



English Benchmark *Young Learners*

Item Types and Descriptions

English Benchmark has 19 item types, each with its own unique design, content, and trait(s) to be scored. Scoring methods for these traits depend on the response method and the associated traits. They can be roughly grouped as follows:

Selected responses. Test takers need to select the correct item on the screen within the time limit to get credit for a correct response. Otherwise, their response is considered incorrect. If a location or action is specified, then these are also required for a response to be considered correct.

Short responses. These responses require the production of only a small number of letters or words. In the case of a spoken or written word or short phrase, the scoring system consults a dictionary of correct keywords; matches between the entries in that dictionary and a response are scored as correct. The system is flexible enough to allow spelling errors or somewhat incorrectly pronounced words as matches where appropriate. In the case of the “Repeat the sentence” item type, where an exact repetition of the sentence is requested, partial credit is given when some but not all of the target words are spoken by a test-taker.

Extended constructed responses. Each item type is scored in a specific way based on advanced automated scoring models.

| Item Name | Item Description | Skills Required | EB Level | Response Type | Domain(s) | Scoring |
|-------------------------|--|----------------------|----------|-------------------|-----------|--|
| Say the word | Verbally identify the image shown ("Say what's in the picture.") | Listening - Speaking | 1 | Short response | Speaking | Accuracy in identifying an object in a picture |
| Say the letters | Read a list of 5 upper- and lower-case letters aloud ("Now read these letters out loud.") | Reading | 1 | Short response | Reading | Accuracy in reading letters aloud |
| Pick the right letter | From a group of 3 letters, touch the one that represents the sound played ("Touch the letter that makes the sound X.") | Reading | 1 | Selected response | Reading | Accuracy in identifying the correct letter based on a letter sound |
| Pick the word you hear | From a group of 4 words, touch the one that is heard ("Touch the word X.") | Reading | 1-2 | Selected response | Reading | Accuracy in identifying the spoken word |
| Write about the picture | Write a short description about the picture shown on the screen ("Write about what's happening in the picture.") | Writing | 3 | Short response | Writing | Responses scored for content while following appropriate spelling |
| Listen and act | Listen to a prompt and then touch or move the specified object on the screen ("Touch/move the X.") | Listening | 1-6 | Selected response | Listening | Accuracy in correctly touching/ moving specified object |

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|------------------------------|---|----------------------|-------|-------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Repeat the sentence | Listen to a short sentence and repeat it verbatim | Listening - Speaking | 1,5,6 | Short response | Listening, Speaking | Accuracy in reproducing the words in the correct order |
| Listen and retell | Listen to an audio passage twice (narrative or expository) presented with supporting images. Then retell it in your own words | Listening - Speaking | 2-6 | Extended constructed response | Listening, Speaking | Quality of retell content, grammar, and vocabulary |
| Read and act | Read a prompt on the screen and then touch or move a specified object on the screen ("Touch the X.") | Reading | 2-6 | Selected response | Reading | Accuracy in correctly touching/ moving specified object |
| Complete the sentence | Read a sentence with a missing word and supporting image, and then type the missing word in the blank | Reading - Writing | 2-6 | Short response | Writing | Accuracy in producing an appropriate word for the sentence |
| Put the word in the sentence | Drag the word at the top of the screen and place it in the correct place to make a grammatically correct sentence | Reading | 3-6 | Selected response | Reading | Accuracy in creating a grammatically correct sentence |
| Speak in the situation | Listen twice to an audio prompt describing a situation with a supporting image, and verbally respond appropriately ("What do you say to the X") | Listening - Speaking | 4 | Extended constructed response | Speaking | Responses scored for content (situational appropriateness) and pronunciation |

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|-----------------------|---|----------------------|-----|--|---------------------|---|
| Watch and explain | Watch and listen twice to a video of a mini lecture explaining a concept. Then summarize the content verbally ("Retell what you learned about X"). Then verbally answer a comprehension question about the video content. | Listening - Speaking | 5-6 | Summary response: Extended constructed response Comprehension question: Short response | Listening, Speaking | Summary response scored for quality of the summary, grammar, pronunciation, fluency Comprehension response scored for accuracy in producing the key word(s) |
| Read aloud and answer | Read a passage aloud and then verbally answer a comprehension question about the passage | Reading - Speaking | 4-6 | Read passage: Extended constructed response Comprehension question: Short response | Reading | Passage reading scored for accuracy in reproducing the words in the passage, expressiveness, pronunciation, and reading rate Comprehension response scored for accuracy in producing the key word(s) |
| Answer the question | Look at a picture and verbally answer a spoken question | Listening - Speaking | 1-4 | Short response | Listening, Speaking | Accuracy in producing the key words |
| Read the sentence | Read the sentence on the screen out loud | Reading | 2 | Short response | Reading | Accuracy in reproducing the words in the sentence |

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|-----------------------|--|---------------------|------|-------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Finish the story | Listen to a beginning of a story with 3 images. Make a sentence to describe the last image by selecting appropriate words for each blank | Writing | 2, 3 | Selected response | Writing | Accuracy in selecting the correct words to form a sentence that describes the final image |
| Listen and read aloud | Listen along while a passage is read out loud, then read it out loud yourself | Reading Speaking | 3 | Extended response | Reading, Speaking | Accuracy in reproducing the words in the passage |
| Write the story | Write the story shown in the 3 panels on screen | Writing | 4-6 | Extended constructed response | Writing | Quality of story content, grammar, and vocabulary |