

ESOL International

English Listening Examination

Level C2 Proficient

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 **40 minutes** to finish the examination.

Part 1

You will hear 10 sentences twice.

Look at 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. I am sorry for being late. b. I am sorry for the delay. c. I am sorry I couldn't make it.</p> <p>2. a. Which one do you prefer? b. I like to play music. c. The colour is black.</p> <p>3. a. Really? I don't know that. b. Yes, I know. c. Yes, it's easy.</p> <p>4. a. Take a nap then. b. Have a sleep then. c. Sit down then.</p> <p>5. a. Yes, they create a lovely atmosphere. b. Yes, they make a good environment. c. Yes, they smell.</p> <p>6. a. Is the lever red? b. Do I turn them all the way round? c. The water level is correct.</p> | <p>7. a. They never look; because they're too busy on their phones. b. They are looking where they are walking. c. They do concentrate whilst watching their phones.</p> <p>8. a. Yes, hang out. b. Yes, hang up. c. Yes, hang on.</p> <p>9. a. I will go to the cinema on Saturday. b. I would love to go for lunch on Sunday. c. I like the sound of that.</p> <p>10. a. Oh don't worry, I know where it is. b. I'm fine, thank you. c. Thank you, but I don't know which way it is.</p> |
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Part 2

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

You have two minutes to look at the questions for both conversations.

Now listen to **Conversation 1**. Record your answers to the questions on the mark sheet.

- How does Ella describe English people?**
 - Forgetful.
 - Eccentric.
 - Cheese eaters.
- Which City does cheese rolling take place in?**
 - Double Gloucester.
 - Brockworth.
 - Gloucester.
- When is the Cheese Rolling Festival?**
 - In August.
 - In May.
 - In October.
- What is a 'banger'?**
 - A lump of cheese.
 - A tomato.
 - A firework.
- How many people attend La Tomatina?**
 - 1,300.
 - 13,000.
 - 30,000.

Listen to the conversation again and check your answers.

Now listen to **Conversation 2**. Record your answers to the questions on the mark sheet.

- What is the conversation about?**
 - Going on holiday to Italy or Spain.
 - Living in Italy or Spain.
 - Shopping in Italy or Spain.
- What is 'eating Al fresco'?**
 - Eating outside.
 - Eating in a restaurant.
 - Eating in the kitchen at home.
- What can you buy for 'half the price'?**
 - Fruit and vegetables.
 - A house.
 - A holiday.
- What does Sofia mean when she says it would be 'perpetual summer'?**
 - It wouldn't be summer for a long time.
 - It would be summer every day.
 - Summer days would be very hot.
- Are they going to move abroad?**
 - Yes, definitely.
 - They haven't decided yet.
 - No they aren't.

Listen 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 does 'crystal healing' do?**
 - a. Uses electrical energy to heal the body.
 - b. Uses natural energy to heal the body.
 - c. Uses the mind's energy to heal the body.
2. **Where does the crystal healer put the crystals?**
 - a. In and around the body.
 - b. On, or around the body.
 - c. Around the body.
3. **What are crystals made of?**
 - a. Crystals are made of minerals.
 - b. Crystals are made of energy.
 - c. Crystals are made of water.
4. **How does 'crystal healing' work?**
 - a. It unblocks negative energy in the body.
 - b. It relaxes the mind and body.
 - c. It creates a chemical reaction in the body.
5. **What causes a lot of illnesses?**
 - a. Energy.
 - b. Medication.
 - c. Stress.
6. **What does the host mean by 'far-fetched'?**
 - a. Clever.
 - b. Unbelievable.
 - c. Scientific.

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 main focus of this discussion?**
 - a. The cost of superfoods.
 - b. The benefits of superfoods.
 - c. The development superfoods.
2. **Which are the best superfoods?**
 - a. Fish and dairy.
 - b. Vegetables and seeds.
 - c. Sprouting vegetables.
3. **What does chlorophyll do?**
 - a. Removes toxins from the body.
 - b. Provides nutrition for the body.
 - c. Activates the immune system in the body.
4. **Are sprouting superfoods cheap to buy?**
 - a. No, they are quite expensive.
 - b. Yes, they are quite cheap.
 - c. You can't buy them; you have to grow them.
5. **At the end of the debate, what does the dietician say about superfoods?**
 - a. Superfoods are just healthy foods.
 - b. The term 'superfood' is a made-up name.
 - c. Superfoods are not real.

