

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.

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. I'm sorry to disturb you. b. Thank you for your help. c. Yes, where is the manager's office?</p> <p>2. a. It's starting at six o'clock. b. It should be here in half an hour. c. It's coming tomorrow morning.</p> <p>3. a. I would like a lift home. b. What are you going to buy? c. Are you running out?</p> <p>4. a. Yes, I'm really looking forward to it. b. Thank you for the invitation. c. Yes, Sunday is a good day.</p> <p>5. a. What do you want a glass for? b. Would you like ice in it? c. Certainly not, madam.</p> | <p>6. a. Have you hurt yourself? b. Please don't worry about it. c. Perhaps you should see a doctor.</p> <p>7. a. I'm confused. b. I haven't decided yet. c. I can't do anything right now.</p> <p>8. a. The cooker alarm will ring. b. Tell me when you get hungry. c. I'm sorry, I don't have the time.</p> <p>9. a. Don't worry about it, I'll help you. b. What's the problem? c. They're in aisle two next to the biscuits.</p> <p>10. a. No, probably not, sorry. b. Why do we need another washing machine? c. What would I use it for?</p> |
|--|--|

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.

1. **What advice was the person given?**
 - a. Keep the dog outside in a kennel.
 - b. Make your garden secure.
 - c. Take the dog to the park every day.
2. **Who will look after the dog during the daytime?**
 - a. Everyone.
 - b. Their sister.
 - c. Their mum.
3. **What kind of dog needs rehoming?**
 - a. A large two-year-old male dog.
 - b. A small, young poodle.
 - c. A female puppy.
4. **Why do they want to adopt a dog?**
 - a. They miss having a pet.
 - b. They love animals.
 - c. They don't like cats.
5. **What does the student like to do?**
 - a. Walk in the park.
 - b. Run around the garden.
 - c. Go jogging.

Listen to the conversation again and check your answers.

Now listen to **Conversation 2**.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

1. **What would the person like to do in the future?**
 - a. Become a fashion designer.
 - b. Own a clothes shop.
 - c. Become a clothes buyer.
2. **What does the manager expect them to do?**
 - a. Work every evening and weekend.
 - b. Buy clothes for the shop.
 - c. Work some evenings.
3. **What kind of training does the shop offer?**
 - a. A college day release programme.
 - b. A full-time college programme.
 - c. A weekend college programme.
4. **Which sentence is true?**
 - a. The person will have to pay all their own college fees.
 - b. The shop only sells children's clothes.
 - c. There will be some difficult customers to deal with sometimes.
5. **Why is the person applying for this job?**
 - a. Because they have now left school.
 - b. Because they are looking for a holiday job.
 - c. Because they love selling shoes.

Listen to 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. The main point of this debate is to discuss:**
 - a. The cost of printing emails and documents.
 - b. The expectation to use technology.
 - c. The difficulty of reading online documents.
- 2. The guest's opinion is:**
 - a. Emails can get lost.
 - b. Postal services can be very quick.
 - c. It is easy to increase the visibility of text.
- 3. In the debate, what are organisations doing?**
 - a. Reducing the amount of paper they send in the post.
 - b. Spending money on ink and paper.
 - c. Reducing the number of times you sign in.
- 4. Which of these things are described as 'annoying' and 'frustrating'?**
 - a. Remembering passwords.
 - b. Reading documents online.
 - c. Problems with logging on websites.
- 5. The guest stores documents:**
 - a. In a filing cabinet.
 - b. In an electronic folder.
 - c. On a USB stick.
- 6. How does the host describe society?**
 - a. Frustrating.
 - b. Annoying.
 - c. Technologically driven.

Listen to the debate again and check your answers.

Now listen to the **discussion**.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

- 1. The main point of this discussion is to:**
 - a. Explain why Europe has very hot weather.
 - b. Describe hot weather damage and how to prevent it.
 - c. Give advice on how to save water.
- 2. How much water is fresh and drinkable in the world today?**
 - a. Over 2.5 percent.
 - b. Between 2 and 5 percent.
 - c. Only 2.5 percent.
- 3. According to the discussion, what is the most important thing we can do to avoid global warming?**
 - a. Reduce fossil fuel pollution.
 - b. Invest money in more efficient water systems.
 - c. Develop better steel manufacturing processes.
- 4. What kind of forest trees are more resistant to catching fire?**
 - a. Pine trees.
 - b. Broad leaf trees.
 - c. Bare trees.
- 5. Which of these is true?**
 - a. There will definitely be a water shortage in the future.
 - b. Fast moving hot air from Africa is causing very hot weather in Europe.
 - c. Mediterranean countries are better at coping with very hot weather.

