

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

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

Please complete the information on the mark sheet.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

Use black or blue ink. Do not use pencil.

Total marks available: 31

You have **30 minutes** to finish the examination.

Part 1

You will hear 10 sentences twice. Choose the best answer in each situation.

Now look at the answers. You have two minutes to read the answers.

Now listen to the sentences and select the best answer. Mark the answer on the mark sheet.

1. a. No, it's not too cold
 b. Yes, it's very sunny
 c. No, it's freezing

2. a. That will not be useful for you
 b. That is really exciting, well done
 c. That will be good when it arrives

3. a. I will look at the timetable
 b. The train might be late
 c. We can leave early anyway

4. a. The one with four chairs and a table
 b. The one that we watched yesterday
 c. The blue one which matches the curtains

5. a. We are going there later
 b. There were no pizzas left
 c. He will be on the six o'clock train

6. a. Where did you go to?
 b. They left most of it
 c. I am not coming back later
7. a. They are going there later
 b. By August at the latest
 c. We must visit them soon
8. a. If the weather be nice I would go
 b. If the weather is nice we can go
 c. If the weather is more nice we can go
9. a. What is wrong with the blue one?
 b. Next Thursday probably
 c. They might come back later
10. a. Yes, you look very better
 b. Yes, you must go again
 c. Yes, you look much better

Part 2

You will now hear two conversations. You will hear them twice. You have two minutes to look at the questions for both conversations. Now listen to Conversation 1.

Record your answers to the questions on the mark sheet. Conversation 1

1. What does Amy do first?
 - a. Weigh the ingredients
 - b. Put the mix in the oven
 - c. Mix the ingredients

2. What goes first into in a large bowl?
 - a. Cocoa powder and eggs
 - b. Flour and water
 - c. Flour and cocoa powder

3. What must you **not** use for mixing?
 - a. A fork
 - b. A hand mixer
 - c. A whisk

4. What do you put the cake mix in?
 - a. A saucepan
 - b. A greased tin
 - c. A glass cup

5. Which statement is **not** correct?
 - a. Check the cake after 5 minutes
 - b. Let the cake cool before eating
 - c. Slice in two for a layer cake

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 has Heidi come to see Laura for?
 - a) To have her nails done for a party
 - b) To discuss her hair for her wedding
 - c) To have Joe's haircut and coloured

2. How long is it until Heidi gets married?
 - a) Six months
 - b) Six days
 - c) Six weeks

3. What does Heidi not want?
 - a) A hair cut
 - b) Hair colour
 - c) Hair advice

4. Which statement is not correct?
 - a) Heidi's hairdresser is Laura
 - b) Heidi is marrying James very soon
 - c) Heidi does not like her hair colour

5. What flavour tea did Heidi ask for?
 - a) Raspberry
 - b) Blackcurrant
 - c) Strawberry

Listen 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 look at the questions for both radio broadcasts.

Now listen to Broadcast 1. Record your answers on the mark sheet.

Broadcast 1

1. Which was the first underground station to open?
 - a. The Victoria
 - b. The Jubilee
 - c. The Metropolitan

2. A word that could replace **network** is:
 - a. system
 - b. process
 - c. course

3. According to the broadcast, which statement about the Jubilee line is true?
 - a. It was the first line on the underground network
 - b. The line supported the growth of Canary Wharf
 - c. The line was rebuilt as it had become too small

4. Who now owns the Underground?
 - a. Transport for London
 - b. Metropolitan Railway
 - c. Tube Improvement Plan

5. How many stations make up the London Underground?
 - a. 11
 - b. 270
 - c. 60

6. What has the Tube Improvement Plan provided?
 - a. Additional journeys
 - b. Reduced services
 - c. Increased costs

Listen to the broadcast again and check your answers.

