

**ESOL International
Sample English Reading Examination
Level B2 Independent User**

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

Please complete the information on your mark sheet.

DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAPER.

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

You may **NOT** use a dictionary.

There are 30 questions in this examination.

You must attempt all the questions.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

Total marks available: 30

You have **60 minutes** to finish the examination.

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Sample Examination Task Sheet**

Text 1

Read the text about warming up for exercise and answer the questions on the following page.

Warming up is the process of raising your core body temperature. A proper warm-up should raise your body temperature by one or two degrees Celsius. It is very important that you perform the general warm-up before you stretch. 'It is not a good _____ to try to stretch before your muscles is warm (something which the general warm-up does)' said Mark Wright the British footballer.	1 2 3 4 5 6
Warming up can do more than just loosen stiff muscles; when done properly, it can actually improve performance. On the other hand a badly performed warm-up can greatly increase your risk of injury in sports. The main goals of the warm-up are:	7 8 9 10
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improved coordination• Improved elasticity of muscles• A reduced risk of muscle pulls• An increase in flexibility• Making your lungs and heart work better	11 12 13 14 15 16
Stretches do not help achieve these goals because they are likely to cause the stretched muscles to be too tired to perform properly.	17 18 19
The general warm-up is divided into two parts: getting your joints moving and then increasing your blood flow and core body temperature. You should begin with joint-rotations, starting either from your toes and working your way up, or from your fingers and working your way down. This allows your joints to work more easily when you begin playing sport. You should perform slow circular movements, both clockwise and anti-clockwise, until the joint seems to move smoothly.	20 21 22 23 24 25 26
When you have <i>performed</i> the joint rotations you can start to increase your cardiovascular output (i.e. get your blood pumping). Jogging, skipping, push-ups, sit ups and sprinting increase your core body temperature, make you breath hard and get your blood flowing. Increased blood flow in the muscles improves muscle performance and flexibility and reduces the likelihood of injury. Aerobic exercise has been proven to increase both physical and psychological well-being in a person.	27 28 29 30 31 32

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1. According to the article, which statement is true?
 - a. A warm-up should increase your body temperature by one to two degrees
 - b. You should stretch before you warm up
 - c. Increased blood flow in muscles increases the chance of injury
 - d. Joint rotations must always start from the toes up

2. Why must you do joint rotations?
 - a. To make you breathe harder
 - b. To make your heart pump faster
 - c. To increase your psychological well-being
 - d. To make your joints move smoothly

3. Which of these does NOT increase your cardio-vascular output?
 - a. Sit ups
 - b. Jogging
 - c. Stretches
 - d. Skipping

4. What is the first part of a warm up?
 - a. Completing stretches
 - b. Cardio-vascular exercise
 - c. Joint rotations
 - d. Jogging

5. According to the article, a proper warm-up:
 - a. Can increase the risk of muscle pulls
 - b. Can improve performance
 - c. Should begin with a stretch
 - d. Will damage your performance


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6. A word has been omitted in line 4. The word should be:
- ideas
 - idea
 - ideally
 - ideal
7. There is a grammatical mistake:
- In line 2
 - In line 4
 - In line 7
 - In line 9
8. Which word should always be spelt with a capital letter?
- Aerobic
 - Mark
 - British
 - Jogging
9. There is a spelling mistake:
- In line 18
 - In line 23
 - In line 29
 - In line 32
10. The best word to replace the word *performed* in line 27 is:
- Finishing
 - Finalised
 - Finish
 - Finished

Text 2

Read the article about food hygiene and answer the questions on the following page.

