

ESOL International

English Listening Examination

Level C2 Proficient

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

Do not open the paper until you are told to do so.

Complete the information above.

Listen to the instructions.

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

You must not use a dictionary.

Total marks available: **31**

You have **40 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 sentences and choose the best answer.

Mark the answer on the mark sheet.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. a. Oh, sorry, where should I put it?
b. I will put this in the office.
c. Can I put this on the desk?</p> <p>2. a. I think I would like this one.
b. No, I have what I want, thank you.
c. The shoe department is over there.</p> <p>3. a. Yes, please take one.
b. I don't know what that is.
c. No, thank you. I can manage.</p> <p>4. a. I have never been to India.
b. My teacher visited India last year.
c. My mother came with me.</p> <p>5. a. It arrives next week.
b. It has just arrived.
c. I can't wait until it arrives.</p> | <p>6. a. Yes, he is considering my request.
b. No, I have not had a pay review.
c. I have a meeting with my team on Monday.</p> <p>7. a. I saw a play last night.
b. How lovely! What did you see?
c. I would love to see a play.</p> <p>8. a. Really, when did you move to Italy?
b. I have never been abroad.
c. Oh, why would you like to move?</p> <p>9. a. Oh, are you starting a new one?
b. The project finished last year.
c. How long will you be involved?</p> <p>10. a. Which centre do you volunteer at?
b. That is very kind of her.
c. I've been to the community centre today.</p> |
|--|---|

Part 2

You will hear two conversations. You will hear them twice.

You have two minutes to read the questions and answers on your examination paper for both conversations.

Now listen to **Conversation 1**.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

- 1. What is the conversation about?**
 - a. Replacing a broken mattress.
 - b. Arranging a return of a damaged bed.
 - c. Changing a bed and mattress order.
- 2. Which department are they speaking to?**
 - a. Distributions department.
 - b. Accounts department.
 - c. Customer services department.
- 3. What is the customer's order number?**
 - a. WE37320.
 - b. WB36320.
 - c. WE36322.
- 4. When is the item scheduled for collection?**
 - a. In 48 hours' time.
 - b. By the end of this week.
 - c. On Wednesday of the next week.
- 5. What reason does the customer give for wanting a new bed frame?**
 - a. They do not like the colour.
 - b. The mattress is torn.
 - c. The frame is metal.

Now listen to the conversation again and check your answers.

Now listen to **Conversation 2**.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

- 1. Who is the conversation between?**
 - a. Mother and child.
 - b. Teacher and parent.
 - c. Two parents.
- 2. What has Deepa forgotten?**
 - a. Her dental appointment that evening.
 - b. The meeting tomorrow.
 - c. The children's dental appointments.
- 3. What do they need to take when they collect Krishna?**
 - a. A toothbrush.
 - b. Her theatre presentation.
 - c. Her homework.
- 4. When are the first team trials?**
 - a. Today, at 5pm.
 - b. On Thursday.
 - c. Next week.
- 5. What does Aadesh need to do before he collects the children?**
 - a. Finish his meal.
 - b. Call Kirpal.
 - c. Send work emails.

Now listen to the conversation again and check your answers.

Part 3 – Debate and discussion

You will hear a debate and a discussion. You will hear them twice.

You have two minutes to read the questions and answers on your examination paper for both the debate and discussion.

Now listen to the **debate**.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

- 1. What is fracking?**
 - A new type of electricity.
 - A process to store energy.
 - A process to extract natural gas.
- 2. What is the debate about?**
 - Why the government should allow fracking.
 - The benefits and negatives of fracking.
 - How to fund fracking in the UK.
- 3. What is a perceived benefit of fracking?**
 - It can cost less money than mining for coal.
 - It can prevent the need for fossil fuels.
 - It can secure energy sources for decades.
- 4. Gavin believes that fracking:**
 - Takes money away from renewable energy.
 - Reduces earthquakes.
 - Eliminates methane.
- 5. How much more polluting than carbon dioxide is methane?**
 - 2%.
 - 6%.
 - 7.9%.
- 6. Where is fracking controversial?**
 - UK.
 - Canada.
 - America.

Listen to the debate again and check your answers.

