

**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. The trains are running late.<br/>b. Yes, I have a car.<br/>c. No, it's too expensive.</p> <p>2. a. I play on a Saturday afternoon.<br/>b. I don't like football.<br/>c. I like watching sport.</p> <p>3. a. Do you like fruit?<br/>b. Strawberries are red.<br/>c. Mine too, they're tasty.</p> <p>4. a. They are so colourful.<br/>b. Your garden is small.<br/>c. The grass is very green.</p> <p>5. a. The first crossing is at 8 o'clock.<br/>b. At 11 o'clock tonight.<br/>c. When the sea gets too cold.</p> | <p>6. a. I don't like the beach.<br/>b. I caught the bus.<br/>c. I agree, it's so relaxing.</p> <p>7. a. Oh, fruit on pizza is wrong.<br/>b. Oh, I like apple on pizza.<br/>c. Oh, I prefer pasta to pizza.</p> <p>8. a. We are staying at home.<br/>b. It's my birthday in two days.<br/>c. I want to go Scuba diving.</p> <p>9. a. I heard he is very good.<br/>b. No. I'm very disappointed.<br/>c. I went to a concert last night.</p> <p>10. a. I hope you get better soon.<br/>b. I hope it empties soon.<br/>c. I hope it's not too cold.</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. **Whose birthday is it?**
  - a. Tom's.
  - b. Jim's.
  - c. Sally's.
  
2. **Which of these games do they say no to?**
  - a. General Knowledge Quiz.
  - b. Takeaway.
  - c. Chess.
  
3. **How many answers are needed in the Five Second Rule game?**
  - a. Three.
  - b. Five.
  - c. One.
  
4. **What problem does Jenny have?**
  - a. A knee injury.
  - b. A bad back.
  - c. A twisted ankle.
  
5. **Sally lives at:**
  - a. Flat 32a.
  - b. Flat 22a.
  - c. Flat 2a.

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. **How many years has the Tour been held?**
  - a. 106 years.
  - b. 108 years.
  - c. 118 years.
  
2. **Which stage did Pete like best of all?**
  - a. Stage 14.
  - b. Stage 21.
  - c. Stage 12.
  
3. **The Tour started at:**
  - a. Paris.
  - b. Brest.
  - c. Provence.
  
4. **Who was France's best chance at winning?**
  - a. Julian Alaphilippe.
  - b. Geriant Thomas.
  - c. Julian Ineos.
  
5. **The final's atmosphere was described as:**
  - a. Eccentric.
  - b. Eclectic.
  - c. Electric.

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**

- Where did lava start to pour from?**
  - A rock.
  - A crack.
  - An eruption.
- Ulvar Johannsson is:**
  - An engineer.
  - A scientist.
  - An engine driver.
- What was surprising to Ulvar?**
  - The view from his window.
  - The smell of it.
  - The orange colours.
- What was the eruption classed as?**
  - Quite small.
  - Dangerous.
  - Smelly.
- How many recent earthquakes had there been?**
  - Fifteen thousand.
  - Fifty thousand.
  - Eighty thousand.
- What made it impossible for airlines to fly in 2010?**
  - Gases.
  - Lava.
  - Ash.

Listen to the broadcast again and check your answers.

Now listen to **Broadcast 2**.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

#### **Broadcast 2**

- The radio station is called:**
  - People's Views 2755FM.
  - People's Views 2745FM.
  - People's News 2775FM.
- The show's topic is about:**
  - An old British painter.
  - A famous painting.
  - Visiting small museums.
- How old was JMW Turner when he returned to paint in watercolour?**
  - 52 years old.
  - 16 years old.
  - 42 years old.
- Who discovered the crocodile?**
  - Tricia Wells.
  - Captain McNair.
  - Corporal McNair.
- On which day is the broadcast aired?**
  - Tuesday.
  - Thursday.
  - Wednesday.

