

**ESOL Skills for Life
English Reading Assessment - Level 1**

Centre No.	Candidate Run No.
Centre Name	
Candidate Name	
Candidate Signature	

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. Write your name.

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

You must **not** use a dictionary.

There are 4 tasks, 6 questions per task; 24 marks

You have 1 hour to finish the assessment.

Task 1

Read the text then answer the questions.



Why do cats spray?

Both male and female cats can be very territorial and tend to spray their urine to mark their territory, although male cats can spray excessively. Even neutered cats spray to repel other animals. It's very important not to get angry with them as you will increase their anxiety levels and make the problem worse.

There are a few reasons why your cat sprays. It could be because:

- Another local cat has been in the house (through a cat flap, window or door)
- You have new furniture and the old furniture that carried their scent has been disposed of
- A new baby has arrived or you have another pet
- You have redecorated your home and covered up their old scent
- They have a urinary tract infection such as cystitis
- They are anxious, perhaps through excessive noise or moving home.

How to prevent spraying:

- Lock the cat flap and keep doors and windows closed
- Have somewhere for your cat to escape to (a warm cupboard or quiet room)
- Have your pet checked out for a possible infection
- Use a plug-in such as Feliway which emits pheromones to help cats relax
- Reassure them with love and affection.

Cats can be very rewarding to have as pets. They offer unconditional love and tend to be quite independent, so don't need walking like a dog. They have their own ways of doing things and can be quite regular; needing food on time and reassurance that you will be home at certain times of the day. You will usually find them sitting on the doorstep waiting for you at the time you are due home.

Circle the correct answer.

- 1. What is the main point of the text?**
 - a. Cats make great pets
 - b. Cats have regular routines
 - c. Cat behaviour
 - d. Cat illnesses

- 2. What is the purpose of this text?**
 - a. To inform and advise
 - b. To entertain and instruct
 - c. To instruct and persuade
 - d. To encourage and inform

- 3. What is a “plug-in”?**
 - a. Something you hang from the wall
 - b. Something you put into an electric wall socket
 - c. Something you spray onto material
 - d. Something you put into food


- 4. Which cats spray more?**
 - a. Female
 - b. Male and female
 - c. None
 - d. Male

- 5. Which illness is mentioned in the text?**
 - a. anxiety
 - b. cystitis
 - c. spraying
 - d. It’s not mentioned

- 6. Why have bullet points been used in the text?**
 - a. To give instructions and offer advice
 - b. To instruct us on how to look after cats
 - c. To describe cats behaviour
 - d. To list a set of rules

Task 2

Read the text then answer the questions.



Huge Trees

[Post a reply](#)

[Huge Trees](#) by [jb68](#)» Tue Sep 06, 2016 2:57 pm

Hi there, I am hoping for some advice. There are a row of trees (oak) at the end of my garden on National Rail property. They are about double the size of my house and grow on a sloped bank at the side of the railway line that passes the back of the garden. They do not overhang my property.

I would like Network Rail to cut them down, which they refuse to do and I understand are under no obligation to do so. Do these trees fall under high hedge legislation? Does anyone have any advice for negotiating with Network Rail about there height? Thanks. JB

[Re: Huge Trees](#) by [CG65](#)» Tue Sep 06, 2016 8:52 pm

Hi, Who did you contact at Network Rail? It is often more productive to go right to the top. You should be able to find out who to contact online, or by phoning and asking, without saying your reason. A few years ago we had an appointment for British Gas to service our boiler one morning. Towards the end of the morning they rang to say it would be afternoon. That was ok but I asked if it could be after 2 pm. They said no, although it was eventually done at about 5 pm. I wrote to the boss of British Gas and received 2 months free maintenance plus they asked to use my letter in staff training. You have nothing to lose and may well win. Good luck. CG

<http://www.gardenlaw.co.uk>

Circle the correct answer.

- 7. Where did these texts come from?**
- a. emails
 - b. a discussion forum
 - c. letters
 - d. texts
- 8. Define the word 'legislation' in text 1:**
- a. directions
 - b. laws
 - c. instructions
 - d. advice
- 9. Have Network Rail agreed to remove the trees?**
- a. yes
 - b. they haven't decided yet
 - c. only if JB pays
 - d. no
- 10. What advice is CG trying to give?**
- a. don't complain because you will upset them
 - b. complaining always works
 - c. complain because you might get a good result
 - d. be polite because no-one like people complaining
- 11. Which feature would indicate this is from a website?**
- a. postal address
 - b. signatures
 - c. search box
 - d. picture
- 12. There is a spelling error in text 1, paragraph 2. Which of these is spelt incorrectly?**
- a. height
 - b. reduce
 - c. advice
 - d. there

Task 3

Read the texts then answer the following questions.