Now listen to Broadcast 2.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

Broadcast 2

1. What took place in March?
 - a. A solar eclipse
 - b. A lunar eclipse
 - c. A partial eclipse

2. Which statement is true?
 - a. Looking indirectly at the sun can be harmful
 - b. Looking directly at the moon can be harmful
 - c. Looking directly at the sun can be harmful

3. The phrase 'at its height' means:
 - a. when its lightest
 - b. at its best point
 - c. not standing tall

4. According to the broadcast, in the Shetland's, the Sun's disc was obscured by the Moon by
 - a. 97%
 - b. 83%
 - c. 9%

5. Next year's total solar eclipse will cross Sumatra, Borneo, Sulawesi, and extend out over
 - a. northern Europe
 - b. the Pacific
 - c. the Shetland Islands

Listen to the broadcast again and check your answers.

End of Examination for Listening - Level B2

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

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

Please complete the information on your mark sheet.

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

<u>What is Twitter?</u>	1
Twitter is a series of short online announcements or ‘tweets’. When the	2
inventors of Twitter first came up with the idea, they imagined a series of	3
announcements or 140-character comments on what members were	4
doing at that moment in time. This aspect of it is still there, but there is a	5
lot more to Twitter now.	6
To join Twitter is simple, you go to the Twitter website, enter a user name	7
and password and some other details, choose a picture to illustrate your	8
tweets and start entering text into a box and sending it out on Twitter.	9
	10
You might see that someone else has said something interesting, so you	11
then hit the “reply” button, and they will see what you’ve said, even if they	12
are not actually following your account.	13
	14
The first word they will see is @theirname and then your message. They	15
might reply to you and if they start following you, and you them, you	16
canprivate messages. This can be useful if you don’t have	17
someone’s email address.	18
	19
Twitter happens in real time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Expect to	20
miss messages and information if it is not sent directly to you as	21
messages are coming in all the time. Be succinct as you only have 140	22
characters including spaces in between text to say anything. Try not to	23
repeat yourself, don’t use it just to sell goods and services and you	24
should soon be picking up new online acquaintances almost daily.	25
	26
Of course have fun with Twitter, there are a lot you can learn and find out,	27
but like any social media once you've posted your message it could go	28
anywhere, so be careful what you write.	29

1. How many characters are in a Tweet?
 - a. 140
 - b. 24
 - c. 7

2. To join Twitter you must first
 - a. send an e-mail
 - b. go to their website
 - c. choose a picture

3. To send a Tweet you, enter text into a
 - a. reply
 - b. account
 - c. box

4. To illustrate your Tweets you can use
 - a. goods
 - b. pictures
 - c. services

5. When someone is looking at Twitter, the first word they will see is @theirname and then
 - a. your message
 - b. website
 - c. your password

6. A word has been omitted from line 17. The word should be:
 - a. sell
 - b. exchange
 - c. repeat

7. When sending messages you should try not to
- repeat yourself
 - post messages
 - use it daily
8. There is a spelling mistake in:
- Line 2
 - Line 15
 - Line 22
9. The best word to replace the word **succinct** in line 22 is:
- brief
 - lengthy
 - quick
10. There is a grammatical mistake:
- In line 11
 - In line 17
 - In line 22

Text 2

Phishing is a method used by fraudsters to access valuable personal details, such as usernames and passwords.	1
	2
	3
These can have a monetary value to criminals. Phishing can also involve sending malicious attachments or website links in an effort to infect computers or mobile devices. Criminals send bogus communications: emails, letters, instant messages or text messages. Once your personal details have been accessed, criminals can then record this information and use it to commit fraud crimes such as identity theft and bank fraud.	4
	5
	6
	7
	8
	9
	10
Criminals have stepped up their activity by targeting business users by claiming that they have specific knowledge of the business. These may be important business issues such as customer feedback, requests for information, stapling or legal notices. When responding to emails or phone calls, never give your login or personal details. If you receive an email from a company that claims to be legitimate but is requesting these details, or a contact number, tell them you have call them back.	11
	12
	13
	14
	15
	16
	17
Use your spam filter and if you detect a phishing email, mark the message as spam and delete it. This ensures that the message cannot reach your inbox in	18
	19
Know your source and never respond to a message from an unknown source. Take care not to click any embedded links as phishing emails are sent to a vast number of randomly generated addresses. Clicking embedded links can provide of your active e-mail address and once this happens it may start the targeting of further malicious emails.	20
	21
	22
	23
	24
http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/fraud-az-phishing	

