



**2024 Summer Session**

**Eiken® Pre-1**

**Prep & Practice**



**Name**



**J PREP**

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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 has a total of 7 questions. There are 2 passages. 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 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 in a more concise sentence.

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, 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 have 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, 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).