

ESOL International
English Listening Examination
Level B2 Independent User

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

Please complete the information on the mark sheet.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

Use black or blue ink. Do not use pencil.

Total marks available: 31

You have **35 minutes** to finish the examination.

Part 1

You will hear ten sentences twice. Choose the best answer in each situation.

Now read the answers. You have two minutes to read the answers.

Now listen to the recording and select the best answer. Mark the answer on the mark sheet.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. a. I bought it yesterday.
b. I bought it in town.
c. I bought it for my birthday.</p> <p>2. a. Is it for tonight?
b. We have a brand new table.
c. You might prefer a sofa.</p> <p>3. a. We should go to the museum.
b. We can go tomorrow.
c. We should ask the way.</p> <p>4. a. I do my homework in my room.
b. I watch TV or read a book.
c. I clean the living room.</p> <p>5. a. Let's go this afternoon.
b. We could play volleyball.
c. The beach is very nice.</p> | <p>6. a. I think we should go by train.
b. I know Manchester very well.
c. It's in the north of England.</p> <p>7. a. She likes ice-cream.
b. She is fourteen.
c. She is quite tall.</p> <p>8. a. Not very often.
b. Yes, I played football.
c. Yes, I went with my brother.</p> <p>9. a. I practise on Saturdays.
b. Since I was twelve.
c. It is very easy to play.</p> <p>10. a. No, we will be on time.
b. We will arrive in the morning.
c. Yes, the bus will arrive soon.</p> |
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Part 2

You will now hear two conversations. You will hear them twice. You have two minutes to read the questions for both conversations.

Now listen to **Conversation 1**.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

1. **Where is Alison from?**
 - a. A village in Scotland.
 - b. A village in England.
 - c. A village in Ireland.
2. **What does Alison think about the village?**
 - a. She thinks it is too small.
 - b. She thinks it is quiet.
 - c. She thinks it is friendly.
3. **What attracts visitors to the area?**
 - a. The facilities.
 - b. The farming.
 - c. The countryside.
4. **Why do some people from the village have to travel to work?**
 - a. They find work in the village boring.
 - b. There are not so many jobs in the village now.
 - c. They don't like working in the forests.
5. **What happens in the village in June?**
 - a. There is a village show.
 - b. There is a music festival.
 - c. There is a farmers' market.

Now listen to the conversation again and check your answers.

Now listen to **Conversation 2**.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

1. **Why is Mr White phoning?**
 - a. He wants some information.
 - b. He wants to make a complaint.
 - c. He wants to place an order.
2. **What does Mr White sell in his shop?**
 - a. He sells white bread rolls.
 - b. He sells wholemeal rolls.
 - c. He sells white and wholemeal rolls.
3. **What is the attitude of Carol Jones?**
 - a. She is surprised.
 - b. She is helpful.
 - c. She is rude.
4. **What does Mr White want from the company?**
 - a. He wants some more rolls.
 - b. He wants an apology.
 - c. He wants some compensation.
5. **What does Carol offer?**
 - a. A discount today.
 - b. Free rolls next time.
 - c. Another delivery today.

Now listen to the conversation again and check your answers.

Part 3

You will now hear **two** radio broadcasts. You will hear them twice.

You have two minutes to read the questions for **both** radio broadcasts.

Now listen to **Broadcast 1**.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

- 1. When did Margaret stop smoking?**
 - 12 months ago.
 - Nearly 2 years ago.
 - Twenty-five years ago.
- 2. What did her children do to persuade her?**
 - They threw her cigarettes away.
 - They said it cost too much money.
 - They asked her to see a doctor.
- 3. Why did Margaret say she smoked?**
 - She always found it enjoyable.
 - She had no health problems.
 - She found her job stressful.
- 4. What did she try doing at first?**
 - She tried smoking fewer cigarettes.
 - She tried eating sweets.
 - She tried a new hobby.
- 5. Why did she decide to stop smoking?**
 - She didn't like chewing gum.
 - She didn't have enough money.
 - She didn't like the smell.
- 6. What is one of the benefits she has from not smoking?**
 - She has more time for her family.
 - Her health is better.
 - She has lost weight.

Listen to the broadcast again and check your answers.