Food Hygiene at Home

<p>Preparing food</p> <p>Bacteria spreading from one food to another are a major cause of food poisoning. This can happen when raw food touches or drips onto ready-to-eat food, or when chopping boards, utensils and people's hands have touched raw food.</p>		<p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8</p>
<p>Preventing bacteria spreading</p> <p>To prevent bacteria from spreading, remember to do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • always wash your hands before preparing food and after touching raw food, especially raw meat • prepare raw and ready-to-eat food separately • if you have used a knife or chopping board with raw meat, do not use them with ready-to-eat food (such as fruit, salad and cooked food) unless you have cleaned them thoroughly first • keep cloths, tea towels and hand towels clean and _____ them frequently 		<p>9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17</p>
<p>Take extra care</p> <p>If you are preparing food for _____ people, babies, toddlers, pregnant women or someone who is ill, avoid giving them eggs with runny yolks, or foods that contain eggs that won't be cooked, for example, homemade mayonnaise and some types of ice cream, icing or mousse. This is because eggs can contain harmful bacteria. When preparing eggs for these people, cook them until the white and yolk are solid.</p>	<p>Chilling food</p> <p>Some foods need to be kept chilled to keep it safe, for example, food with a 'use by' date (a date by when you must have eaten the food), food that you have cooked and will not serve immediately, or other ready-to-eat food.</p> <p>Always remember to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • put food that needs to be chilled in the fridge <i>straightaway</i> • cool cooked food as quickly as possible and then put it in the fridge • store raw meat and poultry in a sealed container at the bottom of the fridge to stop it touching or dripping onto ready-to-eat food 	<p>18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33</p>

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/HealthAndWellBeing/HealthyLiving/DG_4002927 © Crown Copyright

11. According to the article, why should you cook the whites and yolks of eggs until they are solid?
- Bacteria may drip from them to other uncooked foods
 - They may be past their 'use by' date
 - Some people may be harmed by the bacteria they contain
 - You may not have washed your hands before touching the egg
12. Which section should you read if you want to know how to store ready to eat foods?
- Preparing food
 - Preventing bacteria spreading
 - Take extra care
 - Chilling food
13. Which way of spreading bacteria is NOT in the article?
- By sneezing and not covering your mouth and nose
 - Not washing your hands before preparing food
 - Not keeping cloths clean
 - Raw meat and poultry touching or dripping onto other food
14. Ready to eat food is:
- Raw meat
 - Fruit
 - Poultry
 - Eggs
15. According to the article, what is the "use-by date"?
- You will eat the food on that date
 - You can eat the food after that date
 - You buy the food on that date
 - You must eat the food before that date

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16. The word *straightaway* in line 27 can be best replaced with:

- a. Soon
- b. Later
- c. Finally
- d. Immediately

17. There is a spelling mistake on:

- a. Line 8
- b. Line 10
- c. Line 12
- d. Line 14

18. A grammatical mistake has been made on:

- a. Line 2
- b. Line 8
- c. Line 10
- d. Line 20

19. The best word to complete the sentence in line 19 is:

- a. elderly
- b. elder
- c. eldest
- d. elders

20. What is the best word or phrase to complete line 17?

- a. Change
- b. Changed
- c. Have been changed
- d. Will change

Text 3

Read the article about family history and answer the questions on the following page.

Kate Winslet and Kate Middleton's family histories revealed in online 1911 census	
Details of the family history of Kate Winslet and Kate Middleton can be found in the latest English census to be made available on the internet.	1 2 3
The census shows the name, age, place of birth, marital status and occupation of every person in every home in England. The census was completed by 36 million householders on Sunday, 2 April 1911.	4 5 6 7
Many people are interested in finding out about their own family history as well as exploring the background of the rich and famous. The census website now has the whole of the 1911 UK census including images of the handwritten census forms themselves. People can also search for the history of the homes they live in.	8 9 10 11 12 13
Among the records is Richard Noel Middleton, a solicitor, who was the great-grandfather of Kate Middleton, (now the Duchess of Cambridge).	14 15 16
Titanic actress Kate Winslet's great-great-grandfather John had run a public house but was retired by 1911. Her great grandfather Charles Winslet was still running a public house at the same address in 1911.	17 18 19 20
Oliver Morley, from The National Archives, who has worked on the project, said the new passion for family history was exciting.	21 22 23
"Finishing this project has been one of the most exciting events for us this year, and to know that so many people have been able to see part of their personal history online shows how valuable it can be to make these records available on the web," he said.	24 25 26 27 28
Census statistics help paint a picture of the nation and how we live. They provide a detailed snapshot of the population and its characteristics, and underpin funding allocation to provide public services.	29 30 31 32
The population of England & Wales on Census Day, 27 March 2011, was 56,075,912.	33 34

