

P.A.U.

English

10

Simulacros Selectividad



- ✓ Simulacros reales
- ✓ Respuestas explicadas
- ✓ Redacciones modelo
- ✓ Estrategia paso a paso

P.A.U. ENGLISH

Valencian Community Model

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Tips to use before starting

To get the most out of these 10 Mock Exams and ensure you are fully ready for the **PAU**, you need a strategy. Don't just “do” the exams; **train** with them, so here is a professional **training plan** designed to maximize your score.

1. The “Real Exam” Simulation (Timing is Key)

The exam lasts **90 minutes**. You must learn to manage this time effectively. When you practice a mock, set a timer and follow this split:

- **00:00 – 00:10 (10 mins): Reading & Strategy.** Read the text twice. Read the questions. Underline keywords. *Don't write yet.*
- **00:10 – 00:50 (40 mins): Part I (Reading Comprehension).** Answer Questions 1, 2, 3, and 4.
- **00:50 – 01:20 (30 mins): Part II (Writing).** Brainstorm, draft, and write your essay.
- **01:20 – 01:30 (10 mins): Review.** Check for spelling, grammar, and ensure you quoted correctly in Q1.

 **Tip:** If you finish early at home, *wait*. Use the extra time to **re-read**. In the real exam, you can't leave early, so get used to **double-checking**.

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2. Technical Strategy per Question

Question 1: True/False + Evidence (2 pts)

- **Drill:** Practice finding the *shortest possible phrase* that makes sense.
- **Rule:** If the text says: "*The weather was terrible, so they stayed home.*"
 - *Bad Evidence:* "...so they stayed home." (Incomplete thought).
 - *Good Evidence:* "The weather was terrible, so they stayed home."
- **Warning:** Never use "..." *inside* the quote. **Copy the full exact words.**

Question 2: Paraphrasing (2.5 pts)

The "Read-Hide-Write" Technique:

1. **Read** the sentence in the text.
2. **Identify** the key information (Concept A + Concept B).
3. **Hide the text.** Look away.
4. **Write** the sentence in your own words.
5. **Check:** Did you accidentally use the exact same words? If yes, *find a synonym.*

Question 3: Synonyms (1 pt)

- The **Context Check**: Do not just match definitions.
 - If the text says: “*The company **runs** fast.*”
 - Option A: *Jogs*. Option B: *Operates*.
 - If you pick “Jogs” because *Run = Jog*, you are wrong. In this context, a company *operates*.
- **Drill**: Always put your chosen word back into the sentence to see if it flows.

Question 4: Multiple Choice (1.5 pts)

- **Elimination**: Cross out the 2 obviously wrong answers first.
- Focus your energy on **distinguishing** between the “Correct” one and the “Distractor” (the one that looks right but has a slight detail wrong).

Question 5: Writing (3 pts)

- The **“Skeleton” Method**: Never start writing the essay immediately. Spend 3 minutes making a skeleton:
 - **Intro**: Hook + Thesis.
 - **Body 1**: Topic sentence + Argument + Example.
 - **Body 2**: Topic sentence + Counter-argument + Refutation.
 - **Conclusion**: Summary + Final thought.
- **Connector Bucket**: Write down **5 connectors** at the top of your page (e.g., *Furthermore, However, Consequently, In addition, To sum up*) and force yourself to cross them off as you use them.

3. The “Traffic Light” Correction Method

After you finish a mock exam, **grade** it using the solutions I gave you. Use **three** highlighters:

- **GREEN (Silly Mistakes)**: Spelling errors, forgetting to quote marks, copying 3 words in a row.
 - **Fix**: Slow down. These are free points you are throwing away.
- **ORANGE (Vocabulary Gaps)**: You didn't know the word “struggle” or “burden.”
 - **Fix**: Write these words in a “Vocab Notebook” with a translation and a sentence. Review this notebook before the next mock.
- **RED (Grammar Failures)**: You wrote “People is” instead of “People are,” or used the wrong tense.
 - **Fix**: Review that specific grammar rule **immediately**.

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4. A Suggested 2-Week Plan

Since you have 10 Mocks, you can do an **intensive sprint**.

