



**2025 Winter Session**

**Eiken<sup>®</sup> Pre-1**

**Prep & Practice**



**Name**



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## **Introduction - What is the Eiken Pre-1 Exam ?**

### **Stage 1 - Paper-and-pencil test**

#### **A. Reading and writing (90 minutes)**

##### **1. Vocabulary - Sentence completion**

This section has a total of 18 questions. For each question, you must choose the missing word(s). The questions are short texts of 1 or 2 sentences or an A/B dialogue. This section of the test should take you about 10 minutes; you should be answering a question every 30 to 40 seconds. Do not spend too much time on this section; skip questions that you cannot answer quickly.

##### **2. Reading - Fill-in-the-blank**

This section has a total of 6 questions. There are 2 reading passages, each with 3 blanks. The passages are typically scientific or social articles. Understanding the context of the passage is important. This section of the test should take you about 10 minutes; you should be answering a question every 1 and a half minutes.

##### **3. Reading - Comprehension**

This section consists of 2 passages with 7 questions in total. The first is about 400 words long and has 3 questions, and you should use about 10 minutes. The second is about 500 words long and has 4 questions, and you should use about 15 minutes. This section should take you about a total of 25 minutes.

##### **4. Writing**

You will write a summary of a passage and an essay on a given topic. The summary should be 60-70 words long, and you should use about 20 minutes. The essay should be 120-150 words long, and you will need to give your opinion and use 2 of the 4 points given in the prompt. You should use about 25 minutes for the essay.

#### **B. Listening (about 30 minutes)**

##### **Part 1**

12 audio texts (two speakers) with 12 comprehension questions (10 seconds per question):

This section includes daily conversations and discussions that cover a diverse range of topics.

**Part 2**

6 audio texts (one speaker) with 12 comprehension questions (10 seconds per question):

This section is a mix of news stories, advertisements, short lectures, etc. They cover fairly new information about science, technology, health, medicine, and more.

**Part 3**

5 audio texts (real-life situations) with 5 comprehension questions (10 seconds per question):

This section includes announcements, communications, in-house broadcasts, answering machines, customer service messages, voice guidance, and more.

**Stage 2 - Speaking test (about 8 minutes)**

**Narration section:**

You will have to tell a story in 2 minutes using the 4-panel comic provided.

**Questions and answers:**

You will be asked four questions. The first question is directly related to the story you just told. The 3 other questions are loosely related to the themes and topics in the comic.

## Eiken Pre-1 Writing

### A. Summary

The summary section was added in 2024. You will read about a passage on a contemporary social topic and summarize it in 60-70 words. You must understand the structure of the passage and write your summary clearly and concisely.

It is important for you to think about the structure of passages when you read in English in your daily life. Try to think about the main idea of the whole passage and also the main idea of each paragraph as you read in your daily life. Also, it is important to be able to paraphrase details concisely.

As noted before, the reading and writing section of the Pre-1 exam is 90 minutes long. You should spend about 20 minutes on the summary portion.

Your summary will be assessed according to the four criteria below. (0-4 points each with the highest possible score of 16)

#### 1. Content

Your writing should be a summary, paraphrasing details into concise sentences. The information in your summary should be accurate according to the given passage. Your summary should include the main ideas of each paragraph.

#### 2. Structure

The information in your summary should be in the same logical order as the given passage.

#### 3. Vocabulary

Points will be deducted for spelling mistakes and word choice errors. You should also be using words at Pre-1 level (CEFR B1 to B2).

#### 4. Grammar

Points will be deducted for grammatical mistakes, especially those that interfere with comprehension.

### Sample from Eiken® website

- **Instructions: Read the article below and summarize it in your own words as far as possible in English.**
- **Suggested length: 60-70 words**
- **Write your summary in the space provided on your answer sheet. Any writing outside the space will not be graded.**

From the 1980s to the early 2000s, many national museums in Britain were charging their visitors entrance fees. The newly elected government, however, was supportive of the arts. It introduced a landmark policy to provide financial aid to museums so that they would drop their entrance fees. As a result, entrance to many national museums, including the National History Museum, became free of charge.

Supporters of the policy said that as it would widen access to national museums, it would have significant benefits. People, regardless of their education or income, would have the opportunity to experience the large collections of artworks in museums and learn about the country's cultural history.

