2024 national curriculum tests

Key stage 2

English grammar, punctuation and spelling test mark schemes

Paper 1: questions

Paper 2: spelling



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1. Introduction

The Standards and Testing Agency (STA) is responsible for the development and delivery of statutory tests and assessments. STA is an executive agency of the Department for Education.

The 2024 tests assess the national curriculum. This test has been developed to meet the specification set out in the <u>test framework</u>¹ for English grammar, punctuation and spelling at key stage 2.

A new test and new mark schemes will be produced each year.

Key stage 2 tests are marked by external markers, who receive training to ensure the mark schemes are applied consistently and fairly. The mark schemes are provided to show teachers how the tests are marked. The pupil examples are based on responses gathered from the test trialling process.

Scaled score conversion tables are not included in this document. Conversion tables will be produced as part of the standards maintenance process. <u>Scaled score conversion tables</u>² for the 2024 tests will be published in July 2024. The standards confirmation meeting will take place in July 2024.

2. Structure of the test

The key stage 2 English grammar, punctuation and spelling test comprises:

- Paper 1: questions (50 marks)
- Paper 2: spelling (20 marks)

3. Content domain coverage

The 2024 test meets the specification in the test framework. Tables 1 and 3 set out the areas of the content domain that are assessed in Paper 1 and Paper 2.

¹ www.gov.uk/government/publications/key-stage-2-english-grammar-punctuation-and-spelling-test-framework

² www.gov.uk/guidance/scaled-scores-at-key-stage-2

4. Paper 1: questions

4.1 Content domain coverage for Paper 1: questions

Table 1 sets out the content domain coverage for questions in Paper 1. Information relating to the codes in Table 1 can be found in the key stage 2 English grammar, punctuation and spelling test framework.

Table 1: Content domain coverage for questions in Paper 1

	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6	G7
	Grammatical terms or	Functions	Combining words,	Verb forms, tenses and	Punctuation	Vocabulary	Standard English
Qu.	word classes	sentences	phrases and clauses	consistency			and formality
1					1		
2					1		
3					1		
4					1		
5		1					
6					1		
7				1			
8	1						
9		1					
10						1	
11							1
12					1		
13					1		
14					1		
15	1						
16			1				
17							1
18					1		
19							1
20			1				
21					1		
22					1		

	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6	G7
	Grammatical terms or word classes	Functions of	Combining words, phrases	Verb forms, tenses and	Punctuation	Vocabulary	Standard English and
Qu.	word classes	sentences	and clauses	consistency			formality
23						1	
24			1				
25					1		
26				1			
27						1	
28	1						
29					1		
30				1			
31	1						
32	1						
33						1	
34	1						
35					1		
36			1				
37	1						
38					1		
39						1	
40	1						
41	1						
42					1		
43	1						
44				1			
45	1						
46				1			
47				1			
48		1					
49	1						
50						1	

4.2 General marking guidance for Paper 1: questions

To ensure consistency of marking, the most frequent procedural queries are listed in Table 2, along with the action the marker will take.

Recording marks awarded

Marking takes place on screen, with markers viewing scanned images of pupils' responses. Marks are entered into the marking system in accordance with the guidance for the on-screen marking software.

For each question, markers record the award of 1 or 0 marks as appropriate, according to the mark scheme criteria. There is provision in the software to record questions not attempted. The software aggregates marks automatically.

The following guidance applies to all questions in Paper 1.

Table 2: General marking principles for Paper 1

Question Type	Accept	Do not accept
Tick boxes and tables	 any unambiguous indication of the correct answer, for example: the box is crossed rather than ticked the correct answer is circled rather than ticked 	answers in which more than the required number of boxes have been ticked
Circling or underlining of the answer	any unambiguous indication of the correct answer, such as the answer being enclosed within a box	 answers in which more than the required number of words have been circled or underlined answers in which the correct answer is circled or underlined, together with any surrounding words
Drawing lines to 'match' boxes	lines that do not touch the boxes, provided the intention is clear	multiple lines drawn to or from the same box (unless this is a question requirement)
Labelling	 clear labels, whether they use the full vocabulary required by the question or an unambiguous abbreviation, for example, 'V' for 'verb' 	ambiguity in labelling, for example, the use of 'AD' or 'A' where a distinction is required between 'adjective' and 'adverb'

