

ESOL International

English Listening Examination

Level C1 Advanced

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

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

Listen to the instructions.

Use black or blue ink. Do not use a pencil.

You must not use a dictionary.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

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.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. a. Can we predict the weather?
b. I think it will be breezy.
c. The weather forecast is updated hourly. | 6. a. Yes, the committee is at school.
b. No, I'm still thinking about it.
c. I always apply myself at school. |
| 2. a. Yes, you can have my revision books.
b. I've been following a daily schedule.
c. My manager is always focused. | 7. a. Have you not got the invitation?
b. Athina was here yesterday.
c. The party is at her house. |
| 3. a. Maybe you should take a break.
b. It sounds like you're very organised.
c. Emails are quick to respond to. | 8. a. The food will be really nice.
b. Is it Sunday tomorrow?
c. Fingers crossed, it will turn out fine. |
| 4. a. My car is being serviced on Monday.
b. Wait here while I park the car.
c. What type of car are you getting? | 9. a. That's perfect after a busy day.
b. The new sofa is arriving tomorrow.
c. I have a comfy corner sofa. |
| 5. a. Yes, it can be challenging at times.
b. No, I don't complain often.
c. I can't complain about work. | 10. a. Yes, after the interval.
b. He performed at the club last night.
c. There is a jazz festival coming soon. |

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 the conversation again and check your answers.

Now listen to **Conversation 1**.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

Conversation 1

1. **Why was Michelangelo hesitant to paint the Sistine Chapel?**
 - a. The ceiling was too big.
 - b. He disliked painting.
 - c. He saw himself as a sculptor.
2. **Julia wants to visit the Trevi Fountain because:**
 - a. It's an absolute must-see.
 - b. She wants to throw a coin in.
 - c. The tickets are only 2 euros.
3. **How will they get to the Colosseum?**
 - a. On foot.
 - b. By metro.
 - c. By bus.
4. **What does Sophie suggest they book in advance?**
 - a. Tickets for the Vatican Museums.
 - b. Entrance to the Roman Forum.
 - c. St Peter's Basilica.
5. **Why does Sophie like their accommodation?**
 - a. It includes breakfast.
 - b. It is close to the Colosseum.
 - c. It is not too expensive.

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. **Which message does he get after reconnecting?**
 - a. Network path not found.
 - b. Insufficient permissions.
 - c. Authenticate your details.
2. **What is his main issue?**
 - a. His computer won't turn on.
 - b. He can't access personal files.
 - c. The shared drive isn't working.
3. **If the signal is weak, the network drive doesn't:**
 - a. Connect to the ethernet cable.
 - b. Map correctly over Wi-Fi.
 - c. Update security settings.
4. **Why might IT need management approval?**
 - a. To restore his access.
 - b. To renew his password.
 - c. To update his computer.
5. **What does Eva suggest first?**
 - a. Updating software.
 - b. Contacting IT immediately.
 - c. Rebooting the computer.

Now listen to the conversation again and check your answers.

Part 3 – Debate and discussion

You will hear a debate and discussion. You will hear them twice.

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. **How is remote work described?**
 - a. Isolating.
 - b. Important.
 - c. Collaborative.
2. **Which financial benefit does he highlight?**
 - a. Savings on workspace.
 - b. Savings on commuting.
 - c. Savings on childcare.
3. **How does he suggest managing work-life balance?**
 - a. By using technology.
 - b. By making your home, your office.
 - c. By creating a set routine.
4. **Working from home should be:**
 - a. Based on personal circumstances.
 - b. Discussed in an office.
 - c. Demanded by employers.
5. **What is Edina's concern about virtual communication?**
 - a. It increases stress.
 - b. Misunderstandings can occur.
 - c. Internet connection is often poor.
6. **What could companies expect from employees working from home?**
 - a. More motivation.
 - b. More productivity.
 - c. Fewer virtual meetings.

Now listen to the debate again and check your answers.

