

**LanguageCert
Communicator B2
Level 1
International ESOL for Schools
(Listening, Reading, Writing)
Practice Paper 1**

Candidate's name (block letters please)

Centre no

Date

Time allowed:

- Listening about 30 minutes
- Reading and Writing 2 hours and 10 minutes

Instructions to Candidates

- An Answer Sheet will be provided.
- All answers must be transferred to the Answer Sheet.
- Please use a soft pencil (2B, HB).

Listening Part 1

You will hear some short conversations. You will hear each conversation twice. Choose the correct answer to complete each conversation.

1. a) Can you upload it, please?
 b) Like what, for example?
 c) How can you say that?

2. a) It's absolutely brilliant, isn't it?
 b) We've already talked about that.
 c) I'm afraid I've lost it somewhere.

3. a) No, we haven't made up our minds yet.
 b) No, we can't manage to play that music.
 c) No, we are not going to reach that far.

4. a) Really? I'd love to do it.
 b) Really? I didn't know that.
 c) Do you fancy going out tonight?

5. a) Please don't mention it!
 b) Please think about it!
 c) Please do something about it!

6. a) I know how you feel!
 b) Well, that's a relief!
 c) It's not the end of the world!

7. a) I'd rather start at the top.
 b) So, what do you suggest?
 c) That's not very nice of you.

Listening Part 2

You will hear some conversations. You will hear each conversation twice. Choose the correct answers for each conversation.

Conversation 1

1. The man's article wasn't on this issue because
 - a) he forgot to send it to the editor.
 - b) he didn't have enough time to complete it.
 - c) he thinks the next issue will be better.
2. What does the woman think of the short stories?
 - a) They are very amusing.
 - b) They are not many.
 - c) They are not true to life.

Conversation 2

3. What do the two people disagree about?
 - a) the bad weather
 - b) a football match
 - c) a music concert
4. What is the woman doing?
 - a) complaining
 - b) persuading
 - c) apologising

Conversation 3

5. The man doesn't
 - a) have many hobbies.
 - b) understand blogs.
 - c) know Martha well.
6. The woman shouts at the man to stop him
 - a) taking something.
 - b) harming himself.
 - c) going somewhere.

Listening Part 3

You will hear someone talking. You will hear the person twice. Complete the information. Write short answers of one to five words.

Academy Summer Camp

1. The two new activities are:

2. The courses are for students aged between:

3. Linda believes the best type of accommodation is:

4. As a group project, most students prefer to make:

5. The weekly social activity is:

6. Students going to Exmoor can visit:

7. Linda believes the students enjoy the camp because:



Listening Part 4

You will hear a conversation. You will hear the conversation twice. Choose the correct answers.

1. What does Jane suggest for a successful project?
 - a) eating some sweet snacks
 - b) doing some initial planning
 - c) studying hard at the meetings

2. According to the speakers, their project's title
 - a) cannot be used because it is a song.
 - b) might be difficult to pronounce.
 - c) might need to be changed.

3. What will the speakers do on Sunday?
 - a) edit the photo on the computer
 - b) meet to choose the best photo
 - c) take pictures of several areas

4. Why does Jane suggest going to the library?
 - a) The teacher required historical information.
 - b) The resources will be more reliable.
 - c) The project will make a better impression.

5. Neil didn't do very well at the maths test because
 - a) he had not studied hard enough.
 - b) he had missed an important lesson.
 - c) Mr Morrison had not explained the unit well.

6. Neil hesitates to have lessons with Jane's sister because
 - a) he doesn't know her well enough.
 - b) he thinks she won't have any time.
 - c) he thinks he'll manage on his own.

Reading Part 1

Read the text and the questions. Choose the correct answer for each question.

March of the Penguins - film review

It's not hard to see why *March of the Penguins* has been a surprise box office smash - after all, who doesn't love to look at penguins? However, the film-makers miss several opportunities to make this something really special.

Directed by Frenchman Luc Jacquet and narrated (in the US version) by Morgan Freeman, the film took over a year to make and was filmed in extremely harsh conditions in Antarctica. It was then edited down from over 120 hours of footage to a viewer-friendly 85 minutes. It charts the annual cycle of the emperor penguins of Antarctica, beginning with their 70-mile march from the sea to their mating grounds (the bleak, uninhabited area where their lives began). They walk in single file, enduring winds of up to 100 mph and sub-zero temperatures. When they finally reach the mating grounds they undergo a series of elaborate rituals before mating.

Once the egg is laid, the female penguins go back to the sea where they swim around, eating and having a great time, whilst the males are left to hatch the eggs. After two months, the eggs hatch and the females return with food, at which point the males begin a constant trek to the sea and back in order to gather enough food to keep the penguin chicks in the style to which they've become accustomed.

