

A/L GENERAL ENGLISH · PRACTICE PAPER SERIES

ANSWER KEY

MODEL PAPER 01

Employment and Skills

PAPER I · 60 MARKS

PAPER II · 140 MARKS

FINAL SCORE = (I + II) ÷ 2

FREE TO USE · NOT FOR SALE

Do not read this before attempting the paper. Answer keys are only useful after a full timed attempt.

Progress Today. **Greatness** Tomorrow.

අද පියවරක් ගොඩ නිමව.



ANSWER KEY · MODEL PAPER 01

Employment and Skills

HOW TO USE THIS KEY

Objective questions (Paper I Q1–Q7; Paper II Q1–Q5, Q7) have exact answers below. Writing questions (Paper I Q8; Paper II Q6, Q8–Q13) have marking notes instead — mark yourself against the mark boxes and the marking criteria. Where an alternative answer is equally correct it is shown after a slash. F–C–L–O = Format, Content, Language, Organisation.

PAPER I · ANSWERS

Q1 Prepositions

05 MARKS

(1) of (2) for (3) at (4) with (5) in · **extra: on**

Q2 Verb forms

10 MARKS

(1) was born (2) was sent (3) was working (4) was shipped / was being shipped (5) reaching
(6) struggled (7) launched (8) was (9) is sold (10) can change

Q3 Word choice

10 MARKS

(1) the (2) Although (3) it (4) for (5) on (6) his (7) but (8) As soon as (9) This (10) Every

Q4 Vocabulary

05 MARKS

1. secure 2. enhance 3. offered 4. maintain 5. demand

Q5 Word endings

05 MARKS

(1) ful (2) ment (3) tion (4) ing (5) ically

Q6 Sentence meaning

05 MARKS

(1) b (2) c (3) c (4) b (5) b

Q7 (I) MCQs

(1) c (2) c (3) b (4) c (5) b

Q7 (II) True / False / Not Given

- (6) **False** — priority is given to rural applicants; the item does not say *only*.
(7) **False** — the project used *recycled* materials.
(8) **True**
(9) **Not Given** — buses are never mentioned.
(10) **True** — "assessed 40 countries."

**Q8 Paragraph****10 MARKS**

"Young people should develop several skills before entering the world of work."

Look for: 3–4 distinct skills named (communication/English, digital skills, teamwork, time management, problem-solving), each with one line of explanation; a closing sentence; 75–100 words; **one paragraph only**. Deduct for a second paragraph, for exceeding 100 words, and for missing capitals or full stops.

PAPER II · ANSWERS**Q1 Vocabulary in context****10 MARKS**

(1) extraordinary (2) faced (3) hopelessness (4) limit (5) resolved (6) barriers (7) founded (8) enormous (9) communicate (10) succeed

Q2 (I) True / False

(1) True (2) **False** — "He was not a professional mountaineer." (3) **False** — she studied in the United Kingdom (4) **False** — Peries turned back below the summit (5) True (6) True (7) True (8) **False** — "preparation matters more than natural talent."

Q2 (II)

(9) b (10) c

Q3 Poem**05 MARKS**

(A) (1) b (2) c (3) c (4) b · (B) **conquer**

Q4 Summary cloze**05 MARKS**

(1) practical (2) wants (3) smoother (4) accessible (5) chance

Q5 (1) T/F/NG**06 MARKS**

(a) True (b) **False** — "This is not because young people are unwilling to work." (c) True (d) True (e) **Not Given** (f) **False** — the writer says a migrant is "not betraying her country."

Q5 (2)**03 MARKS**

(i) a (ii) b (iii) c

Q5 (3) Match to paragraph**03 MARKS**

(a) ④ (b) ⑤ (c) ②

Q5 (4) Pronouns**03 MARKS**

(a) *them* → the young Sri Lankans who leave school each year and look for work
(b) *that worker* → the qualified professional who has emigrated
(c) *It* → the ambition of an economy that trains young people for jobs that exist and gives them a reason to stay

Q5 (5)

Find a word

05 MARKS

(a) remittances (b) vacancies (c) rational (d) migration (e) subsidised

Q6

Situational responses

05 MARKS

sample answers

- (1) "Teacher, could you please write me a recommendation letter for a training programme?"
- (2) "I don't think that would be wise, because a qualification will give me far better opportunities later."
- (3) "Congratulations, akki! You thoroughly deserve it after all that hard work."
- (4) "Would it be possible for me to give you my decision in a week's time?"
- (5) "You should read English newspapers daily and try to speak a little English every day."

Mark: one sentence only · continues from the given words · correct punctuation · appropriate formality.

Q7

Dialogue completion

05 MARKS

sample answers

- (1) "Do you still have places on the computer course?"
- (2) "How long does the course run and when are the classes held?"
- (3) "How much is the course fee?"
- (4) "What are the entry qualifications?"
- (5) "How do I register?"

Mark: each line must fit the reply that follows it; max two sentences; question mark where the reply answers a question.

Q8

Dialogue · F–C–L

15 MARKS

*Format: script layout, greeting, **five turns each**, closing.*

Content: uses the advertisement (duration, the three components, 100 places, certificate, who may apply, how to register). Language: natural telephone English.

Q9

Five sentences

05 MARKS

sample

1. This training programme is a wonderful **opportunity** for school leavers.
2. My uncle is a **reliable** man who has never broken a promise.
3. The company **recruits** twenty trainees every January.
4. She waited **patiently** outside the interview room for two hours.
5. Winning the scholarship was her greatest **achievement**.

Q10

Bar chart

10 MARKS

*must include: an opening sentence naming what the chart shows and the years; an **overview** (services overtook agriculture as the largest employer); figures with %; at least two comparisons; past tense; ~100 words. A bare list of numbers with no overview loses Content marks. Key facts: agriculture 35→25, manufacturing 20→15, services 30→40, construction 15→20.*

**Q11****Informal letter · C–L****15 MARKS**

*all four bullets covered; informal register; address, date,
Dear [name], closing such as Your loving friend; 100–125 words.*

Q12**Formal letter · F–C–L–O****15 MARKS**

*both addresses, date, subject line, Dear Sir/Madam →
Yours faithfully, signature block with designation; all four bullets covered; formal register,
no contractions; 100–125 words.*

Q13**Essay · C–L–O****20 MARKS**

*discuss both views + your opinion. Must have: a view-1 paragraph
(higher salaries, faster progression, experience, remittances), a view-2 paragraph (brain drain,
family ties, contributing to national development, opportunities improving at home), and a
clearly stated personal opinion. 150–200 words. An essay giving only one side loses Content marks.*



QUICK SELF-SCORING SHEET

Photocopy or rewrite this for each attempt.

Paper	Q	Max	Your score
Paper I	1	5	
	2	10	
	3	10	
	4	5	
	5	5	
	6	5	
	7	10	
	8	10	
	Paper I total	60	
Paper II	01	10	
	02	10	
	03	5	
	04	5	
	05	20	
	06	5	
	07	5	
	08	15	
	09	5	
	10	10	
	11	15	
	12	15	
	13	20	
	Paper II total	140	
	FINAL = (P-I + P-II) ÷ 2	100	

Rough grade guide

Indicative only — the real exam is graded on the national distribution.



Final score /100	Likely grade
75+	A
65–74	B
50–64	C
35–49	S
below 35	F

TRACK THESE NUMBERS

Track these five numbers across all five papers. If Paper I Part A is not consistently above 30/35 by Model 03, stop and drill grammar before continuing — it is the cheapest block of marks in the exam and it counts double after the $\div 2$.