Now listen to the **Discussion**.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

1. **Food waste can be reduced by:**
 - a. Using reusable containers.
 - b. Buying less food.
 - c. Planning meals.
2. **What is said to be crucial?**
 - a. Raising awareness.
 - b. Repurposing old clothing.
 - c. Changing daily habits.
3. **What do a lot of cities provide?**
 - a. Landfill waste sites.
 - b. Reuseable coffee cups.
 - c. Compost collection services.
4. **What is said to be the most impactful step?**
 - a. Providing outdoor spaces.
 - b. Reusing food waste.
 - c. Reducing plastic use.
5. **Why could buying in bulk be positive?**
 - a. It can reduce household waste.
 - b. It can be more affordable.
 - c. It is more sustainable.

Now listen to the discussion again and check your answers.

End of Examination

ESOL International

English Reading Examination

Level C1 Advanced

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

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.

Foxes	1
	2
Foxes are known for their intelligence and secretive nature, often capturing our	3
interest with their mysterious behaviour. These small mammals belong to the	4
Canidae family and are mostly active at night. During the day, they rest in dens,	5
bushes, or abandoned buildings. Their ability to stay hidden, helps them hunt and	6
move around unnoticed.	7
	8
Foxes are highly adaptable and can live in different environments, from forests to	9
cities. They eat a variety of foods, includes small animals, birds, fruit and even	10
leftover human food. This versatile diet allows them to survive in changeable	11
conditions. Foxes also have interesting social structures. While some prefer to live	12
alone, many form family groupings called leashes. Parents teach their young, called	13
kits, important skills like hunting and avoiding danger.	14
	15
One of the most fascinating things about foxes is how they communicate. They make	16
different sounds, including barks, screams and howls, to send messages. These	17
noises help warn of danger, attract mates, or establish territory. Foxes also use body	18
language and scent markings to communicate and maintain social bonds.	19
	20
Their physical traits help them to survive. Foxes have excellent senses, especially	21
sharp hearing from their pointed ears, which allows them to detect prey even in	22
thick vegetation. Their bushy tails help with balance and keep them warm in cold	23
weather. They vary in colour and size depending on the species.	24
	25
Foxes are also known for their problem-solving skills. In cities, they often find	26
creative ways to get food and can even learn to recognise human behaviour	27
patterns. However, they face threats such as habitat loss and _____ with people.	28
Protecting their natural and urban environments is important for their survival.	29
Foxes remind us of nature's complexety and the hidden wonders of the animal	30
world.	31

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. One threat that foxes face is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Changing conditions.b. Loss of habitats.c. Abandoned buildings. <p>2. What is a group of foxes called?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. A kit.b. A den.c. A leash. <p>3. What can their vocalisations help with?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Establishing territory.b. Hunting at night.c. Maintaining social bonds. <p>4. Their diet is described as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Interesting.b. Changeable.c. Versatile. <p>5. What helps them detect prey?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Sharp hearing.b. Secretive nature.c. Mysterious behaviour. | <p>6. The best word to replace 'adaptable' on line 9 is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Cautious.b. Flexible.c. Curious. <p>7. There is a punctuation mistake on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Line 3.b. Line 6.c. Line 13. <p>8. There is a grammar mistake on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Line 10.b. Line 14.c. Line 16. <p>9. The most suitable word to fill the gap on line 28 is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Alliances.b. Conflicts.c. Conducts. <p>10. There is a spelling mistake on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Line 17.b. Line 23.c. Line 30. |
|--|---|

