



Progress test I

Advanced level (C1) February 2019

There are five parts to the test: A: Reading; B: Language; C: Listening; D: Speaking; E: Writing. **TEACHERS: only print the first five pages for your students.**

Student (full name): Company:
..... Group: Level: Teacher (full name):
..... Date course started:

To be completed by the teacher:

(A) Reading (5): _____ (B) Language (5): _____ (C) Listening (10): _____
(D) Speaking (15): _____ (E) Writing (15): _____ Total score: _____ (50)

Teacher's comment:

This exam is designed to test your general language skills. It will help you (and the teacher) see where you might need a bit more help. You can do this test without any revision! Good luck!

A: Reading (Total = 5 points)

Read the text. Then, answer the questions.



How to sue your landlord!

Have you ever had a problem with your landlord? Perhaps you should speak to a lawyer.

Just recently, one of my clients, Stacey Martin, took her landlord to court... and won. It's a surprisingly simple process, and my advice is, don't get mad – get even. The case was fairly straightforward. The tenant, Ms Martin, handed in her notice and then vacated the property, but the landlord flatly refused to pay back the £1,000 deposit.

The landlord claimed that my client had made “negligent use” of the property. And when it came to the final inspection, the landlord referred to the dirty windows, broken appliances and peeling wallpaper as justification for retaining the deposit. Of course, the majority of this was due to wear and tear and general usage, but he used it as an excuse not to pay back the money.

During her time there, Ms Martin had a difficult relationship with her landlord. On one occasion, the gas heater needed repairing, but he refused to even look at it, even though under the terms of the contract he was obliged to do so. Then, there were also problems with noisy neighbours. Ironically, they were also renting from the same landlord, but he turned a blind eye to that. And when my client came to leave, the landlord claimed that she'd only left a deposit of £600, when in fact the figure was £1,000.

At that point, my client was left with no alternative but to go to court. A lot of people see that as a last resort, but it really isn't such a big step to take. The courts can work for you and they're basically your best means of defence. In the end, my client was awarded costs of £920 and the return of her £1,000 deposit.

So, what advice would I give to other people who are having problems with their landlord? Firstly, keep copies of all your documents. That's what my client did and it made her case a lot easier to pursue. She had saved all documents in her dealings with the landlord, and kept a careful record of everything she said to him with regards to the flat, plus she had bank statements providing proof of rent payments.

Fighting your landlord involves a bit of patience and tenacity, but in the end, it's worth it. For more information on what to do in situations such as these, please contact me directly by e-mail for some free legal advice. I work primarily on a no win, no fee basis, so there's no financial obligation on your behalf.

1. Why were Stacey and her landlord in court? Because...
 - a) ...the neighbours were suing them.
 - b) ...Stacey refused to fix the flat.
 - c) ...the landlord wouldn't pay back the deposit.
 - d) ...Stacey had stolen some items of furniture.
2. How much had Stacey left as a deposit?
 - a) £1,600
 - b) £1,000
 - c) £600
 - d) nothing
3. What did the landlord do about the noisy neighbours?
 - a) Nothing
 - b) He reported them to the police.
 - c) He had a quiet word with them.
 - d) He threw them out of the flat.
4. What does the writer say about taking someone to court?
 - a) It isn't as complicated as you'd imagine.
 - b) It's a sure way to get rich.
 - c) It isn't worth it.
 - d) You could end up in prison.
5. What advice does the writer give about taking your landlord to court?
 - a) Think before acting.
 - b) Try to resolve your differences verbally.
 - c) Keep a record of everything.
 - d) Go straight to the police.

B: Language (Total = 5 points)

Choose the correct options. These questions are on very general things for this level.

1. They _____ an opportunity to work here for the day. It gave them a chance to see how things get done down here.
 - a) enjoyed given
 - b) enjoyed being given
 - c) being enjoyed
 - d) enjoyed giving be
2. _____ for lunch has really made a world of difference.
 - a) Be give an extra hour
 - b) Being gave an extra hour
 - c) Being given an extra hour
 - d) Giving an extra being
3. I'd done quite a bit of climbing before, but that rock face that we had to go up was a _____.
 - a) totally different ball game
 - b) totally taken it in
 - c) totally same game
 - d) totally alternative show

4. I used to have one of these printers before. The quality is a bit _____, but the price is unbeatable.
a) hit and miss b) black and blue c) push and shove d) pull and shove
5. She's _____ the matter.
a) regarded as an expert on b) an expert regarded on
c) regarded on an expert as d) as an expert regarded
6. They _____ questions during the press conference.
a) bombarded to the minister at b) bombarded the minister by
c) bombarded the minister with d) the minister bombarded
7. They _____ as the buses were so unreliable at that time of the day.
a) suggested taking the car b) suggested take the car
c) the car suggested taking d) taking the suggested car
8. They _____ the client after the way he handled the presentation.
a) blamed at him for losing b) blamed him for having lost
c) for blamed him losing d) blamed him by having lose
9. They _____ to get her the job but she never thanked them for it.
a) bent forwards b) took over backwards
c) bent over backwards d) played backwards
10. If we'd known about this earlier, we _____ so much time on it.
a) not had wasted b) wouldn't to waste
c) wouldn't have wasted d) wouldn't be wasted

C: Listening (Total = 10 points)

Remember, you don't have to understand every word in order to answer the questions.