● Week 1 (Foundation):

- **Mon:** Mock 1 (Night Trains) - Focus on *Reading Speed*.
- **Tue:** Mock 2 (AI) - Focus on *Paraphrasing (Q2)*.
- **Wed:** Review Vocabulary from Mocks 1 & 2.
- **Thu:** Mock 3 (Mental Health) - Focus on *Writing Structure*.
- **Fri:** Mock 4 (Environment) - **Full Exam Conditions (Strict 90 mins)**.
- **Sat:** Mock 5 (Fast Fashion) - **Full Exam Conditions**.

● Week 2 (Mastery):

- **Mon:** Mock 6 (Work Week) - Focus on *Connectors*.
- **Tue:** Mock 7 (Overtourism) - Focus on *Synonyms*.
- **Wed:** Review “Red” and “Orange” errors.
- **Thu:** Mock 8 (Sports Equality) - **Full Exam Conditions**.
- **Fri:** Mock 9 (Cyberbullying) - **Full Exam Conditions**.
- **Sat:** Mock 10 (Space Race) - **Grand Finale**.

CHECKLIST ⇒ The “Golden Rules”

Here is a summary of the **most important tips to remember** for the exam day:

1. **Read the Instructions:** Check if the True/False asks for “0.5 points” or “1 point” (it sometimes changes). In 2026, it is **0.5 each**.
2. **Quote Perfectly:** In Question 1, if you miss a comma or a quotation mark, you lose points. Copy exactly.
3. **No “Chunks”:** In Question 2, never copy 3+ words in a row. Use the **Synonym Swap** technique.
4. **Context is King:** In Question 3, always check if the synonym works in the **sentence**, not just in the dictionary.
5. **Structure Your Essay:**
 - **Intro:** General Topic + Thesis.
 - **Body 1:** Argument A.
 - **Body 2:** Argument B (or Counter-argument).
 - **Conclusion:** Summary + Final Opinion.
6. **Review Time:** Save 5 minutes to check for:
 - Subject-Verb Agreement (*He plays*).
 - Adjectives (No plural! *Different problems*, NOT *different problems*).
 - False Friends (*Actual*, *assist*, *sensible*).

You are now ready to crush the P.A.U. exam! Good luck, and trust your preparation!



Final Word of Advice



The PAU English exam is not just about knowing English; it is about **following the rules**.

1. Did you **quote** exactly?
2. Did you **change the words** in Q2?
3. Did you write between **130-150** words (not 100, not 200)?

If you follow these rules and use the practice content provided, you will do great. **Good luck!**



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MOCK EXAM 1

Topic: Transport and Sustainability

TEXT: The Return of Night Trains

In a world increasingly concerned with carbon footprints, an old favourite is making a comeback: the night train. For decades, budget airlines dominated European travel, offering quick, cheap flights that made overnight rail journeys seem obsolete. Routes were closed, and sleeper cars were scrapped. However, a “rail renaissance” is now underway. Travellers are actively choosing slower, more sustainable travel options, trading the stress of airport security for the romance of watching the landscape change from a train window.

Companies like ÖBB (Austrian Federal Railways) are leading this revival with their “Nightjet” service, connecting cities like Vienna, Paris, and Rome. They are introducing modern cabins with greater privacy, addressing one of the main complaints of the past: sharing a cramped compartment with strangers. This shift is not just about nostalgia; it is a practical response to the climate crisis. A train journey generates significantly less CO2 than a flight, making it a “green” alternative for eco-conscious tourists.

Yet, challenges remain. Ticket prices for sleeper trains are often higher than budget flights due to high track access charges. Furthermore, the network is still fragmented, meaning booking a cross-border trip can be complicated. Despite these hurdles, the demand is surging. Governments are beginning to subsidize these routes, recognizing that if they want to meet climate goals, they must make rail travel attractive again. For many, the holiday now begins the moment they step on board, not just when they arrive.

Part I. Reading Comprehension (7 points)

1. Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)? Identify the part of the text that supports your answer by copying the exact passage on the answer sheet. (2 points: 0.5 point each)

- a. Night trains are becoming popular again because they are faster than planes.
- b. The main reason for the revival of sleeper trains is environmental concern.
- c. Several European countries are investing in new night train routes.
- d. Night trains are always cheaper than taking a plane.

