Useful Websites for Students Preparing for PET exam

Hello everybody,

Let's create a collection of websites that can help you improve your language skills! The more you practice, the easier it will become to pass the exam.

GENERAL

- Vocabulary List This list is a guide to the vocabulary needed when preparing for the exam. You don't have to learn it by heart, ok?
- Summary of regulations
- <u>Cambridge ESOL PET Exam</u> This is the official Cambridge PET website which includes information about the length of the different papers and the task types.
- Computer Based Sample Test As I told you in class, you have the opportunity to do the test on paper or using a computer. In the following link you will find a sample test.
- http://www.flo-joe.co.uk/preliminaryenglish In this website you will find some Practice tests (not the listening part), grammar exercises and activities related to vocabulary topics.
- http://www.blackcatreaders.com/quizzes In the LEVEL option, choose B1 and in PRACTISE YOUR, choose any option you want to practise (listening, vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, all skills, exam skills).

FREE EBOOKS

Top Tips for PET I consider it as an essential reference book for PET exam Preparation. Each of the five main chapters (Reading, Writing, Use of English, Listening and Speaking) follows the structure of the test and is based on a series of pieces of advice (the "tips") which examiners have collected from many years' experience of setting and marking PET papers.

VOCABULARY

 Sports vocabulary: In the following website you can practise your knowledge of sports vocabulary, do vocabulary quizzes and read about various sports and their







history.

Objective PET Vocabulary Review The first part (presentation) provides an opportunity to review vocabulary at your own pace, while the second part is a games session that drills the vocabulary against the clock for points.

GRAMMAR

- Road to Grammar is a great site to practise grammar and vocabulary. One of the things I like the most about this site is that if you choose the wrong answer in the quiz and you click on Notes, it provides a note explaining why your answer is correct or incorrect. The flash-based game Fluent allows 2 students to play.
- Past, present or future tense? Online verb tense activities. All of the activities are very simple 'click on the right box' games. Nevertheless, there are a nice variety of activities for varying levels of learner knowledge: (1) choose the verb in the sentence; (2) choose the right verb form; (3) re-write these sentences.
- Present simple tense, present progressive, past simple, past progressive, present perfect, future tenses Based on the classic 'Jeopardy' format, you can use this game to practice different verb tenses (present simple tense, present progressive, past simple, past progressive, present perfect, future tenses and more). You can set the number of teams in the game and the ability to give each team a unique, self-chosen name.

READING

- Reading part 1: signs and short texts 1, test 2
- Reading part 2: match 5 people to 8 texts
- Reading part 3: text with True/False questions
- Reading part 4: long text with multiple choice questions
- Reading part 5: <u>text with multiple choice gaps</u>
- Reading exams tips and tasks
- Reading Log https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3Dg7 c1353SZmNCaDA4UE91Nkk/edit? usp=sharing The reading log is like a journal in which you can keep a record of the different newspaper or magazine articles, comics or books







that you have read throughout the week. Write the time you have spent reading in each square. Then write a summary using your own words and express your opinion on the topic.

- http://esl-bits.net/main2.htm Five different kinds of exercises similar to the PET reading part: Signs, Details, Matching, Gist and Gap.
- http://www.english-online.org.uk/petfolder/pethome.php Online practice for writing and reading papers.

Some books you can read:

I have included the links to the publishing houses websites where you will find a description of the book and some sample pages to read and help you choose.

- University Murders. Level 4. Cambridge English Readers.
- In the Shadow of the Mountain Level 5. Cambridge English Readers.
- The Fruitcake Special and Other Stories. Level 4. Cambridge English Readers.
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney. The series consists of 9 different books. You can read the first one online. This is a hilarious cartoon novel about a boy named Greg who tries to get through his life. If you have read Manolito Gafota's stories in Spanish and you enjoyed them, you will enjoy these ones.
- 1984 by George Orwell. Level 4. Penguin Readers.
- The Godfather by Mario Puzo. Level 4. Penguin Readers.
- My Fairlady by Alan Learner. Level 4. Penguin Readers.
- The Turn of the Screw. Level 3. Penguin Readers.

