

# Level 2 Essential Communication Skills

## Sample confirmatory test 1

Maximum duration: 30 minutes

### **Important note**

This is a sample confirmatory test, developed jointly by the four Essential Skills Wales awarding bodies (Agored Cymru, City & Guilds, Pearson and WJEC).

This sample test provides an indication of the likely format and structure of the live confirmatory tests that will become available from **February 2016**.

A separate document, containing the answer keys (correct answers) and specification references is also available.

**This confirmatory test consists of 20 multiple choice questions.**

Questions 1 to 6 are about the draft document below.

<b>Playing the Game: the truth about sports</b>	
Whether or not your children play sports, you probably have an opinion	Line 1
about the value of sports in children’s lives. You may believe that	Line 2
sports help children develop teamwork skills, self- confidence,	Line 3
resiliency, moral character, and other personal strengths. Or you may see	Line 4
a dark side of youth sports, believing that young	Line 5
athletes develop aggressive traits like bullying and the need to dominate	Line 6
their opponents on and off the field. The proponents of youth sports	Line 7
often make blanket statements about the benefits of sports, leading	Line 8
parents to believe that if Johnny or Susan doesn’t make the team,	Line 9
they may not achieve happiness or develop positive strengths needed	Line 10
to succeed in life. Some beleive the positive hype around youth sports	Line 11
is spread by adults who either blindly accept the notion that sports are	Line 12
good for all kids or who are in the business of developing high-	Line 13
performing athletes. Research studies have been conducted	Line 14
with hundreds of thousands of children who participate in sports.	Line 15
Generally, these studies show that youth who participate in organised	Line 16
sports during middle and high school do better academically and are	Line 17
offered greater job prospects than children who do not partake in	Line 18
Sports activities. However, nuances exist in these studies	Line 19
that are important for parents to understand. Like all students that	Line 20
equate youth activities with success in life, it is imperative to look	Line 21
deeper to learn how these findings apply to your own children.	Line 22

1. What is the writer’s main intention in this document?
  - a) inform parents about the dangers of sport for children
  - b) inform parents about the benefits of sport for children
  - c) question the belief that there are only benefits in sport
  - d) encourage children to take up sports
  
2. Which word would best replace the word ‘nuances’ as used on Line 19?
  - a) suggestions
  - b) differences
  - c) arguments
  - d) opinions
  
3. There is a spelling mistake in the document; it is on
  - a) line 6
  - b) line 11
  - c) line 16
  - d) line 21

4. Which of these expressions would **best** replace 'the dark side of sport' as used in line 5?
- a) moral side of sport
  - b) criminal side of sport
  - c) hidden side of sport
  - d) hopeful side of sport
5. Which of these words would best describe the tone of the text?
- a) aggressive
  - b) sarcastic
  - c) informal
  - d) sceptical
6. Where would be the best place to end the first paragraph?
- a) after 'personal strengths' on line 4
  - b) after 'to succeed in life' on line 11
  - c) after 'for parents to understand' on line 20
  - d) after 'on and off the field' on line 7

Questions 7 to 10 are about the draft document below.

<b>Buying a safe car for your teen</b>	
In many families, if teens get a car, they end up with the oldest, most	<b>Line 1</b>
beat-up one in the household. Or if they save up to buy a used car, it's	<b>Line 2</b>
6-10 years old and a smaller model. While less expensive this option	<b>Line 3</b>
might not be the safest choice for teens. The Institute for Highway	<b>Line 4</b>
Safety has compiled a list of best choices and good choices for a safe	<b>Line 5</b>
used car for teens. In the last few years many cars have added great	<b>Line 6</b>
safety features like back-up cameras, side camera, Electronic	<b>Line 7</b>
stability control (ESC), larger mirrors, collision warning, lane watch, and	<b>Line 8</b>
more.	<b>Line 9</b>
In general, heavier cars had better safety crash ratings than lighter	<b>Line 10</b>
ones - and none of the smallest cars made the list. So do your	<b>Line 11</b>
homework and get the car with the best safety rating and features that	<b>Line 12</b>
you can afford for your teen.	<b>Line 13</b>

7. This document is aimed at

- a) teenagers
- b) families
- c) parents
- d) teachers

8. The purpose of this document is to

- a) raise the sales of new cars
- b) give information on highway safety
- c) explain new features on cars
- d) encourage the purchase of safe cars

9. A comma is missing on line 3; it should come after the word

- a) old
- b) and
- c) while
- d) expensive

10. What does the term 'do your homework' on lines 11 and 12 mean?

- a) work late at night
- b) do some research
- c) drive safely
- d) discuss it with your child at home

**Questions 11 to 20 are general questions.**

11. Which one of these sentences is **correct**?

- a) The rule will come into effect tomorrow.
- b) I was greatly effected by his words.
- c) The speech has an affect on attendance.
- d) A good night's sleep has a positive affect.

12. Which of these words **best** complete the following sentence?

Due to ---- a lack of production ---- increasing housing prices, Cardiff is now ranked as one of the least affordable cities countrywide.

- a) neither/nor
- b) no sooner/than
- c) both/and
- d) hardly/when

13. Which of these words would **correctly** complete the following sentence?

He took a \_\_\_\_\_ walk around the garden.

- a) liesurly
- b) liesurely
- c) leisurly
- d) leisurely

14. Which of these words would **correctly** complete the following sentence?

I think \_\_\_\_\_ a visitor in the corridor.

- a) theirs
- b) their's
- c) they're's
- d) there's

15. A newspaper article on a sporting event is generally written to

- a) advertise
- b) persuade
- c) report
- d) instruct

16. Which word in the following sentence has used the apostrophe **correctly**?

John and his sister's we're going to the race's yesterday but didn't because it rained.

- a) sister's
- b) race's
- c) we're
- d) didn't

17. Which of these words would **correctly** complete the following sentence?

I am \_\_\_\_\_ going on holiday next year.

- a) definitely
- b) definitely
- c) definitly
- d) definitley

18. Which of these sentences has the correct punctuation?

- a) Thomas, his wife and their two children, like swimming, running, cycling and football.
- b) Thomas, his wife, and their two children, like swimming running, cycling and football.
- c) Thomas his wife and their two children like swimming, running, cycling and football.
- d) Thomas, his wife and their two children like swimming, running, cycling and football.

19. Which one of these is **most** suitable for an email to a friend?

- a) Hi there Joe, was just wondering if you were free to come to the cinema tonight?
- b) Dear Mr Jones, I am delighted to invite you to the cinema this evening.
- c) Please find attached invitation to the cinema for your perusal.
- d) To Joe Jones: Meeting: 22nd May: 6.30: Croydon cinema.

20. Which of these words would **best** complete the sentence below?

There was a long \_\_\_\_\_ before he spoke

- a) paws
- b) pause
- c) pores
- d) pours.

**End of test**