Listen to the debate again and check your answers.

End of Examination.

ESOL International

Reading

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.

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

| <u>Birmingham, United Kingdom</u> | 1 |
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| | 2 |
| When Birmingham hosted the 2022 Commonwealth Games, the opening ceremony included Birmingham's beloved lucky mascot, the raging bull, as the star of the show. The bull was a specially designed ten metre high mechanical animal, representing Birmingham's history as a market town and industrial city. 72 commonwealth nations competed in twenty different sports events during the Games for eleven days. | 3 |
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| In 1086, Birmingham was a tiny village in the manor of 'Bermingeham', owned by Richard De Bermingeham. In 1154, a circular corn market was created in the village, and bulls were kept on grassland in the centre of the corn market. This grassland was called 'The Bull Ring'. | 10 |
| | 11 |
| | 12 |
| In 1166, King Henry II granted Peter De Bermingeham permission to open a weekly textile market, which included the Bull Ring. This started Birmingham's market trading industry and, as the years went by, Birmingham became an important town for trading cloth. By the 1800s, its name had changed to 'Birmingham' and its population had grown to over half a million people, making it the second largest populated town in England. | 13 |
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| | 18 |
| In 1889, Queen Victoria granted Birmingham 'City' status. By then, you could buy anything you needed in the Bull Ring, which became known as the 'rag and bone' market, trading in horses, cloth, spices, meat, vegetables and fish. Today it is called St. Martin's Rag Market, named after St. Martin's Church which stands nearby. | 19 |
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| People born in Birmingham affectionately refer to their city as 'Brum' and call themselves 'Brummies'. When the city is redeveloped in 2003, a new Bull Ring shopping centre was established, and a life sized, bronze statue of a bull was erected to welcome visitors into the city. Since then, its nose has become polished gold by people rubbing it for luck. So, it was no surprise that in 2022, the Commonwealth Game's should include Birmingham's favourite bull to watch over the Games. | 24 |
| | 25 |
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| | 30 |
| After the Games, the mechanical bull was going to be demolished but Brummies protested and persuaded the Council to keep it, and it now has a permanent home in Birmingham for many years to _____. | 31 |
| | 32 |
| | 33 |

- 1. The main purpose of this document is to:**
 - a. Explain the history of Birmingham's Bull Ring market.
 - b. Describe Birmingham's mascot.
 - c. Persuade you to visit Birmingham.

- 2. The first market in Birmingham sold:**
 - a. Textiles.
 - b. Corn.
 - c. Bulls.

- 3. When did Birmingham become a city?**
 - a. In 2003.
 - b. In 1166.
 - c. In 1889.

- 4. What is Birmingham's mascot called?**
 - a. The Brummie Bull.
 - b. The Raging Bull.
 - c. The Mechanical Bull.

- 5. According to the article, which statement is true?**
 - a. The mechanical bull is ten metres tall.
 - b. The statue in the shopping centre is a life sized, gold bull.
 - c. The market is now called 'The Rag and Bone Market'.

- 6. What is the best word to replace 'textile' on line 13?**
 - a. Metal.
 - b. Wood.
 - c. Fabric.

- 7. There is a spelling mistake on:**
 - a. Line 26.
 - b. Line 16.
 - c. Line 6.

- 8. There is a grammatical error on:**
 - a. Line 5.
 - b. Line 15.
 - c. Line 25.

- 9. The most suitable word to complete the sentence on line 33 is:**
 - a. Come.
 - b. Go.
 - c. Stay.

- 10. There is a punctuation mistake on:**
 - a. Line 14.
 - b. Line 20.
 - c. Line 28.

