

ESOL International
English Listening Examination
Level C1 Advanced

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 **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. You need to push it and then turn the key.
b. It's not open. I don't believe it!
c. Just lift it up.</p> <p>2. a. Don't burn them!
b. I'd bake about four of them.
c. Put them on 200 degrees for 5 minutes.</p> <p>3. a. He's always late.
b. Yes, tomorrow.
c. No, not since last week.</p> <p>4. a. No problem, I'll be careful.
b. Sure; I'll do it now.
c. No, sorry, I hate heights!</p> <p>5. a. Ask the postman.
b. I'm not sure.
c. It's expensive to deliver.</p> | <p>6. a. Yes, and it keeps your skin so soft.
b. It's ugly.
c. No, I can't use it.</p> <p>7. a. I don't have any credits.
b. You can, but it's quite old.
c. It's quite a cheap broadband.</p> <p>8. a. He's really friendly.
b. He lives in a flat in London.
c. He's an engineer.</p> <p>9. a. That is fantastic!
b. Oh, you're joking!
c. Do you need anything else?</p> <p>10. a. I'd love a cup of tea.
b. I haven't got anything.
c. Nothing, thanks.</p> |
|--|---|

Part 2

You will 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. **What causes inflammation on the scalp?**
 - a. A bad reaction to scratching the scalp.
 - b. A bad reaction to shampoo.
 - c. A bad reaction to natural scalp yeast.
2. **When does the customers dandruff start?**
 - a. When the scalp is itchy.
 - b. When their head gets too hot.
 - c. When there is moisture on the head.
3. **What causes dandruff?**
 - a. Inflammation of the scalp.
 - b. Not washing your hair regularly.
 - c. Flaking skin.
4. **Which of these shampoos did not work?**
 - a. Nizoral.
 - b. Head Start.
 - c. Selenium.
5. **What replaces water in the scalp?**
 - a. Gets rid of dandruff.
 - b. Moisturises the hair.
 - c. Hydration shampoo.

Now listen to the conversation again and check your answers.

Now listen to Conversation 2.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

1. **Why was the delivery not made?**
 - a. The wrong delivery date was booked.
 - b. The computer system did not book the date.
 - c. Bad weather caused the delay.
2. **What does the customer ask the company to do?**
 - a. Telephone him the next time there is a delay.
 - b. Give him a free delivery.
 - c. Deliver the logs at the weekend.
3. **The customer is let down by what?**
 - a. The service provided.
 - b. The cost of the delivery.
 - c. The company's explanation.
4. **Why does the coal merchant offer a 15% discount?**
 - a. Because the error was theirs.
 - b. Because he is a regular customer.
 - c. Because the customer needs to take a day off work.
5. **Why do the merchants need the customer's name and address?**
 - a. To book an order.
 - b. To delay the delivery.
 - c. To check when a delivery is likely to be made.

Now listen to the conversation again and check your answers.

Part 3

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

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.

- What is the main point of this debate?**
 - To discuss the health benefits of drinking tea and coffee.
 - To explain the differences between tea and coffee.
 - To describe the bad effects of drinking tea and coffee.
- Which of these does drinking tea lower the risk of?**
 - Liver disease.
 - Staining your teeth.
 - Diabetes.
- What causes people to stay awake all night?**
 - Drinking camomile tea.
 - Drinking too much coffee.
 - Drinking decaffeinated coffee.
- What do the guest think caffeine does for them?**
 - Stains teeth like tea.
 - Relaxes them.
 - Makes them really alert.
- What research does the host think needs to be done?**
 - Drink coffee with a pinch of salt.
 - Drinking coffee reduces the risk of depression by around 8%.
 - Reducing the risk of depression by 37%.
- What type of person is the host?**
 - A mint tea person.
 - A camomile tea person.
 - A decaffeinated coffee person.

Listen to the debate again and check your answers.

