

ESOL International

English Listening Examination

Level B1 Intermediate

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

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

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.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. a. The cinema is in the shopping mall.
b. Yes, which film shall we see?
c. I love the cinema and the theatre. | 6. a. It's a lovely jumper.
b. It cost a lot of money.
c. It costs £25. |
| 2. a. The party ends at midnight.
b. It's not started yet.
c. At seven o'clock this evening. | 7. a. I was ill.
b. I go by bus.
c. I like going to college. |
| 3. a. It's just round the corner.
b. It's the best supermarket.
c. It's open every day. | 8. a. It is a big office.
b. You can take the lift.
c. I work in an office. |
| 4. a. Yes, I play football.
b. Yes, it's my favourite sport.
c. Yes, the tennis courts are here. | 9. a. Yes, but we accept cash too.
b. No, you can't buy cards here.
c. The bank is closed today. |
| 5. a. No, I feel quite warm.
b. I've had this cold for a week.
c. It's raining today. | 10. a. I would like a table for two.
b. This is a good restaurant.
c. Yes, I would like a salad. |

Part 2

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

You have two minutes to read the questions and answers for both conversations.

Now listen to Conversation 1.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

Conversation 1

1. **Why is Marina calling Carole?**
 - a. To catch up on all her news.
 - b. To check that she is still coming.
 - c. To change their plans for Friday.
2. **What was wrong with Carole?**
 - a. She had toothache.
 - b. She had something serious.
 - c. She couldn't see the dentist.
3. **What time will Carole arrive at King's Cross station?**
 - a. At 5.30 pm.
 - b. At 7 pm.
 - c. At 7.30 pm.
4. **Where will they eat on Friday?**
 - a. At Marina's flat.
 - b. At a café in Kenwood.
 - c. At a restaurant near the station.
5. **On Saturday afternoon, they will go:**
 - a. To the V & A Museum.
 - b. To the flat.
 - c. To an art gallery.

Now listen to the conversation again and check your answers.

Now listen to Conversation 2.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

Conversation 2

1. **Why is Matthew meeting Mrs Gray?**
 - a. To talk about joining a sports club.
 - b. To talk about a job in a college.
 - c. To talk about a teaching course.
2. **Why does Matthew want to teach sport?**
 - a. He's quite good at sport.
 - b. He thinks sport is important for students.
 - c. He wants to keep fit and healthy.
3. **What does playing sport teach students?**
 - a. Teamwork.
 - b. Confidence.
 - c. Good exercises.
4. **When did Matthew join a running club?**
 - a. When he was a child.
 - b. When he was a teenager.
 - c. When he ran a marathon race.
5. **How can teachers encourage students to enjoy sports?**
 - a. They can encourage them to win.
 - b. They can tell them to enjoy sport.
 - c. They can praise them for taking part.

Now listen to the conversation again and check your answers.

Part 3

You will hear two broadcasts. You will hear them twice.

You have two minutes to read the questions and answers for both broadcasts.

Now listen to Broadcast 1.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

Broadcast 1

1. **How old is John Thompson?**
 - a. He is 20.
 - b. He is 90.
 - c. He is 99.
2. **How long did his challenge take?**
 - a. 9 days.
 - b. 5 days.
 - c. 3 days.
3. **John Thompson's home is in the:**
 - a. North-east of the UK.
 - b. South-west of the UK.
 - c. South-east of the UK.
4. **What was he looking forward to at the first stop?**
 - a. A hot bath.
 - b. A good bath.
 - c. A hot meal.
5. **What did he want to do instead of having a party?**
 - a. Get home for his birthday.
 - b. Something to help other people.
 - c. Support family members.
6. **How did the charity describe the challenge?**
 - a. Normal.
 - b. Amazing.
 - c. Difficult.

Listen to the broadcast again and check your answers.

Now listen to Broadcast 2.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

Broadcast 2

1. **What has happened to the tallest tree?**
 - a. It has been replanted.
 - b. It has grown to 100 metres.
 - c. It has fallen down.
2. **How long can Himalayan cedar trees live?**
 - a. 600 years.
 - b. 166 years.
 - c. 30 years.
3. **What broke the windows in the hot houses?**
 - a. A falling tree.
 - b. The storm.
 - c. Garden workers.
4. **Why was nobody injured during the storm?**
 - a. The garden was closed.
 - b. Visitors sheltered under the trees.
 - c. The storm was tropical.
5. **What is special about the Royal Botanical Gardens in Edinburgh?**
 - a. They are used to winter weather.
 - b. They have a large hot house in a tropical garden.
 - c. They have one of the largest plant collections in the world.

