

ESOL International

English Listening Examination

Level C2 Proficient

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

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

Complete the information above.

Listen to the instructions.

Use **blue** or **black** ink. Do not use a 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. Thanks, will it come tomorrow?
b. Thanks, I'll look forward to receiving it.
c. Thanks, I've been expecting it.</p> <p>2. a. About half an hour.
b. Not too early.
c. I'll be back soon.</p> <p>3. a. I'll make it for you.
b. I'll send you the link.
c. I'll show you what to do.</p> <p>4. a. How do you know him?
b. What's his name?
c. Have you seen him before?</p> <p>5. a. Will I have to pay for it?
b. It's too heavy for me to lift.
c. When are you going to collect it?</p> | <p>6. a. Do you subscribe to Sky TV?
b. You must pay for it, or it will be cancelled.
c. Why don't you renew it?</p> <p>7. a. Email your service provider and report it.
b. Go and buy a new one.
c. I have not lost mine.</p> <p>8. a. This isn't the Town Hall.
b. Continue down this road; it's on the left.
c. Where are you going?</p> <p>9. a. I didn't know you were going to the Caribbean.
b. When did you decide to go?
c. Really? I'd like to visit Egypt.</p> <p>10. a. Not yet.
b. Not really.
c. Not quite.</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.

Conversation 1

- 1. What does the customer need?**
 - a. Some varifocal lenses.
 - b. An eye test.
 - c. Some sunglasses.
- 2. Which lenses go dark in a car?**
 - a. Transition lenses.
 - b. Varifocal lenses.
 - c. Photochromic lenses.
- 3. Which lens has a line running through it?**
 - a. Bifocal lens.
 - b. Transition lens.
 - c. Varifocal lens.
- 4. What type of lens does the patient want?**
 - a. A lens that reacts to the light.
 - b. A lens that goes dark in the car.
 - c. A lens with a brown tint.
- 5. Which lenses are the cheapest?**
 - a. Bifocal lenses.
 - b. Varifocal lenses.
 - c. Transition lenses.

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 does the customer want to buy some plants?**
 - a. Because they have a small garden.
 - b. Because they want a lot of colour in their garden.
 - c. Because they want flowers that smell nice.
- 2. Which plants come back every year?**
 - a. Annuals.
 - b. Biennials.
 - c. Perennials.
- 3. Which plant is poisonous if eaten by pets?**
 - a. Delphinium.
 - b. Rose.
 - c. Sage.
- 4. Which plants flower from spring to autumn?**
 - a. Bluebells, lavender and bee balm.
 - b. Coneflowers, yarrow and allium.
 - c. Geraniums, Delphiniums and hydrangeas.
- 5. Which plant has a colour called orangeberry?**
 - a. Astilbe.
 - b. Yarrow.
 - c. Echinacea.

Listen to the conversation again and check your answers.

Part 3

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.

Debate

- What is the main point of this debate?**
 - Banning smoking completely.
 - Banning smoking outside on the street.
 - Banning smoking indoors.
- The guest believes that:**
 - Children think smoking is normal.
 - Inhaling smoke isn't toxic.
 - Cigarette butts are recyclable.
- Why is it difficult to ban smoking?**
 - People would lose their jobs.
 - People will feel guilty.
 - People will flout the rules.
- In the debate, what happens to the cigarette tax?**
 - It is spent on health care.
 - It is spent on the government.
 - It is spent on cigarettes.
- What environmental problems are caused by smokers?**
 - There is no fresh air.
 - There is too much smoke outside.
 - Waterways are polluted.
- In the discussion, what should we not do?**
 - Treat smokers like criminals.
 - Reduce children's exposure to smoking.
 - Walk past smokers.

Listen to the debate again and check your answers.

Now listen to the Discussion.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

Discussion

- The main point of this discussion is to:**
 - Reduce the summer holidays.
 - Explore what summer schools can do.
 - Discuss what students can do if they have failed exams.
- What can summer schools do?**
 - Prepare students to go to college or university.
 - Give young people a holiday.
 - Help teachers plan lessons.
- According to the discussion, what is detrimental to learning?**
 - Family holidays.
 - Teacher's holidays.
 - Long holidays.
- On average, how many hours do teachers work?**
 - 35 hours a week.
 - 50 hours a week.
 - 65 hours a week.
- Which of these is true?**
 - Many students lack confidence to speak publicly.
 - Summer schools make family holidays easy.
 - Students prepare lessons for the next term.

