

ESOL Skills for Life
English Reading– Level 2
SAMPLE Assessment

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.



L2 READ V1 082017

Task 1 Read the text and answer the questions.



The other night my friend and I were in a new restaurant eating a meal and enjoying it, but then it happened...again!

The restaurant was the talk of the town. We had been planning this meal for weeks. Life was good and the food was great when the waiter asked “Have you finished your meal?” His fingers were already comfortably sitting on the rim of my empty plate. I had finished eating, but my friend had not. “No,” I said. “We haven’t finished eating yet.”

Rather than clear the plates once everyone at the table has finished a course, which has long been the custom, nowadays waiters hover over us, fingers twitching, until the very instant someone puts down a fork. Like vultures, they snatch up the cutlery along with everything else, in front of the customer, despite the fact others may still be eating at the table.

When a waiter clears a plate before everyone has finished, they make those who are still eating feel as though they are holding others up; those who are not, are made to feel as though they have rushed the meal. Suddenly, what was a pleasant group dining experience becomes a group exercise in guilt.

“It’s definitely getting worse,” said Tyler Corbin, an economics professor at George Mason University who has written extensively about the economics of eating out. “It’s a problem. I don’t like it, either. It’s possible that there’s an economic reason for it. The price of rent is rising which increases the value of each table and that makes getting people in and out more important than good etiquette. A similar trend sees many restaurants hoping that diners don’t order dessert, because desserts are not profitable and it encourages people to linger. We need to politely ask the waiters to return later to clear the table after everyone has finished eating.”

Circle the correct answer.

- 1. What is the main purpose of this text?**
 - (a) to instruct us on how to plan a dinner date
 - (b) to advise us on how many courses to eat in restaurants
 - (c) to inform us about service etiquette in restaurants
 - (d) to persuade us to eat out in restaurants.

- 2. Until now, what was always the usual custom of waiters after a meal?**
 - (a) to clear the table after the 3 course meal has finished
 - (b) to let the diners return their own plates
 - (c) to clear the table after each diner has finished eating
 - (d) to clear the table after everyone has finished eating a course.

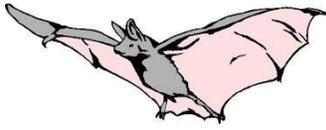
- 3. According to the text, impatient waiters turn the dining experience into...**
 - (a) a greedy experience
 - (b) a guilt ridden experience
 - (c) a gut wrenching experience
 - (d) a guiltless experience.

- 4. In the text, what is the meaning of the restaurant is the ‘talk of the town’?**
 - (a) people are saying good things about it
 - (b) other shops and restaurants are jealous of it
 - (c) the town Council recommends it
 - (d) everyone in town is complaining about it.

- 5. There is a spelling error in the 5th paragraph:**
 - (a) definitely
 - (b) extensively
 - (c) either
 - (d) etiquette.

- 6. What is the *recommendation* of the writer?**
 - (a) don’t eat out in restaurants
 - (b) let them clear the table when they want to
 - (c) instruct the waiter to come back when you are ready
 - (d) complain about it.

Task 2 Read the text and answer the questions



All bat species, their breeding sites and resting places are fully protected by European law. You may be able to get a licence from Natural England if you can't avoid disturbing them or damaging their habitat, or if you want to survey or conserve them.

You're breaking the law if you do certain things:

- deliberately capture, injure or kill bats
- damage or destroy a breeding or resting place
- obstruct access to their resting or sheltering places
- possess, sell, control or transport live or dead bats, or parts of them
- intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat while it's in a structure or place of shelter or protection.

Either or both of the following could happen if you're found guilty of any offences:

- you could be sent to prison for up to 6 months
- you could get an unlimited fine.

Activities that can affect bats include:

- renovating, converting or demolishing a building
- cutting down or removing branches from a mature tree
- repairing or replacing a roof.

In many cases you should be able to avoid harming the bats or damaging or blocking access to their habitats. You'll need an expert to do a bat survey. The survey will show what type, how many bats and how the bats are using the building or area so you can plan to avoid harming them and let them go about their own business without disruption.

Circle the correct answer.

- 7. What is the main purpose of this text?**
- (a) to describe all bat species
 - (b) to explain the legal requirements of the protection of bats
 - (c) to persuade us to protect bats
 - (d) to instruct us on how to get a licence to disturb bats.
- 8. Which textual feature helps the reader to find key information in the text?**
- (a) bold lettering
 - (b) bullet points
 - (c) headings
 - (d) paragraphs.
- 9. What is the name of the presentation features in bold?**
- (a) title
 - (b) captions
 - (c) sub headings
 - (d) headline.
- 10. What could be the result of the conditional 'if' sentence?**
- (a) you will be sent to prison or given a fine
 - (b) you may be sent to prison or given a fine
 - (c) you should be sent to prison or given a fine
 - (d) you probably won't be sent to prison or given a fine.
- 11. You will need a licence if you...**
- (a) plan to disturb a bat's habitat
 - (b) intend to survey a bat's habitat
 - (c) mean to arouse a bat's habitat
 - (d) aim to disrupt a bat's habitat.
- 12. Which word is not spelt correctly in the last paragraph?**
- (a) disruption
 - (b) expert
 - (c) access
 - (d) buisness.