Listen to the broadcast again and check your answers.

End of Examination

ESOL International

English Reading Examination

Level B1 Intermediate

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

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.

Amy Johnson	1
	2
Amy Johnson was a famous female aviator, or aeroplane pilot. She was born on 1st	3
July 1903 in the city of Hull, in the UK. She was the oldest of four sisters. After she	4
finished school in Hull, she went to Sheffield University and got a degree in	5
economics.	6
	7
Amy became interested in flying after she moved to London for her first job. She	8
joined the London Aeroplane Club in 1928 and got her pilots licence. She bought an	9
old plane and named it <i>Jason</i> . She wanted to show that women could fly as well as	10
men.	11
	12
Amy broke many flying records in the 1930s. She was the first woman to fly solo	13
from London to Australia. She also flew from England to India in the fastest time.	14
Another record was the fastest solo flight from England to South Africa. In 1929, she	15
became the first British female ground engineer. Her job was to check planes to	16
make sure they were safe. She recieved an award from the King in 1930.	17
	18
When the Second World War started in 1939, Amy wanted to help. She flew planes	19
from the factories to Royal Air Force bases around the country. Sadly, her plane	20
crashed during a flight from Scotland to London in 1941, and her body was never	21
found. _____, Amy is still remembered and there are many films and	22
documentaries about her life.	23

1. **When Amy finished school, she went to:**
 - a. London.
 - b. Sheffield.
 - c. Hull.
2. **Jason was the name of:**
 - a. A pilot.
 - b. A club.
 - c. A plane.
3. **What did Amy want to show?**
 - a. That women could fly as well as men.
 - b. That women could study at university.
 - c. That women could check planes.
4. **Amy got an award from the King in:**
 - a. 1928.
 - b. 1929.
 - c. 1930.
5. **What did Amy do in the Second World War?**
 - a. She continued to set records for flying.
 - b. She flew planes to Royal Air force bases.
 - c. She worked in a factory.
6. **Which words can replace 'interested in' on line 8?**
 - a. Attracted to.
 - b. Involved in.
 - c. Experienced in.
7. **Which line has a spelling mistake?**
 - a. Line 4.
 - b. Line 17.
 - c. Line 20.
8. **A word is missing from line 22. The word should be:**
 - a. Despite.
 - b. Although.
 - c. However.
9. **There is a grammar mistake on:**
 - a. Line 3.
 - b. Line 5.
 - c. Line 15.
10. **There is a punctuation mistake on:**
 - a. Line 9.
 - b. Line 16.
 - c. Line 21.

Text 2

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

Two giant pandas	1
	2
Two new giant pandas made their first appearance in publik at the National Zoo in Washington DC, in the USA, in January 2025. A large crowd of visitors came to see them and gave them a warm welcome.	3
	4
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The pandas, Qing Bao and Bao Li, are three years old. They arrived in the USA from china last October. They are the first pandas to come to Washington DC in 24 years. The pandas will stay at the zoo until April 2034.	7
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Bao Li already has a connection to the National Zoo. His mother was born there in 2013 and his grandparents lived at the zoo from 2000 to 2023. Qing Bao and Bao Li have quickly become popular with the zoo staff and volunteers. The director of the zoo said that it is the only place in the USA where visitors can see giant pandas for free.	11
	12
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Giant pandas have been at the National Zoo for more than 50 years. This animals are an important part of the zoo’s conservation programme. Researchers and scientists are trying to make sure the species does not die out.	17
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	19
	20
_____ the first pandas arrived in DC in 1972, the National Zoo has worked together with scientists on ways to protect these special pandas. According to the World Wildlife Fund, there are just over 1,800 pandas living in the wild today.	21
	22
	23

11. **When did the new pandas arrive in the USA?**
 - a. In January.
 - b. In October.
 - c. In April.
12. **When will the pandas leave the zoo?**
 - a. In 2034.
 - b. In 24 years' time.
 - c. In 50 years.
13. **Which event took place at the zoo in 2013?**
 - a. Bao Li's grandparents left the zoo.
 - b. Bao Li's mother was born there.
 - c. Bao Li was born at the zoo.
14. **The director of the zoo said that:**
 - a. Pandas will soon die out.
 - b. Zoo staff are very popular.
 - c. You can see giant pandas for free.
15. **Scientists are working with the zoo to:**
 - a. Protect these special pandas.
 - b. Help pandas live in the wild.
 - c. Help the species die out.
16. **There is a spelling error on:**
 - a. Line 3.
 - b. Line 13.
 - c. Line 18.
17. **There is a punctuation error on:**
 - a. Line 4.
 - b. Line 7.
 - c. Line 8.
18. **'Special' on line 22 means:**
 - a. Ordinary.
 - b. Important.
 - c. Simple.
19. **Which word is missing from line 21?**
 - a. Since.
 - b. Before.
 - c. Including.
20. **There is a grammar error on:**
 - a. Line 11.
 - b. Line 14.
 - c. Line 17.