Listen to the discussion again and check your answers.

End of Examination for Listening – Level C2 Proficient.

ESOL International

English Reading Examination

Level C2 Proficient 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.

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.

| | |
|---|-----------|
| <u>Herbal Medicines</u> | 1 |
| | 2 |
| Herbal medicines are plant-based medicines that use all parts of herbs such as leaves, flowers or roots. Each part has a different medicinal use and their healing properties require different extraction methods. | 3 |
| | 4 |
| | 5 |
| | 6 |
| An infusion of plants is when we use either fresh or dried herbs steeped in boiling water or alcohol for drinking, washing the skin, mouthwashes or steam inhalation. These are called 'tinctures'. Sometimes a hot, wet poultice of plants is wrapped in a soft cloth and applied as a compress onto a wound. Some plants are soaked in oil for many days and used as a lotion. Other preparations use dried plants ground up into a loose powder. These powders can be drunk in water or applied externally to a wound. | 7 |
| | 8 |
| | 9 |
| | 10 |
| | 11 |
| | 12 |
| | 13 |
| Medicinal plants has always been used as natural first aid remedies such as rubbing raw dock leaves onto nettle stings or applying lavender oil onto a burn. Herbs treat a vast array of conditions from insect bites, headaches and stomach-aches to serious wounds. | 14 |
| | 15 |
| | 16 |
| | 17 |
| Whilst much of the herbal medicine tradition has been lost in modern times, there is an increasing resurgence of public interest in the use of herbs for minor ailments. Many herbalists run beginners' courses where you can learn more about plant identification and how to make your own remedies. | 18 |
| | 19 |
| | 20 |
| | 21 |
| | 22 |
| In some situations, there can be negative interactions when mixing herbs with other medicines; St John's Wort, for example, needs careful handling else the treatment could make the condition worse. In addition, other influential factors need to be considered before using herbal remedies such as what the illness is, how severe it is, how long it has been present, your past medical history, any allergies you may have and your current health | 23 |
| | 24 |
| | 25 |
| | 26 |
| | 27 |
| | 28 |
| Herbal medicine can sometimes take longer to work compared to pharmaceutical drugs. However, it aims to address the root cause of the illness or condition and therefore usually produces more permanent results. | 29 |
| | 30 |
| | 31 |

1. The main purpose of this document is to:

- a. Persuade the reader to use herbal medicines.
- b. Explain what herbal medicines are.
- c. Describe how to make herbal medicines.

2. According to the article, which statement is true?

- a. A poultice heals a wound.
- b. A poultice can be drunk.
- c. A poultice is a powder.

3. What is a 'tincture'?

- a. A dried herb.
- b. A wet herb.
- c. A liquid infused with a herb.

4. The text suggests:

- a. Not many people use herbal medicines.
- b. More and more people are beginning to use herbal medicines.
- c. Only doctors use herbal medicines.

5. What is St. John's Wort?

- a. An illness.
- b. A part of the body.
- c. A herb.

6. According to the text, how do herbal medicines help you?

- a. They treat the after effects of an illness.
- b. They treat the symptoms of an illness.
- c. They treat the reason behind an illness.

7. There is a spelling mistake on:

- a. Line 7.
- b. Line 20.
- c. Line 26.

8. There is a grammatical error on:

- a. Line 9.
- b. Line 14.
- c. Line 31.

9. The word completing the sentence in line 27 is:

- a. Service.
- b. Examination.
- c. Status.

10. In line 23, what does 'negative interactions' mean:

- a. Bad effects.
- b. Weak results.
- c. Poor conditions.