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

| <u>Birthday Traditions</u> | 1 |
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| | 2 |
| Birthdays are happy occasions; you have a party, sing ‘Happy Birthday’, give gifts, and enjoy a cake with candles on top. However, in Mexico beware! They have a birthday tradition that takes you by surprise. You are given a cake, everyone sings, you makes a wish, blow out the candles and just as you are about to eat a slice of the cake, someone sneaks up behind you and pushes your face into the cake. Another Mexican trick is to tie your hands behind your back and shove your face into the whole cake whilst everyone repeatedly shouts ‘Mordida!’, encouraging you to bite the cake. Of course it is important to make sure the cake is soft and has nothing inside that is harmful. | 3 |
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| In Brazil and Jamaica, they do not wait for the cake to be made; they just throw the ingredients of flour and eggs at you, and, in Canada, they rub butter on your nose for good luck! | 12 |
| | 13 |
| | 14 |
| Protect your ears in Italy and Argentina. A painful trick is to pull them – one pull for every year, so the older you are, the more your ears are pulled. Also, in Italy, you must open your presents straight away and not keep them for later or you will be considered impolite and discourteous. | 15 |
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| | 18 |
| Food is important on your birthday, but sometimes it is not what you _____. In Korea, your birthday treat is seaweed soup with beef or chicken. It is recomended because it contains important vitamins and minerals to help you live a healthy life. In China, you are given a bowl of noodles which symbolise a long life. The longer the noodles, the longer your life will be. | 19 |
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| | 23 |
| Fairy bread is very common in Australia and is always served at childrens’ birthday parties. It is white toasted bread covered in butter, sugar and colourful sugar sprinkles, and is very sweet. | 24 |
| | 25 |
| | 26 |
| In Russia, you are given a fruit pie filled with your favourite fruit, and your name is put on the top of the pie. It is very tasty and not too sweet. Much better! | 27 |
| | 28 |

- 11. According to the text, which statement is true?**
- a. In China, you are given a noodle cake.
 - b. In Mexico, someone might creep up on you.
 - c. They throw flour at you in Canada.
- 12. According to the text, which of these is the healthiest?**
- a. Fairy bread.
 - b. Fruit pie.
 - c. Seaweed soup.
- 13. Which country has a painful birthday tradition?**
- a. Argentina.
 - b. Jamaica.
 - c. Mexico.
- 14. What is believed to be disrespectful in Italy?**
- a. Pushing your face in a cake.
 - b. Not opening your presents immediately.
 - c. Eating your cake quickly.
- 15. What does 'Mordida' mean?**
- a. Bite.
 - b. Eat.
 - c. Chew.
- 16. There is a grammatical mistake on:**
- a. Line 16.
 - b. Line 12.
 - c. Line 5.
- 17. There is a spelling mistake on:**
- a. Line 7.
 - b. Line 20.
 - c. Line 25.
- 18. The best word to complete the sentence on line 19 is:**
- a. Expect.
 - b. Accept.
 - c. Except.
- 19. The best word to replace 'discourteous' on line 17 is:**
- a. Unpleasant.
 - b. Disrespectful.
 - c. Selfish.
- 20. There is a punctuation mistake on:**
- a. Line 8.
 - b. Line 13.
 - c. Line 24.

Text 3

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

Three Famous Greek Philosophers

Socrates, the Enigmatic Philosopher (469-399 BC), was the most famous philosopher of ancient Greece and is still considered to be the founder of Western philosophy. He developed the idea of ethics. If humans asked themselves questions, they would be able to discover who they really were. He believed no-one likes doing immoral things but, if they do, it is because they do not realise that there is an alternative. Doing the right thing brings happiness, and being moral, honest and doing good things gives us greater knowledge.

Plato, the Metaphysic Philosopher (428-358 BC), was a student of Socrates and teacher of Aristotle. Plato introduced new political ideas. He believed philosophers should rule the world because only they know the real truth and have clear knowledge of the world. He believed that two parallel worlds exist; the real world and the world we all live in now, which is only a reflection of the real world. He said that children should be separated from their parents at birth and educated in public institutions. Children do not need to know who their families are in order to find the truth of who they are themselves. When Plato was 40 years old, he established a ground-breaking educational institution called the Academy; where a community of young people learned mathematics, music, art and astronomy.

Aristotle, the philosopher of Reason (384-332 BC), was a student of Socrates and Plato. He studied all the sciences known in ancient Greece, and his ideas have survived for centuries influencing Western culture, languages and scientific ideas, right up until the 21st century. He believed that good politics happen when people work together. An individual makes a family, families make cities and cities make society. This is completely different to Plato's thinking of individualism.