Although surveys indicated that visitors to national museums that became free increased by an average of 70 percent after the policy's introduction, critics claimed the policy was not completely successful. This increase, they say, mostly consisted of the same people visiting museums many times. Additionally, some independent museums with entrance fees said the policy negatively affected them. Their visitor numbers decreased because people were visiting national museums to avoid paying fees, causing the independent museums to struggle financially. (188 words)

### Sample answer from Eiken® website

The British government implemented a policy that would help national museums to provide free admission to the public. Supporters believed this would encourage people from various backgrounds to visit museums. However, while visitors increased, some critics of the policy pointed out the increase was largely due to repeated visitors from the same people. Moreover, some independent museums with admission fees stated the policy led to a drop in their revenues.

## B. Essay

For the essay section, you will write about your opinion on a contemporary social issue. The best way to prepare for it is to read and/or watch the news as much as you can. Make sure to pay attention to both current events and personal stories.

Although having background knowledge is important, the goal of this test is to evaluate English proficiency, so it is even more important that your writing is well-organized, grammatically accurate, and uses the right words. You should read the criteria carefully.

As noted before, the reading and writing section of the Pre-1 exam is 90 minutes long. You should spend about 25 minutes on the essay portion. Your essay should be 120-150 words in length. Along with the essay prompt, you are given 4 points from which you must choose 2 to support your opinion.

Your essay will be assessed according to the four criteria below. (0-4 points each with the highest possible score of 16)

### 1. Content

Your writing should be logical and detailed. Explain your opinion by giving reasons and appropriate examples. Be careful not to go off topic.

### 2. Structure

Eiken essays have a fixed pattern. Make sure your essay follows that pattern.

### 3. Vocabulary

Points will be deducted for spelling mistakes and word choice errors. Try to use words you are familiar with. Also, keep in mind the academic writing rules and avoid informal expressions such as contractions (e.g. *shouldn't*, *I'm*). Additionally, avoid repetition (using the same phrase over and over again).

### 4. Grammar

Points will be deducted for grammatical mistakes. On the other hand, accurately using a variety of sentence structures will get you a high score.

- ➡ To get a high score, you must explain your opinion using TWO of the four points given. Take a look at the example below to better understand how to use the given points to support your opinion.

<Example>

Topic: Agree or disagree - Working from home is better than working in the office

Points: Communication / Productivity / Work-life balance / Childcare

→ Think about the pros and cons of working from home in terms of these 4 points. Some points work better if you agree, while others work better if you disagree. Sometimes, though, a point can be used regardless of whether you agree or disagree.

- The first point, "communication," works especially well if you disagree that working from home is better. You can say that "working from home makes it harder for employees to communicate with each other" or "less communication with coworkers could lead to loneliness."
  - The second point, "productivity," is also useful if you disagree. You can write that "there are many distractions at home that will lead to a decrease in productivity." On the other hand, it is also useful if you agree that working from home is better. You can say that "since employees won't be distracted by their coworkers, they will be able to focus better." In this way, sometimes you can use a point whether you agree or disagree.
  - Similarly, the third point, "work-life balance," can also be used regardless of whether you agree or disagree. If you agree, you can say that "not having to commute long distances means people will have more free time." If you disagree, you can say that "working from home can blur the line between work and home."
  - The last point, "childcare," can be used if you agree. You can say that "people would be able to take care of their children while working, which may allow more women who want to work to be able to do so."
- ➡ While it is good to consider the pros and cons of each point when you brainstorm, keep in mind that you should pick one side and support your opinion throughout the essay. It is also important to keep the word count in mind (120-150 words).

## Essay Structure

### **First Paragraph = Introduction (1 or 2 sentences)**

- ✓ It is important that you clearly state whether you agree or disagree with the topic.  
e.g. *I agree/disagree with the statement that...*

### **Second Paragraph (2 or 3 sentences)**

- ✓ Discuss the first point.
- ✓ Start with a topic sentence.  
e.g. *First, ...*
- ✓ You should then explain your idea in detail. (1 or 2 additional sentences)

### **Third Paragraph (2 or 3 sentences)**

- ✓ Discuss the second point.
- ✓ Start with a topic sentence.  
e.g. *Second, ...*
- ✓ You should then explain your idea in detail. (1 or 2 additional sentences)

### **Fourth Paragraph = Conclusion (1 or 2 sentences)**

- ✓ Paraphrase the topic sentence in your introduction.  
e.g. *For these reasons, ... Therefore, ... In conclusion, ...*