Now listen to the Discussion.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

- What is the main point of the discussion?**
 - Complaining about having bad posture.
 - Giving advice to improve our posture.
 - Discussing the benefits of bad posture.
- Which of these does slouching cause?**
 - Stiff joints.
 - Pins and needles.
 - Rounded shoulders.
- According to the discussion, what can you do to avoid having a hump?**
 - Lean back on a tennis ball.
 - Curl up into a ball.
 - Move your head from side to side.
- What is Aman's job?**
 - A psychologist.
 - A physiotherapist.
 - A psychoanalyst.
- According to the discussion, what is the most comfortable way to sit?**
 - With legs crossed at the ankles.
 - In a soft chair.
 - Leaning forward.

Listen to the discussion again and check your answers.

End of Examination for C1 Advanced Listening.

ESOL International
English Reading Examination
Level C1 Advanced

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 Origin of Wedding Rings	1
	2
Wedding rings began with the ancient Egyptians who believed that the ‘vein of love’ ran directly from the heart to the fourth finger on the left hand. Egyptian rings were made of braided straw or hemp. Ancient Greek and Roman wore wedding rings made from leather, bone or ivory. Only gold and silver rings were worn by rich people.	3
	4
	5
	6
	7
	8
	9
In some cultures, wedding rings are worn on the fourth finger of the right hand, as that is the hand normally used to give an oath. Ancient kings and queens often wore rings on their right hand index finger to demonstrate their power and authority.	10
	11
	12
	13
	14
Gimmel and fede rings were worn during the medieval period, from the 13 th century onwards, and are still worn today.	15
	16
Fede rings have a design of two hands held together representing love and friendship, and are engraved with a simple love message.	17
	18
	19
A gimmel ring comes in two pieces; each piece is worn by two people and when the two pieces are brought together, they make a complete ring to represent a circle of everlasting love.	20
	21
	22
	23
Diamonds have become a popular choice for rings in 1947, and is still the most favoured precious stone to have in a ring, today.	24
	25
Yellow and rose gold, white gold and platinum are now common metals for rings, and some lovers have a wedding vow engraved inside of the ring like ‘my heart is yours forever’. Some choose to have thier names and the wedding date engraved inside the ring.	26
	27
	28
	29
	30
The ultimate, expensive engagement and wedding rings are bespoke; designed and made according to the bride’s wishes.	31
	32
The trend is now for couples to wear the same designed rings, and more _____ rings such as designs inspired from films like ‘Lord of the Rings’, ‘Game of Thrones’ or ‘Harry Potter’.	33
	34
	35

1. **The main purpose of the document is to:**
 - a. Give information about different kinds of rings people wear today.
 - b. Describe how wedding rings are made.
 - c. Explain why people wear wedding rings.
2. **What kind of text is this?**
 - a. A short biography.
 - b. A formal report.
 - c. An informative article.
3. **According to the text, which statement is true?**
 - a. Wealthy ancient Romans wore gold and silver rings.
 - b. A fede ring is in two parts, which are put together to make one complete ring.
 - c. Diamond rings are not very popular today.
4. **Ancient kings and queens wore rings on which finger?**
 - a. Middle finger of the right hand.
 - b. Index finger of the right hand.
 - c. Fourth finger of the left hand.
5. **Which of these are popular metals used for making wedding rings today?**
 - a. Platinum.
 - b. Iron.
 - c. Silver.
6. **There is a spelling mistake on:**
 - a. Line 18.
 - b. Line 25.
 - c. Line 29.
7. **There is a grammar mistake on:**
 - a. Line 24.
 - b. Line 27.
 - c. Line 32.
8. **The best word to fill the gap on line 34 is:**
 - a. Strange.
 - b. Weird.
 - c. Unusual.
9. **According to the text, what does 'bespoke' mean on line 32?**
 - a. Rings are old and antique.
 - b. Rings are made to a person's design.
 - c. Rings are very expensive.
10. **What is the best word to replace 'vow' on line 27?**
 - a. Prayer.
 - b. Contract.
 - c. Promise.

