

**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.

- |    |  |     |  |
|----|--|-----|--|
| 1. | a. I'm sorry, I don't have time.<br>b. I don't know where I put it.<br>c. The door is locked.    | 6.  | a. I have lost my phone.<br>b. I have found some money.<br>c. I have had a good day.                         |
| 2. | a. It was raining yesterday.<br>b. No, it is forecast to be sunny.<br>c. There is a rainbow.     | 7.  | a. Yes, shall we go on Wednesday.<br>b. No, I don't feel very well.<br>c. I will go to the theatre tomorrow. |
| 3. | a. It is the wrong word.<br>b. Look it up in the dictionary.<br>c. It is German.                 | 8.  | a. It is closed today.<br>b. I don't read books.<br>c. It is opposite the library.                           |
| 4. | a. I would like a glass of milk.<br>b. I like tea and coffee.<br>c. Neither, I like apple juice. | 9.  | a. You should walk.<br>b. You should find it.<br>c. You should catch the next one.                           |
| 5. | a. Better luck next time!<br>b. You should be more careful.<br>c. Congratulations!               | 10. | a. Yes please, it looks lovely.<br>b. Happy Birthday!<br>c. I don't like ice cream.                          |

## 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. What has Tina won?**
  - A song competition.
  - A story competition.
  - A newspaper competition.
- 2. What does she like reading?**
  - All kinds of books.
  - She doesn't like reading.
  - She has a favourite author.
- 3. How did the man in the story celebrate his lottery win?**
  - He spent all his money.
  - He wrote a book.
  - He had a party.
- 4. Did Tina expect to win the competition?**
  - No, it was a surprise.
  - Yes, she thought she would.
  - She hoped to win some money.
- 5. What will Tina do now?**
  - She will give up writing.
  - She will spend all the money.
  - She will continue to write.

Now listen to the conversation again and check your answers.

Now listen to **Conversation 2**.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

- 1. What kind of pizza does the customer order?**
  - Cheese.
  - Ham.
  - Cheese and ham.
- 2. What size pizza does the customer choose?**
  - Regular.
  - Large.
  - Extra large.
- 3. What does the customer order with the pizza?**
  - A litre of diet coke.
  - A litre of lemonade.
  - A bottle of orange juice.
- 4. What is the total cost?**
  - £10.50.
  - £12.50.
  - £14.25.
- 5. How will the customer get her order?**
  - He will collect it.
  - It will be delivered.
  - He will get it in 30 minutes.

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.

- Who were the people in the hot air balloon?**
  - Adults and children.
  - Seven adults.
  - Children only.
- How did the accident happen?**
  - The balloon went up too high.
  - The pilot could control the balloon.
  - The balloon was blown away by the wind.
- How did the passengers feel at first?**
  - They were angry.
  - They were excited.
  - They were frightened.
- What happened to the passengers in the end?**
  - They were surrounded by crocodiles.
  - They swam to safety.
  - They were rescued by a boat.
- How many people are bitten by crocodiles every year?**
  - About 10.
  - About 12.
  - About 20.
- Where do the statistics about crocodiles come from?**
  - The Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission.
  - Disney World.
  - Florida Keys.

Listen to the broadcast again and check your answers.

Now listen to **Broadcast 2**.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

- What kind of broadcast is this?**
  - A news item.
  - A competition.
  - A short story.
- Which of these was not one of David Attenborough's first journeys?**
  - Guyana.
  - Indonesia.
  - Slovenia.
- Which organisation did the BBC work with?**
  - The Natural History Museum.
  - The London Zoo.
  - The London Eye.
- What kind of degree does David Attenborough have?**
  - Biology.
  - Physics.
  - Zoology.
- What is Jack Lester's job?**
  - Curator of Reptiles at London Zoo.
  - Zoo Keeper.
  - Primate Care staff at London Zoo.

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>Eating out – the good, the bad and the ugly</u>	1
	2
One of our town’s newest cafés has scored full marks for food hygiene just a few months after opening. Cinnamon Lounge in Thornton was awarded a five-star rating- the highest available- by the Food Standards Agency after a rigorous inspection, much to the delight of the hard-working staff. The assessment covers all aspects of food hygiene including how items are prepared, cooked, re-heated, cooled and stored as well as checking safety, cleanliness and general business practices to ensure standards is maintained.	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
The food hygiene scheme serves to give customers the confidence to eat or shop at a particular outlet and can also encourage businesses in need of improvement to take action.	11 12 13 14
Cinnamon Lounge manager Louise Potter said the whole team was thrilled with the five-star rating and determined to maintain the standard. “Achieving the top rating was the goal from day one so we’re very proud to have done it so quickly,” commented Louise. “Food hygiene is a top priority for us and we’re pleased to have our high standards recognised and for customers to know how seriously we take it.”	15 16 17 18 19 20 21
The café, on High Street in Thornton, is open five days a week from Monday to Friday as well as for occasional special functions outside normal business hours. It serves a tempting choice of snacks and refreshments as well as an extensive breakfast menu and various special offers.	22 23 24 25 26
In stark contrast to the success of Cinnamon Lounge is Five-Spice Restaurant on nearby Green Street which failed a Food Standards Agency hygiene inspection in March. Inspectors found ..... of mice and rats in food storage and preparation areas, and raw meat being stored with cooked items. Staff’s own personal hygiene and cleanliness was poor and there had been a number of complaints received from customers of the establishment. The owner of the restaurant was given a substantial fine and the restaurant has closed until it has met the necessary standards.	27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34

1. **How did the staff of Cinnamon Lounge feel after the award?**
  - a. They were upset.
  - b. They were pleased.
  - c. They were surprised.
  