Question Type	Accept	Do not accept
Punctuation	correctly formed punctuation that is clear, unambiguous and recognisable as the required punctuation mark	punctuation that is ambiguous, for example, if it is unclear whether the mark is a comma or full stop
Sentences and capital letters	 a sentence that has an initial capital letter and an appropriate punctuation mark indicating the end of the sentence capital letters that are clear and unambiguous Where letters do not have unique capital letter forms, the height of the capital letter will be equal to, or greater than, that of letters with ascenders. 	answers in which capital letters are omitted or placed inappropriately in a sentence, or where an entire word is capitalised
Spelling	incorrect spellings of the correct response if no specific mark scheme guidance is given	incorrect spellings of answers for which the mark scheme requires correct spelling Correct spelling is required for the award of the mark for the majority of questions in Paper 1, especially for questions assessing contracted forms, verb forms, plurals, prefixes and suffixes.

Question Type	Accept	Do not accept
Answers outside the expected space	 a correct answer given somewhere other than the answer space, provided it is not contradicted by another answer written elsewhere correct answers that are written in the 'blank' within a question, rather than in the expected space below it correct answers in which the pupil has written out a word or sentence that is already provided 	answers that are given outside the expected space and contradicted by another answer written elsewhere
More than one answer given	multiple answers that are all correct according to the mark scheme	responses where both correct and incorrect answers are given
Handwriting	answers that are clear, unambiguous and recognisable, including letters that have been reversed, but which are still clearly identifiable to the marker	answers that are unclear or ambiguous
Crossed-out answers	correct answers that replace a crossed-out attempt	crossed-out answers

4.3 Explanation of the mark schemes for Paper 1: questions

The mark schemes contain the following information for each question:

- the question number
- the question from the test paper
- what is required to answer each question either a correct answer or examples of different types of creditworthy response
- how many marks are available for the question
- any additional guidance that may be relevant
- the content domain reference

5. Mark schemes for Paper 1: questions

Qu.	Requirement	Mark
1 G5.3 G2.2	Do you know how long it took for the trees to grow	1m
2 G5.6a	After he ate, the lion lay down and slept for many hours.	1m
3	Award 1 mark for a correctly placed semi-colon.	1m
G5.11 G3.1	It was raining heavily; she had lost her umbrella the week before.	
4 G5.6b G1.6a	Sadly, the match had to be cancelled.	1m
5 G2.3	Under the handrail to keep yourself steady. ✓	1m
6 G5.8	The car's horn beeps loudly.	1m
7 G4.1a	Award 1 mark for all three correct. Oliver feels proud when he collects his medal after he wins the race. felt collected won Do not accept misspellings. There are no capitalisation requirements for this question.	1m

Qu.	Requirement				Ma	
8 G1.5a	Award 1 mark for all three correct.					
G1.5b	Sentence	Possessive pronoun	Relative pronoun			
	That red cycle helmet is mine.	✓				
	I wear it when I ride the new bike which my uncle gave me.		✓			
	My bike goes much faster than <u>yours</u> .	✓				
9 G2.2 G5.3	If you finish your homework, are you	able to stay 🗸			1n	
10 G6.1	miserable 🗸			1n		
11 G7.2 G7.3	The school would benefit from the financial savings.				1n	
12	Award 1 mark for a correctly placed	dash.			1n	
G5.12 G3.1	I will not tell you any more about the	film – you'll have	to see it			
	for yourself.					
13 G5.1	In July, I will visit my grandparents in	n Newcastle. ✓			1n	
14	Award 1 mark for a correctly placed	pair of brackets.			1n	
G5.9	The players (both former world cham	pions) waited at	the side of			
	the court.					

Qu.	Requirement				Mark	
15	Award 1 mark for the correct word	l circled.			1m	
G1.5	Early bicycles did not have pedals,	soriders had to	push			
	themselves along using their feet.					
16 G3.1a	a relative clause 🗸				1m	
17 G7.1	Award 1 mark for all four correct.				1m	
Gr.1	Sentence	Standard English	Non-Standard English			
	"You haven't done a bad job!" she told us.	✓				
	"You ain't done a bad job!" she told us.		✓			
	"You've done an excellent job!" she told us.	✓				
	"You done an excellent job!" she told us.		✓			
18 G5.4	Award 1 mark for a full stop, a que correctly inserted.	estion mark and a	n exclamation ma	ırk	1m	
G5.2 G5.3	"Did you see that goal? I thought it	was incredible!"				
	exclaimed Elle.					
19 G7.3 G7.2	We request that you put any litter i	n the bins provid	ed. 🗸		1m	
20 G3.2	a noun phrase 🗸				1m	

