

# Test Taker Guide

for A1



English proficiency  
tests for life and study

[skillsforenglish.com](https://skillsforenglish.com)



# Hello, and welcome to your A1 test taker guide!

We are the *Skills for English* team, and we're here to help you get to know the *Skills for English: SELT* test, to help you get test ready.

This guide will show you what the test is, how to prepare, and what to do next.

Are you ready? Let's explore...



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# 1.

## Why are you taking a Skills for English A1 test?

You may be taking this test for a UK visa. The A1 level Skills for English: SELT test is accepted by UKVI visas including for:

- **Spouse/partner visa**
- **Parent of a dependent visa**
- **Representative of an overseas business visa**

This is a **2-skill** test: **Speaking and Listening** only.

You will take the test in a secure Skills for English test centre. All parts are taken **on a computer** during a single session.

To see which test you need for your visa type, visit the [Visa Guidance](#) page.



## 2.

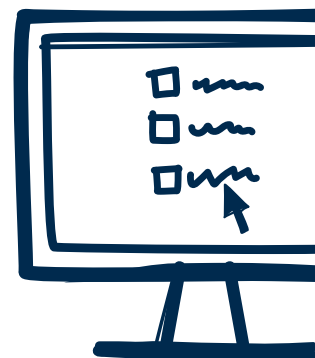
### What is A1 level?

Before you prepare, let's check what you need to do at A1 level.

The Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) calls A1 learners **basic users**. This means you should be able to:

- Understand and use **simple phrases** and **everyday expressions**
- Introduce yourself and ask/answer **basic personal questions**
- Interact **simply** if the other person speaks **slowly and clearly**

Not sure of your level? Try our **CEFR Level Finder** test by selecting A1 from the dropdown: [Find your level!](#)



# 3.

## What does the A1 test look like?

### Speaking (about 6-9 minutes)

- Say your name and answer some questions
- Talk about familiar topics, like your home, job, or family
- All answers are recorded on the computer. You won't speak to a live examiner.

### Listening (about 15-18 minutes)

- Listen to short recordings of people talking
- Answer multiple-choice questions
- The recordings may include everyday topics and instructions

There is **no Reading or Writing** in the A1 SELT test.

# 4.

## Watch what the test is like

Want to see what it looks like?

Visit the **Prepare for your Test** page and watch the **A1 2-skill experience video**.

[Watch here](#)

This video will help you feel more confident before test day.



## 5.

### Learn more about the A1 test specifications

Want to understand more about the test design?

Go to the test specifications to read about:

- The Speaking and Listening tasks
- How your test is scored
- What topics to expect at A1

You'll also find the marking criteria (how examiners assess your speaking) and examples from real test takers.

Read more at: [Test Specifications](#)

## 6.

### Explore more resources

Explore the **Grammar and Vocabulary** lists, which show you the kind of English you'll need in the test.

You'll also find example **responses, tips,** and **annotated answers** for Speaking tasks.

These are all part of the A1 preparation materials: [Explore all resources](#)

# 7.

## Would you like more English practice?

Want to improve your English before the test?

Scroll down the [Skills for English preparation page](#) to find **Voxy**, **Direct English**, and **Klik2Learn**. These are partners who offer extra training and support.



# 8.

## Try a free practice test

Use our full-length practice test to get used to the computer-based format and test layout.

You can practise both the Speaking and Listening tasks. There are also downloadable files for:

- Speaking sample answers
- Listening transcripts and answer keys

Try the free A1 practice test here: [Free Practice Tests](#)



## 9.

### Got questions? Read our FAQ

Have questions about booking your test, ID documents, or what happens on test day?

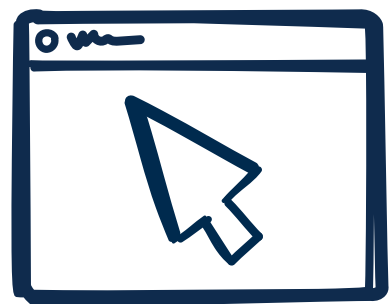
Visit the FAQ page for help.

## 10.

### Ready to book your test?

Visit [bookmyskillsforenglish.com](https://bookmyskillsforenglish.com) to:

- Create an account
- Choose your A1 test
- Pick your test centre and date
- Pay and book online



We hope you  
found this  
guide helpful!

**If you still have questions, please  
[contact us here.](#)**

Good luck with your A1 Skills for English: SELT  
test!

- The Skills for English team





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