







FROM A TO B
telc ENGLISH A2·B1

A2·B1



The Structure of the Examination

	Subtest	Aim	Type of Test	Time	
Written Examination	 1 Listening				
	Part 1	Understanding voice mail messages	4 multiple-choice items	25 min.	
	Part 2	Understanding short public announcements	5 multiple-choice items		
	Part 3	Understanding everyday conversations	4 true/false and 4 multiple-choice items		
	Part 4	Understanding different opinions about a topic	3 matching items		
		 2 Reading			
		Part 1	Understanding lists of information in catalogues, on the Internet, etc.	5 multiple-choice items	45 min.
		Part 2	Understanding basic and specific questions and answers from an internet forum	5 matching items	
		Part 3	Understanding information from press releases and formal announcements	3 true/false and 3 multiple-choice items	
		Part 4	Understanding informational brochures	3 true/false items	
		Part 5	Completing a letter	6 multiple-choice items	
		 3 Writing			
			Writing semi-formal emails	1 writing task	30 min.
Oral Examination	 4 Speaking				
	Part 1 A	Talking about yourself	Task sheet with guiding points	Approx. 16 min.	
	Part 1 B	Answering follow-up questions	Examiner questions		
	Part 2 A	Talking about experiences	Task sheet with pictures		
	Part 2 B	Answering follow-up questions	Examiner questions		
Part 3	Solving a task	Task sheet with guiding points			

Dear Reader,

telc – language tests have over 40 years of experience in the field of English language testing and certification, with a range of English language examinations across levels A1 to C1 of the Council of Europe's *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages* (CEF). These include general, school and business language assessments designed to meet the specific requirements of our test takers around the world. The *telc English A2·B1* examination is the latest addition to the *telc English* programme, which has been in existence since the 1960s, bringing a fresh format that reflects the needs of today's learners.

With the introduction of the *telc English A2·B1* examination, *telc – language tests* offer a ground-breaking dual-level format. Unlike the traditional single-level tests, this measures language competence across two different levels of the CEF within the same examination. Some learners may be unsure of which single-level test to undertake, while others may wish to use the assessment to determine their true level of language competency. A dual-level examination provides reassurance that certification will be achieved, while precisely reflecting each individual's linguistic abilities. Upon completion of the examination, test takers receive a breakdown of the levels awarded for the separate skills of listening/reading, writing and speaking, and a certificate for the overall level achieved: A2 or B1.

To support you on your journey to linguistic competence, the 'From A to B' study booklet has been designed to accompany the *telc English A2·B1* examination. Together with the *telc English A2·B1* Mock Examination and other telc learning materials, it can be used for classroom practice and self-study preparation.

The booklet is divided into four study units based on different geographical areas of the English-speaking world. It is accompanied by two audio CDs containing different versions of the listening comprehension material. CD 1 (Standard) meets the specifications of the *telc English A2·B1* examination listening subtest and is designed for examination preparation purposes. CD 2 (Global Voices) features the exact same audio material, recorded by native speakers from the USA, Canada, the UK, Ireland, India, Australia and New Zealand. This provides an opportunity for learners to further strengthen their listening skills, while bringing authenticity to their study activities.

The practice activities for each unit contain fun, authentic material from each region and activities that mirror the tasks contained in the *telc English A2·B1* examination itself.

We hope that this booklet helps you get From A to B... Good luck!

The telc English Team

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Examination Preparation

Will all of the exercises in the “From A to B” booklet be the same in the *telc English A2-B1* examination?

Most of the practice exercises in this book have exactly the same format and level as the items in the final examination. These items have been marked with the *telc English* logo, together with an indication of the level being tested in each case. Any activities that do not carry the *telc English* logo have been included for fun and further practice.

Why are there two audio CDs and how should they be used?

At the back of the booklet, there are two audio CDs for the listening practice activities. Both CDs contain exactly the same audio material, but with a significant difference. CD 1 features speakers with neutral accents that are typical of the voices heard in the actual *telc English A2-B1* examination. This can be used for formal practice purposes. CD 2 features speakers with accents from the USA, Canada, the UK, Ireland, India, Australia and New Zealand, as focussed on in the study units. This can be used to get a feeling for the different voices heard around the English-speaking world. The two CDs can be used together to gain further practice and draw interesting and useful comparisons between the different accents.

What do the icons mean?



Warm-up



Just for Fun



Information for
Test Takers

Which practice activities reflect the tasks in the examination?