Text 2

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

<u>L.S. Lowry and his Matchstick Men</u>	1
	2
L.S. Lowry was born in 1887. His father was an estate agent and his mother wanted to be a pianist. His parents were middle-class, but had financial difficulties, so left their quiet home to move to the noisier industrial area of Pendlebury, Manchester. To help his parents, Lowry left school at 16 and worked as an accounts clerk.	3
	4
	5
	6
	7
	8
In his early 20s, Lowry became a rent collector and kept this job for the next four decades. During his free time, he took evening classes in painting at the Salford School of Art. At home, he painted each evening, late into the night, and every weekend. He loved painting industrial scenes of mills, factories and _____.	9
	10
	11
	12
	13
His idea was to show working-class life in all its grittiness. His modernist style of painting was child-like with an eye for detail; observing mothers pushing prams, balloon sellers and dog walkers.	14
	15
	16
	17
He got his inspiration for his stick figures, when he missed a train one day, and spent the time watching hundreds of workers with hunched backs, hands in pockets looking down, hurrying home from work on a very sad cold damp, afternoon.	18
	19
	20
	21
	22
In 1948, he started to earn good money as a painter and was able to afford to move to a much better area near Manchester. He began to be collecting paintings by Rossetti because he admired Rossetti's paintings of women, whom he thought were beautiful.	23
	24
	25
	26
	27
During his lifetime, Lowry was awarded five British honour awards and, in 1968, a Knighthood, all of which he rejected because he did not believe in being seen as different or better than anyone else. Today, Lowry's paintings sell for millions of euros, and the most someone has ever paid for a Lowry painting is 5.6 million British pounds.	28
	29
	30
	31
	32
	33
	34
Lowry died in 1976 at the age of 88, unmarried and childless.	35

11. **What was Lowry's job for 40 years?**
 - a. He was an estate agent.
 - b. He was a rent collector.
 - c. He was an accounts clerk.

12. **Why did Lowry collect Rossetti's paintings?**
 - a. He liked the way he painted women.
 - b. He loved beautiful women.
 - c. He enjoyed collecting paintings.

13. **What is Lowry's style of painting?**
 - a. Childish.
 - b. Modernist.
 - c. Stick-like.

14. **According to the text, which of these sentences is true?**
 - a. His first job was an accounts clerk.
 - b. He was offered a Knighthood in 1948.
 - c. Someone paid 5.6 million euros for a painting.

15. **The best phrase to replace 'workers with hunched backs' on lines 19/20 is:**
 - a. Workers bending down to the ground.
 - b. Workers with round shoulders leaning forward.
 - c. Workers resting their chins on their chests.

16. **There is a grammatical error on:**
 - a. Line 25.
 - b. Line 20.
 - c. Line 30.

17. **The best word to complete a sentence on line 13 is:**
 - a. Trees.
 - b. Flowers.
 - c. Chimneys.

18. **In the text, what does it mean he 'had an eye for detail' on line 15?**
 - a. He painted slowly and carefully.
 - b. He was very observant.
 - c. He had good eyesight.

19. **There is a punctuation mistake on:**
 - a. Line 5.
 - b. Line 15.
 - c. Line 21.

20. **In the text, what does 'grittiness' mean on line 14?**
 - a. Describing something poor and dirty.
 - b. Showing everything as it really is.
 - c. Highlighting the best parts of life.

Text 3

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



Hairless Pets

If I say 'skinny pig' you might think about a thin, hungry farm animal but this isn't the case at all. A 'skinny pig' is a bald version of the fluffy-coated popular pet, the guinea pig. Well, it's nearly bald; it has some fluff on its nose and feet. They are hairless due to a change in their genes.

Whilst some animals are born hairless, and some lose their hair for other reasons, chimpanzees can become bald due to alopecia; an autoimmune disorder that causes hair loss which also occurs in humans, and can be caused by stress.

Allergy sufferers may enjoy owning a bald pet. For instance, a Sphynx cat has a big personality, but they are very needy and very vocal. They long for cuddles and love, and like to cuddle up in bed. However, having no fur is not always a good thing, because they tend to leave grease spots on the areas that they sit or sleep on. Their skin is oily and the oil seeps into cushions and bed sheets and leaves a stain. They also need regular bathing and their ears are prone to infections.