2. **Which of these is not mentioned in the inspection?**
  - a. How the food is cooked and stored.
  - b. How good the food tastes.
  - c. How clean the café is.
  
3. **What is one of the benefits of the inspection for customers?**
  - a. They can be confident about eating in the café.
  - b. They can choose from a new menu.
  - c. They can expect improvements.
  
4. **What is the manager's goal now?**
  - a. To expand the business.
  - b. To add new items to the menu.
  - c. To keep up the high standards.
  
5. **Which of the following was not a problem at the Five-Spice Restaurant?**
  - a. Uncooked food stored with cooked food.
  - b. Complaints from people eating there.
  - c. The prices were too high.
  
6. **A word has been omitted from line 20. The word should be:**
  - a. Advice.
  - b. Evidence.
  - c. Absence.
  
7. **There is a spelling mistake on:**
  - a. Line 3.
  - b. Line 12.
  - c. Line 23.
  
8. **There is a grammar mistake on:**
  - a. Line 9.
  - b. Line 17.
  - c. Line 33.
  
9. **The best word to replace "tempting" on line 24 is:**
  - a. Varied.
  - b. Healthy.
  - c. Tasty.
  
10. **The word "substantial" on line 33 means:**
  - a. Very big.
  - b. Medium.
  - c. Unacceptable.

Text 2

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

<u>Robert Louis Stevenson – Scotland’s Most Famous Children’s Author</u>	1
	2
Born in 1850, Stevenson was famous as the author of <i>Treasure Island</i> , <i>Kidnapped</i>	3
and <i>The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde</i> .	4
	5
Stevenson attended Edinburgh University and qualified as a lawyer, ..... he	6
never practised law. During his time at university he became intrested in socialist	7
and atheist ideas, much to his father’s disapproval.	8
	9
He was often ill as a child and suffered from tuberculosis, so he spent most of his	10
life travelling abroad to healthier climates. These travels inspired him to write	11
about his time spent canoeing and riding donkeys in France. He later travelled	12
by sea to America and continued his travels across the South Pacific; the scenery	13
of this foreign land gave him the ..... for his first novel, <i>Treasure Island</i> .	14
	15
The novel described a search for buried treasure and the battle of good (in the	16
form of a boy, Jim, and his friends) against evil (personified by the one-legged	17
pirate, Long John Silver).	18
	19
The theme of good and evil continued in his next novel, <i>The Strange Case of Dr</i>	20
<i>Jekyll and Mr Hyde</i> , where Dr Jekyll discovers a drug that transforms him into the	21
evil monster, Mr Hyde.	22
	23
Stevenson went on to write stories about the struggles of the Scottish people and	24
his novel <i>Kidnapped</i> was published in 1886, followed by <i>The Black Arrow</i> and <i>The</i>	25
<i>Master of Ballantrae</i> , both published in 1888.	26
	27
He finally settled in Samoa, where he died in 1894. Stevenson was greatly	28
admired by his contemporaries and has been an inspiration for many writers. His	29
books are still popular today and have been translated into several languages	30
around the world.	31



11. **The text is about a:**
- A Scottish writer.
  - A lawyer.
  - A historian.
12. **What did Stevenson's father think of his religious and political ideas?**
- He did not take any notice of them.
  - He did not approve of them.
  - He agreed with them.
13. **Why did Stevenson travel so much?**
- He suffered from poor health.
  - He was easily bored.
  - He was looking for work.
14. **According to the text, who was Long John Silver?**
- He was Jim's friend.
  - He was a boy.
  - He was Jim's enemy.
15. **What did people of the time think of Stevenson's books?**
- They disliked them.
  - They thought they were very good.
  - They did not understand them.
16. **Why have italics been used in parts of this text?**
- To show the titles of stories by Stevenson.
  - To show the names of characters in the books.
  - To show the names of places visited by Stevenson.
17. **The word that best fills the gap in line 14 is:**
- Inspiration.
  - Text.
  - Book.
18. **Which line has a spelling error?**
- Line 7.
  - Line 12.
  - Line 28.
19. **In the text, which word means the same as "fight"?**
- Control.
  - Struggle.
  - Adventure.
20. **Which word best fits the gap on line 6?**
- However.
  - Therefore.
  - Although.