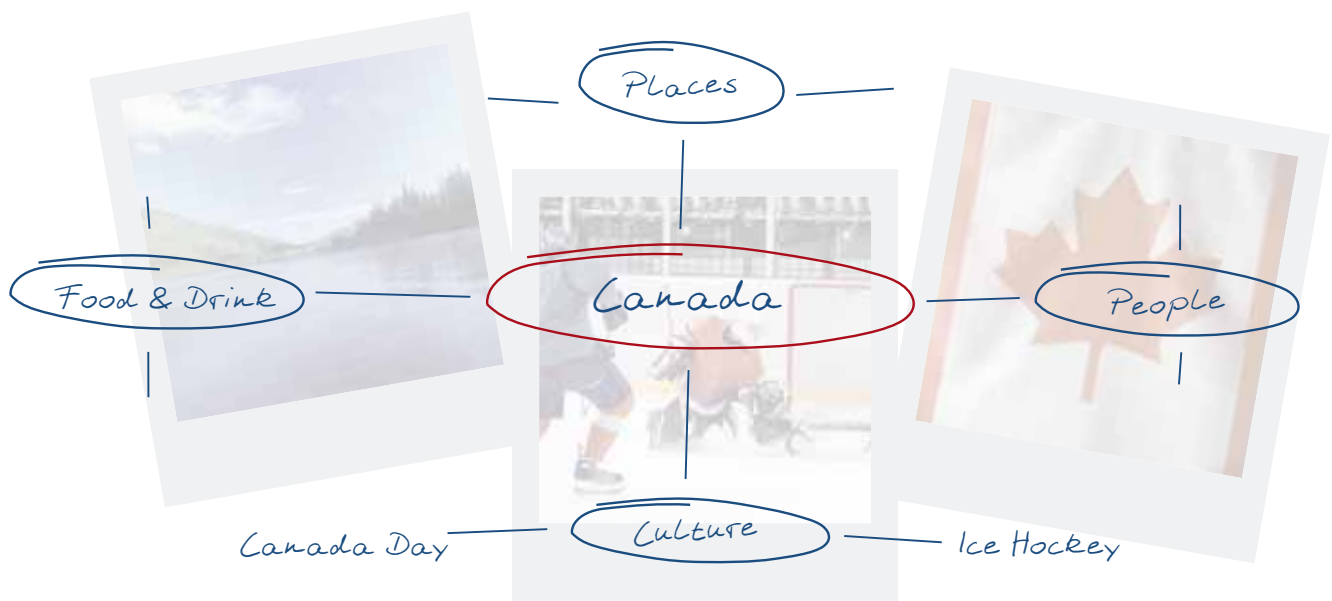
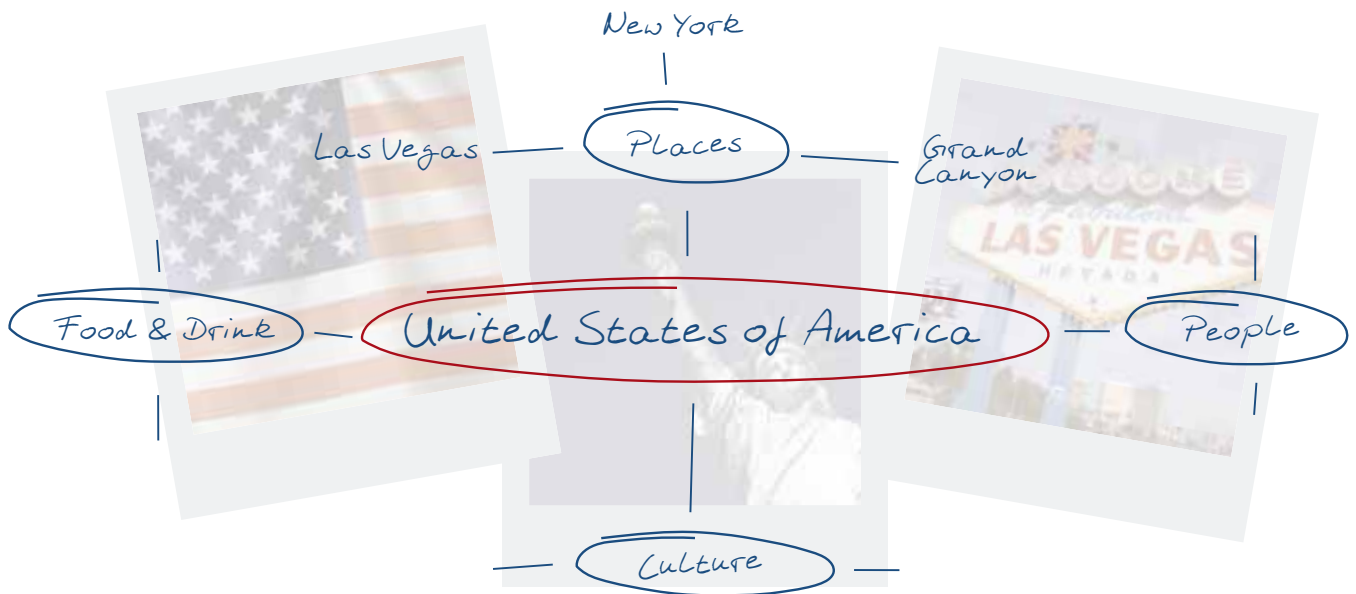
Subtest	Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4
1 Listening				
Part 1: Understanding voice mail messages	Practice 4		Practice 4	
Part 2: Understanding short public announcements	Practice 5		Practice 5	
Part 3: Understanding everyday conversations		Practice 4		Practice 4
Part 4: Understanding different opinions about a topic		Practice 5		Practice 5
2 Reading				
Part 1: Understanding lists of information in catalogues, on the Internet, etc.	Practice 7	Practice 7		
Part 2: Understanding basic and specific questions and answers from an internet forum		Practice 8	Practice 8	
Part 3: Understanding information from press releases and formal announcements	Practice 6	Practice 6	Practice 6	Practice 8 Practice 9
Part 4: Understanding informational brochures	Practice 8		Practice 7	Practice 7
Part 5: Completing a letter	Practice 9	Practice 9	Practice 9	Practice 6
3 Writing				
Writing semi-formal emails		Practice 12	Practice 13	Practice 12
4 Speaking				
Part 1 A: Talking about yourself	Practice 10			
Part 1 B: Answering follow-up questions				
Part 2 A: Talking about experiences		Practice 10	Practice 10	Practice 10
Part 2 B: Answering follow-up questions				
Part 3: Solving a task			Practice 11	Practice 11