2. Answer the following questions using your own words but taking into account the information in the text. (2.5 points: 1.25 point each)

- a. Why are night trains becoming popular again, according to the text?
- b. What difficulties does the night train industry currently face?

3. Find a synonym for each of the four words below from these six options. All words are underlined in the text. (1 point: 0.25 point each)

- *Options from text:* complaints, remain, network, hurdles, surging, obsolete
 - a. obstacles
 - b. stay / persist
 - c. criticisms
 - d. system

4. Choose a, b, c, or d, in each question below. Only one choice is correct. (1.5 points: 0.5 point each)

1. According to the text, the “rail renaissance” is partly driven by...
 - a. the desire for faster travel.
 - b. the need for stricter airport security.
 - c. a preference for sustainable travel.
 - d. the lack of available flights.
2. Modern sleeper cabins are designed to...
 - a. fit more people in one room.
 - b. offer more privacy to passengers.
 - c. be cheaper than old compartments.
 - d. reduce the speed of the train.
3. Governments are subsidizing night trains because...
 - a. they want to increase ticket prices.
 - b. they are owned by budget airlines.
 - c. it helps them meet environmental targets.
 - d. the trains are faster than planes.

Part II. Composition (3 points)

5. Choose one of these two topics and write a composition about it (130 to 150 words approximately).

- **A.** Advantages and disadvantages of using public transport versus private cars.
- **B.** Describe a memorable journey you have taken (real or imaginary).

Answer Sheet

PART I. READING COMPREHENSION

1. 2 POINTS (0,5 each) → Your score: ____/2

a. T / F

b. T / F

c. T / F

d. T / F

2. 2,5 POINTS (1,25 each) → Your score: ____/2,5

a.

b.

3. 1 POINT (0,25 each) → Your score: ____/1

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____

4. 1,5 POINTS (0,5 each) → Your score: ____/1,5

- 1. a / b / c / d
- 2. a / b / c / d
- 3. a / b / c / d

PART II. COMPOSITION: (130 to 150 words approximately) (3 points)

5. Choose one of these two topics and write a composition about it.

- A. Advantages and disadvantages of using public transport versus private cars.
- B. Describe a memorable journey you have taken (real or imaginary).



1. **0,25** points; 2. **1** point; 3. **0,75** points; 4. **1** point. ➡ **Your score: ____/3**

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*Check your answers here: [Answer Key 1](#)

Full score: _____ / 10

Official Sources for Further Practice

If you want to practice with **real past exams** (from previous years, though the format was slightly different), you should visit the official repository of the Valencian Community:

1. **Official Website: Generalitat Valenciana - Conselleria d'Educació** (Look for "Exàmens PAU anys anteriors").
2. **Source Text Style:** The texts in these exams are usually adapted from British/American media such as:
 - *The Guardian*
 - *BBC News*
 - *The New York Times*
 - *National Geographic*

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Modelos de exámenes de años anteriores

Aquí encontrarás los exámenes resueltos y pautas de corrección de convocatorias de PAU de años anteriores:

<https://www.examenesdepau.com/examenes/comunidad-valenciana/ingles/>

<https://bancdelaselectivitat.umh.es/examenes-resueltos/ingles/>

<https://pauvalencia.lol/asignatura/Ingl%C3%A9s>

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Step-by-Step Guide to Full Punctuation

SOLUTIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Mock Exam 1

Here is how to maximize your score in each specific section based on the new criteria.

1. Question 1: True/False + Evidence (2 Points)

- **The Change:** There are now **4 statements** (0.5 pts each). This means you have less margin for error per question than before.
- **Strategy:**
 - **Format:** Write "True" or "False" clearly.
 - **The Quote:** You **must** copy the evidence exactly as it appears in the text. Do not summarize.
 - **Length:** Do not copy a whole paragraph. Only copy **the sentence** (or clause) that proves the point.

Answers:

- **a. False. Evidence:** "For decades, budget airlines dominated European travel, offering quick, cheap flights that made overnight rail journeys seem obsolete." (Or: "Travellers are actively choosing slower, more sustainable travel options...")
- **b. True. Evidence:** "This shift is not just about nostalgia; it is a practical response to the climate crisis."
- **c. True. Evidence:** "Governments are beginning to subsidize these routes, recognizing that if they want to meet climate goals, they must make rail travel attractive again."
- **d. False. Evidence:** "Ticket prices for sleeper trains are often higher than budget flights due to high track access charges."

