

Functional Skills English Assessment  
Reading Level 2

Learner name \_\_\_\_\_

Learner Registration Number \_\_\_\_\_

Learner signature \_\_\_\_\_

Centre \_\_\_\_\_

Assessment date \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions to candidates**

Check that you have the correct paper. Please complete the information above.

You do not need to use complete sentences for the reading assessment.

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

You may use a dictionary.

There are 10 questions in this assessment. You must answer all the questions.

Total marks available: 37

Pass mark: 24

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



# Functional Skills English

## Sample Level 2

### Assessment Task Sheet

Your friend does not have a lot of money, but wants to go on holiday. You have been a camper for many years but cannot persuade him to try it himself. You have a look for some articles on the internet to try to convince him that camping or caravanning is a good idea.

Read through the information and answer the questions.

#### Document One

From 'Camper Van on a Budget' by Daniel Evans Published 14 July 2009 [www.telegraph.co.uk](http://www.telegraph.co.uk)

I had no idea what sort of camper to look for at first and knew only that it should be cheap, easy to run, reliable and something George and I could call home for a few days whenever the sun came out.

I scouted around websites such as AutoTrader and eBay, despite friends' concerns about my ability to differentiate between a donkey and a decent runner. "The one in Southend was too high, the one in Enfield had no kitchen unit, the one in Cardiff was overpriced," I told them, at the end of yet another week of increasingly fruitless searching.

Then a failed eBay bid led to a friendly call from the seller, advising me what to do next. "You want a Mazda Bongo, my friend. They're no wider than an average car, are built by the Japanese so go on forever and can cruise along at 80mph." He directed me to something called the Bongo Fury website - no, I didn't know it existed either - and I trawled through the small ads. A few clicks and calls later I was on my way to Westward Ho! on the Devonshire coast, where a chap named Steve was getting a bit too old to go surfing all the time and wanted to downsize. The van looked fantastic. Having exchanged cash and keys, I was the proud owner of a dark green van that shares a name with a set of drums and has an awning that requires a degree in origami.

George exploded with delight when he saw it parked outside. "Is that really ours?" he asked. We had to get going immediately, naturally, even though the whole summer lay ahead. Now call me unadventurous if you like, but I didn't want to take risks first time out. So when we stopped five miles down the A3 from our home, George was not impressed. "It takes longer for you to drive me to school," he said. "We've only got a free pitch next to the children's play area," they said. "Fine," I replied. (You live and learn in this game - always avoid the children's play area. When it's the only place for 20 youngsters to gather, it gets pretty noisy.)

By the end of our first Bongo adventure, the awning was up, the van felt like home (even though the roof leaked and the windows were draughty) and the father-son bonding business seemed to be going pretty well. When we left home, we were camping novices. Now we were the Bongo Boys on Tour... and in search of bigger challenges.



# Functional Skills English

## Sample Level 2

### Assessment Task Sheet

Document Two

My partner and I have just spent five nights in the south of France, taking a low-cost airline to Marseille, hiring the cheapest car available, staying at two-star hotels, eating at pretty modest restaurants. We expected to get change from £1,000. Dream on! Some European countries may still be relatively inexpensive compared with Britain, but *la belle France* is not one of them.

As for the hassle factor, it is hard to underestimate the sheer energy-sapping misery of air travel in high summer. Queue after queue after queue, each more bad-tempered than the last. Better the M25 in the rush hour than Gatwick in August. What is the point of heading for the sun if you are hot under the collar before you arrive?

Once families have decided to forsake their normal fortnight in France or Italy in favour of somewhere closer to home, they will soon realise that they'll have more disposable income on holiday than they expected: money that can be spent on hiring a baby-sitter for an evening; or on eating out rather than eating in.

All of which is good news for the economy generally. A survey in June by Sainsbury's suggested that people will spend £43 billion on holidays this summer, with 63 per cent of that spend, or just over £27 billion, staying in Britain. Pubs and cafés have been closing all over the country as the credit crunch starts to bite. Bumper takings in July and August could give them a stay of execution. The same applies to many other small businesses in areas traditionally dependent on tourism.

Economists may disagree about how long and deep the recession will be; but if people can do their bit for the environment by recycling milk cartons, they can certainly do their bit to kick-start the economic recovery by spending their money on British goods and services - which they cannot do on a beach in Spain.

Some parts of the economy are already booming as a direct result of the downturn. The Caravan Club has reported that advance bookings in 2009 are 40 per cent up on a year ago. Sales of tents and camper vans, once the last refuge of the impoverished surfer, have doubled. And the market in static homes, or fixed caravans, is also booming.

"We thought we would struggle, but no," says Christine Seddon-Kaye, who runs a caravan park in Devon. People are shelling out between £16,000 and £100,000 on static homes, and not just as a property investment. "It is more a lifestyle thing."

Treat the need to forgo your accustomed foreign holiday as a catastrophe, and it will be a catastrophe - something that makes you feel miserable for weeks. Treat it as an opportunity - to try something different, re-connect with simpler pleasures, rediscover wonderful parts of Britain you had forgotten existed - and you could be in for a pleasant surprise. A little temporary belt-tightening could end up feeling like an adventure, not a deprivation.