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21. What is the main purpose of the text?
- a. To inform
 - b. To explain
 - c. To persuade
 - d. To describe
22. What does the article NOT say is included in a census?
- a. The history of the house
 - b. Dates of birth
 - c. Images of the houses
 - d. The jobs that people do
23. Who worked as a solicitor?
- a. Kate Winslet
 - b. Duchess of Cambridge
 - c. Kate Winslet's great-great grandfather
 - d. Duchess of Cambridge's great-grandfather
24. 'Paint a picture' in line 29 means:
- a. Produces a painting of what life was like
 - b. Helps us to imagine what life was like
 - c. Helps us to return to the past
 - d. Shows an actual image of the past
25. If someone is retired they:
- a. Are dead
 - b. Are not working
 - c. Are working
 - d. Have changed job

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Text 4

Read the article about William Shakespeare.

Answer the questions on the following page.

William Shakespeare (26 April 1564 – 23 April 1616) was an English poet and playwright, widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language. Shakespeare was born and brought up in Stratford-upon-Avon. At the age of 18, he married Anne Hathaway, with whom he had three children: Susanna, and twins Hamnet and Judith.	1 2 3 4 5 6
Between 1585 and 1592, he began a successful career in London as an actor, writer, and part-owner of a theatre company called the Lord Chamberlain’s Men, later known as the King’s Men. He appears to have retired to Stratford around 1613 at age 49, where he died three years later.	7 8 9 10 11
Shakespeare produced most of his known work between 1589 and 1613. His early plays were mainly comedies and histories. He then wrote mainly tragedies until about 1608, including Hamlet, King Lear, Othello and Macbeth, considered some of the finest works in the English language. By the last years of Elizabeth I’s reign, Shakespeare was well established as a famous poet and playwright and was called upon to perform several of his plays before the Queen at court.	12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19
Shakespeare spent the last five years of his life in New Place in Stratford. He died on 23 April 1616 at the age of 52 and was buried in Holy Trinity Church in Stratford. He left his property to the male heirs of his eldest daughter, Susanna. His son had died at the age of 11. Shakespeare spent almost twenty years of his marriage apart from his wife.	20 21 22 23 24 25
Today five of the most important houses which have links to Shakespeare are open to the public. Shakespeare’s birthplace is situated on Henley Street in the town centre of Stratford-upon-Avon and gives a thrilling insight into his early life. Explore the house where Shakespeare’s mother, Mary Arden, grew up and experience for yourself the daily routine, skills and crafts that the young William would have known from visits to his grandparents in the 1570s. Discover where the young William Shakespeare courted his future bride Anne Hathaway at her picturesque family home. Nash’s House is Shakespeare’s final home in Stratford-upon-Avon and Hall’s Croft is where Shakespeare’s daughter Susanna lived with her husband.	26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35

26. According to the text, which statement is true?
- a. Shakespeare was born at Hall Croft
 - b. Shakespeare lived with his wife all through their marriage
 - c. Shakespeare's mother was called Mary
 - d. Shakespeare left his property to his daughter
27. When did Shakespeare leave London to retire to Stratford?
- a. In 1589
 - b. In 1608
 - c. In 1613
 - d. In 1616
28. What is meant by 'gives a thrilling insight' in line 28?
- a. Allows us to see what life was like for Shakespeare in an exciting way
 - b. Shakespeare's early life was very exciting
 - c. It is thrilling to go to the house
 - d. The house is exciting
29. Which plays are named in the text?
- a. Hamlet, Macbeth, Romeo and Juliet, King Lear
 - b. King Lear, Macbeth, Hamlet, Othello
 - c. Othello, Hamlet, Romeo and Juliet, Macbeth
 - d. Much Ado About Nothing, Hamlet, Othello, King Lear
30. Where did Shakespeare die?
- a. Hall Croft
 - b. London
 - c. Henley Street
 - d. Nash's House

End of Examination

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



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Learner Name _____

Learner Registration Number _____ Examination Date _____

Centre Name _____ Centre Number _____

Instructions: Draw a line through either a, b, c or d to answer each question. 
 If you change your mind black out the wrong answer  and choose a new one with a line. 
 If you think your first answer was right, black out the wrong answer and circle your first answer. 

NOCN Use Only

1	a	b	c	d	
2	a	b	c	d	
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27	a	b	c	d	
28	a	b	c	d	
29	a	b	c	d	
30	a	b	c	d	
Total Marks					

Learner Signature _____

Date _____