

A2 Key Paper 1 Reading and Writing Part 2 – Teacher's Notes

Description

In this activity students focus on key vocabulary in questions and scan the texts to find the answer. They then read in more detail before making their final decision. They are given the rest of the sample task from the exam to complete within a set time.

Time required: 25 minutes

Materials required:

- A2 Key Handbook (or sample paper)
- Student handout 1 and 2
- Follow-up activity Student handout3(optional)

Aims:

- to familiarise students with A2 Key Paper 1 Reading and Writing Part 2
- to practise scanning for key vocabulary
- to practise reading for detailed information

Procedure

1. Explain to your students that they will be doing Part 2 of the A2 Key Paper 1 Reading and Writing exam.
2. Write on the board the following questions.
 - What is a blog?
 - What do people write about in blogs?
 - Have you ever read a blog?
 - Have you ever written a blog?

Ask your students to work in pairs to discuss the questions, elicit their answers and discuss in open class.

3. Explain to your students that they are going to read about 3 people who all write blogs. Ask them to read all 3 texts. Students should first identify what each blog is about and then decide whose blog they would like to read and why. Set a time limit of 10 minutes and encourage students to highlight key words. Encourage students to discuss their favourite blog with their partner before getting feedback in open class. Invite students to explain why they prefer one blog over another. Take a class vote on the one they like best.

4. Tell your students that they are now going to read for more information. On the board write the following question: 'Who writes both a magazine and a blog?' Ask your students to underline any sentence with 'magazine' and 'blog' in it for each person, and to check what they learn about what each person writes (answer: C, Chrissie).
5. Write the following question on the board 'Who says that studying and writing a blog at the same time can be hard?'. Ask your students if there are different words they could use to describe something that is hard e.g. hard = difficult/not easy. Ask students to think about the different institutions where students can study e.g. at school/college/university. Ask your students to read the text to find the answer to the question. Encourage students to underline the words that helped them find the answer. Invite students to compare with their partner and explain how they found their answer before open class feedback (answer: B, Dani).
6. Tell your students that they are going to answer questions 9–13 from the sample test. Set them a time limit of 7 minutes. This is an individual task. Remind them to use the techniques of highlighting key words in the text and thinking about synonyms.
7. Allow your students to check their answers in pairs before open class feedback so again you can monitor and hear if they had any problems with the vocabulary.

Suggested follow-up activities

1. Ask students to write their own blog on a topic that interests them.
2. Practise using the answer sheet. Photocopy it and ask students to fill in the lozenges in pencil for their answers to Part 2.

Answer key

- 7. C
- 8. B
- 9. A
- 10. B
- 11. C
- 12. C
- 13. A

A2 Key Paper 1 Reading and Writing Part 2

Handout 1

Read the three blogs.

What are the blogs about? Which blog would you prefer to read and why?

Young blog writers

Tasha



Last year I wrote for my college magazine, which I found really difficult, but I don't think it's hard to write a good blog. Mine is about things from daily life that make me laugh. My older brother also has a blog, but we're writing about different subjects. We don't discuss what we're planning, but we read each other's blogs sometimes. I like giving advice to people who write in asking for it – it's good to know I've helped.

Danni



I started writing my popular film blog because I love movies. I like it when readers send me articles by email about a film they've seen, and I put these on my blog for everyone to read. I'm still at college, so I'm careful about spending too long on my blog, which is difficult as writing well takes time. I don't think I'll write it for much longer. I'm busy, and it's time to do something new.

Chrissie



I began writing on a school magazine. I stopped after a few years, but I missed it, so I started my own – I'm still writing it now! The blog's new for me, and I write about daily life. I get ideas from friends or my sister when I can't decide what to write about – we always think of something interesting, sad or serious. At first, almost nobody visited my site, but now more do, I've had some lovely comments.

A2 Key Paper 1 Reading and Writing Part 2

Handout 2

For each question chose the correct answer:


		Tasha	Danni	Chrissie
7	Who writes both a magazine and a blog?	A	B	C
8	Who says that studying and writing a blog at the same time can be hard?	A	B	C
9	Who answers questions from other people who read her blog?	A	B	C
10	Who plans to stop writing her blog soon?	A	B	C
11	Who didn't have many people reading her blog in the beginning?	A	B	C
12	Who asks a member of her family to help her write her blog?	A	B	C
13	Who says writing a blog is easier than some other types of writing?	A	B	C

A2 Key Paper 1 Reading and Writing Part 2

Handout 3

Write your own blog about something you are interested in, for example computer games, sports or music.

A2 Key Paper 1 Reading and Writing: Candidate Answer Sheet



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Page 1 of 2

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Cambridge Assessment English

Candidate Name

Centre Name

Examination Title

Candidate Signature

Candidate Number

Centre Number

Examination Details

Assessment Date

Supervisor: If the candidate is ABSENT or has WITHDRAWN shade here ☐

Key Reading and Writing Candidate Answer Sheet

Instructions
Use a PENCIL (B or HB).
Rub out any answer you want to change with an eraser.

For Parts 1, 2, 3 and 4:
Mark ONE letter for each answer.
For example: If you think A is the right answer to the question, mark your answer sheet like this:

For Part 5:
Write your answers clearly in the spaces next to the numbers (25 to 30) like this:

0 ENGLISH

Write your answers in CAPITAL LETTERS.

Part 1

1	A	B	C
2	A	B	C
3	A	B	C
4	A	B	C
5	A	B	C
6	A	B	C

Part 2

7	A	B	C
8	A	B	C
9	A	B	C
10	A	B	C
11	A	B	C
12	A	B	C
13	A	B	C

Part 3

14	A	B	C
15	A	B	C
16	A	B	C
17	A	B	C
18	A	B	C

Part 4

19	A	B	C
20	A	B	C
21	A	B	C
22	A	B	C
23	A	B	C
24	A	B	C

Part 5

25		25 1 0 ○ ○	28		28 1 0 ○ ○
26		26 1 0 ○ ○	29		29 1 0 ○ ○
27		27 1 0 ○ ○	30		30 1 0 ○ ○

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Page 1 of 2