

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. What was the name of the song?
b. It's usually quiet.
c. What a wonderful sound.</p> <p>2. a. Mine are new.
b. Are they new ones?
c. They are size 39.</p> <p>3. a. Is it the right sun protection factor for you?
b. Suntan oil is bad for you.
c. I have two bottles.</p> <p>4. a. It's a long way to run.
b. Fantastic, well done!
c. Are you still training?</p> <p>5. a. I am a grand master player.
b. I have a wooden chess set.
c. When do you want to start?</p> | <p>6. a. I must hurry!
b. Slow down!
c. When is the next one?</p> <p>7. a. We need our coats.
b. Summer was a fun time.
c. Yes, the leaves are starting to fall.</p> <p>8. a. Honey on toast.
b. Lots of flowering plants.
c. A garden hedge.</p> <p>9. a. Yes, I'll get my bike out.
b. Yes, I have a cycling helmet.
c. Yes, I need some food.</p> <p>10. a. Have you got my keys?
b. Go back and lock it!
c. Is the window down?</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.

Conversation 1

1. **The hotel had:**
 - a. Four stars.
 - b. Nine stars.
 - c. Five stars.
2. **Where was their hotel?**
 - a. Midtown Manhattan.
 - b. Manhattan Avenue.
 - c. Empire Street.
3. **How did Sam describe himself?**
 - a. A shopping fan.
 - b. A culture fan.
 - c. A classics fan.
4. **The Museum of Art has:**
 - a. The most visited sculptures.
 - b. First class sculptures.
 - c. World class sculptures.
5. **Bloomingdales is described as:**
 - a. Amazing.
 - b. Smart.
 - c. Wonderful.

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. **What does Leroy need help with?**
 - a. The patio area.
 - b. The back garden.
 - c. All the tools.
2. **Where would Leroy like the patio?**
 - a. The left-hand corner.
 - b. The right-hand corner.
 - c. By the patio doors.
3. **The budget for the plants is?**
 - a. £700.
 - b. £1,000.
 - c. £3,000.
4. **Shades of Green is on which road?**
 - a. Waterloo.
 - b. Burnley.
 - c. Emporium.
5. **The budget is described as:**
 - a. Reasonable.
 - b. Treasonable.
 - c. Reasoning.

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.

Broadcast 1

- The name of the butterfly fan is:**
 - David Heany.
 - David Heavy.
 - David Healy.
- Name the radio station.**
 - Facts2UFM.
 - Fax2UFM.
 - Facts2UFN.
- What gives the wings their colour?**
 - Tiny gaps.
 - Tiny sails.
 - Tiny scales.
- Their taste buds can be found:**
 - Near their wings.
 - On their feet.
 - Under their eggs.
- What can they not do, if they are too cold?**
 - Fly.
 - Lay eggs.
 - Bleed.
- What type of insects are butterflies?**
 - 55°.
 - Cold blooded.
 - Predators.

Listen to the broadcast again and check your answers.

Now listen to Broadcast 2.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

Broadcast 2

- Where do most Sámi live?**
 - Sweden.
 - Finland.
 - Norway.
- What is a full time job for 2,800 Sámis?**
 - Reindeer riding.
 - Reindeer herding.
 - Making reindeer clothing.
- Name their traditional dress.**
 - Gakti.
 - Cacti.
 - Gatti.
- What are their songs dedicated to?**
 - Reindeer farming.
 - Animals and birds.
 - Culture and society.
- The instruments played alongside their songs are:**
 - Flutes and snare drums.
 - Flutes and band drums.
 - Flutes and hand drums.

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.

<u>Antonio Gaudi (1852-1926)</u>	1
	2
Born in Catalonia, Spain, Gaudi is one of the most famous and admired of Catalan architects. He was the leading figure of Catalan Modernism, inspired by the style of art, known as Art Nouveau.	3
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Most of his greatest works were built in or near Barcelona, Spain. Seven of his buildings have been recognised as UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) World Heritage Sites.	7
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The most famous of all, is the amazing Roman Catholic Church, Sagrada Familia, Spanish for, 'Holy Family', which still has not been completed, although they started building it in 1882. It is situated in the district of Eixample in Barcelona. They hope to complete it on the 100 th anniversary of Gaudi's death, in 2026.	11
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	15
Another one of his designs was for the Milá family. Casa Milá, also known as, La Pedrera (stone quarry), was built between 1906 and 1912. Gaudi was a leader in recycling. He reused waste glass and ceramics on the chimneys, in his world famous decorative _____ of mosaics.	16
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	20
Parc Güell, which took 14 years to build, was built for businessman, Eusebi Güell. The park is one of the most famous and beautiful parks in the world and in 1984, it also became a World heritage Site. Again, like the Sagrada Familia, it was never completed.	21
	22
	23
	24

1. **Which area of Spain was Gaudi born?**
 - a. Catalonia.
 - b. Castilian.
 - c. Catallan.