## Day 1

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**1. To complete each item, choose the best word or phrase from among the four choices.**

- (1) There seem to be powerful forces that seek to ( ) dictatorships and expand democracy through peaceful means.  
1. whine                      2. crawl                      3. enforce                      4. overthrow
- (2) Although a vast amount of their personal correspondence was accidentally made public, nobody will ever be able to read the ( ) thoughts and secrets of this celebrated couple.  
1. prevalent                      2. obedient                      3. innermost                      4. subordinate
- (3) It was a leisurely trip, so we took a ( ) into a small village and enjoyed tea and cake at a pretty tearoom.  
1. province                      2. plight                      3. sanction                      4. detour
- (4) In spite of our dedicated efforts to improve performance, the critics thought it was at best ( ), which was very disappointing.  
1. mediocre                      2. superficial                      3. sublime                      4. abundant
- (5) Many people say language skills are like muscles in that they must be exercised; otherwise, they will gradually ( ).  
1. browse                      2. trespass                      3. deteriorate                      4. mumble
- (6) Police raided the headquarters of a small terrorist cell and ( ) computer equipment, but they did not make any arrests.  
1. enacted                      2. confiscated                      3. segregated                      4. integrated
- (7) If the plans for the new chemical factory are approved, the future of the local fishing industry could be in ( ).  
1. virtue                      2. vicinity                      3. prodigy                      4. jeopardy
- (8) Jessica found the tiny south-facing bedroom comfortable enough, and ( ) to it was an old-fashioned bathroom with a large window.  
1. traumatic                      2. versatile                      3. bizarre                      4. adjacent

- (9) Any mistakes, no matter whether they are obvious ( ) or subtle slips, must be detected and properly corrected as they might subsequently emerge as major targets of complaint.
1. hierarchies      2. inscriptions      3. blunders      4. outsets
- (10) Given her warm personality, quick wit, and wonderful sense of humor, her hearty laugh can be ( ).
1. sluggish      2. adverse      3. infectious      4. evasive
- (11) The new café is filled with the inviting smells of coffee and cookies, and beautiful rose petals are ( ) outside the entrance.
1. scattered      2. assaulted      3. substituted      4. enraged
- (12) In Victorian times, there was a romantic custom of sending one's lover precious items as ( ) of everlasting love.
1. mammals      2. tokens      3. recipients      4. lapses
- (13) In an effort to boost the brand's ( ), they started an advertising campaign with the newest and most popular celebrities as spokespeople.
1. scarcity      2. eternity      3. credibility      4. hostility
- (14) I did not enjoy the movie. The plot was ( ) and the acting was bad. It was difficult to understand what was happening on screen.
1. illogical      2. captivates      3. loyally      4. spacious
- (15) Despite years of debate on the Internet, when it comes to if pineapple belongs on pizza, there is no unanimous ( ).
1. resurgence      2. consensus      3. migration      4. commencement
- (16) Did people respond positively when you first started ( ) veganism solely for the sake of animal protection?
1. picking on      2. showing off      3. tossing out      4. advocating for

**2. Read the passage below and choose the best word or phrase from among the four choices for each blank.**

**Pandemic and War**

The Spanish flu was a pandemic that killed about 50 million people from 1918 to 1919. It overlapped with World War I, which lasted from 1914 to 1918. In countries such as the United States, the war played a major role in spreading the virus.

( 1 ), the Liberty Loan Parade caused the virus to spread and resulted in many deaths. The parade was held on September 28, 1918, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to encourage Americans to support the war. Health officials knew that close contact in crowds would cause a rise in new cases and had asked the mayor to cancel the march. However, the mayor decided that no part of the war effort could be sacrificed. The result was severe. Only days later, hospital beds began to reach capacity. Medical staff became either overwhelmed or ( 2 ) themselves. Later calculations revealed that in three weeks, about 5,000 lives had been taken due to the mayor's decision. The city even ran out of coffins at one point.

Furthermore, across America, military commanders ordered men to join the army and assigned them to camps, where the virus could easily spread. Newspapers silenced the outbreaks. There were some places, such as New York, where quarantine was attempted, but ( 3 ).

Authority figures turned a blind eye to the disease and tried to continue the war as if nothing was happening. The result was public confusion, alongside a multitude of deaths.