11. Phishing is used by fraudsters to access valuable personal details, such as
 - a. hoax websites and letters
 - b. usernames and passwords
 - c. embedded links and sources

12. Phishing often includes sending malicious attachments or website links in an effort to infect computers or
 - a. legal notices
 - b. unknown sources
 - c. mobile devices

13. Phishing messages try to tell the recipient that they are from a
 - a. trusted source
 - b. targeting business
 - c. spam filter

14. When responding to emails or phone calls you should never give your login or
 - a. identity theft
 - b. spam filter
 - c. personal details

15. If you are contacted, always use a phone number for the organisation and make sure
 - a. you have customer feedback
 - b. the message is genuine
 - c. your e-mail is active

16. The word 'malicious' in line 5 can best be replaced with:
 - a. nasty
 - b. pleasant
 - c. tired

17. There is a spelling mistake on:
- a. line 9
 - b. line 13
 - c. line 18
18. The best word to complete the sentence in line 19 is:
- a. past
 - b. present
 - c. future
19. A grammatical mistake has been made on:
- a. line 16
 - b. line 18
 - c. line 21
20. A word has been omitted from line 22. The word should be:
- a. verification
 - b. vaccination
 - c. vindication

Text 3

Big Ben

The Houses of Parliament and Elizabeth Tower, commonly called Big Ben, are among London's most iconic landmarks. Big Ben is the name given to the massive bell inside the clock tower, which weighs more than 13 tons, 13,760 kg. The clock tower looks spectacular at night when the four clock faces are illuminated.

The Palace of Westminster was destroyed by fire in 1834. In 1844 it was decided the buildings for the Houses of Parliament should include a tower and a clock, and so Big Ben was built. A massive bell was needed and the first attempt, which was made by John Warner & Sons at Stockton-on-Tees, cracked and could not be repaired. The metal was melted down and the bell recast in Whitechapel in 1858. Big Ben first rang across Westminster on 31 May 1859. A short time later, in September 1859, Big Ben cracked. A lighter hammer was fitted and the bell moved round to present an undamaged section to the hammer. This is the bell as we hear it today.

Each dial on the clock tower is seven metres in diameter and there are 312 pieces of glass in each clock dial. There is a special light above the clock faces which is illuminated when parliament is in session.

Big Ben's timekeeping is strictly regulated by a stack of coins placed on the huge pendulum and it has rarely stopped. Even after a bomb destroyed the Commons chamber during the Second World War, the clock tower survived and Big Ben continued to strike the hours.

In June 2012 the House of Commons announced that the clock tower was to be renamed the Elizabeth Tower in honour of Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee.

<http://www.visitlondon.com/things-to-do/sightseeing/tourist-attraction/big-ben>

21. What is the main purpose of the text?
- a. To advise
 - b. To inform
 - c. To persuade
22. According to the text, Big Ben is actually the name of:
- a. the bell in the clock tower
 - b. the four clock faces
 - c. the stack of coins
23. The Palace of Westminster was destroyed by fire in:
- a. 1844
 - b. 1834
 - c. 1859
24. What does 'strictly regulated' mean in paragraph 4?
- a. shortly measured
 - b. highly commended
 - c. tightly controlled
25. In what year was Big Ben built?
- a. 1858
 - b. 2012
 - c. 1844

