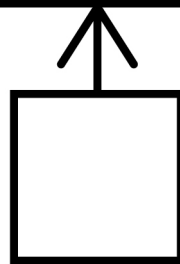
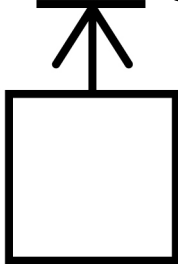


37. Label each box with **subject (S)** or **object (O)**.

When Seema reached the playground,



she greeted her friends.



**38. Explain how the **comma** changes the meaning of the second sentence.**

**1. We often eat lunch near the pond  
in the park or under the trees.**

**2. We often eat lunch near the pond,  
in the park or under the trees.**

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**39. Circle the three **nouns** in the sentence below.**

**They were so excited about going to Cardiff that they wouldn't let the bad weather dampen their enthusiasm.**

**40. Insert capital letters and full stops in the correct places in the passage below.**

**camels live in the desert they  
can survive extremes of  
temperature and manage without  
food for a long time although  
some camels have one hump,  
others have two**

**41. Rewrite the sentence below in the active.**

**Remember to punctuate your answer correctly.**

**The trees are being harmed by pollution.**

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**42. Circle the possessive pronoun in the passage below.**

**Sandip introduced me to the new girl in year 6, whose name was Rashida. She had forgotten to bring a pen so I gave her one of mine.**

43. **Underline the longest noun phrase in the sentence below.**

**The beautiful grey elephants walked slowly through the forest.**

**44. Which sentence uses the subjunctive?**

**Tick one.**

☐

**If I were to look inside the box, what would I find?**

☐

**If I had to choose my favourite food, I would choose pizza.**

☐

**If your soup is too hot, wait for it to cool down.**

☐

**If you are late, you might miss the bus.**



**45. Rewrite the sentence below in the passive.**

**Remember to punctuate your answer correctly.**

**Rabia broke the mug.**

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46. **Underline the adverbial in the sentence below.**

**I'm going to visit my uncle at  
the weekend.**

**47. Which sentence is an **exclamation**?**  
**The punctuation at the end of each sentence has been removed.**

**Tick one.**

☐

**That's my favourite band**

☐

**This music is too loud**

☐

**What a brilliant song this is**

☐

**Let's dance**

**48. Circle the two co-ordinating conjunctions in the sentence below.**

**Because my brother couldn't  
decide whether to wear trainers  
or boots, we left late and almost  
missed the bus.**

**49. Circle the two adverbs in the passage below.**

**I'll always remember the day that we won the cup. Dad and I sang jubilantly as we walked through the park.**

**50. Circle the three **determiners** in the sentence below.**

**I go to the swimming pool every  
week with my best friend Peter.**

**End of test**

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