Now listen to **Broadcast 2**.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

- 1. When did Disneyland first open?**
 - In 1935.
 - In 1948.
 - In 1955.
- 2. How many tickets did Disney give out for the first day?**
 - 7,000.
 - 11,000.
 - 28,000.
- 3. Why did some people climb over fences to get in to Disneyland?**
 - They didn't have any tickets.
 - They had forgotten their tickets.
 - The gates were locked.
- 4. Which one of these was not a problem on the opening day?**
 - Very hot weather.
 - Not enough food or drink.
 - No electricity.
- 5. How many people have visited Disneyland since then?**
 - More than 150 million.
 - More than 650 million.
 - More than 750 million.

Listen to the broadcast again and check your answers.

End of Examination B2 Independent User.

ESOL International

English Reading Examination

Level B2 Independent User

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

Please complete the information on your mark sheet.

Use black or blue ink. Do not use a pencil.

You may NOT use a dictionary.

There are 31 questions in this examination.

Answer all the questions.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

Total marks available: **31**

You have **60 minutes** to finish the examination.

Text 1

Read the text. Answer the questions on your mark sheet.

<u>Parents should worry less about screen time</u>	1
	2
New guidance from leading children’s doctors say that there is little evidence that screen use for children is harmful. Parents are advised to worry less as long as they are aware of the effect of screen time on their child. The advice does not give any time limits on screen time, but does recomend not using them in the hour before bedtime. The advice was based on research into children’s TV time, as well as use of computers, tablets and phones.	3
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The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health published a series of questions that they hope will help families to make decision about their use of computers, phones and TVs. These include:	9
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is your familys screen time under control? • Does screen time interfere with what your family want to do? • Does screen time interfere with sleep? • Are you able to control snacking during screen time? 	12
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Dr Max Davies said phones, computers and tablets were a great way to explore the world and part of modern life. “Our advice to parents is to try to balance the risks and the benefits.”	17
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-----, a number of parents have been in touch with the BBC to say they disagree with the guidance and think it is not strong enough. “There is no doubt in my mind that screen time is damaging to success at school, to success in sports and is dangerously addictive”, said Andy, whose son is 14. He said he had limited his son’s use of his phone and computer to Friday after school and Saturday, and his son’s performance at school had improved as a result.	20
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The recommendations about not using screens in the hour before bedtime are based on evidence that these devices can ----- sleep. The devices stimulate the brain and the blue light produced by screens can disrupt the body’s sleep patterns. Although many phones, computers and tablets have night modes, there is still no evidence that these are effective and the advice is to turn them off before bedtime.	26
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The College issued a number of tips for parents to consider, including:	32
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making mealtimes screen-free occasions • Limiting their child’s use of screens if it seems to be out of control • Checking whether their own use of screens is sometimes inappropriate or excessive • Making sure young children have face to face social interaction, as screens are not a good substitute for this. 	34
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1. **What does the advice in the article refer to?**
 - a. Children's TV programmes.
 - b. Children's use of computers, TVs and phones.
 - c. Children's problems at school.

2. **What is one of the problems of too much screen time, according to the text?**
 - a. It can make it harder to eat together.
 - b. It can make it harder to talk to each other.
 - c. It can make it harder to get a good night's sleep.

3. **What is one of the benefits of computers and tablets, according to the text?**
 - a. They help you to explore the world.
 - b. They help you to meet new people.
 - c. They help you to do well at school.

4. **What did Andy feel about screen time?**
 - a. He felt it should be limited.
 - b. He did not think it was a problem.
 - c. He thought it helped with school work.

5. **Which one of the following is a tip to parents?**
 - a. Don't let your children eat in front of the TV.
 - b. Don't let children use screens at the table.
 - c. Don't use your phone when driving.

6. **A word has been omitted from line 20. The word should be**
 - a. Although
 - b. Despite
 - c. However

7. **There is a spelling mistake on:**
 - a. Line 6
 - b. Line 10
 - c. Line 22

8. **There is a grammar mistake on:**
 - a. Line 7
 - b. Line 12
 - c. Line 23

9. **Which word best fills the gap on line 27?**
 - a. Benefit
 - b. Harm
 - c. Encourage

10. **The word 'guidance' on line 3 has a similar meaning to:**
 - a. Advice
 - b. Warning
 - c. Research

Text 2

Read the text. Answer the questions on your mark sheet.