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.**

<b><u>Gatzelugatxe – Northern Spain</u></b>	1
Gatzelugatxe is one of the most unique places in Spain. It is a little island situated in the Bay of Biscay, connected to the mainland of northern Spain, in the Basque region, by a man-made, two arch bridge. It has an ancient stone footpath of 231 steps leading to a 10th century church, built on top of the island.	2
	3
	4
	5
	6
The name Gatzelugatxe comes from the Basque language. Gatzelus means castle and atx means rock, so the name actually means a castle on the rock.	7
	8
	9
The first church or hermitage were built in the 10 <sup>th</sup> century and was dedicated to John the Baptist. This was destroyed by the French Huguenots from La Rochelle in 1594. It was rebuilt, only to be destroyed in the 1800s and then rebuilt once again. It was last destroyed by fire in 1978, but was reconstructed and opened two year's later, in 1980 on June 24 <sup>th</sup> , which is what can be _____ on the island today.	10
	11
	12
	13
	14
	15
The church is perched 80 metres above sea level, sitting off the coast that is a sanctuary for marine birds. Tradition says, that once you have climbed all the steps up to the church, you must ring the bell three times and make a wish.	16
	17
	18
	19
In recent times, the island has been used for scenes in season seven of the TV series, Game of Thrones, a mythical volcanic island, called Dragonstone.	20
	21

1. **In which region is the island?**
  - a. Biscay.
  - b. Basque.
  - c. Baptist.
  
2. **What connects the island to the mainland?**
  - a. A two-arch bridge.
  - b. An ancient bridge.
  - c. A stone-arch bridge.
  
3. **When was the first church built?**
  - a. 15<sup>th</sup> century.
  - b. 10<sup>th</sup> century.
  - c. 18<sup>th</sup> century.
  
4. **The French Huguenots destroyed the church in:**
  - a. 1978.
  - b. 1800.
  - c. 1594.
  
5. **The Game of Thrones island is described as:**
  - a. Mythical.
  - b. Magical.
  - c. Mystical.
  
6. **There is a spelling mistake on:**
  - a. Line 2.
  - b. Line 3.
  - c. Line 4.
  
7. **There is a grammar mistake on:**
  - a. Line 5.
  - b. Line 8.
  - c. Line 10.
  
8. **What word could replace 'destroyed' on line 11?**
  - a. Wasted.
  - b. Ruined.
  - c. Spared.
  
9. **The best word to fill the gap on line 14 is:**
  - a. Found.
  - b. Noticed.
  - c. Lost.
  
10. **There is a punctuation error on:**
  - a. Line 7.
  - b. Line 12.
  - c. Line 13.

**Text 2**

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

<b><u>Flightless birds of New Zealand</u></b>	1
	2
During 60 million years of isolation, a great many unusual, flightless birds evolved in New Zealand, but many are now extinct or endangered.	3
	4
	5
Because the Island is so far from other lands, there were no mammals, apart from some bats, just a variety of birds who had lost the ability to fly. As there were no ground living predators, food was plentiful and the climate mild, so the birds were safe _____ in size and weight.	6
	7
	8
	9
	10
Unfortunately, with the arrival of humans and the animals that came with them, there was much destruction and today there are only 16 flightless bird species remaining.	11
	12
	13
	14
One of those birds, is the well-known <i>kiwi</i> bird, standing 40cm high, but it is endangered, with a small population of 35,000. During the First World War, New Zealand soldiers were called ' <i>kiwis</i> ' and the nickname stuck. <i>Kiwi</i> was eventually adopted as a name for all New Zealanders, who view the name as a symbol of pride.	15
	16
	17
	18
	19
The world's largest parrot, called a <i>kakpo</i> , stands about 60cm tall and is a flightless and nocturnal bird. There was once large numbers across the country, but it now only exists in managed populations, on predator-free islands. <i>Kakpo</i> live a long time, up to 100 years, but unfortunately they are extremely endangered, with about 124 existing in the world.	20
	21
	22
	23
	24

11. **The text is about:**
- The destruction of birds.
  - The unusual birds of New Zealand.
  - The nickname of New Zealanders.
12. **Which mammals were on the island?**
- Bats.
  - Rats.
  - Cats.
13. **The climate is described as:**
- Plentiful.
  - Moist.
  - Mild.
14. **According to the text, the nickname 'kiwi' is a:**
- Symbol of pride.
  - Soldier's name.
  - Name of a war.
15. **A Kakpo can live up to:**
- 60 years.
  - 100 years.
  - 124 years.
16. **There is a punctuation error on:**
- Line 3.
  - Line 6.
  - Line 17.
17. **The best word to fill the gap on line 9 is:**
- Growing.
  - Flying.
  - Singing.
18. **Which line has a spelling error?**
- Line 7.
  - Line 12.
  - Line 20.
19. **In the text, the best word to replace 'well-known' on line 15 is:**
- Everyday.
  - Important.
  - Familiar.
20. **There is a grammar mistake on:**
- Line 21.
  - Line 16.
  - Line 23.