Now listen to the **discussion**.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

- 1. What is the discussion about?**
 - Why parents should ban TVs and screens in children's bedrooms.
 - Whether TVs and screens in children's rooms are a good idea.
 - The most appropriate age to allow children to have TV screens in bedrooms.
- 2. Why is the host most concerned?**
 - Because the children could watch something too mature for them.
 - Because children will stay up too late.
 - Because children may spend all their time on screens.
- 3. What parental controls doesn't Carol suggest parents can adopt?**
 - Set time restrictions for screentime.
 - Confiscate all screens.
 - Track the activities a child engages with online.
- 4. What negative impact does excessive screentime have?**
 - Damage to the eyes.
 - Hearing impairment.
 - It can be overwhelming.
- 5. Why is 12 and over considered an appropriate age for screens?**
 - Teenagers need their own space.
 - Teenagers are allowed to stay up later.
 - Teenagers are more mature.

Listen to the discussion again and check your answers.

End of Examination.

ESOL International

English Reading Examination

Level C2 Proficient

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

Please complete the information above.

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

You may **NOT** use a dictionary.

There are 31 questions in this examination.

You must attempt all the questions.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

Total marks available: **31**

You have **75 minutes** to finish the examination.

Text 1

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

The importance of sleep	1
	2
Adults should sleep at least 7 hours each night, otherwise, they could become sleep deprived. Ignoring the importance of sleep may have an impact on your overall health.	3
	4
	5
When you sleep, your body produces proteins called cytokines that have immune-boosting effects and serve as fuel for your white blood cells. Lack of sleep decreases the production of cytokines and makes you more susceptible to bacteria and viruses.	6
	7
	8
	9
When you sleep, your body repairs and rebuilds itself. The body is able to clear debris from the lymphatic system, which boosts the immune system. Sleep enables the repair of muscle, tissue growth and hormone release.	10
	11
	12
	13
Sleep is a powerful stress-reliever. It improves concentration, regulates mood, and sharpens judgement and decision making. A lack of sleep not only reduces mental clarity, but also our ability to cope with stressful situations.	14
	15
	16
	17
Poor quality sleep raises our cortisol levels. High cortisol levels are important in the short term, stimulating alertness and vigilance raising heart rate and blood pressure, but over time it can cause systemic inflammation and disrupt our hormonal balance.	18
	19
	20
	21
Too little sleep impacts the rapid eye movement (REM) stage of sleep which governs our processing of emotions and memories. Losing out on the restorative benefits of REM sleep directly impacts our mood, making us more irritable and more stressed.	22
	23
	24
	25
Sleep also serves as an opportunity for the mind to process all the stimuli that we have taken in while we are awake; and triggers changes in the brain that strengthen neural connections needed to form memories. These memories can be accessed later through a process called recall.	26
	27
	28
	29
	30
Sleep is vital to building memory associations, as it is the process of stabilising our memories. Memory strengthening is _____ for learning new information. Numerous research studies find that sleep supports this process via a series of neurochemical and genetic mechanisms that take place during the slow-wave sleep stage.	31
	32
	33
	34
	35
You can improve your sleep by establishing a realistic bedtime and sticking to it every night. Implementing a screen ban on electronic devices and abstaining from caffeine and large meals before bed also helps promote sleep.	36
	37
	38

- 1. The main purpose of this document is to:**
 - a. Inform the reader how to sleep better.
 - b. Explain the benefits of sleep.
 - c. To provide tips to improve sleep.

- 2. What benefits does quality sleep provide?**
 - a. Improves immunity to diseases.
 - b. Decreases the production of cytokines.
 - c. Reduces stressful situations.

- 3. Why do we need REM sleep?**
 - a. It makes us feel more energetic.
 - b. It helps to stabilise our mood and emotions.
 - c. It can improve our physical health.

- 4. What tips are given to improve sleep?**
 - a. Have a regular bedtime.
 - b. Eat a large meal before bedtime.
 - c. Limit screen-time throughout the day.

- 5. As well as relieving stress, sleep can:**
 - a. Impede concentration.
 - b. Improve judgement.
 - c. Raise blood pressure.

- 6. There is a spelling error on:**
 - a. Line 14.
 - b. Line 15.
 - c. Line 18.

- 7. There is a grammar error on:**
 - a. Line 22.
 - b. Line 23.
 - c. Line 24.

- 8. There is a punctuation mistake on:**
 - a. Line 11.
 - b. Line 19.
 - c. Line 33.

- 9. The best word to complete the sentence on line 32 is:**
 - a. Important.
 - b. Unnecessary.
 - c. Worthy.

- 10. The best word to replace the word 'susceptible' on line 8 is:**
 - a. Attractive.
 - b. Helpless.
 - c. Vulnerable.

