Test-day Handout: Oxford Online Placement Test (OOPT)

Is the test important? Yes. Aim to get the best result you can.

Click save and then confirm your save.

Click on ‘Oxford Online Placement Test’.

Select your starting level
It’s simpler to pick the Mid-level starting point. In fact, it doesn’t really matter. The test is adaptive. If you get the first few questions right at the mid-level the system will start asking you harder questions until it finds your level. If you get the first few questions wrong, the system will start asking you easier questions until it finds your level.

WARNING: You cannot go back to questions you skipped.

The test
The test is divided into two parts:

Part 1: Use of English
In part 1, there are three main types of questions.

Type 1
Format: There is a short conversation and a dropdown menu gives you a choice of four answers.

How to tackle such questions
1) Try to recognize the grammar or vocabulary area that is being tested.
2) Read the whole conversation. Concentrate on the words after the gap.
Type 2

**Format:** In this question type, you have to read the dialogue on the right of the screen. The question will ask you about one of the comments/questions of one the people talking.

**How to tackle such questions**

Only one of the three choices on the left repeats the information/meaning. **It won’t use the same words, but the meaning will be the same.**

Type 3: Cloze test

The computer system compares the answer you type into the gap with the correct answer, or answers, is has stored in the system.

**How hard will it be?**

The cloze test you get depends on how well you answered the previous questions.

Complete the text below. Write **ONE** word only into each space. There is an example (a) at the beginning.

Type only one word in each space.

**Technique**

i) Read the whole text first.

ii) Reread sentence by sentence, paying particular attention to the words immediately after the gap.

When you have finished this question, the first section is over.

**Part 2: Listening**

Put on your headphones and double check the sound is on. You can play each recording twice. On very rare occasions the recording won’t play a second time. In this case, just pick an answer at random and move onto the next question. If it happens again, put your hand up and inform the teacher.

There are two types of questions

**Type 1:** Only one question per recording

**Type 2:** There are two questions per recording

**General technique for the listening section:**

1) **Listen for meaning not words**

They are not testing your ability to hear words that you have just read. In most cases, but not all, the answer will not use any of the words in the recording.

2) **As you read the answers, think of synonyms for the words**

Let’s imagine this was one of the answers: A *The venue proved more suitable than ones used previously.*

As you read, think of some possible alternatives for these words:

- **Venue =** location, or something specific such as hotel or conference hall.
- **Suitable =** appropriate
- **Previously =** in the past, or something specific such as last year.

If you are lucky you will hear these words in the recording.

**End of Test**

Thank you for taking this test. Your results are available from the institution that provided you with your login and password.

**End of test.** In most cases: Don’t turn off the computer. Just click ‘abmelden’.