<u>Greenfield News</u>	1
	2
This is a reminder to everybody that the Festival is almost here. Come and join us to celebrate and remember the hundred years since the end of World War 1 and the first votes being given to women. The date for your diary is 28 July!	3
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The day's festivities will commence with a parade from Greenfield Club in Woodland Road at 10.30 am which will make its way to the square at the end of Grace Road. There, a short service of remembrance will take place, conducted by Father Edmunds at 11am. This will be followed by the revealing of a memorial statue to the 1200 men from Greenfield who left the village to go and fight in the First World War (132 of whom never returned).	7
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A road will be closed during the parade from Woodland Road, following the route to the square. The parade will be led by the mayor of Greenfield, together with the "Young Heroes". These are young people from the village of Greenfield who have given extra support to the community.	13
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The City of Sheffield Pipe Band and the Greenfield Community Jazz Band will also march along with a group of women and girls dressed as suffragettes (those brave women who campaigned for votes for women in the years before, during and after World War 1).	18
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After the march and the service of remembrance, the Festival will continue on the Greenfield Sports Ground from 12 noon. There will be a fantastic range of ----- to suit all ages, including, archery, children's rides, dancing and comedy shows, a funfair, a magician, stalls and refreshments. It should be a fun day for all.	22
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Three days before the Festival, the 8 Rifles Squadron will be based at the Club to advertise the event and volunteering opportunities for young people with the Army. The same evening the Club will be hosting a dance where people can go dressed in vintage clothes and the band will play a variety of well-known songs and popular music from the time of the War. Please come along to ----- these events. All welcome!	27
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11. **The text is about:**
- A local event.
 - The First World War.
 - A campaign for votes for women.
12. **According to the text, the statue will honour:**
- Men who fought in World War 1.
 - Men who died in World War 1.
 - Men who returned from World War 1.
13. **Who are the 'Young Heroes'?**
- Young people who are in the Army.
 - Young people who have given extra support to the community.
 - Young people who are helping at the Festival.
14. **According to the text, the suffragettes were women:**
- Who dressed in special costumes.
 - Who played in the jazz band.
 - Who wanted votes for women.
15. **When will the 8 Rifles be at the Club?**
- On the day of the Festival.
 - Three days before the Festival.
 - Three days after the Festival.
16. **Which word in the text has a similar meaning to 'parade'?**
- Closure.
 - Commemoration.
 - March.
17. **Which word best fills the gap in line 23?**
- Entertainment.
 - Hobbies.
 - Celebration.
18. **Which line has a spelling error?**
- Line 4.
 - Line 16.
 - Line 27.
19. **In the text, which word means the same as 'food and drink'?**
- Stalls.
 - Service.
 - Refreshments.
20. **Which word best fits the gap on line 31?**
- Support.
 - Engage.
 - Participate.

Text 3

Read the text. Answer the questions on your mark sheet.

Dorchester Road Residents' Fury at New Development

A planned six storey development in Dorchester Road has been called an eyesore by furious residents. The site's owners, Easy Access Self-Storage, hope to build a 24-hour self-storage unit and offices available for rent, which they claim will boost the area's appeal to small businesses. But residents of the area have said that the development, which is planned to be built on the former Superplastics site in Dorchester Road is not suitable for the area and have called for the plans to be refused by the local council's planning committee on August 16.

In a letter to the council, a spokesman for the site owners said the development would increase wealth and provide floor space for existing local businesses as well as attracting new businesses that were just starting up. He added that a new high-quality structure would improve the environment of the area.

The letter claims that the planned development has strong local support but many residents have attacked the size and appearance of the building. They have concerns over what they fear will be an increase in traffic due to the development and the noise that this would make. "Traffic congestion is already a bit of a problem in Dorchester Road at peak times" said Monica Brown. "This new development is only going to make that a lot worse." Another resident, Peter Cook, said "The storage facility will be an eyesore and the owners clearly have not given any thought to the effect it will have on the area."

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|--|---|
| <p>21. Which word in the text means that something looks bad?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Unsuitable.b. Eyesore.c. Appearance. <p>22. Which word in the text shows that the residents are angry?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Concerns.b. Furious.c. Impact. <p>23. The residents do not want the council to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Approve the plans for the building.b. Change the plans for the building.c. Build anything in Dorchester Road. | <p>24. What do the site owners say are the benefits of the new development?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. It will attract new businesses.b. It will provide new homes.c. It will be built with the latest materials. <p>25. What may be the effect on traffic, according to the residents?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. It will decrease.b. It will not get any worse.c. It will increase. |
|--|---|

Read the text. Answer the questions on your mark sheet.