2. **How many buildings have been recognised by UNESCO?**
 - a. Eight.
 - b. Six.
 - c. Seven.

3. **What does Sagrada Familia mean in English?**
 - a. Holly Family.
 - b. Holy Family.
 - c. Holy Familly.

4. **Gaudi was a pioneer of:**
 - a. Decoration.
 - b. Architecture.
 - c. Recycling.

5. **How many years did it take to build Parc Güell?**
 - a. 14 years.
 - b. 19 years.
 - c. 84 years.

6. **There is a spelling mistake on:**
 - a. Line 4.
 - b. Line 7.
 - c. Line 8.

7. **There is a grammar mistake on:**
 - a. Line 12.
 - b. Line 14.
 - c. Line 16.

8. **What word is a synonym of 'waste' on line 18?**
 - a. Dirty.
 - b. Clean.
 - c. Unwanted.

9. **The best word to fill the gap on line 19 is:**
 - a. Picture.
 - b. Style.
 - c. Habit.

10. **There is a punctuation error on:**
 - a. Line 23.
 - b. Line 17.
 - c. Line 11.

Text 2

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

<u>Bob Dylan – singer/songwriter</u>	1
	2
Bob Dylan, born Robert Allen Zimmerman, on May 24 th 1941, Minnesota, USA, is known for being an American singer/songwriter, author, visual artist and one of the greatest song writers of all _____. He has influenced pop culture for more than fifty years.	3
	4
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	7
Most of his popular songs date from the 1960s, such as, <i>‘Blowin’ in the Wind’</i> (1963) and <i>‘The Times are a Changin’</i> (1964). These songs became anthems for civil rights and anti-war movements. The songs’ lyrics was influenced by political, social and literary topics, but before this time, his music was mainly traditional folk songs, which can be heard on his 1962 album.	8
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In 1965 and 1966, he recoded three of the most important and influential rock albums of the decade. Bring it on Home (1965), Highway 61 Revisited (1965) and Blonde on Blonde (1966).	14
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A six minute single, called, <i>‘Like a Rolling Stone’</i> , was released, gaining a reputation for challenging the laws and artistic conventions of it’s time and the years that followed.	18
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	21
Dylan has sold more than 100 million records, making him the best-selling music artist of all time and in 2008, the Pulitzer Prize board awarded him a special award for his impact on popular music and American culture, from his incredible poetic power. The Nobel Prize in Literature was awarded to him in 2016, also for his poetry and American song tradition.	22
	23
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11. **The text is about:**
- How Bob Dylan became a star.
 - The music of Bob Dylan.
 - The lyrics Bob Dylan wrote.
12. **What is Bob Dylan known for?**
- Being a cultural artist.
 - Being a pop influencer.
 - Being one of the greatest song writers.
13. **His traditional folk songs can be heard:**
- On his 1962 album.
 - On his 1963 album.
 - On his 1964 album.
14. **According to the text, which single challenged laws and artistic conventions?**
- The Times are a Changin’.
 - Blonde on Blonde.
 - Like a Rolling Stone.
15. **When was the Nobel Prize in Literature awarded to Dylan?**
- 2016.
 - 2008.
 - 2010.
16. **The best word to fill the gap on line 5 is:**
- Year.
 - Time.
 - Forever.
17. **There is a grammar mistake on:**
- Line 5.
 - Line 9.
 - Line 10.
18. **Which line has a spelling error?**
- Line 14.
 - Line 18.
 - Line 20.
19. **There is a punctuation error on:**
- Line 10.
 - Line 19.
 - Line 25.
20. **Which word has the opposite meaning of ‘popular’ on line 24?**
- Influence.
 - Failure.
 - Disliked.