Text 3

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

Doncaster Market

Doncaster Market is one of the finest traditional markets in England and is a lively place. It has received praise from TV celebrity chefs and has many loyal customers. The market has been at the heart of the town for hundreds of years.

It dates back to ancient Roman times. A small village developed outside the walls of a Roman fort so local people could trade with the soldiers who lived there. Today's market is located on the same spot. It has expanded over the years and now covers about a quarter of the old town centre.

Doncaster Market has four big indoor halls, surrounded by a large area of outdoor stalls. The market is fully open for three days each week: Tuesday, Friday and Saturday. You can buy meat, fish, fruit and vegetables and many other things there. Every Wednesday, there is an interesting antiques market.

Shoppers love the huge variety of food on offer. When they have finished shopping, they can have lunch in the indoor food hall, where there are dozens of cafés to choose from. Doncaster Market is a special place at night too, because it comes back to life as an entertainment venue.

21. Doncaster Market is one of the finest:

- a. Antiques markets.
- b. Traditional markets.
- c. Shopping centres.

22. Which word in the text best describes Doncaster Market?

- a. Loyal.
- b. Open.
- c. Lively.

23. Doncaster Market covers:

- a. A quarter of the old town centre.
- b. Four outdoor stalls.
- c. Three dozen food halls.

24. When is the best day to buy antiques?

- a. Wednesday.
- b. Friday.
- c. Saturday.

25. Why is Doncaster Market special at night?

- a. There are entertaining cafés.
- b. It is at the heart of the town centre.
- c. It is an entertainment venue.

Text 4

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

Chinese New Year

Chinese New Year is also known as Spring Festival, because many Chinese New Year traditions are linked to the welcoming of spring. It is celebrated by millions of people around the world and has become a popular annual event, not just for Chinese people, but for people of many nations and cultures.

The Chinese calendar is based on the movements of the moon and this is how the year's beginning and end are decided. Chinese New Year occurs any time between 21st of January and 20th of February each year. While many nations celebrate New Year over one night and day, Chinese New Year lasts for fifteen days.

Communities all over the world have parades, firework displays and dragon dances to celebrate the New Year. Beautiful paper lanterns light the streets. People clean their houses in preparation for the New Year. In Malaysia, there is a holiday, usually lasting for three days.

Many special events take place during the celebrations at Chinese New Year. One of these is the tradition of giving gifts of money in small, decorated red envelopes. The colour red is considered to be very lucky in Chinese culture.

26. Why is Chinese New Year also called Spring Festival?

- a. Its traditions are linked to the welcoming of spring.
- b. People celebrate it in January.
- c. It is a Chinese holiday.

27. Who might celebrate Chinese New Year?

- a. Only Chinese people.
- b. People around the world.
- c. Only people in Malaysia.

28. What is decided by the moon in the Chinese calendar?

- a. The beginning and end of the year.
- b. The beginning of the holiday.
- c. The end of New Year's Day.

29. How long does Chinese New Year last?

- a. A night and a day.
- b. Three days.
- c. Fifteen days.

30. How do communities celebrate?

- a. They have parades and firework displays.
- b. They spend a lot of money.
- c. They decorate their houses with lanterns.

31. Why do people give gifts in red envelopes?

- a. They want to help their family.
- b. Red is considered to be lucky.
- c. To celebrate the end of New Year.

End of Examination.

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ESOL International

English Writing Examination

Level B1 Intermediate

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

You must write 75 - 100 words for Task 1 and 100 - 125 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.

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

You attended a conference yesterday and took part in some workshops. Write a review about your experience at the conference.

You could write about:

- what the conference was for
- what workshops you attended
- what you liked about the day
- anything you think could have been better.

OR

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

The local leisure centre has decided not to build a new swimming pool in your town. Write a letter to them to say why you think a swimming pool would be a good thing for the community.

You could write about:

- how you feel about the decision
- why you think your town needs a swimming pool
- who would benefit from being able to go to the swimming pool
- suggest ways of raising money to build the swimming pool.

Write 75 –100 words.

(12 Marks)

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

Your friend is coming to visit you from England this summer. Write an email to tell them about an interesting place in your area and why you think it would be good to go there together.

You could write about:

- what type of place it is
- what you can do there
- why you like to go there
- why you think your friend will enjoy it.

Write 100 –125 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

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