Text 4

Dublin	1
Dublin is the capital of Ireland. The first documented history of Dublin begins with the	2
Viking raids in the 8th and 9th century. These led to the establishment of a settlement on	3
the southside of the mouth of the Liffey, named Dubh Linn (Black Pool) after the lake	4
where the Danes first moored their boats.	5
	6
As a city, Dublin's character is firmly shaped by its people. Dubliners are a friendly and	7
mildly inquisitive lot. Rarely will you venture into a pub without somebody standing near	8
you striking up a conversation. If you ever find yourself lost, ask somebody and more	9
than likely you'll be greeted with a little friendly chat.	10
	11
The language spoken in Dublin is English. Street signs and official buildings are	12
signposted in both English and Gaelic, the indigenous Irish language. Despite this, you	13
are highly unlikely to hear any Gaelic spoken on your travels across town. You are,	14
however, likely to come across a lot of cursing in casual conversations but it does not	15
carry the same meaning as it might in other languages.	16
	17
Dublin is a city of two halves, the Northside and the Southside, divided by the River	18
Liffey in the city centre. The Northside is generally more working class, the Southside is	19
more upmarket. Exceptions apply, but generally this is a good rule of thumb to apply	20
when exploring the city. Dubliners on both sides can get very passionate about this	21
division and it is the basis of many a joke or smart remark you may overhear in	22
conversation.	23
	24
Venture South along Dublin Bay and you will come to some of Dublin's most picturesque	25
spots. The scenery changes rapidly from flat sandy beaches to rocky cliffs and coves	26
harbouring picture perfect seaside towns and harbours. Sandycove, Dalkey and Killiney	27
have preserved an old world charm. On a sunny day, you can even find an almost	28
Mediterranean atmosphere here. To the North of Dublin you find Howth, a major fishing	29
harbour and Malahide, a quaint seaside town with a park and romantic 19th century	30
castle.	31
http://www.dublin.info/facts/	

26. According to the text, which statement is true?
- Viking raids led to the establishment of a settlement on the south of the Liffey
 - Street signs and official buildings are signposted in English but not in Gaelic
 - Go North along Dublin Bay and you will find Dublin's most picturesque spots
27. What is meant by 'firmly shaped' in line 7?
- fairly cut
 - strongly formed
 - weakly moulded
28. What town is **not** mentioned in the text?
- Dalkey
 - Malahide
 - Cork
29. How is Dublin divided?
- By the Eastside and the Westside
 - By the Northside and the Westside
 - By the Northside and the Southside
30. What century is Malahide's castle?
- 8th
 - 9th
 - 19th
31. The best word to replace the word 'quaint' in line 30 is
- appealing
 - strange
 - unattractive

End of Examination for Reading - Level B2

**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 or 150 - 200 words for each piece of writing.

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.

In Task 1 you must complete either Option 1 or Option 2 of the Formal Writing Task.

Total marks available: 40

Allow time to check your work before the end of the examination.

You have **one hour** to finish the examination.

Option 1 Formal Writing Task 1 - Allow 30 minutes for this task

Write an article for a local magazine about the things for tourists to do if they visit where you live.

You could write about:

- Different tourist attractions available to visit.
- Activities for tourists to participate in.
- Other interesting places nearby.

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

Write an article for a local magazine about the fund raising you are involved in for a local children's hospital.

You could write about:

- The children's hospital you are involved with.
- Why you are raising funds for this hospital.
- How you have been fund raising.
- How much money has been raised.
- How much money is still needed.

Write 100 - 150 words.

You will be assessed on:

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

(20 Marks)

Informal Writing Task 2 – Allow 30 minutes for this task

Write a letter to a friend about the best film you have ever seen.

You could write about:

- what the film was about.
- who was in the film.
- what made you go and see the film.
- where you saw the film.
- what you liked best about the film.

Write 150-200 words.

You will be assessed on:

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

(20 Marks)

End of Examination for Writing – Level B2

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