Text 2

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

| <u>Declining Hobbies</u> | 1 |
|---|-----------|
| | 2 |
| Nowadays young people do not seem to spend much time on traditional hobbies but prefer the digital age of computer gaming and online chatting. After all, how many young people do you know enjoy collecting stamps, train spotting, making airplane models or doing jigsaws? I would guess, not many. Some people argue that the internet has generated some interest in stamps but a lot of these websites are mostly aimed at older, more established collectors. | 3 |
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| There was a time when nearly every corner shop had a dusty model kit of a plane, car or ship for sale; eagerly bought by youngsters who would spend hours meticulously sticking together plastic bits to create a thing of beauty that they would then paint and display in their bedrooms. Not today, it's just not adventurous enough! Jigsaws are also becoming a thing of the past with young people who just do not seem to have the patience or time to spend sitting piecing together a work of art or a beautiful landscape, then break it up, put it back in its' box and leave it forgotten on a shelf for someone else to pick up. | 9 |
| | 10 |
| | 11 |
| | 12 |
| | 13 |
| | 14 |
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| | 16 |
| Easily affordable clothes have resulted in a decline of interest in knitting, sewing, embroidery and crochet. These delicate skills are creative and practical. But socks do not need darning today; we threw them away when they develop a hole. Society is disposable and it is cheaper to buy a new pair rather than sit and repair an old pair. | 17 |
| | 18 |
| | 19 |
| | 20 |
| | 21 |
| Hobby shops are hard to find on the High Street, having gone out of business due to online shopping. It seems you can get anything you want on the internet and this is not a bad thing but the fun has definitely been taken away from around a dusty hobby shop. | 22 |
| | 23 |
| | 24 |
| | 25 |
| Finally, the art of train and plane spotting has diminished due to company rules forbidding people to take photos in railway stations and airports. The next best thing is to stand on a bridge and collect vehicle registration numbers of trucks of a particular type; that is if you like standing for hours on the top of a blustery bridge, shivering your socks off! | 26 |
| | 27 |
| | 28 |
| | 29 |

11. What is an 'established collector'?

- a. An older person who enjoys collecting things.
- b. Someone who has been collecting things for a long time.
- c. A person famous for collecting things.

12. What do you do with a jigsaw when you have finished putting it together?

- a. Display it in your bedroom.
- b. Dismantle it.
- c. Give it to someone else.

13. According to the text, what is the cause of hobby shops closing down?

- a. The internet.
- b. Young people are not interested in hobbies.
- c. They don't sell what people want.

14. According to paragraph 3, how did we use to repair a hole in an item of clothing?

- a. Knit it.
- b. Crochet it.
- c. Darn it.

15. In the last paragraph, what kind of weather is described while you're standing on the bridge?

- a. Windy and cold.
- b. Snowy and cold.
- c. Breezy and warm.

16. There is a grammatical mistake on:

- a. Line 17.
- b. Line 19.
- c. Line 22.

17. The best word to replace 'meticulously' in line 10 is:

- a. Secretly.
- b. Carefully.
- c. Patiently.

18. The best word to fill the gap in line 24 is:

- a. Creeping.
- b. Sitting.
- c. Browsing.

19. What kind of question is being asked in paragraph one?

- a. A rhetorical question.
- b. An indirect question.
- c. A probing question.

20. There is a punctuation mistake on:

- a. Line 12.
- b. Line 14.
- c. Line 27.

Text 3

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

Prague's Astronomical Clock

Prague's famous astronomical clock is returning to the Czech capital's picturesque Old Town Square after a complex repair operation restored the medieval landmark to its former glory. The 608-year-old clock, a must-see for many tourists with its hourly moving display of the 12 apostles and other figures, was removed in January for its first major repair since the Second World War.

The clock, believed to have been installed in the City Hall's tower in 1410, is unique because it still has its original mechanism. A major addition came in the 18th century, when the apostles were introduced. The latest version was created by Czech artist Josef Manes in 1866. Parts of the clock, were irreparably destroyed, and the clock tower was badly damaged during a devastating fire on May 8 1945.

Mr Skala said the latest restoration efforts aim to comprehensively fix a series of poorly done repairs, mostly from the 20th century. As the clock has undergone numerous changes since 1410, Mr Skala said the point was not to give it its original, 15th-century look. He said his main task was to make sure the clock's mechanism was as reliable as possible in the future.

As part of the process, his wife Melanie cleaned every single part of it, removing old paints and rust, washing them all in citric acid five times. "Chances are it will be functioning for another 600 years," Mr Skala said.

Among the more visible changes are a new version of the clock's 19th-century calendar board, and a new lick of paint for the elaborate clock face and figures. The clock has given rise to some legends and superstitions – including a belief that the entire nation will suffer when it stops running. Another legend might be reason for concern for Mr Skala: anyone who changes the clock or tampers with it will go mad or die.

Some believed that the clock foretold the record flooding that hit Prague and large parts of the Czech Republic in 2002, when it briefly stopped working shortly before midnight on New Year's Eve 2001.

21. What was the main purpose of the above text?

- a. To inform people about the return of a famous clock.
- b. To explain the costs involved in fixing the clock.
- c. To advise people how to clean a clock.