2. Question 2: Open Questions (2.5 Points)

Since this section is worth **2.5 points** (1.25 per answer), mastering it is crucial for a high grade.

Here is my step-by-step masterclass on **Paraphrasing for the P.A.U. Exam**, applied to the "Night Trains" mock we just used.

The Golden Rule: "Same Meaning, Different Shell"

Your goal is to extract the **information** (the kernel) and throw away the **original sentence structure** (the shell).

There are **three main techniques** to do this safely. You should combine them.

Technique 1: The Synonym Swap

Replace key nouns, verbs, and adjectives with words that mean the same thing.

- Text: "prices are **higher**" → Your Answer: "costs are **more expensive**"
- Text: "**booking** a trip" → Your Answer: "**reserving** a journey"
- Text: "make rail travel **attractive**" → Your Answer: "make trains **appealing**"

Technique 2: The Grammar Flip

Change the grammatical structure of the sentence. This impresses examiners.

- **Active** → **Passive**:
 - Text: "Governments **are subsidizing** these routes."
 - Answer: "These routes **are being funded** by the authorities."
- **Verb** → **Noun**:
 - Text: "Travellers are **choosing**..."
 - Answer: "Travellers are making the **choice** to..."
- **Connector Change**:
 - Text: "**Despite** these hurdles..."
 - Answer: "**Although** there are obstacles..."

Technique 3: Change the Perspective (Antonyms)

Say the same thing by using the negative of the opposite.

- Text: "It is **complicated**."
- Answer: "It is **not easy**."

Let's Apply It: Solving Question 2

Let's look at the "Night Trains" mock questions and solve them step-by-step.

Question 2a: Why are night trains becoming popular again according to the text?

Step 1: Locate the answer in the text.

Text Segment: "Travellers are actively **choosing slower, more sustainable travel options, trading the stress of airport security** for the **romance of watching the landscape**... A train journey generates **significantly less CO2**..."

Step 2: Identify Key Ideas.

1. People want sustainable/green options (less CO2).
2. People dislike airport stress.
3. People like the view/romance of trains.

Step 3: Draft the Paraphrase (The Transformation).

- Idea 1: "sustainable travel options" → *eco-friendly alternatives / greener ways to travel.*
- Idea 2: "trading the stress" → *avoiding the anxiety / escaping the pressure.*
- Idea 3: "watching the landscape" → *enjoying the scenery.*

Final Polish (Full Sample Answer):

Answer: According to the text, the revival is happening because tourists are looking for **eco-friendly alternatives** to reduce pollution. Additionally, they prefer the **scenery** of a train ride over the **anxiety** associated with airport security checks.

Question 2b: What difficulties do the night train industry currently face?

Step 1: Locate the answer in the text.

Text Segment: "Ticket **prices for sleeper trains are often higher than budget flights**... Furthermore, the **network is still fragmented**, meaning **booking a cross-border trip can be complicated**."

Step 2: Identify Key Ideas.

1. Trains are more expensive than low-cost planes.
2. The rail system is not unified (fragmented).
3. Making reservations is hard.

Step 3: Draft the Paraphrase (The Transformation).

- Idea 1: "prices... higher than budget flights" → *costs are more expensive compared to low-cost airlines.*
- Idea 2: "network is fragmented" → *the system is disorganized / not connected.*
- Idea 3: "booking... complicated" → *reserving tickets is difficult.*

Final Polish (Full Sample Answer):

Answer : The text mentions two main problems. Firstly, travelling by train is usually **more expensive** than taking a **low-cost flight**. Secondly, the railway system is **disorganized**, which makes **reserving** international trips **difficult** for passengers.

The Change: → These are now worth **1.25 points each**. This is a huge chunk of your grade.



Your "Safety Checklist" for Question 2

Before moving to the next question, ask yourself these **3** things:

- **Did I copy 3 words in a row?** (If yes → Change one word).
- **Did I include my own opinion?** (If yes → Delete it. Only write what is in the text).
- **Is my grammar correct?** (Check specifically for **3rd person 's'** and **irregular verbs**).