### Text 3

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

#### Anna Pavlova 1881- 1931

Anna Pavlova was a Russian ballet dancer in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. She was born Anna Matveyevna Pavlova on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 1881, in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Although her mother and father were poor, Anna felt she had a gift for ballet and was good enough to pass the entrance exam into the Imperial School of Ballet, at the Mariinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg. From there, she joined the famous Imperial Ballet, in 1891. She became the number one ballet dancer, in 1906. She went on to become the most well-known dancer of her time.

After 1913, she danced with her own company, managed by her husband Victor Dandré, throughout the world. Her destiny was to simply show the beauty of classical ballet and the development of modern ballet can be accredited to Anna, including the design of the modern pointe shoe.

Her performances left people, who saw them, with a lasting memory of grace, poetic movement and total magic. Her quality was powerful and of true glamour, dancing to performances such as, Giselle and The Dragonfly.

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

- a. Inform you about a ballet dancer.
- b. Describe the ballet.
- c. Persuade you to start dancing.

22. **According to the text, how did Anna feel about ballet?**

- a. It had glamour.
- b. She was destined to be great.
- c. She had a gift.

23. **When did Anna join the Imperial Ballet?**

- a. 1891.
- b. 1906.
- c. 1913.

24. **Anna Pavlova designed:**

- a. The Mariinsky Theatre.
- b. The modern pointe shoe.
- c. The Dragonfly.

25. **Her quality was described as:**

- a. Total magic.
- b. Full of grace.
- c. True glamour.

## Text 4

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

### The Wok Pan

The wok is believed to have been invented in China over 2,000 years ago, during the Han Dynasty period. The name comes from the Cantonese word meaning, 'cooking pot'.

The early models of the wok were made from cast iron metal, as it was more durable and long-lasting. It is a round bottomed cooking pot with high sides, two handles opposite each other and one long handle to shake it with. The round bottom allows the heat to spread more evenly, so the food cooks in less time and the high sides allow the food to be tossed easier when cooking a stir fry. The modern wok is made of a light metal, steel, which is easy to pick up and is also non-stick. The wok can be used to cook a large variety of foods.

There are a number of ideas of why it was invented. Some say it's because tribes travelling across China needed a pot that was portable and could cook large amounts of food quickly. Another idea was that there was a shortage of oil in the dynasty and woks allow food to be \_\_\_\_\_ with a small amount of oil.

26. **According to the text, where does the name 'wok' come from?**

- a. Chinese.
- b. Cantonese.
- c. Hanese.

27. **The text suggests that the wok is:**

- a. All purpose.
- b. Too heavy.
- c. Not easy to use.

28. **The word 'durable' in paragraph two could be replaced by:**

- a. Delicate.
- b. Weak.
- c. Hard-wearing.

29. **The text suggests that in the wok, the food can be:**

- a. Cooked quickly.
- b. Tastier.
- c. Hotter.

30. **The word 'travelling' in paragraph three could be replaced by:**

- a. Advancing.
- b. Speeding.
- c. Moving.

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

- a. Eaten.
- b. Cooked.
- c. Cleaned.

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**ESOL International**  
**English Writing Examination**  
**Level B2 Independent User**

NOCN use only	
Question	Mark
1	
2	
<b>Total</b>	

**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.

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

Write an email to the manager of your internet provider to complain about the problems you have been experiencing with its service recently.

You could write about:

- the connection keeps breaking
- it is very slow
- you cannot access important information
- what you want the company to do.

**OR**

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

Write an article for the college magazine about what makes people smile and be happy. You have interviewed some college students about what makes them smile to include in your article.

You could write about:

- the responses people gave you
- personal ideas of what makes you smile
- what it means when someone smiles
- what the benefits of smiling are.

Write 100 – 150 words.

(12 Marks)

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

Write a letter to your cousin to tell them about a charity walk you completed to raise money. Tell them about where you walked and which charity you raised money for.

You could write about:

- how far you walked
- how much you raised
- who you walked with
- how you felt after the walk.

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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