

ESOL International

English Listening Examination

Level B2 Independent User

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

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

Please complete the information above.

Listen to the instructions.

Use black or blue ink. Do not use pencil.

You must not use a dictionary.

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. Eating lots of vegetables.
b. Eating too much fast food.
c. Drinking water.</p> <p>2. a. I hate ironing.
b. Is your house dirty?
c. I have a cleaner.</p> <p>3. a. Your summer dress.
b. Comfy jogging pants.
c. A smart grey suit.</p> <p>4. a. At the concert hall.
b. In the playground.
c. At the cinema.</p> <p>5. a. Science.
b. Maths.
c. English.</p> | <p>6. a. Will you have one tomorrow?
b. Don't talk too much.
c. You need some pastilles.</p> <p>7. a. Is it raining?
b. Is it sunny?
c. Is it windy?</p> <p>8. a. Yes, the sun is bright.
b. You need some sunglasses.
c. Your eyes are shining.</p> <p>9. a. I think motor racing.
b. It must be swimming.
c. Definitely running.</p> <p>10. a. The pharmacy.
b. The bakers.
c. The cafe bar.</p> |
|--|--|

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. **They go on holiday in:**
 - a. Two months.
 - b. Twelve months.
 - c. Two weeks.

2. **Which national park have they visited?**
 - a. The Laze District.
 - b. The Late District.
 - c. The Lake District.

3. **Where did Harry read the reviews?**
 - a. gamblers.com.
 - b. ramblers.com.
 - c. runners.com.

4. **What can be found on the Jurassic Coast?**
 - a. Fossils.
 - b. Flowers.
 - c. Fishermen.

5. **The town at the end of the walk is:**
 - a. Swiss Bridge.
 - b. Lulworth Cove.
 - c. Lyme Regis.

Now listen to Conversation 2.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

1. **Where did Trevor put the vegetables?**
 - a. In the freezer.
 - b. In the fridge.
 - c. In the grill.

2. **Their oldest friends are:**
 - a. Jimmy and Joe.
 - b. Vicki and Joe.
 - c. Jimmy and Rita.

3. **The new bakery is called:**
 - a. Fresh Yeast.
 - b. Best Yeast.
 - c. High Yeast.

4. **What is Trevor's favourite dessert?**
 - a. Bread and nutty pudding.
 - b. Bread and butter pudding.
 - c. Peanut and butter pudding.

5. **What are pistachios known as?**
 - a. Golden green.
 - b. Green nuts.
 - c. Green gold.

Now listen to the conversation again and check your answers.

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.

- The radio station is called:**
 - MoverOverMusic 7698FM.
 - MoveOnMusic 7698FM.
 - MoveOnMusic 7658FM.
- Her heroics are described as:**
 - Career changing.
 - Curious.
 - Courageous.
- In which country was she born?**
 - Brazil.
 - Portugal.
 - Guinea.
- The highest wave she surfed was:**
 - 68 feet.
 - 73.5 feet.
 - 22 feet.
- Which part of the wave has the most energy?**
 - The tiniest.
 - The peak.
 - The tallest.
- She believes home to the world's most incredible waves is:**
 - Hawaii.
 - Rio.
 - Nazaré.

Listen to the broadcast again and check your answers.

Now listen to Broadcast 2.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

- What does the presenter hope to do?**
 - To listen to you.
 - To inspire you.
 - To find you.
- The chicken is coated in:**
 - Hot spice.
 - Fiery spice.
 - Cooked spice.
- Which country is in the French corner of the Caribbean?**
 - Barbados.
 - Jamaica.
 - Martinque
- The national dish of Barbados is:**
 - Rice and peas.
 - Flying fish.
 - Fried fish.
- The islands have been influenced by:**
 - Spain and France.
 - Spain and Italy.
 - Spain and Brazil.

Listen to the broadcast again and check your answers.

End of Examination for B2 Independent User Listening.

ESOL International
English Reading Examination
Level B2 Independent User

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 **60 minutes** to finish the examination.