Listen to the discussion again and check your answers.

**End of Examination for C2 Proficient
Listening.**

ESOL International

English Reading Examination

Level C2 Proficient

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.

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>Erik Weihenmayer</u>	1
	2
On May 25th, 2001, Erik Wihenmayer became the first blind person to climb Mount Everest and reach the summit. This is a remarkable achievement as 90% of people, who climb the mountain, never reach the top.	3
	4
	5
	6
Erik was born on September 23 rd , 1968, in New Jersey, USA. At 15 months old, he was diagnosed with retinoschisis, which meant he was going blind and would be totally blind by the age of 13. As a young boy, Erik was determined to make the most of his life before he went blind. Although he wore thick glasses and could barely see, he played football, basketball, rode bikes and started wrestling, becoming captain of his school wrestling team and competing in freestyle wrestling championships.	7
	8
	9
	10
	11
	12
	13
Erik joined an adventure camp for the blind, aged 14, and became interested in rock climbing. He was so good at it, his freinds called him 'Monkey Boy'. Erik did not need his eyes to see, but felt his way along the rocks with his hands and feet.	14
	15
	16
	17
At 16, Erik needed a guide dog to help him get around, but, although he was blind, he has never gave up. His father supported him and took him, and his brothers, hiking in Peru, Spain, Pakistan and Papua New Guinea. By 20, Erik was a proficient mountaineer.	18
	19
	20
	21
Erik climbed his first big mountain, Denali, at age 27 in 1995, then, in 2001, climbed to the the peak of Mount Everest. This success motivated him to take six blind teenagers up the north face of Everest in 2005. They climbed 21,500 feet and a TV documentary was made about their adventures. Time Magazine wrote "Watching Erik climb a rock face is like watching a spider climb up a wall."	22
	23
	24
	25
	26
	27
In 2006, Erik the Adventure Team Challenge for disabled and non-disabled athletes to compete against one another, and, in 2010, 100 participants competed in a mountain bike race. In 2011, Eriks team raced across deserts and mountains in Morocco for a month, and, in 2014, Erik kayaked 277 miles along the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon.	28
	29
	30
	31
	32

1. **The main purpose of this document is to:**
 - a. Explain why Erik Meihenmayer started mountaineering.
 - b. Discuss the issues of blindness.
 - c. Describe the achievements of Erik Weihenmayer.

2. **How old was Erik when he started rock climbing?**
 - a. 20 years old.
 - b. 14 years old.
 - c. 13 years old.

3. **Which of these sports did Erik compete in?**
 - a. Football.
 - b. Basketball.
 - c. Wrestling.

4. **Who described Erik as being 'like a spider'?**
 - a. Time Magazine.
 - b. A TV documentary.
 - c. His friends.

5. **According to the article, which statement is true?**
 - a. Erik needed a guide dog when he was 14 years old.
 - b. Erik went hiking with his father, as a teenager.
 - c. Erik climbed Mount Everest when he was 27 years old.

6. **What is the best word to replace 'summit' on line 4?**
 - a. Horizon.
 - b. Crest.
 - c. Peak.

7. **There is a spelling mistake on:**
 - a. Line 15.
 - b. Line 23.
 - c. Line 30.

8. **There is a grammatical error on:**
 - a. Line 22.
 - b. Line 19.
 - c. Line 24.

9. **The most suitable word to complete the sentence on line 28 is:**
 - a. Made.
 - b. Built.
 - c. Created.

10. **There is a punctuation error on:**
 - a. Line 11.
 - b. Line 30.
 - c. Line 24.