Text 2

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

Discover the delights of South America in Peru, Argentina and Brazil	1
	2
There are many sides to South America, from the energy of the cities, the beauty of the landscapes to the spirit of its people. Discover it all on this trip that winds through the Inca heartlands and jungles of Peru, the enigmatic cities and natural wonders of Argentina and the dynamism of Brazils vivacious Rio. See animals, meet locals, traverse trails and marvel at all the contrasts of this very special corner of the world.	3
	4
	5
	6
	7
	8
What you can do on your travels:	9
Opt to trek the 1-Day Inca Trail, an excellent option for those wanting to experience trekking in Peru, but don't want to do the full four days. Cusco is a great city to explore on foot. Enter a bygone era as you explore the ancient Incan ruins dotted all over the city.	10
	11
	12
	13
A trip through Peru wouldn't be complete without a visit to the Sacred Valley and Machu Picchu. Enjoy a guided tour around the ruins, as well as plenty of free time to discover it on your own.	14
	15
	16
	17
Buenos Aires offers an eclectic mix of European, cosmopolitan and Latin flavours, as well as a booming cultural and nightlife scene. Explore the neighbourhoods of this lively, confident city on a full-day tour with a local guide.	18
	19
	20
	21
Look for rainbows at the mist of the mighty Iguazu Falls from both the Brazilian and Argentinian sides and visit a local indigenous community. Gaze over the dazzling city, mountains and bay of Rio de Janeiro from the foot of the famous Christ the Redeemer statue.	22
	23
	24
	25
	26
In Brazil, Favelas may sit alongside mansions, but in the heaving metropolis of Rio, everyone's invited to the party. Immerse yourself in Brazilian culture, dance and music.	27
	28
	29
Is this trip right for you?	30
Due to the high altitude of many places we visit, the air is thinner and some people can suffer altitude sickness. If you are affected, be sure to drink plenty of water and don't push yourself too hard. If possible, arrive a few days early to allow yourself time to _____.	31
	32
	33
	34

- 11. The main purpose of the document is to:**
- Describe the sites of Peru.
 - Inform about the dangers of travel in South American countries.
 - Encourage people to travel around South American countries.
- 12. What city does the writer recommend visiting in Peru?**
- Favelas.
 - Cusco.
 - Rio.
- 13. What country does not border the Iguazu Falls?**
- Peru.
 - Argentina.
 - Brazil.
- 14. Why is Buenos Aires a great place to visit?**
- It is a peaceful place.
 - There are half-day tours available.
 - It is a fascinating mix of cultures.
- 15. What advice isn't given to combat altitude sickness?**
- Avoid walking up high mountains.
 - Drink more water.
 - Slow down your pace.
- 16. There is a spelling mistake on:**
- Line 4.
 - Line 18.
 - Line 32.
- 17. There is a grammar mistake on:**
- Line 22.
 - Line 27.
 - Line 33.
- 18. There is a punctuation mistake on:**
- Line 6.
 - Line 14.
 - Line 19.
- 19. The best word to complete the sentence on line 34 is:**
- Reconcile.
 - Acclimatise.
 - Accommodate.
- 20. The best word to replace the word 'immerse' on line 28 is:**
- Captivate.
 - Occupy.
 - Absorb.

Text 3

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

The Secret Lives of Urban Foxes

There are many species of fox thriving around the world, from scorching deserts to the Arctic. The most widespread is the red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*), thought to be the first and most common non-domestic carnivore in cities all around the world.

Urban foxes primarily scavenge for food, but when they hunt, it is usually for birds or small mammals, such as rats and mice, helping to keep rodent numbers under control. The Fox Project, a UK-based charity dedicated to protecting the red fox, states that in 29 years of work and 15,000 foxes rescued, they are 'yet to find a starving adult fox'.

Foxes dig out dens to provide a safe underground space that is mostly used for raising fox cubs, also called kits. In urban areas, the dens, known as earths, are commonly located under sheds, but they can also be among tree roots, in bushes or on railway embankments.

The number of foxes living across the UK isn't officially recorded, however, a 2013 report by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) estimates that there are around 430,000, roughly one fox for every 150 people in the UK.

The number in urban areas is thought to have increased from 33,000 in 1995, to 150,000 in 2017. However, in 2018, there was a 42% decline in red foxes in Britain, although the cause is unknown. Foxes are resourceful in exploiting new territories. In 2011, as the Shard skyscraper was being built in London, a fox moved in on the seventy-second floor, surviving on food scraps left by workers.

