

WHAT CANDIDATES NEED TO KNOW - FIRSTWORDS

General Objectives

This test is designed to motivate and reward young learners who have just started learning English in an academic context. It may be particularly useful for learners who have had to master the use of the Roman alphabet.

Language Content

1. Areas of Language Use

Introduce and greet other people
Identify people by name
Ask someone their name
Respond to simple instructions
Identify key classroom, household and other objects
Ask/answer about colour and position of objects
Ask/tell someone their/your age
Ask/talk about families
Request things
Express simple likes
Suggest simple activities
Describe people's appearance in terms of age, height and features
Express numbers from 1 to 20

2. Main Structures

Has / Have got
I've got a dog. Has he got a dog? He hasn't got a cat.
There is / are
How many dogs are there?
The imperative and negative imperative
Get up. Sit down. Be quiet. Don't touch.
The verb 'to be' in the present tense.
He's John. Are you Mary? I'm not tired.
The Present Continuous (affirmative only)
Mr Brown is watching television.
'Can' for ability and requests
Mrs Brown can swim.
'Let's' for simple suggestions
Let's go to the cinema.
Basic question words
What? Where? What colour? Who? How many? How much? Which?
Demonstratives - pronouns and adjectives
This is... That's... Is this/that...? This book is good.
Possessive 's'
Ben's book.
Personal and possessive pronouns and adjectives

I, mine, my etc

Plural of nouns

books, cats, classes, houses, children, men, women

Prepositions of place

The book is on/under/by the chair.

Simple conjunctions

and, but

3. Topics and Vocabulary

- Families
- Pets and Animals
- School
- The Body and People's Appearance
- Toys
- Houses

Simple colours

Red, blue, green, yellow

Nouns for family members

Mother, father, mum, dad, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, grandmother

Numbers from 1 to 20

The house

Kitchen, bathroom, bedroom, garden

Parts of the body

Arm, leg, head, back

Children's clothes

T-shirt, shorts, sweatshirt, baseball cap, trainers

Basic adjectives for feelings

Happy, sad, tired, hungry

Common pets and zoo animals

Dog, cat, tortoise, rabbit, snake, monkey, lion, tiger

Common toys/playthings

Bicycle, computer games, doll

Verbs often used for classroom instruction

Sit down, stand up, open your books, write, fill in

Classroom objects

Book, pencil, pen, ruler, school bag

Please note that structures and vocabulary given in italics are for guidance only and are not intended to be a complete list.

Refer to the appendix in the London Tests of English for children's Handbook for complete list of vocabulary likely to appear in Firstwords Tests.