1 USA & Canada



1 Warm-up Cultural associations

This unit is about travelling in the US and Canada. What do you know about these places? Complete the mind maps below with the words and phrases that you think of for each country.





4 Listening

Voice mail messages

Track 3



You are getting ready for your trip to the USA and Canada.
You will hear four voice mail messages. Which answer fits best: a, b or c?

Example

You should

- a cancel your hotel booking.
- b check in at the hotel as planned.
- c** contact the hotel to make a new booking.

- 1 Mark wants you to
 - a book a table at a restaurant.
 - b email him the menu from your favourite restaurant.
 - c tell him if you like the food he suggests.
- 2 You should be at the airport at
 - a 9 a.m.
 - b 11 a.m.
 - c 2 p.m.
- 3 Before the end of May you should
 - a book a diving course.
 - b choose your sports activities.
 - c send a copy of your health documents.
- 4 Your friend Kara would like to know
 - a if you are still planning to visit her next month.
 - b if you have ever been to see a basketball game.
 - c what you would like to do while you are visiting.



telc English A2-B1 Listening Part 1: Understanding voice mail messages.
Note: In the examination, you will hear each message only once.



5 Listening

Public announcements

Track 4

You will hear five radio or public announcements. Which answer fits best: a, b or c?

- 1 To get to Vancouver city you should
 - a rent a car.
 - b take a bus or taxi.
 - c take a train.

- 2 There are no trains this morning on lines
 - a 1, 2 and 3.
 - b A and C.
 - c L and M.

- 3 The weather in New Jersey on Tuesday will be
 - a cloudy.
 - b rainy.
 - c sunny.

- 4 The current ice hockey champions are
 - a Calgary Flyers.
 - b Edmonton Thunder.
 - c Hamilton Hawks.

- 5 The store has a half-price discount on
 - a all typical Canadian food and drink.
 - b Canadian beers.
 - c maple syrup.



telc English A2-B1 Listening Part 2: Understanding short public announcements.
Note: In the examination, you will hear each announcement only once.

Unit 1

Track 2 Practice 3

a. When I think of a vacation, I think of sunshine. For me, it's the perfect way to get away from work and my busy life and just relax. That's why I always choose somewhere on the coast. I love lying on the sand and reading a book or listening to some music. The sea is so calming in the evening too, I can't imagine being anywhere else.

b. I'm a pretty active person and I love getting out for some fresh air when I take a break from city life. The views from the mountains where we go each winter are just amazing and the cold and snow are no problem for me at all. In fact, it makes the evenings by the fire even better after a hard day outdoors on the slopes!

c. I love the buzz of big places with lots of people, excitement and things to do. I get really bored on the beach or by the pool. In March we went to Dublin for the weekend and saw so many interesting sights. We learned a bit about the country, we met some local people and enjoyed fantastic restaurants and Irish music ... Perfect!

d. Our family is crazy about animals and over the past few years we've been lucky enough to go to Africa three times. We've seen some incredible animals up close. The kids loved the lions and giraffes, but personally I preferred the rhinos. We got some great photos and the hot weather really wasn't a problem.

e. Why would you visit another country without seeing the most famous sights and learning something about them? I don't care where we go – we can be in the city, by the sea or in the country. The most important thing is that we have an organised trip with a local expert who can show us the most interesting things and help us understand the place we're visiting.