21. What type of text is this?

- a. A public health warning.
- b. A review.
- c. An article.

22. What organisation was formed to help protect foxes?

- a. DEFRA.
- b. The Shard.
- c. The Fox Project.

23. What type of fox is known as *Vulpes vulpes*?

- a. Red fox.
- b. Common fox.
- c. Urban fox.

24. In the text which statement is true?

- a. Fox populations have declined since 1995.
- b. There are no official records of fox populations.
- c. There is one fox per 170 people.

25. What animals do foxes not typically hunt?

- a. Kits.
- b. Rodents.
- c. Birds.

Text 4

Read the text. Answer the questions on your mark sheet

Why earthworms play a crucial role in ecosystems

Studies have shown that earthworms help keep climate change in check, as they feed on microbes that live in the soil. These microbes absorb decaying matter, and as part of the digestive process release carbon gases into the ground. As the earthworms feed on these microbes, the decomposition process reduces the carbon more than the microbes.

Earthworms play a crucial role in the food chain. They provide an essential protein-rich food source for other significant species in the ecosystem like birds, hedgehogs and frogs. They can naturally survive on their own by feeding on fungi and bacteria. Earthworms accelerate the degradation of organic matter by increasing the surface area involved through the crushing of organic matter. The plants thereby re-use the mineral nutrients released through this process after digestion. In the food chain, the earthworms provide nutrients for both plants and other organisms, making the earthworms highly significant in the ecosystem.

These creatures also affect soil water by modifying soil porosity, which occurs through microporosity, mesoporosity, and macroporosity, in that order. The particular configuration of pore shapes and sizes gives the soil the ability to store or transfer water in various ways. There are several studies that show some species of earthworms increase the rate of water filtration. The presence of worms that have high percolation ability can decrease soil erosion by up to 50%. Endogeic-decompacting species in the tropics play a crucial role by increasing the soil and water infiltration porosity, which helps reduce run-off significantly.

Charles Darwin studied earthworms for more than 40 years. Darwin discovered that earthworm conservation is much more important than other animals, considering how significantly they contribute to the food chain and the soil's biological, physical, and chemical properties.

26. The earthworm's role in the food chain is:

- a. To provide nutrients.
- b. Digest protein rich foods.
- c. Building organic matter.

27. How long did Darwin study earthworms?

- a. Approximately 40 years.
- b. Under 40 years.
- c. Over 40 years.

28. What is the earthworm's choice of food?

- a. Small animals.
- b. Fungi.
- c. Organic matter.

29. The final stage in modifying soil porosity is:

- a. Macroporosity.
- b. Microporosity.
- c. Mesoporosity.

30. How does percolation by worms help the soil?

- a. Increase soil run-off significantly.
- b. Decrease water infiltration.
- c. Decrease soil erosion by half.

31. What didn't Darwin discover about earthworms?

- a. They play a significant role in conservation.
- b. They should be protected more than other species.
- c. They contribute to the food chain.

End of Examination.



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ESOL International

Writing

Level C2 Proficient

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

Please complete the information above.

You must write between 200 – 250 words for Task 1 and 250 – 300 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 **75 minutes** to finish the examination.

Option 1 Formal Writing Task 1 – Allow 35 minutes for this task

You were returning home from holiday and your luggage got lost in transit. You spoke to someone on the customer service desk at the airport. They were really helpful and located your lost luggage within an hour. You were very happy with the service. Write an email to the manager of the airport praising their customer service representative.

You could write about:

- why you are writing
- the situation you faced and how you felt about it
- the negative impact it could have had on you
- your overall experience with the customer service team.

OR

Option 2 Formal Writing Task 1 – Allow 35 minutes for this task

A local politician came to talk to your school about the benefit of community projects, such as litter-picking days, graffiti clean-up schemes and community garden initiatives. Write an article for your school magazine explaining how inspirational the talk was and what you did in response to the talk.

You could write about:

- who came to do the talk
- what you found interesting about the talk
- what projects you decided to do
- how you have benefitted from being involved.

You must write 200 – 250 words.

(12 Marks)

Informal Writing Task 2 – Allow 35 minutes for this task

You have recently watched a TV series that you enjoyed. Write a letter to your friend explaining why you enjoyed it so much.

You could write about:

- what the series was about
- why you found the series so enjoyable
- the characters that were in the series
- why you would encourage others to watch it.

You must write 250 – 300 words.

(12 Marks)

You will be assessed on:

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

End of Examination



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