Text 2

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

<u>The Origins of Chocolate</u>	1
	2
Chocolate has a long and interesting history that dates back thousands of years.	3
It originally comes from the ancient civilizations of Central and South America,	4
where the Maya and the Aztec peoples were the first to cultivate the cacao plant.	5
	6
They used the beans to make a bitter drink, known as xocolatl, which was often	7
flavoured with spices. This drink was highly valued and even considered sacred by	8
these cultures, being consumed in religious ceremonies and used as a form of	9
currency.	10
	11
When the Spanish arrived in the Americas during the 16th century, they discovered	12
the drink and have brought it back to Europe. Over time, sugar was added to the	13
recipe, transforming chocolate into the sweet treat we know today. By the 17th	14
century, chocolate had become a popular drink among European aristocrats and	15
chocolate houses began to appear in cities like London and Paris. In the 19th	16
century, with the development of new technologies, solid chocolate was created,	17
leading to the mass production of chocolate bars.	18
	19
Companies such as Cadbury and Nestle played a key role in making milk chocolate	20
cheaper and more widely available to everyone. Today, chocolate is enjoyed all	21
around the world, in many different forms and flavours. However, we should also	22
remember that the history of chocolate has not always been sweet, as the	23
production of cacao has caused controversy over the years. Despite these	24
challenges, chocolate continues to be one of the most beloved foods globally,	25
bringing joy to millions of people who appreciate its rich and unique taste.	26
	27
Luxury chocolate brands like Godiva and Lindt have also played a role in the	28
development of chocolate by making high-quality treats that show the skill and	29
creativity of chocolate making. Known for their smooth textures and rich flavours,	30
these brands have turned chocolate into a gourmet experience, offering delicious	31
products that _____ to chocolate lovers worldwide. Their focus on quality and	32
new ideas continues to influence the modern chocolate industry, keeping chocolate	33
a symbol of enjoyment and luxury.	34

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>11. Where did chocolate originate?
a. Central and South America.
b. London and Paris.
c. Spain.</p> <p>12. What does chocolate represent today?
a. Skill and creativity.
b. Enjoyment and luxury.
c. Challenges and controversy.</p> <p>13. Which company helped make chocolate more affordable?
a. Cadbury.
b. Lindt.
c. Godiva.</p> <p>14. How did Europeans change the original chocolate recipe?
a. They added milk.
b. They added spices.
c. They added sugar.</p> <p>15. Chocolate was first consumed as:
a. High quality treats.
b. An unsweetened beverage.
c. A solid bar.</p> | <p>16. There is a grammar mistake on:
a. Line 13.
b. Line 15.
c. Line 16.</p> <p>17. There is a spelling mistake on:
a. Line 5.
b. Line 8.
c. Line 9.</p> <p>18. Which word could replace 'transforming' on line 14?
a. Preparing.
b. Converting.
c. Transporting.</p> <p>19. The most suitable word to fill the gap on line 32 is:
a. Correspond.
b. Refer.
c. Appeal.</p> <p>20. There is a punctuation mistake on:
a. Line 21.
b. Line 26.
c. Line 31.</p> |
|---|--|

Text 3

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

A legend of the game

Serena Williams was born on September 26th, 1981, in Saginaw, Michigan and grew up in Compton, California. She started playing tennis at the age of four, coached by her father, Richard Williams. Her sister, Venus Williams, also became a professional tennis player and together they revolutionised the sport. Serena turned professional in 1995 and, just a few years later, she won her first Grand Slam singles title at the U.S. Open in 1999. This marked the beginning of a remarkable career that would span over two decades, making Serena one of the most successful and influential athletes in history.

Throughout her career, Serena won 23 Grand Slam singles titles, which is the most by any player in the Open Era. She has dominated women's tennis with her powerful playing style, athleticism and mental toughness. Serena's career wasn't without challenges however. She faced multiple injuries, which caused her to miss several tournaments, and also experienced criticism related to her on-court behaviour. Yet, Serena always found a way to come back stronger, showing resilience both on and off the court. She also became an advocate for gender equality and racial justice, using her platform to speak out on important issues.

Off the court, Serena's life has been equally eventful. In 2017, she married entrepreneur Alexis Ohanian and they welcomed their first child, Olympia, the same year. Balancing her tennis career and motherhood, Serena continued to compete at the highest level, even returning to the finals of several Grand Slam tournaments after giving birth. In 2022, Serena announced her decision to 'evolve away' from tennis, to focus more on her family, business ventures and advocacy work. Her impact on the sport and her contributions to society make her a true legend, both in tennis and beyond.

21. Which major life event happened to Serena in 2017?

- a. She retired from tennis.
- b. She won her last Grand Slam.
- c. She became a mother.

22. What was her playing style described as?

- a. Influential.
- b. Revolutionary.
- c. Powerful.