If you love the idea of having a hairless dog, you could consider owning a Khala. Hairless Khalas love their owners and can be brave in protecting them. They are active, loving and generally healthy. The Abyssinian Sand Terrier has a calm temperament. They are fairly quiet dogs and behave well, keeping barking to a minimum. Xolos also have a calm temperament and are well known for their quiet and calm nature. They make excellent company, are loyal, alert and make brilliant guard dogs. They are an ancient Aztec dog breed dating back thousands of years.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>21. What kind of text is this?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. An informative article.b. An online report.c. A short biography. <p>22. In the text, which statement is true?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. The 'skinny pig' is completely bald.b. Abyssinian Sand Terriers don't bark much.c. Alopecia is an allergy. <p>23. Which animal demands a lot of love?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. A Khala.b. A Xolo.c. A Sphynx Cat. | <p>24. In the text, what does 'temperament' mean?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Personality.b. Behaviour.c. Playfulness. <p>25. What is a skinny pig?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. A hairless farm animal.b. A nearly bald guinea pig.c. A starving pig. |
|--|---|

Text 4

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

Easter Bunny

According to some sources, the Easter bunny first arrived in America in the 1700s with German immigrants who settled in Pennsylvania and transported their tradition of an egg-laying hare called “Osterhase” or “Oschter Haws.” Their children made nests in which this creature could lay its coloured eggs. Eventually, the custom spread across the U.S. and Europe, and the famous rabbit’s Easter morning deliveries expanded to include chocolate and other types of sweets and gifts, while decorated baskets replaced nests. Additionally, children often left out carrots for the bunny in case he got hungry from all his hopping.

Decorating eggs for Easter is a tradition that dates back to at least the 13th century, according to some sources. One explanation for this custom is that eggs were formerly a forbidden food during the Lenten season, so people would paint and decorate them to mark the end of the period of fasting, then eat them on Easter as a celebration.

Easter egg hunts and egg rolling are two popular egg-related traditions. In the U.S. the White House Easter Egg Roll, a race in which children push decorated, hard-boiled eggs across the White House lawn, is an annual event held the Monday after Easter. The first official White House egg roll occurred in 1878, when Rutherford B. Hayes was president.

The Bible makes no mention of a long-eared, short-tailed creature who delivers decorated eggs to well-behaved children on Easter Sunday; nevertheless, the Easter bunny has become a prominent symbol of Christianity’s most important holiday. The exact origins of this myth are unclear, but they are an ancient symbol of new life.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>26. The purpose of this text is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Instruct.b. Persuade.c. Inform. <p>27. What word could best replace ‘symbol’ in the text?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Poster.b. Sign.c. Email. <p>28. When did the first Easter bunny arrive in America?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. 1700s.b. 1878.c. 13th Centry. | <p>29. What was forbidden to eat during Lent?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Sweets.b. Eggs.c. Chocolate. <p>30. What kind of eggs are pushed across the White House lawn?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Chocolate.b. Coloured.c. Hard-boiled. <p>31. What was an ‘Osterhase’?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Hare.b. Rabbit.c. Bunny. |
|--|--|



Page left intentionally blank.

ESOL International
English Writing Examination
Level C1 Advanced

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

Please complete the information above.

You must write a minimum of 150 – 200 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.

NOCN use only	
Question	Mark
1	
2	
Total	

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

Write a thank you letter to the council for giving your local children’s centre a grant of 10,000 euros. Tell them how the money will be spent.

You could write about:

- How you feel about receiving the grant
- The centre and the age of the children who attend
- What you will spend the money on
- How the things you buy will benefit the children.

OR

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

Write an email complaining to the manager of your local garden centre. You bought some plants and two fruit trees. The plants have all died and the fruit trees are contaminated. The garden centre has refused to refund you.

You could write about:

- What you bought, when and how much they cost
- How you feel about the quality of the plants and trees
- The kind of service you have received from the garden centre
- What action you expect to happen, and why.

Write 150 - 200 words.

(12 Marks)

Informal Writing Task 2 – Allow 35 minutes for this task.

You are planning to organise a friendly volleyball game at college. Write an email advertisement to send to the students in college.

You could write about:

- Why you are having the volleyball game
- When, where and what time it is happening
- Asking for volunteers to join the volleyball teams
- Give your phone number and ask them to contact you.

Write 250 - 300 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 C1



Page left intentionally blank.



NOCN Group
Acero Building
1 Concourse Way
Sheaf Street
Sheffield
S1 2BJ
UK

E-mail: nocn@nocn.org.uk

Tel: +44 (0) 300 999 1177