Some e-books and audio books you can download for free: http://english-e-books.net/ Here you'll find some graded according to the level with their corresponding audio.

WRITING

- Writing part 1: <u>sentence transformations</u>
- Writing part 2: write a short message
- Writing part 3: write an informal letter OR a story

LISTENING (films, videos, music and radio programmes)

- Listening part 1
- Listening part 1







- Listening part 2
- Listening part 2
- Listening part 3
- <u>Listening part 3</u>
- Listening part 4
- Listening part 4
- Listening exams- tips and tasks
- Listening Log

https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B3Dg7 c1353SNWVhamNzOTl3dTA/edit

The listening log is like a journal in which you can keep a record of the different TV programmes, series, films or music that you have listened to throughout the week. Write the time you have spent listening to it in each square. Then you can write a summary using your own words and explain why you enjoy it or why you did not enjoy it.

- http://www.britishcouncil.org/professionals-exams-fce-listening-intro.htm Listening practice for the four parts of FCE Paper 4.
- http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/ This site does not focus on PET exam tasks, but it includes a number of useful listening MP3 files and exercises to improve your listening skills
- http://esl-bits.net/ This website is not specific for PET either, but I'm sure it will help you to improve your listening skills.
- Speechyard Learn real English from movies and books and practice with other learners. Click on a word or highlight a phrase to see translation if you do not understand it and listen to its pronunciation. Clicking on Learning, you will see different kinds of vocabulary learning activities to practise and learn new words in context as well.

PRONUNCIATION

• English Central It includes a great variety of authentic videos at different levels to improve your vocabulary, listening skills and pronunciation. After watching/ listening to the video, you can record your own voice and receive feedback on







your pronunciation.

SPEAKING

- Useful language for speaking part 2.
- Describe a photo or picture Speaking part 3
- <u>Tàndem UV Facebook Group</u>. Tàndems Lingüístics (Language Tandems) is a project by the University of Valencia involving conversation exchanges in all possible languages. You can look for an intercambio here.
- Pub Quiz in <u>Sally O'Brien</u> Irish Pub

Look for an intercambio to practise speaking outside the classroom. These are some pubs in Valencia which organise them:

MONDAYS

- Pub Big Ben, Spanglish Time, 20 h. (Plaza Honduras, 36)
- The Lounge Café-Bar, English-Spanish, 21h (Calle de la Estameñería Vieja, 2)

TUESDAYS

- Upper Club, 20.30 h (Gran Vía Marqués del Turia, 40, 610037236)
- The Portland Ale House, 20.30 h (C/ Salamanca, 10, 963810406 657355417)

WEDNESDAYS

- The Portland Ale House, 20.30 h (C/ Salamanca, 10, 963810406 657355417)
- L'Ermità Café, 20.30 h (C/ Obispo Don Jerónimo, 4, 963916759)
- London Café, 20 h (C/ de la Carda, 1, 960011618)

THURSDAYS

- Radio City, English conversation. 20 h. (C/ Santa Teresa, 19)
- Saint Patrick's Irish Pub, 20 h (Gran Vía Marqués del Turia, 69, 963513642)
- Finnegans of Dublin, 21.30 h (Plaza de la Reina, 19, 963922862)

SUNDAY

Thomas & Johnson, 19 h (Calle Chile, 9, 626773344)







ONLINE LANGUAGE LEARNING COMMUNITIES

If you want to improve your English and you don't have the opportunity to travel to a country where the language is spoken, one of the best tips I can give you is to practise as much as possible and get in contact with native speakers. Nowadays this is very easy thanks to the internet:

- Bussuu
- Verbling
- Livemocha
- <u>Italki.com</u>