

Functional Skills
English Reading Assessment
Level 2 SAMPLE

Learner name

Run number

Learner signature

Centre

Assessment date

Question	Available marks	1 st Marker	2 nd Marker
1	1		
2	2		
3	4		
4	4		
5	2		
6	6		
7	2		
8	2		
9	3		
10	6		
Total	32		

Instructions to learners

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

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

You may use a dictionary.

There are 10 questions in this assessment.

Total marks available: 32

You should try to answer ALL the questions.

You have **1 hour** to finish the assessment.

Document One

Intranet Homepage - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

Intranet Homepage

www.weatherwarnings.co.uk/severeweather

What to do in severe weather

The first and most vital thing to do is check local and national weather forecasts and keep up to date with the latest warnings. The following table provides examples of the level of disruption that might be experienced at each of the impact levels (high, medium, low) and for each weather element (rain, snow, etc).

	Low	Medium	High
Impact and advice associated with RAIN	<p>Localised flooding of low lying fields, recreational land and car parks.</p> <p>Flooding of a small number of homes and businesses.</p> <p>Wet road surfaces and possibility of ponding water, especially in known trouble spots.</p> <p>Local disruption to travel - longer journey times.</p> <p>Water on roads - drive according to the conditions encountered.</p>	<p>Some flooding of homes, businesses and transport links possible.</p> <p>Disruption to travel likely.</p> <p>Disruption to gas, electricity, water supplies and telecoms.</p> <p>Some evacuations may be required. Be prepared to protect yourself and your property.</p>	<p>Widespread flooding of property. Severe disruption to travel. Loss of gas, electricity, water supplies.</p> <p>Significant disruption to communities.</p> <p>Evacuation expected. Significant risk to life.</p> <p>Take action to protect yourself and follow the advice of the emergency services.</p>
Impact and advice associated with WIND	<p>Some branches or trees brought down.</p> <p>Localised travel disruption.</p> <p>Localised problems for high-sided vehicles on prone routes.</p> <p>Drive with care, especially on exposed routes.</p> <p>BE AWARE of possible debris being blown around.</p>	<p>More widespread tree damage and other debris, slates etc dislodged from roofs. Some minor structural damage possible.</p> <p>Risk of injury from flying debris.</p> <p>Be prepared for some travel disruption e.g. closed bridges.</p> <p>Potential for some localised interruptions to power.</p>	<p>Widespread structural damage, e.g. roofs blown off, mobile homes overturned, power lines brought down.</p> <p>Risk to personal safety from flying debris.</p> <p>Potentially widespread and/or prolonged interruptions to power.</p> <p>Expect widespread transport disruption due to e.g. roads blocked by fallen trees.</p>
Impact and advice associated with SNOW	<p>Widespread snow lying on roads and pavements but road networks open.</p> <p>Localized travel disruption.</p> <p>Problems mostly confined to usual prone areas.</p> <p>Take extra care when walking, cycling or driving in affected areas.</p> <p>Journeys through affected areas may take longer than usual.</p>	<p>Widespread snow with a number of road closures, others passable only with care.</p> <p>Be prepared for some disruption to road, rail and air transport with difficult driving conditions likely and longer journey times.</p>	<p>Widespread deep snow with many roads closed or impassable. Roads likely to become impassable with high risk of drivers becoming stranded.</p> <p>Significant disruption to road, rail and air transport.</p> <p>Risk to personal safety.</p> <p>Expect significant disruption to normal day-to-day life as a result of transport issues, school closures etc.</p> <p>Unnecessary journeys should be avoided.</p>

Document Two

A Close Encounter with Lightning

In the early morning of July 5, 1973 I saw the best fireworks of my life. That morning, the voice on the radio warned about a line of strong thunderstorms moving east across the country. Judging from the crackle on the radio, there was a lot of lightning travelling with these storms. Were the storms headed my way? I was hopeful because I like incredible storms.