23. She stepped away from tennis to focus on:

- a. Business ventures.
- b. Building resilience.
- c. Equality within tennis.

24. When did Serena Williams win her first Grand Slam singles title?

- a. 1995.
- b. 1999.
- c. 2022.

25. What did Serena receive criticism for?

- a. Missing several tournaments.
- b. Behaviour during her matches.
- c. Contributions to society.

Text 4

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

Chilli peppers

Chilli peppers are celebrated around the world for their distinctive flavour and intense heat. They can be used fresh or dried out to make a powder. The heat in peppers is measured by the Scoville Heat Unit (SHU). The Carolina Reaper is officially recognised as the world's hottest chilli pepper. Its extreme heat comes from capsaicin, the compound that makes chillies spicy. Despite its intense burn, the Reaper has a slight sweetness. It has a unique hooked tail and is popular for hot sauces and food challenges.

The Trinidad Moruga Scorpion, was once considered the hottest chilli. Its heat builds up slowly, starting mild before becoming very strong. This delayed effect makes it a favourite among those who enjoy extreme spice. It is used for marinades and novelty snacks. Unlike the others, it is round and plump in shape.

Also known as Bhut Jolokia, the Ghost Pepper hails from India. It is known for its slow-building heat, earning it the nickname 'silent killer'. While it is not as hot as the others, it is still famous for spicy food challenges. All three types of pepper have wrinkled, bumpy skin and are red when ripe, but the Ghost Pepper can also be orange or brown.

While consuming extremely spicy chilli peppers like the Carolina Reaper, Trinidad Moruga Scorpion or Ghost Pepper can be an exciting challenge for some, there are significant health risks linked with them. Capsaicin can cause a strong burning feeling, stomach pain and even allergic reactions. Eating too much may lead to nausea and digestive problems. It is important to handle these peppers carefully. Use gloves when cutting them and avoid touching your eyes. Store them in a cool, dry place or in the fridge to keep them fresh and the heat strong.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>26. What is the compound that gives chillis their heat?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Capsaicin.b. Jolokia.c. Scoville. <p>27. Why should chillis be stored in a cool place?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. To keep the sweetness.b. To keep the heat strong.c. To keep them from drying out. <p>28. The Ghost Pepper is known for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Novelty snacks.b. Food challenges.c. Hot sauces. | <p>29. Which is the world's hottest chilli pepper?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Carolina Reaper.b. Trinidad Moruga Scorpion.c. Ghost Pepper. <p>30. What do all three peppers have in common?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. They are all round and plump.b. They all have hooked tails.c. They are all red when ripe. <p>31. What can eating too much capsaicin lead to?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Burning of the eyes.b. Digestive issues.c. Bumpy skin. |
|--|--|

End of Examination.



This page is intentionally blank

ESOL International

English Writing Examination

Level C1 Advanced

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

You must write between 150-200 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 35 minutes for this task.

You recently went to the cinema where you encountered several issues that affected your viewing experience. Write an email to the cinema manager to explain the problems and request compensation.

You could write about:

- what issues you encountered
- how these issues affected your overall experience
- any actions you took to resolve the problems
- what kind of compensation or resolution you are seeking.

OR

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

You recently joined a local environmental group. The group has been improving the area by doing activities like litter picking and tree planting. Write an article for your local newspaper, detailing all the work the group has been doing.

You could write about:

- the local environmental group and its purpose
- the work the group has been doing
- the positive outcomes of the work on the community
- how other people can get involved.

Write 150 - 200 words.

(12 Marks)

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

You have started a new hobby and want to share your experiences with others. Write a blog about how you became interested in the hobby and what you enjoy about it.

You could write about:

- how you discovered the new hobby
- why you decided to try it
- any challenges or funny moments you've experienced
- how this hobby has enhanced your life.

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 Writing – Level C1

This page is intentionally blank



PART OF **nocn** GROUP

NOCN Group
Acero Building
1 Concourse Way
Sheaf Street
Sheffield
S1 2BJ
UK
©NOCN

E-mail: nocn@nocn.org.uk

Tel: +44 (0) 0300 999 1177