



Start local, think global from INVALSI to the Pearson Test of English for Young Learners

Successful Exam training for young learners

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In today's webinar we will:

- look at how the INVALSI test of English has created the need to certify young learner English levels;
- examine the key features of the PTE young learner exams and how they fit into the GSE framework;
- look at practical activities which can help students to prepare for the exams;
- discuss how we can create a positive learning environment and 'can do' attitude towards exams.



INVALSI tests in maths and Italian have been around for a while:

Legge n.176 25 October 2007

MATHS TEST & ITALIAN TEST

in

Primary School (SP)

2° and 5° Year

Middle School (SSPG)

3° Year

High School (SSSG)



But as of this year students will have to take the INVALSI test of English too:

Decreto Legislativo n.62 13 April 2017

INVALSI ENGLISH TEST

Primary School (SP)

Students in 5° Year from 2018

Middle School (SSPG)

Students in 3° Year from 2018

High school (SSSG)
Students in 5° Year
(from 2019)





What is an INVALSI test?

- a standardized NATIONAL test;
- provides a 'benchmark' or model level of education that students need to attain;
- monitors and evaluates learning at a regional or national scale;
- is recognised by institutions WITHIN ITALY





But what if we can give our students an INTERNATIONALLY recognised level of English?

By using the Pearson Test of English our students can get a globally recognised certificate which corresponds with the GSE European levels which were designed specifically with young learners in mind





What is the Global Scale of English (GSE)?

- internationally recognised scale for measuring English language levels
- closely aligned to the CEFR but more detailed indication of progress in language proficiency
- GSE 22-29 is equivalent to A1 level on CEFR
- GSE 30-36 is equivalent to A2

Global Scale of English			60 7 0	
CEFR			B2 +	



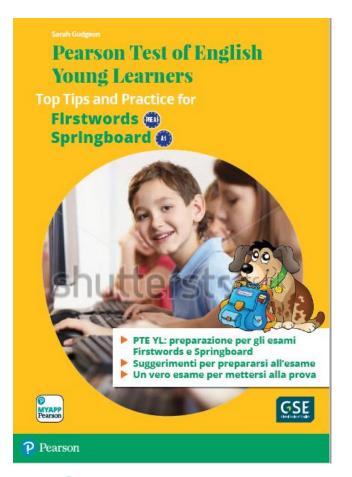
What options are available to our students with the PTE tests?

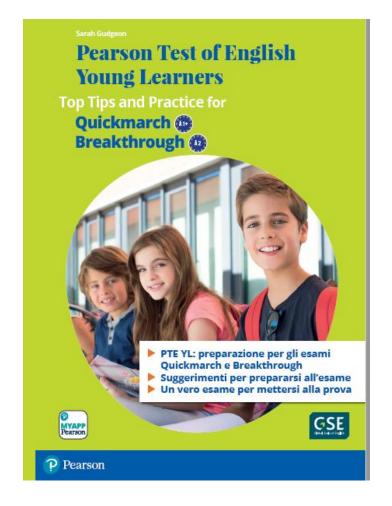
The PTE tests are aimed at young learners between the ages of 8 and 13 so we can expect students to take their first test in the 3rd or 4th year of Primary school.



There are four tests in the Pearson suite of YL exams:

- Firstwords
- Springboard
- · Quickmarch
- Breakthrough









Test takers demonstrate that they can:

- read the English alphabet and recognize simple words and phrases in both written and spoken English;
- understand and talk about basic facts related to their own lives and environments.

Source: Guide to Pearson Test of English Young Learners





In addition to the skills required at Firstwords, test takers demonstrate that they can:

- talk about their feelings, habits, likes and dislikes;
- form questions to obtain the above information from others;
- read and listen with an understanding of key information;
- write a simple text about their own lives to a standard that communicates meaning.

Source: Guide to Pearson Test of English Young Learners





In addition to the skills required at Firstwords and Springboard, test takers demonstrate that they can:

- read texts with understanding, and understand the gist and key information in familiar listening contexts;
- talk about their own lives in terms of habits, likes, dislikes, future plans and past events;
- write a simple text about their own life or a familiar environment to a standard that can be readily understood.

Source: Guide to Pearson Test of English Young Learners, February 2012





In addition to the skills required at Firstwords, Springboard and Quickmarch, test takers demonstrate that they can:

- describe sensations;
- give instructions and explanations;
- describe purpose;
- give opinions and express preferences;
- deal with hypothetical situations.

Source: Guide to Pearson Test of English Young Learners



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What skills are tested in the PTE tests?

- Reading
- Writing
- Listening
- Speaking

All of these four skills are needed to communicate effectively in any language.





What is the test format?