The savage beauty of the Antarctic, as well as the details of the penguins' feathers, are all captured by the fantastic photography. The main problem is the constant human-centred approach to the narration, and Morgan Freeman is never given the chance to miss jerking tears: 'This is the first time the father has broken his bond with the chick. It is not an easy thing to do.' Really? How do we know? Did Jacquet interview the daddy penguins? In truth, the images are striking enough on their own.

Secondly, it's been horribly sanitised, with all the real bits, notably death and the mating process, removed to make it safely suitable for young children. Freeman also glosses over the deaths of tired penguins who can't endure the journey: they don't die; they 'disappear' or 'fade away'.

In short, *March of the Penguins* is undeniably spectacular to look at, but it doesn't amount to much more than 85 minutes of 'Ooh, look at the cute penguins'. Kids will love it and it's still worth watching it yourself for the astonishing imagery.

1. At the beginning of the cycle, the penguins
 - a) travel along the coast.
 - b) go to their birthplace.
 - c) search for a new home.

2. After the females lay their eggs, they
 - a) keep them warm.
 - b) go back to their home.
 - c) return to the sea to feed.

3. After the chicks are born, the males
 - a) take them to the sea to feed them.
 - b) spend two months in the sea.
 - c) bring food to them from the sea.

4. The film suffers from
 - a) a poor choice of narrator.
 - b) an over-emotional script.
 - c) insufficient visual material.

5. In order to appeal to children, the film-makers have
 - a) cut the less pleasant images.
 - b) changed the story of the film.
 - c) reduced the length of the film.

6. In a nutshell, the reviewer's opinion is that the film is
 - a) worth seeing despite the narration.
 - b) visually stunning and well-narrated.
 - c) fine for kids but adults will hate it.

Reading Part 2

Read the text. Use the sentences to complete the text. Choose the correct sentence for each gap. There is one extra sentence you will not need.

Playing and learning

Throughout history children have played in groups and taken part in imaginative games. They've pretended to be pirates and princesses, heroes and villains. **(1)**_____ However, the way in which children play has changed during recent times. Children now have a much wider range of toys to choose from and as a result spend less time playing pretend games. **(2)**_____

Pretend games actually help children to develop an important learning skill called 'executive function', which improves their ability to self-regulate. Kids with good self-regulation are able to manage their emotions and behaviour, and display self-control and discipline.

(3)_____ In the late 1940s psychologists carried out a self-regulation study, in which young children were asked to perform a number of different exercises. One of the exercises in the experiment was to stand perfectly still without moving, which most three-year olds were good at. **(4)**_____ They found that today's five-year-old children could only perform at the same level as three-year-olds in the 1940s and today's seven-year-olds were only just reaching the level of a five-year-old then.

A child's level of 'executive function' can have a big effect on the success they have at school, as children learn more when they can pay attention and manage their feelings. One reason imaginative play is such a vital tool for building self-control is because it teaches children to engage in 'private speech'. **(5)**_____ When children's play is more structured, their private speech declines.

Children are now starting their formal lessons in school at a much younger age and classes are often geared towards testing children and preparing them for exams. **(6)**_____ But it now seems that this environment we've created, which was designed to give children every advantage in life, may actually have deprived them of a vital activity. Play time, it seems, is extremely important for children.

- A Parents created secure environments to play in.
- B They've improvised and regulated their play by making up their own rules and characters.
- C Researchers recently repeated this experiment, and found very different results.
- D This recent trend has been shown to have an impact on their imagination.
- E As a result some teachers think playing is a waste of time.
- F This means that children talk to themselves about what they are going to do and how they are going to do it.
- G By comparing two studies, we can now prove that children's ability to self-regulate has been reduced in the past sixty years.

Reading Part 3

Read the four texts. Which text gives you the answer to each question? Choose the correct text (A-D) for each question.

A

For the perfect fries, follow these tips: cut long, thin chips, and salt them. Pour enough good quality oil in a pan and increase the heat. Test the temperature by dropping a chip in. If it starts frying, the temperature is right. Add the potatoes to the hot oil and cover the pot for five minutes, then remove the lid and fry for another five minutes on high. Take them out and add salt if needed. If you like, add some melted cheese too.

B

Nowadays nobody can imagine life without potatoes, but they are a fairly new addition to the European diet. Sailors returning from South America brought them back, but for at least two centuries, potatoes remained a food for few. They became popular in the late 17th and early 18th centuries, when the climate changed, and other products people relied on were hard to find. One of the most famous and well-liked dishes, is, of course, fried potatoes which are easy to make and always tasty if cooked properly.