### Text 3

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

#### A new series of history talks

On Friday May 26, there will be the first in our new series of history talks at the Village Community Centre. The talk will start at 7 pm on the subject of “The British Army in France in 1914”, and will be accompanied by a fish and chips supper from 7.15 pm. Tickets cost £10 and are available from members of the Local History Group or from Sue (please see contact details below).

Various events have been taking place around the country to commemorate the centenary of the First World War of 1914-18. This talk is the first we have organised and we hope it will prove very interesting. Our entertaining and informative speaker is Alan Jones who completed his Master’s degree in War Studies at King’s College London, before becoming a civil servant working for the Ministry of Defence. He is now retired and lives in Malvern where he is a volunteer researcher with the Museum of the Worcestershire Regiment.

Remember that the fish and chips supper will be served at the beginning of the evening. Anyone with special dietary requirements should inform Sue when they book their tickets so that we can plan alternative food appropriately.

Please note that all our events must be booked in advance by contacting Sue Peters on [villageevents@gmail.com](mailto:villageevents@gmail.com) or by telephone on 07941234521.

21. **According to the text, this event is:**

- a. The only one of its kind.
- b. The first in a series.
- c. The last one to be organised.

22. **In the text, which word has a similar meaning to “remember”?**

- a. Various.
- b. Entertaining.
- c. Commemorate.

23. **In the text, the word “centenary” is used to mean:**

- a. A period in history.
- b. The hundredth anniversary.
- c. The main events.

24. **According to the text, what does Alan Jones do now?**

- a. He is a student.
- b. He is a civil servant.
- c. He is a researcher.

25. **What should you do if you are a vegetarian and want to attend the event?**

- a. Inform Sue when you reserve your tickets.
- b. Do not go as you are not welcome.
- c. You should bring your own food.

## Text 4

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

### The Legend of King Arthur

The legends of King Arthur began to appear in the twelfth century and it is possible they are based on the stories of a Celtic leader of the fifth and sixth centuries who defended his country against Saxon invasion.

King Arthur was the son of Pendragon, and was born in Tintagel in Cornwall. The castle where he is supposed to have lived is still standing today and thousands of tourists visit it every year. Arthur was brought up by the magician Merlin and became king of Britain when he was fifteen. He proved his right to be king because he managed to pull a sword from a rock. Many others had tried but only he succeeded. He also had to fight many knights, and when he defeated them with Merlin's help, he received the magic sword *Excalibur* from the Lady of the Lake.

Arthur married Guinevere and set up his royal court in a castle at Camelot. No-one knows for sure where this place is, but it is believed to be somewhere in Great Britain. It was here that Arthur's knights sat at a round table so that they were all equal and nobody could sit at the head of the table. Many of the stories in the legend are about the adventures of the knights, among them Lancelot, Gawain and Galahad. They spent their time hunting and fighting giants and dragons. They always behaved correctly, with respect, honour and compassion.

Arthur went to Rome to fight the emperor Lucius and left his kingdom in the hands of his nephew Mordred. While he was away, Mordred took control of his kingdom and made Guinevere a prisoner. Arthur returned to fight Mordred but during the battle he was seriously wounded. He ordered the knight Belvedere to throw his sword *Excalibur* into the waters of a lake where it was caught by the hand of the Lady of the Lake and taken below the surface.

The legend says that Arthur did not ..... but lives on and will return one day when his country needs him.

26. **According to the text, the castle at Tintagel:**

- a. Does not really exist.
- b. Can be visited nowadays.
- c. Was where Arthur lived all his life.

27. **The word "legend" in the text has a similar meaning to:**

- a. Story.
- b. Battle.
- c. Magic.

28. **According to the text, Arthur became king because:**

- a. He was the son of Pendragon.
- b. He pulled a sword from a stone.
- c. He was helped by Merlin.

29. **The text suggests that Camelot is:**

- a. A real place.
- b. A place that may exist.
- c. A place that never existed.

30. **The word "wounded" in paragraph 4 means the same as:**

- a. Annoyed.
- b. Unhappy.
- c. Hurt.

31. **Which word would best fill the gap in the last paragraph?**

- a. Die.
- b. Leave.
- c. Return.

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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	
<b>Total</b>	

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

Write an article for a school/college magazine about the advantages of being able to speak a foreign language.

You could write about:

- Why being able to speak another language could help you in the future.
- What sort of things you can do if you can speak another language.
- What you feel about learning a foreign language.
- Any advice you would give to students who are not sure about learning another language.

**OR**

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

Write a letter to the manager of a restaurant to complain about the service you received there recently.

You could write about:

- When you visited the restaurant, who you went with and what the occasion was.
- What problems you experienced.
- What you did to address the problems while you were there.
- The response of the staff.
- How you felt.
- What you would like the manager to do.

Write 100 – 150 words.

(12 Marks)

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

Write a letter or an email to your friend to invite him/her to come and spend some time in the summer holiday with you.

You could write about:

- When your friend could visit.
- Where he/she could stay.
- What sort of activities you could do together.
- How the holiday will make you feel.

Write 150 – 200 words.

(12 Marks)

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**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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