Text 1:

PDS Ltd. 07813 789546

- Interior/external painting and decorating services
- Fully insured for public liability
- Guaranteed work
- References available
- 25 years' experience

Text 2:

POTTERS MOTORS LTD. Est. 1985
Family Run Business

FREE Winter Check-Up for your motor vehicle when you book an MOT or other work.

We service cars, light commercial vans and motorcycles, MOT repairs and diagnostics.

We also offer FREE MOT retests.

"Happy to help in any way!"
07873765932

Text 3:

CHILDREN'S FARM
FEED THE ANIMALS

We have ducks, chickens, goats, sheep and donkeys ready to meet you and waiting for their dinner!

Suitable for children of all ages, we are open 7 days a week from 8.30am to 5.30 pm

Come and relax by spending quality time with us!

We are just left off junction 4a M5.

Stan's Animal Farm, Cherry Lane, B60 1AD

Text 4:

PRITTI'S CATERING FOR PARTIES

We offer catering for all tastes but specialise in Indian Cuisine from the Punjab. We can provide complementary starters and music to make your party an authentic cultural event for all ages.

Est. 15 years 07583678943

Text 5:

Maggie's Cleaning Services
(10 years of trusted service, with references)
Fed up of cleaning?

Don't worry, we will take the agony out of housework and do it for you and even do your shopping, if you need anything!

Special rates available
Just call us on 0800 637875

Circle the correct answer.

13. Which text says it will give you something free?

- a. Text 1
- b. Text 5
- c. Text 4
- d. Text 2

14. Which text has a rhetorical question?

- a. Text 4
- b. Text 3
- c. Text 5
- d. Text 1

15. Which text offers references?

- a. Text 2
- b. Text 4
- c. Text 1
- d. Text 5

16. What type of text is TEXT 3?

- a. persuasive
- b. informative
- c. descriptive
- d. explanatory

17. Which Company offers insurance?

- a. Pritti's Catering
- b. Potter's Motors Ltd
- c. PDS Ltd
- d. Maggie's Cleaning Services

18. Which two texts are suitable for children?

- a. Texts 5 and 3
- b. Texts 4 and 2
- c. Texts 1 and 5
- d. Texts 3 and 4

Task 4

Read the text then answer the following questions.

Winter Driving Tips

- **THINK!**
 - ◆ When snow is falling fast, don't drive unless you really have to
 - ◆ Tell your family where you are going
 - ◆ Make sure your phone is fully charged before you leave the house

- **MAINTENANCE**
 - ◆ Check your vehicle's tyres; Do they have the correct air pressure? Are they worn?
 - ◆ Check oil and water
 - ◆ Clean the windows, lights and registration plate
 - ◆ Check your petrol or diesel levels
 - ◆ Make sure your spare tyre is fully inflated and you have the relevant tools in the boot for changing a tyre

- **HEALTH**
 - ◆ How do you feel? Are you well?
 - ◆ If you don't feel well, don't drive. Winter ailments can leave you feeling exhausted and sluggish. Don't risk it!
 - ◆ Keep a drink and some paracetamol in the vehicle
 - ◆ Do not drive if you feel tired, stop and rest somewhere safe

- **STOPPING IN AN EMERGENCY**
 - ◆ When it is raining, slow down and allow yourself braking distance
 - ◆ Apply the brake without locking the wheels
 - ◆ If the vehicle starts to skid, ease the pressure on the brake pad
 - ◆ Turn into the skid but not into danger
 - ◆ Reapply pressure on the brake gently
 - ◆ Depress the clutch just before you stop
 - ◆ Make sure you have a snow shovel and small bag of sand or salt in the boot, even an old piece of carpet to help you out of snow drifts

- **KEEPING WARM**
 - ◆ Ensure you have blankets in the vehicle
 - ◆ Keep a pair of boots and spare socks and gloves in the boot

Circle the correct answer.

19. What is the purpose of this text?

- a. to warn you not to travel in bad weather
- b. to make you think about bad weather
- c. to persuade you to be prepared for travelling in bad weather
- d. to explain what travelling in bad weather is like

20. Why does the text use bullet points?

- a. to give instructions
- b. to give advice
- c. to give directions
- d. to give orders

21. According to the HEALTH section, what should you not risk?

- a. back pain
- b. driving
- c. falling asleep
- d. feeling unwell

22. What should you keep in the boot of the car?

- a. socks, drink, tyre, paracetamol, gloves
- b. salt, shovel, tools, socks, drink
- c. tyre, boots, socks, salt, shovel
- d. sand, blanket, tools, drink, tyre

23. Where would you not find this advice?

- a. in an advert
- b. on a website
- c. in a magazine
- d. in a leaflet

24. Who would benefit most from reading this text?

- a. tourists
- b. cyclists
- c. vehicle road users
- d. pedestrians

END OF ASSESSMENT

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

email: nocn@nocn.org.uk

Tel: 0300 999 1177