Text 3

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

The Common Sunflower

The common sunflower symbolises loyalty and adoration and is most popularly recognised by its large bright yellow flower heads, but it can be different colours, such as, rusty red, green and white. Their glowing flowers can be seen from summer through to autumn, when they are picked.

There are nearly 70 varieties of sunflowers, belonging to the aster family of plants. They are native to North and South America, with a history dating back about 7,000 years. The variety, we mostly know, are for decorative use, because of their huge, yellow, flower heads and edible seeds, but they also have great economic value.

Their leaves are used for animal feed; their flowers for yellow dye and the seeds contain oil. The sweet, yellow oil is thought to be equal to olive oil and is mainly used in cooking. Sunflower oil is also used in oil cake for animal food, as well as in soaps, paints and lubricants.

This graceful plant can grow from anywhere between 1 and 5 metres, with flower heads that can grow to 30 cm or more. They are a very popular plant for children to grow, taking 11-18 weeks from seed to flower.

21. **The purpose of the text is to:**

- a. Inform you about the common sunflower.
- b. Describe the common sunflower in detail.
- c. Argue about the advantages and disadvantages of growing sunflowers.

22. **According to the text, when are they harvested?**

- a. Summer.
- b. Autumn.
- c. Spring.

23. **In the text, which word is a noun?**

- a. Edible.
- b. Yellow.
- c. Variety.

24. **What are used for yellow dye?**

- a. Their flowers.
- b. Their leaves.
- c. Their seeds.

25. **The flower heads can grow to:**

- a. 5 metres or more.
- b. 30cm or more.
- c. 18cm or more.

Text 4

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

Swiss Chocolate

Swiss chocolate makers can be thanked for their developments and processes in the creation of chocolate we know today. The chocolate originated from the town of Vevey, on the shores of Lake Geneva, in French-speaking western Switzerland in the early 1800s. Today, Switzerland produces about 180,000 tons of chocolate per year and 61% of that is sold abroad.

The first factory to mass produce pressed chocolate, was opened in 1819, but it was known to taste grainy and was crumbly. In 1826, Phillippe Suchard invented a mixing machine for the sugar and cocoa, making the chocolate tastier, although it was still gritty and crumbly.

It wasn't _____ 1879, when Rudolph Lindt produced the first silky, melt in your mouth chocolate, with the quality and texture we know today. And then 29 years later, in 1908, Theodore Tobler, who was based in Bern, invented the famous triangular chocolate bar, the Toblerone, a milk chocolate with almonds, nougat and honey.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>26. According to the text, where did Swiss chocolate originate from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Vevey.b. Geneva.c. Bern. <p>27. The text suggests that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. The chocolate does not taste nice.b. The Swiss eat a lot of chocolate.c. Most of the chocolate is sold abroad. <p>28. The word 'creation' in paragraph one could be replaced by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Birth.b. Production.c. Life. | <p>29. The text suggests that the first chocolate made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Was dark chocolate.b. Was too sweet.c. Was not very smooth. <p>30. The word 'mixing' in paragraph two could be replaced by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Jumbling.b. Blending.c. Working. <p>31. Which word would best fill the gap in the last paragraph?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Until.b. Because.c. Before. |
|---|---|



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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 favourite author, inviting them to give a talk at your local book club, based in the town's library. Persuade them how helpful it would be to encourage others to write a book.

You could write about:

- Why they are your favourite author.
- Some information about the book club.
- What you would like them to talk about.
- Why it is important for the book club to meet a successful author.

OR

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

You won two tickets in a competition about movies. You take a friend with you to the movie premier. Write an article for a local magazine about what an amazing night you had at the premiere.

You could write about:

- Which movie theatre the premiere was shown.
- What the movie was called and what it was about.
- If you met some of the stars before or after the show.
- How you felt about walking down the red carpet.

Write 100 – 150 words.

(12 Marks)

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

Write an email to your friend telling them about how you spent the summer working abroad at an animal charity. It was a chance in a lifetime experience that you had always wanted to do.

You could write about:

- Which country you went to.
- What type of charity work you did.
- The sorts of animals you worked with.
- How you felt at the end of your stay.

Write 150 – 200 words.

(12 Marks)

You will be assessed on:

- **content**
- **use of conjunctions, adjectives and vocabulary**
- **use of appropriate tenses**
- **legibility of writing**
- **word order**

End of Examination for Writing – Level B2



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