This weekend, in keeping with the times, we will be sleeping under canvas in the Cotswolds, enjoying a camping break with friends. No hassle, no stress and, in logistical terms, only one outstanding question. Do we have a barbecue tonight or splash out at the local gastro-pub? My vote is to have a barbecue, then go to the pub, and I seem to be winning the argument. The recession has not extinguished the pleasure principle.

It is not a lavish holiday, but it is a holiday, and if we do not enjoy it, we will have only ourselves to blame.

From 'This is the summer of holidays at home' by Max Davidson Published 25 July 2009 [www.telegraph.co.uk](http://www.telegraph.co.uk)



Functional Skills English  
Sample Level 2  
Assessment Task Sheet



Please answer the following questions about Documents One and Two. You do not need to use full sentences.

Question 1

Using information from Document **Two**, give two reasons why the writer says that you should try a different type of holiday.

Reason One
_____
_____
_____
Reason Two
_____
_____
_____
_____

2 marks

Question 2

What is the main purpose of Document **Two**?

\_\_\_\_\_

Give **two** reasons why you think this.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3 marks



Functional Skills English  
Sample Level 2  
Assessment Task Sheet



Question 3

Give an example of how the writer uses statistics in Document **Two** and explain why this is effective.

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2 marks

Question 4

Identify two examples of how the writer uses humour or sarcasm in Document **One** to engage the reader and explain why it is effective

4 marks

Example 1

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Example 2

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Question 5

You are thinking of buying a camper van. Identify one fact and one opinion about the Bongo van. Explain why the information would either persuade you to buy a Bongo van or would stop you buying that particular type of camper.

3 marks

Fact:

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Opinion:

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Would you buy a Bongo van based on the information? Why/why not?

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Functional Skills English  
Sample Level 2  
Assessment Task Sheet



Question 6

Use Document **One and Two** to give three advantages for the tourist and three advantages for the tourism industry of holidaying in the UK. Complete the table below.

Advantages for the Tourist	Advantages for Tourism Industry

6 marks



Your friend has decided to try camping and would like to spend a few days walking in the countryside. He wants to know what the rules are regarding countryside living. You find this information which you think may be useful.

### Document Three

Taking a walk in the countryside is a great way to discover new places and enjoy the beauty of the British landscape. There are all kinds of walks, trails and routes to choose from. Whether you are a committed hiker or a casual rambler, you'll find something suited to your interests and abilities.

#### **Public access areas**

Public access areas are areas of mountain, moor, common land, heath and down where you can walk freely without having to follow paths. These areas are open to people who want to walk, run, hike, climb or watch wildlife. However, horse riding, bike riding, water sports and camping are not allowed.

You can find out where you can go in the English countryside by visiting the *Countryside Access* website. For Wales, visit the *Countryside Council for Wales* website. Your outdoor access rights and responsibilities in Scotland are explained on the *Outdoor Access Scotland* website.

#### **National Trails**

National Trails were created to enable people to enjoy some of the finest landscapes in England and Wales. The first route to be opened was the Pennine Way in 1965. National Trails are long distance paths intended for cycling, walking and horse riding. Maintained to a high standard, they are signposted and marked by an acorn symbol to help you find your way. There are 15 National Trails in England and Wales. They consist of local footpaths, bridleways and minor roads, altogether totalling about 2,500 miles. In Scotland there are four National Trails, known as 'long distance routes'.

#### **Public rights of way**

England has about 118,000 miles of footpaths, bridleways, byways and other rights of way. As a member of the public, you are entitled to use any of these pathways for leisure, work or convenience. All pathways are clearly marked with coloured arrows to show how they can be used:

- Footpath - yellow arrow: open to walkers only
- Bridleway - blue arrow: open to cyclists, horse riders and walkers
- Byway - red arrow: open to all walkers, cyclists, horse riders and motor vehicles

#### **Follow the Countryside Code**

If you want to get the best out of the countryside, you should follow the *Countryside Code* at all times. Following the Code also helps to protect and preserve rural areas now and for the future. Here are some of the key points in summary:

- be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs
- leave gates and property as you find them
- protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- keep dogs under close control



Question 7

Read the article about countryside activities.

What is the main purpose of this text?

1 mark

What features does the writer use to make the text easy to read and understand?

2 marks

Question 8

You are trying to persuade a friend to go on holiday with you in the UK. You will stay in your camper van and you plan to do lots of walking. Using Documents Two and Three, make a list of reasons why your friend should come on this holiday.

7 marks

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.



Question 9

Using Document 3, identify an action you could take before going on a holiday in Scotland.

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1 mark

Question 10

You have produced some slides for a presentation to a youth club about walking in the countryside. You need to check that the information is correct. Use **Document 3** to check your slides, **highlight** the bullet points that are incorrect.

6 marks

## Activities in Public Access Areas

Make the most of the public access areas:

- Try camping on the moors
- You can run, hike or climb.
- For the less active you can watch birds.