City Visits

You're going to listen to two people talking about cities that they've visited recently. Listen once and answer this question.

1. How would you describe the two travel experiences?
a) They're both negative.
b) They're both positive.
c) One's positive and one's negative.
d) It's impossible to tell.



Read over the questions below. Then, listen to the conversation again and answer the questions.

2. How did the snow affect the first speaker's trip to New York?
a) just negatively b) only positively c) It's hard to tell.
d) both positively and negatively
3. Why weren't they bothered about having spent so much on the trip? Because...
a) ...it was the last trip they were going to take together.
b) ...they were about to inherit a lot of money. c) ...they felt they deserved the trip.
d) ...they're both really rich.
4. Why did they go for a stroll on their first morning in the city? Because...
a) ...they needed some new clothes. b) ...they were hungry.
c) ...they were bored. d) ...they wanted to get a feel for the place.
5. What did they think about the shops and shopping there in general?
a) Things are much cheaper. b) It's a lot more expensive.
c) There isn't much to buy. d) The shops are really big.
6. What did they think of the pizzas at Lombardi's? They...
a) ...were very good. b) ...weren't very good.
c) ...were quite cheap. d) ...were really expensive.
7. Where did the second speaker and his friends get some food on their first day there?
a) From a supermarket. b) From a friend.
c) From outdoor food stalls. d) From an expensive restaurant.
8. Where does Vondelpark get its name from?
a) a sports personality b) a Dutch politician
c) a poet from Germany d) a poet from Holland
9. What did they find out about in the brewery?
a) paintings by Dutch masters b) the beer brewing process
c) the history of Amsterdam d) poetry in Holland
10. How does he rate Amsterdam in terms of safety?
a) There aren't enough police around. b) It isn't as dangerous as he was led to believe.
c) It's a lot more dangerous than he thought it would be.
d) He doesn't really have an opinion about it.

D: Speaking (Total = 15 points)

Use the questions below (or any others you can think of) to have a **discussion with a partner for at least six minutes**. Choose any questions from below, or ask any others. It's up to you to keep the conversation going, and to make sure the talking doesn't stop!

- What are some of your favourite cities? Why do you like them? What did you do there?
 - Which five adjectives would you use to describe yourself? Why? What are your main strengths and weaknesses?
 - What are some of the best or worst adverts you've seen? What did you like or dislike them?
 - What on-going court cases are in progress in your country at the moment? Who's on trial? Why? What are some of the most famous trials that have taken place in your country?
 - Do you know anyone who has ever been sued? What happened?
 - Do you know anyone who has sued someone else? Why did they do it? What happened in the end?
 - What are some of your top tips for saving money?
 - Have you ever lost any money? What happened? Have you ever won any money, or received any unexpectedly? What happened? What did you do with it?
 - What do you do when you need to catch up at work? How do you manage to keep on top of your work?
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E: Writing (Total = 15 points)

Write a summary or report on a legal issue (invented or real), explaining everything about the case. Give details on the following: who is being sued, why, the reasons for the legal dispute, when it occurred, who it involved, why it took place, possible legal courses of action, possible outcomes, your personal opinion on the topic, what you recommend, what you think will happen, how it all came about in the first place... **Write more or less an A4 page.**

TEACHER'S NOTES

DO NOT PRINT FOR YOUR STUDENTS!

Exam notes for teachers

Remember, this is a general test on your students' language skills. There's no need for your students to revise for it. We feel this is a good way of checking students' progress as they work on their own without any assistance from you. Extra weighting in the exam scoring is given to listening, speaking and writing – the important communicative skills.

- Give the exam during class time – don't let students take the exam away with them.
- Be careful not to photocopy the answers when you make the copies for your students!
- Please print the exam double-sided.
- The exam should take about an hour and a half. If needed, this can be divided up into two testing periods, with the exam being given over two classes.
- Mark the results clearly on each individual student's Progress Report Sheet.
- Any student who doesn't turn up for the exam will have to do it another day.