Track 3 Practice 4

Example: Hey there! This is Mandy calling from the Yellow Cab Hotel in New York City. We received your inquiry about two nights here at the end of the month and I'm sorry to say that we are fully booked for the dates you chose. Could you please call me back on 212-869-0100 or send an email to reception@yellowcabhotel.com to look at some other possibilities?

1. Hey! It's your cousin Mark. We're all ready for your visit to Kentucky in a couple of weeks and we'd really like to take you to our favourite fried chicken restaurant the first evening. I've

emailed you the menu. Can you take a look and let me know what you think? Then I can go ahead and book a table.

2. Hey, it's Natalie. I got a message from Canada Air about our flight on Monday. They've changed the departure time because of the weather in Toronto. We have to get to the airport for check-in by 9 in the morning, two hours earlier than the original time of 11:00. Are you still happy to drive? Give me a call when you get this message.

3. Hello there, this is a call from Splash Diving Centre in North Carolina. We're still waiting for copies of your health certificates so that you can take part in our water-sport activities. You can send them by email or fax, but we must have a copy by May 31 or you will not be able to dive with us. Many thanks!

4. Hi guys, it's Kara. I am so excited about your trip to see us next month! David has decided that you absolutely must go and see a basketball game while you're here in the States. So, what do you think? Do you have any other ideas about what you'd like to do? Call me back soon so we can start making plans!

Track 4 Practice 5

1. This is an announcement for all passengers arriving on international flights to Vancouver Airport. We are sorry to inform you that the "Canada Line" rail link to downtown Vancouver will not be operating this morning due to an accident. Please make use of the shuttle bus service and taxis available at Arrivals Level 1 for your journey onward. We apologise for any inconvenience.

2. Good morning New Yorkers! If you're making your way to work on the subway today, here is the latest travel news from the city, last updated at 07:45. There is a good service on the A and the C. Currently minor delays on the L and M. Passengers on the 1, 2 and 3 are advised to seek alternative routes as these lines are closed for maintenance work.

3. And now for the latest update from our New Jersey weather centre on Monday July 20. Atlantic City will enjoy a bright start to the day today with a mix of cloud and sunshine. Tomorrow will be wet and windy with very heavy showers at times. There will be wind speeds of up to 25 mph, so don't forget your coats and umbrellas folks!

4. The Canadian Women's National Ice Hockey finals are here again! This weekend, folks, at the Calgary ice rink. Watch the Hamilton Hawks play the winners of last year's

championship, Edmonton Thunder. There will also be a charity match with our home team, the Calgary Flyers, so there will be something to please all you hockey fans – don't miss it!

5. Oh Canada! Celebrate Canada Day with big sales on all traditional products at your local 'Maple Leaf' grocery store. What better way to celebrate July 1st than with some excellent national food and drinks? We have discounts on smoked salmon, maple syrup and ice wine, and you can enjoy a 50% reduction on all Canadian beers. Hurry on down for one week only, while supplies last!

Unit 2

Track 5 Practice 3

a. I make the community safer, but it's really not like on the telly. Luckily, I mainly deal with small crimes like stealing and shoplifting. Most of the time, they're teenagers and they usually take small things without paying. After I've spoken to them, they don't normally do it again!

b. I have to train most days. It's hard work. I compete in all kinds of sport competitions. My strength is running. I like running long distances. My coach thinks I'm good. She thinks I have a chance at the nationals next season, but it looks like I have more than a few days of hard training ahead of me. Wish me luck!

c. Open up and say ah! I suppose most people don't really want to see me, but I'm happy when they come. Cleaning small children's teeth can be a little difficult. Luckily, I'm very patient. My job is a bit stressful, but I enjoy it. I like helping people stay healthy. Be sure to brush your teeth twice a day!

d. All aboard! We all have our favourite routes. Mine is in the city centre. Even though I've been driving the route for a couple of years, it still interests me. It's nice taking passengers around the city. I always notice the people that ride with me regularly. They're all very friendly and I like to say hello to them when they get on.

e. You may not know this, but I've helped to make this city what it is. I love making things. I've always loved building sand castles. When I was young, I played with blocks and built my own cities and roads. I have to say that it's a lot more fun to build real cities and roads!

Track 6 Practice 4

Example:

A: Have you got a minute?

B: Sure. What can I do for you?

A: It's about the latest design for next season.



FROM A TO B

telc ENGLISH A2·B1

Examination Preparation

This booklet is designed to help test takers prepare for the dual-level *telc English A2·B1* examination. It contains authentic practice examples of examination tasks based around different countries of the English-speaking world.

Additionally, this booklet contains

- information for test takers,
- two versions of the listening exercises,
- answer keys and audio scripts.

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