Text 1

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

History of Indian railways	1
	2
The history of the Indian railways dates back to over 160 years ago,	3
on 16 th April 1853, when the first passenger train ran between Bori	4
Bunder (Mumbai) and Thane, a distance of 34 km. The railway line	5
was operated by three engines named, Sahib, Sultan and Sindh,	6
which each had thirteen carriages.	7
	8
A couple of years after the first train, the engineers started a huge	9
task of building a track over the Bore Ghat, to connect Mumbai, on	10
the west coast, with Pune, inland to the south east. With heights of	11
2000 ft and many tunnels, it took over nine years to complete.	12
	13
In 1864, the first station in the north was built, the Delhi Junction.	14
It was the first major station and junction, which remains the	15
oldest major station today,	16
	17
The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, built in 1880, was given World	18
Heritage Status in 1999 and was the first railway in Asia to get it.	19
Another great engineering example that was given the status in	20
1999, was the Nilgiri Railway. It is an outstanding example of a	21
hill _____ railway, opened in 1899, a bold engineering build	22
that connects towns and villages across the mountainous	23
countryside of great beauty.	24
	25
After forty years of buying British train parts for making the trains,	26
in 1895, the first steam train was manufactured completely in	27
India.	28

1. **What was the distance that the first passenger train travelled?**
 - a. 43 km.
 - b. 34 km.
 - c. 53 km.

2. **How many carriages did the Sahib engine have?**
 - a. Thirteen.
 - b. Thirty one.
 - c. Three.

3. **According to the text on which coast is Mumbai?**
 - a. South Coast.
 - b. East Coast.
 - c. West coast.

4. **According to the text, what was built in 1880?**
 - a. World Heritage Railway.
 - b. Darjeeling Himalayan Railway.
 - c. Nilgiri Railway.

5. **How was the Nilgiri Railway described?**
 - a. An outstanding example.
 - b. The oldest railway.
 - c. A beautiful railway.

6. **There is a spelling mistake on:**
 - a. Line 4.
 - b. Line 6.
 - c. Line 10.

7. **There is a grammar mistake on:**
 - a. Line 9.
 - b. Line 12.
 - c. Line 14.

8. **There is a punctuation mistake on:**
 - a. Line 5.
 - b. Line 16.
 - c. Line 19.

9. **The best word to fill the gap on line 22 is:**
 - a. Passenger.
 - b. Passover.
 - c. Passable.

10. **The best word to replace 'manufactured' on line 27 is:**
 - a. Separated.
 - b. Completed.
 - c. Made.

Text 2

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

<u>Entertainment Downloads</u>	1
	2
The biggest selling video game of 2020 in Britain was the FIFA 21 football game, with more than 20 million downloads. Digital services are taking over from owning the actual products.	3
	4
	5
	6
The film that topped the most bought movie was Disney's <i>Frozen 2</i> with <i>Joker</i> coming second and <i>Star Wars IX</i> in third place. Whilst in the album sales charts of the year was Lewis Capaldi's <i>Divinely Uninspired, _____</i> by Harry Styles <i>Free Lines</i> , then Dua Lipa with <i>Future Nostalgia</i> .	7
	8
	9
	10
	11
	12
The Entertainment Retailers Association (ERA) said that digital services had grown faster than ever before, reaching \$7.8 billion, \$1.4 billion more than 2019. They said that sales of DVDs, Blu Rays and CDs were all down on the previous year, but vinyl record sales had increased to \$110 million, as they became popular once again.	13
	14
	15
	16
	17
	18
Streaming has become the most favourite way of listening to music today, with 80.6% of music listened to in this way.	19
	20
	21
In total, fans playing 139 billion songs on services like, Spotify, Amazon Music and Apple Music, which is up on the previous year. The most streamed song was the Weeknd's <i>Blinding Light</i> , followed by Lewis Capaldi's <i>Before You Go</i> and Harry Styles' <i>Watermelon Sugar</i> .	22
	23
	24
	25
	26

11. **What is the text about?**
- Playing music.
 - Digital services.
 - Free movies.
12. **What was the second most bought movie:**
- Frozen 2.
 - Star Wars IX.
 - Joker.
13. **Harry Styles' album is called:**
- Free lines.
 - Three Lines.
 - Future Lines.
14. **The text suggests streaming is the best way to:**
- Own merchandise.
 - Record music.
 - Listen to music.
15. **According to the text, the most streamed song was:**
- Before You Go.
 - Blinding Light.
 - Watermelon Sugar.
16. **Why have italics been used in parts of this text?**
- To emphasize titles of films and music.
 - To emphasize popular music.
 - To emphasize famous movies.
17. **The best word to fill the gap on line 10 is:**
- Copied.
 - Next.
 - Followed.
18. **Which line has a spelling error?**
- Line 13.
 - Line 14.
 - Line 19.
19. **In the text, the best word to replace 'popular' on line 17 is:**
- Attractive.
 - Fashionable.
 - Lovable.
20. **There is a grammar mistake on:**
- Line 15.
 - Line 20.
 - Line 22.