Text 2

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

<u>Serena Williams</u>	1
	2
Serena Williams was born on the 26 th of September, 1981, in Michigan, USA. She is a professional tennis player who has won more Grand Slam singles titles than any other woman or man, winning 23 titles in all.	3
	4
	5
	6
She did not have professional tennis lessons. Her father taught her and her sister to play. In 1995, she became a professional player, one year after her sister, Venus. Many people believed that Venus would be the first sister to win a Grand Slam title, but it was Serena who accomplished it first in 1999.	7
	8
	9
	10
	11
Serena and Venus both won gold medals in the tennis doubles event at the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia, and at the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing. Both sister's possess powerful serves and are superb tennis athletes, but Serena proved herself to be the stronger player when she beat her sister in the final tournament at Wimbledon in 2002 and, again, in the 2017 final Australian Open competition.	12
	13
	14
	15
	16
	17
In April, 2017, Williams announced she was pregnant and missed the remainder of the 2017 tennis season to give birth to her daughter.	18
	19
	21
In March, 2018, Serena returned to play tennis, but did not win a tournament despite reaching the finals at Wimbledon and the US Open Competition. In 2019, she was, again, defeated in the finals.	22
	23
	24
Serena has suffered quite a few injuries during her career. In 2004 to 2006, she struggled with knee injuries. In 2005, she suffered an ankle injury and in 2006, she has had another painful knee injury. In 2001, she suffered from a hematoma and pulmonary embolism. Then in, 2016, she had another knee injury and shoulder inflammation. In 2020, she, again, had to withdraw from playing tennis due to an Achilles tendon injury in her ankle. But, Serena will not give up until she has won her 24 th Grand Slam title.	25
	26
	27
	28
	29
	30
	31
Despite these injuries, Serena has had a lot of during her career, and has committed over 25 years of her life to playing tennis.	32
	33

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

- a. Serena beat her sister, Venus, in the Australian Open competition in 2017.
- b. Serena won the Wimbledon finals in 2018.
- c. Venus won the Grand Slam title in 1999.

12. How many Grand Slam titles has Serena won?

- a. She has won 25 in total.
- b. She has won 24 in total.
- c. She has won 23 in total.

13. Where were the 2008 Olympic Games held?

- a. In Australia.
- b. In Beijing.
- c. In the USA.

14. How many ankle injuries has Serena suffered?

- a. One.
- b. Three.
- c. Two.

15. When was Serena's baby born?

- a. She was born in 2017.
- b. She was born in 2018.
- c. She was born in 2019.

16. There is a grammatical mistake on:

- a. Line 8.
- b. Line 18.
- c. Line 26.

17. There is a spelling mistake on:

- a. Line 8.
- b. Line 25.
- c. Line 32.

18. The best word to complete the sentence on line 32 is:

- a. Success.
- b. Progress.
- c. Defeat.

19. The best word to replace 'defeated' on line 23 is:

- a. Finished.
- b. Overcome.
- c. Beaten.

20. There is a punctuation mistake on:

- a. Line 8.
- b. Line 13.
- c. Line 28.

Text 3

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



The Life Cycle of a Butterfly



Butterflies have beautiful, brightly-coloured wings, but start out life as something completely different. They undergo a process known as 'metamorphosis' and it all starts when a female butterfly lays an egg.

Eggs are laid on the leaves or stems of plants. Some eggs are round, oval, smooth, bumpy or wrinkled. Inside the eggs, caterpillars grow. Some hatch within a few weeks and others only hatch in warm weather. As soon as the caterpillar is ready to leave its egg, it eats the egg then fills itself on the leaves of the plant. During this stage, they shed their skin four or five times. As the caterpillar grows, it splits its old skin and emerges with a new skin. Eventually it becomes one hundred times larger than when it initially emerged from its egg.

Once fully grown, the caterpillar forms into a 'pupa' or 'chrysalis' – this is a vessel in which the caterpillar transforms into a butterfly. They usually do this on a twig. This stage lasts a few weeks or several months, depending on the type of species. The 'pupa' forms a hardened case around it to protect it from predators, whilst, inside, the cells of the caterpillar transform into a butterfly.

Once the butterfly is ready to emerge, the 'pupa' splits open. Its wings are wet, soft and wrinkled so it has to wait for them to dry. It then pumps a liquid called 'hemolymph' into them to give them strength. The butterfly looks very different from the caterpillar larva. The caterpillar has a few tiny eyes, stubby legs and very short antennae. The butterfly has long legs, long antennae, and compound eyes that look in different directions. Most adult butterflies live only one or two weeks, but some species hibernate during the winter and may live several months.

21. **What kind of text is this?**

- a. An online news story.
- b. An online review.
- c. An online informative report.