21. What is the main purpose of this text?

- a. To promote Aristotle as the most influential ancient philosopher.
- b. To summarise the ideas of the great philosophers.
- c. To give a history of Greek philosophy.

22. In the text, which statement is false?

- a. Socrates taught Plato and Aristotle.
- b. Aristotle's scientific ideas are still influential.
- c. Plato believed that philosophers don't make the best leaders.

23. What did Socrates say about people who do bad things?

- a. They deliberately choose to act badly.
- b. They are unaware of any other choice.
- c. They are told to do bad things.

24. What did Plato think about families?

- a. Individuals are more important than families.
- b. They form the basis for society.
- c. Families allow the history of ideas to survive.

25. Plato's contribution to education was his belief that:

- a. Children should be taught individually.
- b. Children should be taught a range of subjects in special establishments.
- c. Families were the main support for children.

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

Potatoes

Potatoes are 80 percent water and 20 percent flesh, and are a near-perfect food. They are 99.9 percent fat free and contain vitamins B6, C, E, K, and minerals such as potassium, magnesium and phosphorous. A medium sized potato contains around 110 calories, compared to one cup of rice which has 225 calories, and a cup of pasta which has 115 calories. Although high in carbohydrates, potatoes are good for the stomach, heart, digestion and immune system. In fact, during the Alaskan gold rush in the 1890s, people traded potatoes for gold because of their high vitamin content.

Potatoes were grown 8,000 years ago in the Andes, in Peru. In the UK, potatoes are omnipresent on their dinner plates and have a range of familiar nicknames such as 'spud', 'tater' and 'tattie'. China is the world's largest potato grower, although other countries also grow them. In the USA, all fifty of its states grow potatoes, with Idaho and Washington being the main American producers. In fact, Idaho is known as the 'potato state' and has its own potato museum!

Potatoes are a versatile vegetable, meaning they can be cooked in many different ways; mashed, boiled, roasted, baked, fried and made into crisps, or chips. You can also drink potatoes - they have been used to make vodka and wine.

Potatoes are best stored in cool, dry, dark places. If they start growing and sprouting, they begin to lose their nutritional value. You should cut off all new growth and never eat its green leaves; they can make you ill. Never wash a potato before storing it because it will speed up the decaying process. Only wash a potato before you cook it. Cook potatoes with the skin on because it contains more nutrition than the flesh.

26. Why were potatoes highly valued in the 1890s?

- a. Because they contain a lot of vitamins.
- b. Because they are low fat.
- c. Because they can be cooked in many different ways.

27. What type of nutrient are potatoes?

- a. Fat.
- b. Carbohydrate.
- c. Protein.

28. A medium sized potato contains:

- a. More calories than a cup of rice.
- b. More calories than a cup of pasta.
- c. Less calories than a cup of pasta.

29. What does the writer say about potatoes in the UK?

- a. They are easily grown in all parts of the UK.
- b. They are a very common food choice.
- c. They are only boiled and mashed.

30. Which part of the potato contains the most nutrition?

- a. The leaves.
- b. The inner flesh.
- c. The skin.

31. How can you keep potatoes fresh?

- a. Wash and store them in a dark, dry place.
- b. Keep them dry in a dark, cool place.
- c. Cut off new growth and clean the skins.

End of Examination.



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ESOL International

Writing

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.

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

You recently visited your local park, and were shocked to see how bad the area has become. Write a letter to the local council informing them of what you found and what you would like them to do to improve the park.

You could write about:

- the poor state of the park
- who uses the park
- what you want the council to do
- why it is important to improve the park facilities.

OR

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

Write a short report about the advantages and disadvantages of buying things online.

You could write about:

- different kinds of ways to buy things online
- the convenience of buying online
- the dangers of making online payments
- suggestions on how to keep safe when buying things online.

You must write 200 – 250 words.

(12 Marks)

Informal Writing Task 2 – Allow 35 minutes for this task

You are planning on visiting England. Write an email to your English friend telling them when you will be arriving and ask them to meet you and spend some time with you.

You could write about:

- when you are arriving and where you will be staying
- how long you are staying in England, and why
- reasons why you want to spend some time with your friend
- things you and your friend could do together.

You must 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



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