Qu.	Requirement				Mark
21 G5.7	"Please take out your boo calmly, "and finish your po		eacher 🗸		1m
22 G5.10 G5.5	Award 1 mark for a colon We are pleased to announ competition: Samir, Ben a	ce the three w	_		1m
23 G6.1	Pair of words	Synonyms	Antonyms		1m
	rough, smooth		1		
	courageous, brave	√			
	vivid, dull		✓		
24 G3.4	a subordinate clause 🗸				1m
25 G5.9	Award 1 mark for a correct	ctly placed pai	r of commas.		1m
G0.5	One of the world's most in catches its prey by snappi			lytrap,	
26 G4.4	The meal was enjoyed by				1m
27 G6.3	Award 1 mark for suffix				1m
G0.3	Also accept morpheme o		a au ilva ma a mb	for this guestion	
	There are no spelling or	punctuation r	equirements	for this question.	

Qu.	Requirement	Mark
28	Award 1 mark for conjunction(s) or subordinating conjunction(s)	1m
G1.4	Also accept subordinator(s)	
	There are no spelling or punctuation requirements for this question.	
29 G5.6a	Award 1 mark for a response explaining that the comma changes the type of items cooked, referring to one or both sentences, for example:	1m
	 The second sentence says that the chicken and soup are different things but the first says it is chicken flavoured soup. In the first, they cooked chicken soup, but in the second the chicken and soup are separate. 	
	Also accept a response explaining that the comma changes the number of items cooked, referring to one or both sentences, for example:	
	 In the first one there are two things but in the second one there are three. It changes the list from 2 things to 3 things. 	
	There are no spelling or punctuation requirements for this question.	
30	Award 1 mark for the correct word circled.	1m
G4.1c	Hannah said I could share her snack because I had	
	forgotten mine.	
31 G1.1	Award 1 mark for all four correct.	1m
GILI	The successful athletes were full of pride when they accepted	
	their medals from the judges	
32 G1.9	Every Saturday, Nadim takes his dog for a walk in the park.	1m
33	Award 1 mark for over	1m
G6.2	Also accept over-	
	Also accept sur	
34 G1.1	nouns 🗸	1m

Qu.	Requirement	Mark			
35 G5.13	Award 1 mark for a hyphen inserted in the correct place.				
40.10	There was a build-up of litter around the bins in the				
	school playground.				
36	Award 1 mark for the correct word circled.	1m			
G3.3 G1.4	The journey proved difficult as they had to travel by night, but				
	they made good time once the stars came out to guide them.				
37 G1.3	an adjective 🗸	1m			
38	Award 1 mark for all three correct.	1m			
G5.8	The teachers staffroom was full of books and old armchairs.				
	The teachers' new mug was a present from her class.				
	The teacher's were taking part in the school play.				
39	Award 1 mark for immature	1m			
G6.2 G6.1	Do not accept misspellings of the prefix im.				
	There are no capitalisation requirements for this question.				
40	Award 1 mark for determiner(s)	1m			
G1.8	There are no spelling or punctuation requirements for this question.				
41 G1.2	After he sprained his ankle, he could not dance.	1m			

Qu.	Requirement	Mark				
42	Award 1 mark for both correct.	1m				
G5.8	If <u>nobody is</u> home, your parcel <u>will not</u> be delivered.					
	nobody's won't					
	Do not occupt micenallings					
	Do not accept misspellings. There are no capitalisation requirements for this question					
40	There are no capitalisation requirements for this question.	4				
43 G1.6	Although he ran <u>fast</u> , Tom did not win the race.	1m				
44	Award 1 mark for both correct.	1m				
G4.1a	Joseph hurriedly draws the man's portrait, but then tears the					
	drew tore					
	page out of his sketchbook.					
	Do not accept misspellings.					
	There are no capitalisation requirements for this question.					
45	Award 1 mark for both correct.	1m				
G1.7	After playtime, you must stay inside the classroom until it					
	is lunchtime.					
46	Award 1 mark for	1m				
G4.1d	Alexandra walked home.					
	was walking					
	Do not accept misspellings.					
	There are no capitalisation requirements for this question.					