Task 3 Read the text and answer the questions.



The tide is going out on the East Coast of the Lizard Peninsula, which means it's time for sea weeders, Tim and Sam, to prepare for work. After walking along the coastal path for 20 minutes, through the dew soaked greenery that cloaks the cliff side, they emerge on the shoreline, where the wind, waves and cries of seagulls, are the only sounds they hear. As it's a spring tide, the sea has subsided and revealed a vast area of stone boulders covered with seaweed and the marine life it supports now living in small rock pools. Now they can harvest the seaweed ready to wash and sell through their business.

Of the 350 species growing around the Cornish coast, Tim and Sam harvest about ten of the most _____ to avoid depleting supply. Jumping from rock to rock, they carefully trim only what they need with scissors, ensuring that the algae can grow back again. Their buckets soon fill with slippery, green sea lettuce and curly bundles of purple sea weed.

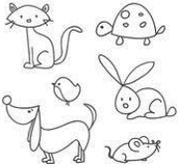
When their containers are full with 30-35 kilos, they start hauling them back up the 100-metre cliff. It might sound like a heavy, arduous task, but, says Sam, "When you're by the ocean with nature around you, it's the best job in the world."

Today, their certified-organic seaweed is sold nationwide through supermarkets, at farmers' markets and well-known restaurants. A favourite seaweed is samphire, which is delicious when eaten with fish.

Circle the correct answer.

- 13. What is the ‘dew soaked greenery that cloaks the cliff side’ in paragraph 1?**
- (a) wet seaweed grows on the cliff
 - (b) wet grass covers the cliff
 - (c) wet fish lie on the cliff
 - (d) wet sand hides the cliff.
- 14. Which is the best word to fill the gap in paragraph 2 and complete the sentence?**
- (a) sweetest
 - (b) greenest
 - (c) plentiful
 - (d) delicious.
- 15. Which of these are classed as ‘marine life’ in paragraph 1?**
- (a) shells
 - (b) pebbles
 - (c) crabs
 - (d) rocks.
- 16. Which word could replace ‘depleting’ in paragraph 2?**
- (a) increasing
 - (b) growing
 - (c) diminishing
 - (d) plentiful.
- 17. Why is hauling seaweed up a cliff ‘the best job in the world’?**
- (a) because it makes you strong and fit
 - (b) because you’re working near the sea and breathing in fresh air
 - (c) because you know you can make a lot of money from seaweed
 - (d) because you are your own boss.
- 18. What does ‘organic’ seaweed mean in the last paragraph?**
- (a) it is grown by man in seawater
 - (b) it is sprayed with chemicals to help it grow in the sea
 - (c) it isn’t sprayed with chemicals but is grown on a seawater farm
 - (d) it grows by itself, naturally, in the sea.

Task 4 Read the text then answer the following questions.



Two thirds of dog owners believe their pets can feel love and sense happiness

The bond between pets and their humans is powerful. Everyone remembers their first pet; the way your dog wagged his tail in delight at the mention of a walk or how you spent hours together learning new tricks and the way your cat follows you around and chooses to be with you rather than go outside.

Dogs have long been considered man's best friend and there is undoubtedly a unique bond between us and our four-legged friends.

These special relationships continue into adulthood. In fact, recent research found that 44 per cent of owners would prefer to spend time with their pets than with work colleagues. Why? Because they are loyal and more trustworthy. That's right; we would rather trust our pets than people we sit next to for eight hours a day. Almost half – 46 per cent- say they have felt happier and more content since getting a pet, and 76 per cent said that their dog has motivated them to take more exercise.

A survey by researchers, OnePoll, found that 72 per cent say their pet is their rock and without him or her they would find it more difficult to cope with day-to-day tensions. A second survey revealed a strong emotional connection between pet owners and their animals – 81 per cent believe their pet can sense when they are unhappy, while 66 per cent believe their pet can feel love.

Circle the correct answer.

- 19. What is the purpose of this text?**
- (a) to inform
 - (b) to persuade
 - (c) to instruct
 - (d) to advise.
- 20. How is the relationship between pets and humans described?**
- (a) it is an ineffective partnership
 - (b) it is a pointless friendship
 - (c) it is a trivial attachment
 - (d) it is a significant bond.
- 21. What does the author imply about people’s work colleagues?**
- (a) you can depend on them
 - (b) they are loyal and trustworthy
 - (c) they don’t have pets
 - (d) you can’t rely on them or trust them.
- 22. Which of these statements is a metaphor?**
- (a) a pet feels love and can sense emotion
 - (b) a pet is a rock
 - (c) a dog wags his tail in delight
 - (d) pets are our four legged friends.
- 23. What kind of word is “undoubtedly” in paragraph 2?**
- (a) a verb
 - (b) a noun
 - (c) an adjective
 - (d) an adverb.
- 24. How many people said they would trust their pets more than people?**
- (a) 44 per cent
 - (b) 46 per cent
 - (c) 76 per cent
 - (d) 72 per cent.

END OF ASSESSMENT

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