50 Pence Coins

A set of coins celebrating fifty years of the seven-sided 50 pence piece has been created by the Royal Mint, who produce the coins and notes of the British currency. These special coins mark historic events and achievements in British life, such as Sir Roger Bannister's success in being the first person to run a mile in under four minutes.

The Royal Mint said the collection of five coins "features some of the nation's most loved fifty pence pieces". The 50 pence coin was introduced in 1969 to replace the ten-shilling note, and was one of three decimal coins to be put into circulation before British currency was changed in 1971.

Sir Roger was a British sportsman who ran the first four-minute mile at the Iffley Road sports ground in Oxford on 6 May 1954. The 50 pence coin marks the fiftieth anniversary of that event, when he recorded a time of three minutes and 59.4 seconds in front of 1, 500 He only held the world record for forty-six days, when his time was beaten by Australian rival John Landy.

The founding of the Scouts and Girl Guides is also remembered in the set of coins, as is the opening of Kew Gardens, a garden in London. The coin celebrating the 250th anniversary of the opening of Kew Gardens shows the gardens' Great Pagoda, which was completed in 1762 as a gift to a member of the royal family. With only 210, 000 of these special coins produced, they are very rare.

Other coins in the set include a 50 pence piece marking the hundredth anniversary of the Scouts, founded in 1907 by a British army officer, Robert Baden-Powell. Another coin celebrates one hundred years of the Girl Guides, founded by Baden-Powell's sister Agnes in 1910.

26. **When was the 50 pence coin first put into circulation?**

- a. In 1969.
- b. In 1971.
- c. A century ago.

27. **Roger Bannister was the first man to:**

- a. Run a mile in 3 minutes.
- b. Run a mile in under 4 minutes.
- c. Beat John Landy.

28. **The Great Pagoda is in:**

- a. Oxford.
- b. London.
- c. The text does not say.

29. **Why is the Kew Gardens 50 pence rare?**

- a. A limited number were produced.
- b. Not many can be found today.
- c. It was a gift to the royal family.

30. **Which word in the text has a similar meaning to 'money'?**

- a. Shilling.
- b. Piece.
- c. Currency.

31. **Which word best fills the gap in paragraph 3?**

- a. Audience.
- b. Runners.
- c. Spectators.



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ESOL International
English Writing Examination
Level B2 Independent User

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

You must write a minimum of 100 – 150 words for Task 1 and 150 - 200 words for Task 2.

Use black or blue ink. Do not use a pencil.

You may NOT use a dictionary.

There are two tasks. You must attempt both tasks.

Formal writing Task 1, you must complete **either** Option 1 **OR** Option 2.

Informal writing Task 2, you must complete the set task.

Total marks available: **24**

Allow time to check your work before the end of the examination.

You can ask for more writing paper if required.

You have **one hour** to finish the examination.

NOCN use only	
Question	Mark
1	
2	
Total	

Option 1 Formal Writing Task 1 – Allow 30 minutes for this task

You have the chance to spend three weeks on an English course at a private language school in London. You are keen to go. Write a letter to Mr. Thomas, the organiser of the course, to apply for a place. You could write about:

- How you found out about the English language course
- How long you have been learning English
- Why you would like to attend the course
- What sort of benefits you think you would gain from the course
- What you would also like to do during your time in London.

OR

Write a letter to the council to recommend new ideas for attracting tourists to your area. You think tourism is important for the town and you would like to see more things for tourists to do. You could write about:

- Why you think tourism is important for the town
- What new facilities you think the town should offer
- How you think existing facilities could be improved
- What you would like the council to do.

Write 100 – 150 words.

(12 Marks)

Informal Writing Task 2 – Allow 30 minutes for this task.

Write an email to your friend to tell them about a special day out that you had recently with your family or friends.

You could write about:

- Where you went
- Who you went there with
- What you did while you were there
- What is special about the place and why you think your friend would like it.

Write 150 – 200 words.

(12 Marks)

You will be assessed on:

- **content**
- **use of appropriate tenses**
- **word order**
- **use of conjunctions, adjectives and vocabulary**
- **legibility of writing**

End of Examination for Writing – Level B2



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