Students doing the exam after the event should do so quietly to one side of the normal class. For more information on this, speak to the DOS or teacher coordinator.

- The recordings for the Listening sections of the exams are on our website.

You can download them from here:

www.learnhotenglish.com/mp3s

Submitting the Information

- Once the exams have been completed, you are required to complete all fields of the Progress Report Sheet and send this by e-mail (or drop it off - whatever's easiest) to your point of contact in the central office. Completed Progress Report Sheets need to be handed in no later than two weeks after you have received the exam. To make our administrative processing easier, please group together students from the same class.

- Students have two weeks to do the test. It is your responsibility to make sure they all do the test. If after two weeks they still haven't done it, then you must write N/A (Not Attended) on the Progress Report Sheet. Thanks for your collaboration!

A: Reading (5 points)

1c 2b 3a 4a 5c

B: Language (5 points)

1b 2c 3a 4a 5a 6c 7a 8b 9c 10c

C: Listening (10 points)

1b 2d 3c 4d 5a 6a 7c 8d 9b 10b

D: Speaking (15 points - three points per objective)

Students get zero points per objective if they don't complete it or if they do it poorly. Set it up so that students speak in pairs (or with you for one-on-one classes). Make notes while they're speaking on how well they do. Other students could be doing the Writing test while you do this.

- Did the student complete the task? (three points)
- Did the student speak clearly and fluently without too much hesitation? (three points)
- Did the student speak accurately (not making many mistakes)? (three points)
- Did the student pronounce the words correctly? Did the student use the correct intonation, word stress, sentence stress, etc.? (three points)
- Did the student use a wide range of expressions and vocabulary? (three points)

E: Writing (15 points - three points per objective)

Students get zero points per objective if they don't complete it or if they do it poorly.

- Did the student complete the task? (three points)

- Did the student write accurately? (three points)
- Did the student write text that makes sense? Were the ideas linked logically? (three points)
- Did the student use a wide range of appropriate words or expressions? (three points)
- Did the student use a wide range of appropriate grammatical structures? (three points)

Audio script

City Visits

Two people talk about cities they've visited recently.

Speaker I

I went to New York City a few months ago with my wife. We'd always wanted to spend Christmas there, and it was amazing. We were lucky as it snowed a lot, so it was especially magical. Of course, all the snow meant that our flight was a bit delayed getting into New York, but we got there eventually. Once out of the airport, we took a cab to our hotel on Fifth Avenue. I know, it's very expensive and everything, but we'd been saving for this trip for years, and we didn't mind splashing out as we'd both been working really hard, so we thought we deserved it. That night, we went to bed early because we were a bit jetlagged. But the next morning, we got up early and went for a stroll around the city, just to get a feel for the place. It's such a lively city, and the snow really added to the atmosphere. In the afternoon, we went shopping at Bloomingdales department store, where we picked up some really nice bargains. Clothes are so much cheaper over there. I bought a pair of Levi's for only €30 - what a steal! The following day, we went to check out all the famous sites like the Empire State Building and the Statue of Liberty. We also went to the top of the Rockefeller Center where the views of the Manhattan skyline

are incredible. That evening, we saw a Broadway show. The next day, we tried out the famous pizzas at Lombardi's Pizzeria, which were amazing – some of the best I'd ever had. On our last day, we went for a walk around Central Park, and went skating in an ice-skating rink they've got there.

Speaker II

My friends and I went to Amsterdam last month. We took a cheap flight from London, and we had an amazing time – it's such an incredible place, and there's so much to see and do. We stayed at a fairly cheap hostel, with lots of other backpackers, which is all part of the fun. The hostel had a bar and a games room where you could hang out and play pool, and chat to the other guests. We spent our first day in the city just walking around the central area, stopping off in cafés to have a drink, eating food from some of the outdoor market stalls and enjoying the canals and architecture. In the afternoon, we went to the Rijksmuseum. It's got one of the largest collections of art in the world, with several pictures by Rembrandt and Vermeer. The following day, we rented some bikes and cycled down to Vondelpark, which is this great outdoor area where you can chill out and relax. It's the largest green space in Amsterdam and it's named after a Dutch poet, Joost van den Vondel. You can do all sorts of sports there, and they often have free concerts in the summer. Amsterdam is such a bike-friendly city, and from what I could see, there are more bikes than cars! The day after that, we went to check out the Heineken Museum. They take you through the whole brewing process, and at the end, you get a free beer! On our last day, we went to the Stedelijk Museum, which has an amazing collection of 20th-century art, as well as works by Cézanne, Picasso, Matisse and Chagall. Amsterdam has a reputation for being a bit dangerous, but it's actually quite safe, and the people are so friendly.