The general test format is the same for all 4 of the PTE tests:

- 6 tasks based on listening, reading and writing;
- 2 speaking tests

Total time allowed

- for the Firstwords, Springboard and Quickmarch written test is 60 minutes;
- for Breakthrough 1hour and 15 minutes

Duration of the speaking test at all levels is 20 minutes.



How can you make sure your students are ready for these tests?

The PTE tests are **child friendly**, scenario based tests where the students get to follow the adventures of **The Brown Family**, but they are still tests and as such students need to prepare for them.

Each level requires the students to be confident in the use of different grammar and vocabulary:



Per l'esame Firstwords devi conoscere...

... questi elementi di grammatica...

- Has / Have got
 I've got a dog. Has he got a dog?
 He hasn't got a cat.
- There is / There are How many dogs are there?
- The imperative and negative imperative (l'imperativo e l'imperativo)
 Get up. Sit down. Be quiet. Don't touch.
- The verb 'to be' in the present tense (il verbo to be al presente)
 He's John. Are you Mary? I'm not tired.
- The present continuous Mr Brown is watching television.
- 'Can' for ability and requests (il verbo can per dire abilità e fare richieste)
 Mrs Brown can swim.
- 'Let's' for simple suggestions (let's per fare proposte)
 Let's go to the cinema.
- Basic question words (le parole base per porre le domande)
 What? Where? What colour? Who?
 How many? How much? Which?
- Demonstratives pronouns and adjectives (pronomi e aggettivi dimostrativi)
 This is... That's... Is this/that...? This book is good.
- Possessive 's' Ben's book
- Personal and possessive pronouns and adjectives (pronomi personali, pronomi e aggettivi possessivi)
 I, mine, my etc.
- Plural of nouns (il plurale)
 books, cats, classes, houses, children, men, women
- Prepositions of place (le preposizioni di luogo)
 The book is on/under/by the chair.

 Simple conjunctions (le congiunzioni semplici)
 and, but

... questi argomenti...

- Hobbies
- Families
- Pets and Animals
- School
- The Body and People's Appearance
- Toys
- Houses
- Common places (park, cinema...)

...e questi vocaboli

- 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 wild animals dog, cat, tortoise, rabbit, snake, monkey, lion, tiger
- Common toys/playthings bicyde, 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











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For the **Quickmarch** and **Breakthrough** tests students must also know past simple verbs, regular and irregular for example. Make sure your students know them. Make practice fun, play verb bingo.

Let's play verb bingo kids.
Write down 6 past simple irregular verbs
on your bingo cards. I'll shout out the infinitive.
First one to circle all their verbs wins.
Don't forget to shout 'bingo!'.







Take the time to make your students feel confident about taking the test; share tips and strategies.



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Activities for Quickmarch Task 5

Devi conoscere la grammatica e i vocaboli per svolgere questi esercizi di Reading e Writing.



Ricorda:

- Leggi attentamente le istruzioni.
- Scegli la forma corretta del verbo.
- Verifica le tue risposte.

TOP TIPSI

Quando svolgi questo genere di attività di lettura e comprensione, la prima cosa da fare è leggere attentamente il testo e i verbi nel box.

- Di che cosa parla il testo?
- Quali verbi del box puoi utilizzare per completare le frasi?
- Sono verbi regolari o irregolari?
- Sei stato attento alle regole dello spelling?

Svolgi gli esercizi 1, 2 e 3 a pagina 19. Good luck!

Ti serve un ripasso della grammatica?

Ripassa

- Il past simple
- i verbi regolari e irregolari.

Verifica di ricordare questi argomenti:

- transport
- · freetime.

Nell'esercizio 1, devi scrivere ogni verbo nella colonna corretta.

Ricorda: ci sono sei verbi per ogni colonna. Se non sei sicuro, controlla la lista dei verbi irregolan alle pagine 8 e 9.

Nell'esercizio 2, devi sottolineare i verbicorretti. Devi usare il past simple perché Nick ormai è arrivato: il viaggio (journey) è finito.

Ricorda: solo un'opzione è quella corretta. Controlla le regole di spelling a pagina 9.

Nell'esercizio 3, devi completare utilizzando i verbi nel box.

Ricorda: devi trasformarli al past simple perché sia il viaggio (journey) di Nick, sia il pigiama party (sleepover) di Olivia a casa di Gemma sono eventi del passato. Abbina ogni verbo al soggetto a cui si riferisce.

Islati donal



Go through the **Top Tips** with your
students. Use the
strategies to make
them active learners.

Nick goes on the school trip to France. He wants to send an email to mum, dad and Olivia to tell them about the journey.

1. Look at the verbs in the box. Write each verb in the correct column:

have • play • study • go • talk • sleep listen • eat • learn • phone • order • make

REGULAR	IRREGULAR

2. Now help Nick to finish his email to his family. Underline the correct verbs.

Dear Mum, Dad and Olivia! How are you all? I'm here in France.