(1) 1. Consequently      2. For example      3. Instead      4. On the other hand

(2) 1. fell victim to the disease      2. selfishly fled the country  
3. found a cure for the virus      4. became immune to the disease

(3) 1. authority figures were able to prevent the spread of the virus  
2. no one did anything to control the outbreak  
3. they continued it even after war ended  
4. the wartime situation meant the authorities could not do much

**In-Class Activity (NOT homework)**

- **Instructions:** Read the article below and summarize it in your own words as far as possible in English.
- **Suggested length:** 60-70 words
- **Write your summary in the space provided on your answer sheet. Any writing outside the space will not be graded.**

Social media has become a part of daily life, the primary means of much of our communication and an important source of news and cultural content. Many social media platforms require that users be at least 13 years old but there is debate that the minimum age for using social media should be raised further still.

There are a number of reasons that people support increased age restrictions for social media use. There were almost 24,000 reported cases of cyberbullying among students in Japan in 2022. Because parents and teachers have limited ability to monitor online communication, teenagers are vulnerable to personal attacks. Furthermore, some believe that too much screen time has a negative effect on young people developing essential social skills.

However, many argue that learning how to use social media safely and effectively is an important part of a modern teenager's education. Learning how to manage online relationships and deciding what sources of information to trust are vital skills teenagers should be developing. Also, social media is a great resource for students to ask for support when they are having academic or personal problems.

## Day 2

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**1. To complete each item, choose the best word or phrase from among the four choices.**

- (1) Quite a few CEOs have already decided to give up their bonuses this year in light of the current global economic (     ).  
1. commodity      2. recession      3. notoriety      4. blockade
- (2) The ferocious fire three days ago burned most of the 14th century cathedral, but the vault where invaluable manuscripts and artifacts were stored remains (     ).  
1. hesitant      2. hilarious      3. trivial      4. intact
- (3) The town set up a committee which (     ) students in their twenties and small business owners to discuss some issues affecting the development of the university quarter.  
1. resigns      2. comprises      3. evolves      4. wavers
- (4) Never did the residents dream that their sleepy town would become a (     ) for the IT industry, mostly because of its long distance from any major cities.  
1. hub      2. foe      3. diploma      4. menace
- (5) The publication of the book by the charismatic comedian will be halted if the judge (     ) the controversial plagiarism claim.  
1. entangles      2. upholds      3. laments      4. affiliates
- (6) Some parties appear to be trying to form a new governing (     ) in a stormy parliament despite the opposition of most potential voters.  
1. superstition      2. coalition      3. proximity      4. hunch
- (7) The doctor explained the options for managing the side effects to make the treatment more (     ).  
1. majestic      2. petty      3. deceptive      4. tolerable

- (8) Some people easily become jealous, depressed, or (     ); these mental states are clearly undesirable and unpleasant.  
1. plausible            2. perilous            3. decent            4. irate
- (9) We want to have a large park near the bus terminal, but the developer in charge is not willing to (     ) their plans.  
1. modify            2. bribe            3. penetrate            4. colonize
- (10) Seeing live elephants for the first time, my children couldn't stop (     ) with sheer amazement, joy, and excitement.  
1. dislocating            2. adjusting            3. shrieking            4. skimming
- (11) When her children had not returned home for dinner as usual, Kate got (     ) with worry.  
1. consecutive            2. pompous            3. frantic            4. obsolete
- (12) Since Steven loves flowers, he'll enjoy visiting this rare museum, which has (     ) specimens and artwork considered to be of both scientific and cultural value.  
1. dismal            2. crude            3. botanical            4. mellow
- (13) Although technically we rejected him because he didn't have the necessary (     ), we told him that the program was full in order to spare his feelings.  
1. prerequisites            2. itineraries            3. priorities            4. calamities
- (14) Although dolls are (     ) objects, a lot of people treat them as if they were alive, and some even get deeply attached to them.  
1. preliminary            2. inanimate            3. vacant            4. outrageous
- (15) In most media (     ) of the catastrophe, the conduct of police officers is carefully analyzed and the work of essential workers is praised profusely.  
1. coverage            2. domestication            3. solitude            4. enrollment
- (16) All the restaurants, cafés, and bars in this district must (     ) to the new strict hygiene regulations; frequent inspections will be carried out.  
1. smuggle            2. roam            3. conform            4. prevail