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

- a. Caterpillars lay eggs on leaves.
- b. A 'chrysalis' is formed on a twig.
- c. A butterfly changes into a caterpillar in a 'pupa'.

23. **How many times does a caterpillar discard its skin?**

- a. Never.
- b. One hundred times.
- c. Up to five times.

24. **How do butterflies strengthen their wings?**

- a. By flying around and landing.
- b. By filling them full of hemolymph.
- c. By drying them out in the sun.

25. **What does a caterpillar not have?**

- a. Wings.
- b. An antenna.
- c. Legs.

Text 4

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

Strange hobbies from around the world

Most of us hate the question, "What are your hobbies?" As your brain scans for something interesting to say, that would make you seem more sophisticated than you really are, you probably answer the question with the usual activities like sport, cooking, sewing or watching TV. However, there are more unusual and strange hobbies that people do, and here are some of them.

In Wisconsin, USA, a competition takes place each year in which competitors must do their best impression of a cow. The latest winner was a ten-year-old boy named Austin, who won a \$1,000, a cow print jacket, and a golden cow bell.

If you do not like cow impressions, then why not try tattooing a car? This hobby was started by a Taiwanese pensioner, who enjoys tattooing words from Buddhist texts onto automobiles. His son has promised to buy him a bus so he can make the most of his hobby.

When Mike Carmichael from Indiana, USA, decided to paint a baseball, he did not realise that eventually it would lead to the creation of a 1,500 kg paint-covered ball, with over 23,400 coats of paint on it. Every coat is a different colour. For the last 36 years, Mike has painted his ball every day and now the ball is so large, it has become a local tourist attraction.

In Thailand, it is common to see hand-carved soap flowers sold in markets. People often sell their creations as souvenirs. One of the world's largest soap sculptures was made by Bev Kirk for the Ivory soap making company. She carved a winged pig which she titled "Sudsie the Soap Boar." This was carved from a block of soap 1.5 metres by 1.8 metres, and the finished sculpture weighed 3,175 kg.

26. **How long has Mike painted his baseball?**

- a. Every day.
- b. For 36 years.
- c. Less than 23,000 times.

27. **What is 'a boar' in the final paragraph?**

- a. A pig.
- b. A bar of soap.
- c. A flower.

28. **What did Austin win?**

- a. £1,000.
- b. A silver cow bell.
- c. An animal print jacket.

29. **Which hobby do people do once a year?**

- a. Tattoo automobiles.
- b. Impersonate a cow.
- c. Carve soap.

30. **According to the text, an example of a common hobby is:**

- a. Cooking.
- b. Gardening.
- c. Baking.

31. **What religious phrases were tattooed onto automobiles?**

- a. Christian.
- b. Islamic.
- c. Buddhist.



This page is intentionally blank

ESOL International

English Writing Examination

Level C2 Proficient

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

Please complete the information above.

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 recently bought a Wi-Fi printer. It was supposed to come with ink cartridges, a pack of paper, a cable and a DVD with instructions. When it arrived, some of the items were missing and it wouldn't work. Write a letter to the seller explaining what the problems are.

You could write about:

- when and where you purchased the printer
- the missing items
- the problems with the printer
- what you would like the seller to do.

OR

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

Your school has been awarded 10,000 euros. You have been asked to write a report for the head teacher, giving ideas about what the money should be spent on.

You could write about:

- things that the school could buy
- events that the school could fund
- donations the school could make
- reasons why doing these things are a good idea.

You must write a minimum write 200 – 250 words.

(12 Marks)

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

You would like to organise a street party to get to know your neighbours. Write a persuasive email to your neighbours, inviting them to help you.

You could write about:

- why you think a street party would be a good idea
- the kinds of food and drink people could bring to the party
- the kinds of games, and other activities, that could take place at the party
- how people can contact you.

You must write a minimum write 250 - 300 words.

(12 Marks)

You will be assessed on:

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| • use of conjunctions,
adjectives and vocabulary | • Content | • word order |
| | • use of appropriate tenses | • legibility of
writing |

End of Examination for Writing – Level C2



This page is intentionally blank

NOCN Group
Acero Building
1 Concourse Way
Sheaf Street
Sheffield
S1 2BJ
© NOCN
E-mail: nocn@nocn.org.uk

Tel: 0300 999 1177