It "Is/was/were a long journey on the coach. I "sleep/sleeped/slept for a lot of the time and then "play/plays/played video games with my friends. We "study/studyed/studied some more French too and "order/orders/ordered our lunch in French on the ferry. I "have/haved/had sausage and chips – not very French, but delicious! See you all soon.

Love, Nick

3. Olivia wants to reply to Nick. Help her to finish her email. Use the verbs in the box.

	r your email! ney sounds like it ¹ rea	ly boring!
²	a great weekend. I ³	over at Gemma's house and we
4	to music all evening. We §	pizza and chips for dinner and
we *	to bed really late!	
Write soor	with some exciting news!	
Lats of lov	e,	
Olivia		



There are different strategies and tips available for all of the tasks in the new PTE booklets. Why not set up **a weekly PTE group**? Use class time to go through the strategies and tips and then get the students to do the task at home. Remember to always compliment the students for their effort and keep them on the learning path.





Practice, practice, practice!



There are past exam papers available online at www.pearson.it, in the PTEYL guides or in the new PTE booklets.

Get you students to do as many as they can once they have completed the preparatory tasks. This will give you and them a realistic expectation of the score they can expect to achieve.



FIRSTWORDS

Pre-Practice Tip: Elicit the question words from your students.

who what where why when

Remind students of the word order for question formation: QASI

3. Task Three: Sophie Talks to Teresa (10 marks) At the swimming pool, Sophie asks Teresa some questions. Draw a line from Sophie's questions to Teresa's answers. The first one is an example. Be careful. There is one extra answer. Example: Do you like the new swimming pool? My mum and my brother Kevin. 1. Are you a good swimmer? He's in the pool with friends. 2. Who are you here with? Kevin is a good swimmer. 3. Where is your mum? Yes, let's go to the café. 4. And what is Kevin doing? Not very good but I can swim. She's buying some drinks at the 5. Do you want a drink? Task 3 (Total 10 marks)



Hurray!

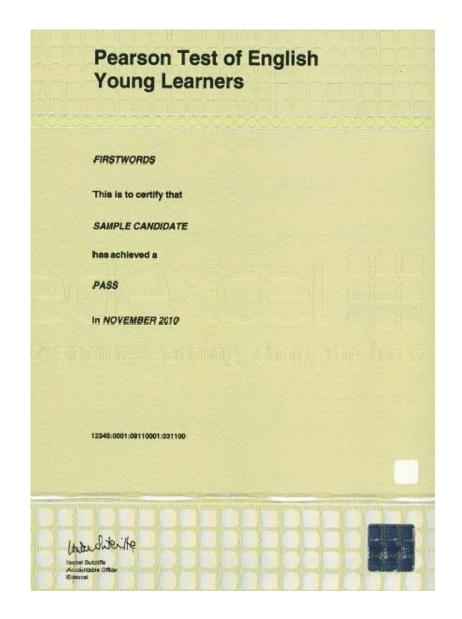
All students get some recognition for taking part in the PTE tests.

Those who pass get a certificate with either a pass, merit or distinction

Well done!









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Those who don't pass the exam get a candidate performance report.



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Name: Sample Candidate

Centre Number: 12345

Candidate Number: 0001

Pearson Test of English Young Learners

Candidate Performance Report for Level 4183 - November 2010

Listening	 15.0 / 30.0
Reading	 13.0 / 25.0
Speaking	 13.0 / 20.0
Writing	 12.0 / 25.0
Overall	 53.0 / 100.0



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Have fun!

The excellent range of materials available means that you really can have fun with your students whilst preparing them for success.

Even speaking practice takes the form of a game:

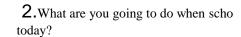


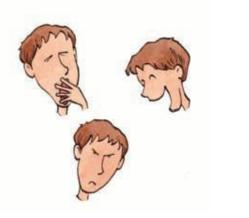






1.How do you feel when you see your grandparents?



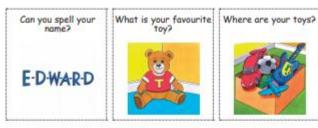




4 How did you feel when you got up this morning?

3. How are you going to sp birthday?

Cards for Boardgame















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From Rreakthrough board game, Pearson.



Get your students using English in everyday contexts that translate over to the real world: they will discover the joy of a 'living language' and be able to prove their skills as well.

An early and positive start on the path to academic recognition will stand your students in good stead for the future.





Thank you for your time today. And remember:

THINK BIG. START LOCAL. GO GLOBAL.





1. Certificate of attendance





To obtain a certificate of attendance, valid to certify obligatory training hours:

Vai su pearson.it/miei-webinar e rispondi ad alcune semplici domande di controllo.

In caso di esito positivo al questionario, scarica subito l'attestato.





2. All materials and video lessons are available in the Pearson Education Library:







3. Upcoming webinars on pearson.it/pearson-academy





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