Make sure you keep to the paths!



## Get to Know the Pathways

There are 118,000 miles of footpaths, bridleways, byways and other rights of way:

- Bridleways have yellow arrows – cyclists can use these
- Footpaths are open to walkers
- Byways have red arrows – open to horse riders only

## National Trails

- There are five National Trails in Scotland.
- The first route to be opened in England was the Pennine Way.
- They are marked with an arrow symbol to help you find your way.



Functional Skills English Assessment  
Writing Level 2

Learner name \_\_\_\_\_

Learner Registration Number \_\_\_\_\_

Learner signature \_\_\_\_\_

Centre \_\_\_\_\_

Assessment date \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions to candidates**

Check that you have the correct paper. Please complete the information above.

You must use complete sentences. You will be assessed on your use of English.

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

You may use word processing software to complete the assessment, but printing out should take place after the end of the assessment time.

You may use a dictionary.

There are 3 tasks in this assessment. You must complete all the tasks.

Total marks available: 47

Pass mark: 24

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

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



**Functional Skills English**  
**Sample Level 2**  
**Assessment Task Sheet**



**Writing Task 1 Allow around 15 minutes for this task**

You have found a competition to win a family holiday for four. To win, you must write 150 - 200 words describing your dream holiday. Write in complete sentences.

15 Marks

You will be assessed on:

- using a writing style suitable for the purpose
- presenting information clearly and concisely
- ensuring your work is fit for the audience
- using a range of sentences, including complex sentences and paragraphs where necessary
- accurate spelling and grammar
- accurate use of punctuation.

A large rectangular box containing 15 horizontal lines for writing.



**Functional Skills English**  
**Sample Level 2**  
**Assessment Task Sheet**

**Writing Task 2 You should allow around 30 minutes for this task**

You have been asked to write a report of about 300 words about holidays in the UK for your local community magazine.

You should include:

- An introduction
- A section about the advantages and disadvantages of holidays in the UK
- A section about activities you can do in a particular area of the UK that is well known to you
- A conclusion that summarises your main points

You will be assessed on:

- presenting information and ideas clearly, logically and persuasively
- presenting information on complex subjects clearly and concisely
- using a suitable writing style for the purpose of the task
- using a range of sentence structures, including complex sentences and paragraphs to organise your writing effectively
- accurate spelling and grammar
- correct use of punctuation including commas, apostrophes and inverted commas (where applicable)

17 Marks

Plan your report here:







**Functional Skills English**  
**Sample Level 2**  
**Assessment Task Sheet**



**Writing Task 3 You should allow 15 minutes for this task.**

Write a letter to one of your friends to persuade him/her to go on a camping holiday with you in the UK. You should give reasons why they should holiday with you and identify some activities you could do on holiday. You should write around 200 words. 15 marks

You will be assessed on:

- presenting information and ideas clearly, logically and persuasively
- using a suitable writing style for the purpose of the task
- using a range of sentence structures, including complex sentences and paragraphs to organise your writing effectively
- accurate spelling and grammar
- correct use of punctuation including commas, apostrophes and inverted commas (where applicable)

You may plan your letter here:





Functional Skills English Assessment  
Speaking, Listening and Communication Level 2

Learner name \_\_\_\_\_

Learner Registration Number \_\_\_\_\_

Learner signature \_\_\_\_\_

Centre \_\_\_\_\_

Assessment date \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions to candidates**

Check that you have the correct paper. Please complete the information above.

There are 2 tasks in this assessment. You must both the tasks.

Total marks available: 27

Pass mark: 18

Your tutor will assess your speaking, listening and communication skills and will complete an observation sheet to record your achievements.

You have **30 minutes** to finish the assessment (including preparation time)



### Speaking and Listening Task One - Presentation

Prepare and deliver a short presentation which should last three or four minutes. You should deliver it to a group of at least three other people.

12 marks

This presentation could be a persuasive argument for people to holiday either in the UK or abroad. For example it could be about:

- the advantages and disadvantages of going abroad rather than staying in the UK, or vice versa
- ideas of things to do on your holiday

OR

another topic linked to holidays which you agree with your tutor.

You should structure this carefully and include

- an introduction
- present at least three main points and reasons why you chose them
- give your own point of view
- a conclusion

You will be marked on how you:

- consider complex information and give a relevant, cogent response in appropriate language.
- present information and ideas clearly and persuasively to others.



**Functional Skills English**  
**Sample Level 2**  
**Assessment Task Sheet**



**Speaking and Listening Task Two - Discussion**

Take part in a group discussion about your holiday plans for this year and whether the Credit Crunch has had an impact on where you are going and what you plan to do.

OR

Another topic agreed with your tutor.

15 marks

You will be marked on:

- listening to complex information and giving a relevant cogent response in appropriate language
- presenting information and ideas clearly and persuasively to others
- adapting contributions to suit the audience, purpose and situation
- making significant contributions to discussions, taking a range of roles and helping to move the discussion forward.