22. According to the text, which statement is true?

- a. The clock calendar board is 18th century.
- b. Repairs were carried out in the 21st century.
- c. The clock was installed in the City Hall's tower in 1410.

23. In paragraph one, what word could replace 'complex':

- a. Easy.
- b. Difficult.
- c. Reasonable.

24. According to the text, when did the flooding of Prague occur?

- a. 2002.
- b. 2001.
- c. 1945.

25. According to the text, why is the clock unique?

- a. It has given rise to some legends.
- b. It has had major additions.
- c. It has its original mechanism.

Text 4

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

John Logie Baird

John Logie Baird was born in Scotland in 1888 and educated at the University of Glasgow. After leaving university, he became an engineer and one of the inventors of television but he was the first person to demonstrate a working TV to 50 scientists in London on 26 January 1926.

Although the television was the result of many inventions, Baird was prominent in the field. He was the first to produce a live image from reflected light. His major technological breakthrough was improvements in the electric cell and improvements in the signal conditioning. In 1923 Baird moved to Hastings, England and rented a workshop. He built the first working television which incorporated many household items including a hat box, some darning needles and glue.

Andy Andrews, one of Baird's colleagues, was 14 years old when he left school to work as an apprentice engineer with Baird. He witnessed Baird's demonstration and described the pictures as 'a blur but amazing'. During the demonstration there was a lot of excitement as Baird sent pictures from London to Glasgow via a phone line the following year, and then sent the first TV pictures along under the sea to the USA in 1928.

After giving the world's first demonstration of television in January 1926, Baird went on to invent a camera for outside broadcasts in the early 1930s. It was at this time that an American company called Marconi took up the challenge to improve the broadcasting capability of the television. Soon Baird and Marconi were in competition with each other. In order to decide which TV would be used to broadcast BBC they were both tested. However, it was decided that Marconi's TV receivers were more reliable so Baird's TVs were pushed aside. Soon the American Marconi company became the forerunner in television receivers; they only had a 5" screen but for many people, it was a miraculous invention.

Baird continued to invent things but his biggest regret is that his television is not used. He died aged 57 in 1946.

26. The phrase 'a blur' in paragraph three can be best replaced with:

- a. Unclear.
- b. Bright.
- c. Clear.

27. Which household item was used to build the first television:

- a. Hat box.
- b. Knitting needle.
- c. Shoe box.

28. Which word should replace the word in bold?

- a. Were.
- b. Has.
- c. Was.

29. In the text the word competition has been incorrectly spelt, what is the correct spelling?

- a. Compitition.
- b. Competition.
- c. Compatition.

30. In the text a word has been omitted, it should be

- a. Wires.
- b. Pipes.
- c. Cables.

31. What does the word 'forerunner' mean in the text ?

- a. The first company to make good TVs.
- b. The most successful TV company.
- c. A company that leads the development of TVs into the future.

End of Examination for Reading – Level C2

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ESOL International
English Writing Examination
Level C2 Proficient User

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

You must write a minimum of 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.

| NOCN use only | |
|---------------|------|
| Question | Mark |
| 1 | |
| 2 | |
| Total | |

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

You organised an evening out in a restaurant yesterday. This morning, 5 people have confirmed they have food poisoning. Write a letter of complaint to the restaurant manager. You could write about:

- What has happened since leaving the restaurant yesterday
- The day and time your group ate their meal
- What they ate and drank
- What you expect to happen next.

OR

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

You dropped your mobile phone in water and took it to the shop where you bought the phone. The staff were very helpful and they have replaced your phone with no charge as it was a recent purchase. You are very pleased with the service, write a letter of thanks to the manager of the phone shop.

You could write about:

- The date you bought the mobile phone and what happened to it
- The date you went back to the shop and the help you received from the shop assistant/s
- Your feelings about the service
- Asking the manager to pass on your thanks to the shop assistants.

You must write 200 – 250 words.

(12 Marks)

Informal Writing Task 2 – Allow 35 minutes for this task

Write an email to your friend asking him/her to help you run a charity sale at your local school. You need help in collecting some donated items. Leaflets and posters need to be delivered around your local neighbourhood. You could write about:

- Which charity you are supporting
- What has been donated and the items you need help collecting
- What work needs organising and carrying out
- What you would like your friend to do to help
- When the charity event will be held.

You must 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 C2

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