C

Are you fond of potatoes? Do you enjoy well-fried chips as much as we do? Do you like your fries crispy on the outside and soft on the inside? Do you fancy different varieties of toppings and dressings with them? If you do, then, the Happy Potato Café is the place to visit! We specialise in making the perfect fries for every taste by cooking them at the appropriate temperature in high quality oil! Visit our historic, two-hundred-year-old café and taste the best fries since Belgian farmers first invented them!

D

Last Saturday we visited this café we'd heard so much about to try their fries. I must say they were far from delicious, so I'd not recommend it. The owners claim they make the best in the area, but obviously ours hadn't been cooked at an appropriate temperature because they were cold and soft, not at all crispy – very disappointing. There were lots of customers, though, and the owners say their café's really old – but our fries tasted as old as the first potatoes to come to Europe from America!

Which text:

1. aims to attract potential customers?
2. is an account of a personal experience?
3. gives instructions on how to do something?

Which text provides the answers to the following questions?

4. When was an eating place established?
5. What does someone advise against?
6. How can you tell when the temperature is appropriate?
7. Who introduced potatoes to Europe?

Reading Part 4

Read the text and answer the questions. Use a maximum of five words for each question.

Ancient airplanes - Did the Incas build aircrafts?

In 1954, the Colombian government sent part of its collection of ancient artifacts to the USA for further analysis. Emmanuel Staubs, a leading jeweller, took six weeks to make copies of six of the objects. Initially, these objects were thought to be representing animals. Fifteen years later, one was given to biologist Ivan Sanderson for analysis. After thorough examination that lasted a month and several discussions with experts, Sanderson's conclusion was that the object is a model of an aircraft at least a thousand years old.

Approximately 2 inches long, these objects were worn as jewellery on neck chains. Other suggested usages as charms or toys were later rejected. Their exact age was difficult to determine, however, it is believed that they all date back to 500 - 800 AD.

Both Sanderson and Dr Arthur Poyslee of the Aeronautical Institute of New York stated that the object did not represent any known winged animal. In fact, the little artifact appears more mechanical than biological, mostly because of the shape of the wings. For example, the front wings are delta-shaped, unlike animal wings. The tail is perhaps the item resembling a plane the most, as it is triangular and vertical to the wings.

Adding to the mystery, researchers examined the left side of the tail, where ID marks appear on many planes today. They found a symbol as confusing as the gold model itself, since **it** has been identified as the Aramaic letter B. This may indicate that if there was an original plane, it did not come from Colombia, but it was the product of a population from the Middle East who knew the secret of flying.

In 1997, Peter Belting put the theory to the test. He centered his research on historical evidence and found that the wings of insects are at the top of the body, not at the bottom, and that all Incan artifacts, except these few suspected "planes", were made correctly. Belting studied many scientific essays and made a model plane, first with a propeller, afterwards with a jet engine. Whereas the first has to take off by hand, the jet engine one also had landing gear.

At a conference in Orlando, Florida, the researcher showed a recording where both models were actually able to fly. The jet-engine model was also capable of taking off and landing perfectly. A live demonstration later took place in the parking lot of the Florida mall, yet the models can be found in several museums around the world. Despite Belting's findings, archaeology identifies them as representations of birds, lizards, amphibians and insects, common in the region and period.

1. How long did it take Sanderson to decide what the objects were?

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2. What was the purpose of the objects?

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3. What makes the objects look like a machine?

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4. In the fourth paragraph, what does **it** refer to?

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5. What was Belting's theory based on?

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6. What extra equipment did Belting's second model have?

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7. Where can someone see the copies of the objects?

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Writing Part 1

You’ve seen part of an article in a music magazine. Write an email to the editor commenting on:

- the results
- the benefits of listening to music while studying
- your own personal preference.

Write between 100 and 150 words.

According to a new study, people listening to their favourite music while studying, seem to be focusing better on their tasks. The study evaluated 100 volunteers. Each was monitored over a one-week period. Classical music topped people’s preferences for improving their concentration, with pop music coming second. Chat shows were also among the popular choices but significantly less preferred.

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This image shows a full page of a handwriting practice worksheet. It consists of multiple sets of three horizontal dashed lines, providing a guide for letter height and placement. The lines are evenly spaced across the entire page, leaving ample room for practicing various letters and words. There is no text or other markings on the page.

Writing Part 2

You recently had a surprising experience. Write a letter to your friend in England, explaining why you were surprised, and saying how you felt about it afterwards.

Write between 150 and 200 words.

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