Qu.	Requirement	Mark	
47 G4.4	 Award 1 mark for a correctly punctuated sentence using the passive, for example: We were disturbed by the noise of the traffic. We were disturbed. We were disturbed by the traffic noises. Also accept a correctly punctuated sentence using a get-passive, for example: We got disturbed by the noise of the traffic. Do not accept misspellings of verb forms or errors in punctuation or capitalisation.		
48 G2.4	How strange some deep-sea creatures look ✓	1m	
49 G1.6a	Award 1 mark for We put on our PE kits before the match.	1m	
50 G6.1	Award 1 mark for both correct. The street was lined with grand houses; the modest cottage stood out amongst its imposing neighbours.	1m	

6. Paper 2: spelling

6.1 Content domain coverage for Paper 2: spelling

This information is provided in Table 3.

6.2 General marking guidance for Paper 2: spelling

The following guidance applies to all questions in Paper 2. Please read this carefully before applying the individual mark schemes.

- If the pupil makes more than one attempt, it must be clear which answer the pupil wishes to be marked.
- If the pupil makes two or more attempts and it is not clear which is to be considered, the mark is not awarded.
- The pupil can answer in upper or lower case, or a mixture of the two. The exception to this is for days
 of the week, which must be written in lower-case letters with an initial capital letter for the award of the
 mark.
- If the pupil has answered with the correct sequence of letters but has incorrectly inserted an apostrophe or a hyphen, the mark is not awarded.
- If the pupil has answered with the correct sequence of letters but these have been separated into clearly divided components, with or without a hyphen, the mark is not awarded.

6.3 Pupil version of Paper 2: spelling

	Spelling	
		11. Your carry blood to your heart.
1.	Our dogs are and full of energy.	12. We were delighted when our team won the
2.	The swans nested on an in the lake.	
•	We met a writer.	13. There was because of the snow.
٥.	we niet a writer.	14. We waited in the to buy tickets.
4.	The linen fabric had a rough	15. I have a to your problem.
5.	It is important to stay safe on media.	
6.	The school is its minibus.	16. It was with some that Jon went upstairs to start his homework.
7.	This bracelet is a of our friendship.	17. Sports day last year was a event.
8.	Working hard will our chance of success.	18. After some, Dad agreed that we could stay up l
9.	The dentist gave my teeth a thorough	19. Is this the book you were to?
10). We go to the beach in summer.	20. The cook served a meal.
		END OF TEST
	age 2 of 4	Page 3 of 4

7. Mark schemes for Paper 2: spelling

Information relating to the content domain reference codes in Table 3 can be found in the key stage 2 English grammar, punctuation and spelling test framework.

Table 3: Mark schemes and content domain references for Paper 2

Qu.	Spelling	Mark	Content domain reference
1	young	1	S40 – the /n/ sound spelt ou
2	island	1	S60 – words with 'silent' letters (i.e. letters whose presence cannot be predicted from the pronunciation of the word)
3	famous	1	S46 – the suffix –ous
4	texture	1	S44 – words with endings sounding like /ʒə/ or /tʃə/
5	social	1	S54 – endings which sound like /ʃəl/
6	replacing	1	S38 – adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words of more than one syllable S41 – prefixes
7	symbol	1	S39 – the /i/ sound spelt y other than at the end of words
8	increase	1	S41 – prefixes
9	examination	1	S42 – the suffix –ation
10	frequently	1	S43 – the suffix –ly
11	veins	1	S52 - words with the /eɪ/ sound spelt ei, eigh, or ey
12	league	1	S50 – words ending with the /g/ sound spelt –gue and the /k/ sound spelt –que
13	chaos	1	S48 – words with the /k/ sound spelt ch
14	queue	1	S61 – homophones and near homophones (Years 3 and 4) homophones and other words that are often confused (Years 5 and 6)
15	solution	1	S47 – endings that sound like /ʃən/, spelt –tion, –sion, –ssion, –cian
16	reluctance	1	S55 – words ending in –ant, –ance, –ancy, –ent, –ence, –ency
17	memorable	1	S56 – words ending in –able and –ible words ending in –ably and –ibly
18	persuasion	1	S45 – endings that sound like /ʒən/
19	referring	1	S57 – adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words ending in <i>-fer</i> S38 – adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words of more than one syllable
20	nutritious	1	S53 – endings which sound like /ʃəs/ spelt –cious or –tious
	Total		

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Paper 1: questions and Paper 2: spelling

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