Text 3

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

Total Eclipse of the Sun

On August 11, 1999, a total eclipse of the Sun could be seen from the UK. This was special because it was an event which had not happened since 1927 and will not happen again until 2090. The eclipse was total, meaning that the sun was completely blocked from view.

People all over the world could see the eclipse. In the UK, it was visible for longest on the south-west coast of England. The total eclipse lasted for around two minutes in the UK but in other parts of the world it lasted longer. In Romania the eclipse lasted for 2 minutes 23 seconds.

This outstanding event happens when the Sun, the Moon and the Earth meet in a straight line during their orbits around each other. The Sun is about four hundred times larger than the Moon, but it is also four hundred times further away, so when all three lie in a straight line, with the Moon at the centre, the Moon blocks out the Sun's light to the Earth.

All over the world people rushed to see this once-in-a-lifetime sight. Many people travelled great distances to be sure of the best possible chance of seeing the eclipse.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>21. Why was the total eclipse so special?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. It had not happened since 1927.b. It had not happened since 1999.c. It will not happen again. <p>22. Where could you see the eclipse for longest in the UK?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. In the south-east.b. In the south-west.c. In all parts of the UK. <p>23. During a total eclipse of the Sun, where is the Moon, according to the text?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Behind the Sun.b. Behind the Earth.c. Between the Sun and the Earth. | <p>24. Which word in the text means the same as 'amazing'?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Outstanding.b. Total.c. Normal. <p>25. Who rushed to see the eclipse?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Romanian people.b. People from all over the world.c. Scientists. |
|---|---|

Text 4

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

History of Snowboarding

Snowboarding is believed to have started in the United States. Although its history is unclear, there are some names that are linked officially to the sport.

The original snowboard was made in 1965, when engineer Sherman Poppen of Michigan invented the first basic snowboard which paved the way for the modern snowboard. The “Snurfer” got its snappy name from Poppen’s wife. Poppen’s initial model was just two snow skis bolted together—he later attached a rope to the front for steering.

Poppen built the basic toy for his daughters, and the Snurfer’s popularity quickly spread, attracting the attention of the Brunswick Corporation, a sports equipment manufacturer, which licensed the Snurfer and began producing and distributing it nationwide.

Local Michigan Snurfer competitions followed in the late 1960s and spread out to national competitions in the 1970s.

The Snurfer’s success—approximately one million of them had been sold by the end of the ’70s—brought the idea of _____ sideways on snow to many new inventors. The next big turning point came in 1975, when surfer Dimitrije Milovich’s new snowboard, the “Winterstick,” attracted the attention of *Newsweek* magazine.

26. **Where was snowboarding thought to have started?**

- a. United Nations.
- b. United States.
- c. Brunswick.

27. **How did the ‘Snurfer’ get its name?**

- a. From Poppen’s wife.
- b. From Poppen’s daughter.
- c. From Dimitrije Milovich.

28. **According to the text, what did Poppen use for steering?**

- a. A toy.
- b. A bolt.
- c. A rope.

29. **According to the text, what sort of company was the Brunswick Corporation:**

- a. Sports equipment manufacturer.
- b. A toy company.
- c. National competitors.

30. **When did local Snurfer competitions start?**

- a. 1970s.
- b. 1960s.
- c. 1975.

31. **Which is the best word to fill the gap in paragraph 5?**

- a. Running.
- b. Swinging.
- c. Sliding.



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ESOL International
English Writing Examination
Level B2 Independent User

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

Please complete the information above.

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 **60 minutes** to finish the examination.

NOCN use only	
Question	Mark
1	
2	
Total	

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

Write a letter to your internet provider to inform them about the problems you are experiencing. Tell them about the delay in connection and once connected, the fact that it is working slower than normal.

You could write about:

- When the problems started
- How it is affecting you or your work
- What you have tried to do to fix the problems
- What you want the company to do about it.

OR

Option 2 Formal Writing Task 1 – Allow 30 minutes for this task.

Write an email to the manager of your new local community centre, thanking them for the improvements and new facilities that the people of the town can now enjoy.

You could write about:

- Improvement on the size of the centre
- The extra facilities on offer
- Extended opening hours
- The new courses that are available

Write 100 – 150 words.

(12 Marks)

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

Write a letter to your friend to tell them about the four day trip you won in a writing competition. Tell them where you chose to go and what the trip was like.

You could write about:

- Where you chose to go and why
- What you saw and experienced
- Who you went with
- How you felt about the trip.

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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