I could see dark grey clouds appearing on the west and northwest horizon. I was happy. I moved to the front garden where I had a better view. Shortly before 7:00 am the western sky was dark and deep booms rumbled through the



air. This was really going to be a good one! I watched in awe. By 7:20 the darkest part of the cloud was directly overhead. The frequent dance of lightning bolts was getting close. Large raindrops began to splat on the ground

around me. I stood up and began backing toward the house, not able to take my eyes off the angry but fascinating sky.

Then it hit. First there was a loud hiss and then a brilliant bolt of lightning into the back of the next-door neighbour's house. The explosive force of the lightning bolt nearly knocked me off my feet.

Another intense flash from behind was followed by a deafening crash of thunder. I dashed inside. Although my nerves were quite rattled, there was still that powerful desire to go back to the front door and watch the show. Heavy sheets of rain were swept along by the gusty wind as lightning continued to hit within a mile or two of my location.



When the storm ended I learned that lightning had damaged buildings on either side of our house and struck a clump of three oak trees just behind it. At the base of the trees large cobblestones were dislodged and two crows were found dead, apparently electrocuted. The lightning strike had caused dishes to fall from shelves and pictures to fall off walls at the back of the house. Half of our house had no electricity. The next-door neighbour lost a television set due to the electrical surge and two of four bulbs in a kitchen light fixture popped when the lightning struck.

So the advice I would give anyone experiencing a storm is to keep an eye on the sky and listen for thunder. Be at the lowest point as lightning hits the tallest objects. Stay away from trees and avoid water and metal as they both conduct electricity.

(taken and adapted from ucar.edu/webweather/storieslist.html)

Document Three

Weather Lore

Weather Lore is the informal folklore related to the prediction of the weather. It has been a human desire for many years to make accurate weather predictions. History is full of rhymes and anecdotes meant to guide people in finding out whether the next day will bring fair or foul weather.

For the farmer wanting to plant crops, or the merchant about to send ships to trade, foreknowledge of tomorrow's circumstances might mean the difference between success and failure.

Red Sky at Night

A red sunset probably means dry weather the next day.

In North America it is said that:

*'Red sky at night, sailor's delight,
Red sky at morning, sailors take warning.'*

In the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland it is said that:

*'Red sky at night shepherd's delight,
Red sky at morning, Shepherd's warning.'*

Weather systems typically move from west to east, and red clouds result when the sun shines on their undersides at either sunrise or sunset. At these times of the day, the sun's light is passing at a very low angle through a great thickness of atmosphere. The result of this is the scattering out of the shorter wave lengths, namely the greens and blues.

This means that sunlight is heavy at the red end of the spectrum. If the morning skies are red, it is because clear skies to the east permit the sun to light the underside of moisture-bearing clouds coming in from the west. In order to see red clouds in the evening, sunlight must have a clear path from the west in order to illuminate moisture-bearing clouds moving off to the east.



Answer the following questions.

1. What is the main purpose of **Document One**?

(1 mark)

2. Identify ways in which the layout of **Document One** helps the reader to understand the information.

(2 marks)



3. You need to travel tomorrow and severe weather is predicted. According to **Document One** what precautions could you take?

(4 marks)

4. Using examples from **Document Two** describe how the writer feels about the storm.

(4 marks)

5. **Document Two** illustrates the impact of lightning. Use examples from the text to explain the consequences of this aspect of the storm.

(2 marks)

6. You are preparing a leaflet to advise people on preparing for different types of weather. Using information from **Document One** describe the likely impact of each of the following types of weather event and precautions that could be taken:

(6 marks)

Weather event	Impact	How to prepare
High impact RAIN		
Low impact WIND		
High impact SNOW		

7. One of your friends intends to go “storm chasing” and spend time outdoors during the next thunderstorm. Using the information in **Document One** and **Document Two**, what advice would you give them?

(2 marks)

8. Using **Document Three** explain why Weather Lore came into existence.

(2 marks)

9. All three documents show how writers can present information using different writing styles to reach their audience. Identify a style used in each of the documents and explain its effect.

(3 marks)

END OF ASSESSMENT

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