

# Step To Intermediate Student Book

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# Straight As **03**

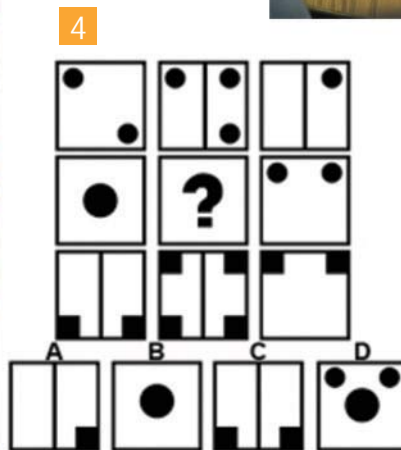
## Speaking

### 1 Vocabulary – Types of Tests

IQ test	entrance exam	drug(s) test	driving test	oral test
eye test	end-of-year exam	physical fitness test	written test	medical exam

### 2 Discussion

- Which tests are shown in the pictures
- Why and where would a person take the exams listed above?
- Which of these tests and exams have you taken? Which ones will you take over the next few years?



### 3 Complete these sentences with tests from the box above.

- I don't think \_\_\_\_\_ are an accurate measure of intelligence.
- Opticians recommend having an \_\_\_\_\_ at least once every two years.
- I'm hopeless at \_\_\_\_\_ because I get too nervous and can't speak properly.
- She had to return her medal after she failed a \_\_\_\_\_.
- The hardest part of the \_\_\_\_\_ is the five-mile run.
- He didn't have to do his military service because he failed the \_\_\_\_\_.

## Speaking

## Exam Experiences

4 Complete the sentences with words from the box.

marks      take      measure      memory      coursework      sitting

- Exams are the best way to \_\_\_\_\_ how much students have learnt. They are very fair because everyone in the country has to answer the same questions. However, coursework such as essays and projects should be included. I think a student's final mark should be 60% exams and 40% \_\_\_\_\_.
- I'm not very good at taking exams. Before an important exam, I usually get very nervous so I can't sleep very well. That means I'm pretty tired when I'm \_\_\_\_\_ the exam which just makes things worse.
- I'm quite good at taking exams because I have a good short-term \_\_\_\_\_ and I don't get too nervous. I got good \_\_\_\_\_ for most of my classes when I was at high school. In fact, I usually got As for all my classes except for maths.
- Some companies ask their employees to \_\_\_\_\_ drugs tests. I think that employers should trust their workers rather than treat them like criminals.

5 In pairs, discuss 1–4.

### 6 Advice for Taking Exams

Do you agree with these suggestions? Can you think of any others?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Drink some coffee before you sit it.                                | 4. Go to a church, mosque or temple and pray.           |
| 2. Don't study the day before the exam; do something relaxing instead. | 5. Stay up late revising your notes.                    |
| 3. Start revising three weeks before it.                               | 6. Sit next to a good student and copy his/her answers. |

#### Talking about your school exam results

*I got 97% **in/for** biology. I usually **get** very good **marks in/for** maths.*

*What **mark** did you get **in/for** the chemistry exam? I **got** nineteen **out of** twenty.*

*I was **expecting** a B, **but I got** a D.*

## Writing

## What things could cause you to have a bad day at school?

1 Fill in the blanks with words from the box.

fell asleep	go off	cheating	fainted	forgot
broke	missed	fell out	twisted	caught

- I overslept because my alarm didn't \_\_\_\_\_.
- I \_\_\_\_\_ the school bus so I was late for class.
- While I was playing softball, I \_\_\_\_\_ a classroom window.
- My maths teacher was angry because I \_\_\_\_\_ in class.
- I \_\_\_\_\_ to take my homework.
- One of my contact lenses \_\_\_\_\_ and I couldn't find it.
- I \_\_\_\_\_ my ankle while I was playing football.
- My science teacher caught me \_\_\_\_\_ in an exam.
- I \_\_\_\_\_ during a school assembly.
- My English teacher \_\_\_\_\_ me playing games on my cell phone.

2 Which of these have happened to you? Can you think of any other bad things that could happen?

3 Have you ever failed an exam for any of the following reasons?

**Why might you fail an exam?** You might fail an exam because:

- you're not good at that subject.
- you didn't study for it.
- the exam was too hard.
- you missed a lot of classes before the exam.
- you didn't feel well.
- you didn't turn the exam paper over so you only answered half of the questions.
- you were too nervous.



## Writing

## Writing a Narrative Essay

**Essay topic:** "Yesterday was my worst day at school." Continue the story.

- 4 Complete the essay by filling the blanks with the time words from the box.

moment    continued    when    from now on    after    while

My day at school yesterday was a nightmare! I overslept because I had gone to bed late and forgotten to set my alarm. (1)\_\_\_\_\_ I woke up, I got a terrible surprise. It was ten o'clock! I put on my uniform and ran to school. Unfortunately, (2)\_\_\_\_\_ I was running, I slipped and fell into a muddy puddle.

(3)\_\_\_\_\_ arriving at school, I apologised to my teacher, Miss Evans. She told me to go to the boys' toilets to clean myself up. While I was there, I saw a boy from the year ahead of me smoking. He handed me his cigarette. I took it but said I didn't want to try it. At that very (4)\_\_\_\_\_, the headmaster walked in and saw me holding the cigarette. He called my parents and told them that I had been caught smoking.

My bad luck (5)\_\_\_\_\_ during the lunch break. I was playing cricket with some friends when suddenly I hit the ball really far. It flew over the sports field and crashed through a classroom window.

All in all, yesterday was the worst day that I've ever had at school. (6)\_\_\_\_\_, I'm going to go to bed earlier, remember to set my alarm, and be more careful.

5 **Useful Time Phrases for Telling Stories**

Find the following patterns in the essay above. Underline and mark them A–D.

- A. While I was V-ing, I V-ed
- B. After V-ing, I V-ed
- C. I was V-ing when (all of a sudden, suddenly) I V-ed
- D. All of a sudden / Suddenly / At that very moment, sb V-ed

**The Past Perfect (had + past participle)** is used when we are talking about two things that happened in the past. The past perfect shows which event happened first. We often add 'already'. *When I got home, they **had already eaten**.*

What happened first in these two sentences?

*I overslept because I **had gone** to bed late.*

*He called my parents and told them that I **had been caught** smoking.*