- **Strategy:**
 - **No Copying:** The rubric is strict. You must **rewrite** the ideas.
 - **Length:** Aim for 30-40 words per answer. A single short sentence is likely insufficient for 1.25 points.
 - **Structure:** Start with "According to the text..." or "The author states that..."
 - **Example** (*Why popular?*): "The text suggests that people are returning to rail travel **because** they are more worried about the environment and want to reduce their carbon emissions. **Additionally**, travellers are looking for a more romantic and less stressful experience compared to flying."

3. Question 3: Synonyms (1 Point)

- **The Change:** You are given **6 options from the text** (underlined, usually) and you must match them to **4 definition words**.
- **Strategy:**
 - This is a matching exercise. Two of the text options are "**distractors**" (you won't use them).
 - Look at the context of the underlined word in the text to ensure the meaning matches.
 - **Solution** for sample:
 - a. obstacles = **hurdles**
 - b. stay / persist = **remain**
 - c. criticisms = **complaints**
 - d. system = **network**

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4. Question 4: Multiple Choice (1.5 Points)

- **The Change:** 3 questions, 0.5 points each.
- **Strategy:**
 - Read the question **before** looking at the options.
 - Find the answer in the text mentally.
 - **Eliminate** the obviously wrong answers (usually 2 are clearly wrong, 1 is a "trap" that uses words from the text but changes the meaning, and 1 is correct).

Answers:

1. **c. a preference for sustainable travel.** * (Text: "...choosing slower, more sustainable travel options")
2. **b. offer more privacy to passengers.** * (Text: "...introducing modern cabins with greater privacy")
3. **c. it helps them meet environmental targets.** * (Text: "...recognizing that if they want to meet climate goals, they must make rail travel attractive again.")

5. Question 5: Composition (3 Points)

- **The Change:** The word count is **130-150 words**.
- **Grading Criteria:**
 1. **Grammatical Correctness (0-1 pt):** No basic errors (subject-verb agreement, verb tenses).
 2. **Lexical Richness (0-1 pt):** Use varied vocabulary (don't repeat "good" or "people").
 3. **Coherence/Cohesion (0-1 pt):** Use connectors (*However, Therefore, In addition*).

- **How to structure (Argumentative - Topic A):**

1. **Intro:** General statement about transport + Thesis (e.g., "Public transport is vital, though cars have benefits").
2. **Body 1 (Advantages):** Eco-friendly, cheaper, no parking stress. (Use: *Firstly, Moreover*).
3. **Body 2 (Disadvantages):** Delays, crowding, lack of privacy. (Use: *On the other hand, However*).
4. **Conclusion:** Summary + Personal opinion (e.g., "In conclusion, while cars offer freedom, public transport is necessary for a sustainable future").

Sample Writing for Topic A: Advantages and disadvantages of using public transport versus private cars.



Remember! This is an "Opinion/Argumentative" essay.

Choosing between public transport and private cars is a common dilemma. Both options have significant pros and cons depending on a person's needs.

On the one hand, private cars offer comfort and flexibility. You can travel directly to your destination without waiting. However, cars are expensive to maintain due to fuel and parking costs. Furthermore, they are a major source of urban pollution and congestion.

On the other hand, public transport is more sustainable and affordable. Using buses or trains reduces an individual's carbon footprint and allows people to relax during the commute. Nevertheless, it can be inconvenient if the service is unreliable.

In conclusion, while cars provide personal freedom, public transport is better for the environment. Ideally, cities should improve their networks to make green options more attractive and efficient for everyone.

Word Count: 142 words

Sample Writing for Topic B: Describe a memorable journey you have taken (real or imaginary).

 **Remember!** This is a "Descriptive/Narrative" essay.

Last summer, I took a journey that I will never forget: a sleeper train trip from Paris to Venice. I had always dreamed of crossing Europe by rail, and finally, my dream was coming true.

The experience began at the Gare de Lyon. As the train pulled out, I watched the city lights fade. I had never slept on a train before, so the rocking carriage felt strange at first. However, I soon fell into a deep sleep.

When I woke up, the landscape had changed completely. I saw the sun rising over the snow-capped Alps, and the view was breathtaking. By the time we reached Venice, I felt refreshed. That journey taught me that traveling is not just about the destination, but also about the beauty of the path you take.

(Approx. 141 words)

*Go back to check your full score here: [Full score](#)

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