



Key skills communication Adult literacy ESOL Skills for Life Reading Unit Level 1 Test Paper

YOU NEED

- This test paper
- An answer sheet

You may **NOT** use a dictionary

Do **NOT** open this paper until you are told to do so by the supervisor

THERE ARE 40 QUESTIONS IN THIS TEST

Total marks available: 40

Try to answer ALL the questions

YOU HAVE 1 HOUR TO FINISH THE TEST

INSTRUCTIONS

- Make sure your personal details are entered correctly on the answer sheet
 - Read each question carefully
 - Follow the instructions on how to complete the answer sheet
 - At the end of the test, hand the test paper, your answer sheet and all notes to the supervisor
-

REMEMBER: YOU HAVE 1 HOUR TO FINISH THE TEST

INSTRUCTIONS TO CENTRES

- This paper must not be photocopied

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Questions 1 to 5 are based on the following document.

Tattoos



1

The word 'tattoo' comes from the Tahitian word 'tattau' which means to mark. It was first used by the explorer James Cook in the records of his 1769 expedition to the South Pacific.

2

In ancient Rome, slaves were often exported with the words 'tax paid' or 'stop me I'm a runaway' tattooed on their foreheads. In Japan, tattoos were first used to punish criminals. First offences were recorded with a line across the forehead; a second offence was marked with an arch and a third was marked by another line. Together, these marks form the Japanese character for dog.

3

In 1862, the Prince of Wales visited Jerusalem and had the Jerusalem Cross tattooed on his arm, starting a huge fashion for tattoos among the British aristocracy.

4

The most popular tattoos today are Japanese, tribal and Celtic designs. Dolphins, butterflies, roses and a person's name are also favourites. Although it is fashionable to have a tattoo, the majority of people say that they have come to regret having one done.

- 1 This document
 - A advertises the benefits of tattoos
 - B warns of the dangers of having a tattoo
 - C gives a brief history of tattoos
 - D explains the popularity of tattoos

- 2 Where was it usual to tattoo lawbreakers?
 - A ancient Rome
 - B Japan
 - C Jerusalem
 - D Tahiti

- 3 According to the document, which of these statements is true?
 - A The Prince of Wales influenced others to have tattoos
 - B Roman slaves were tattooed on their arms
 - C One of the most common tattoos is a Jerusalem Cross
 - D The word tattoo is the Japanese for dog

- 4 Most people who have a tattoo
 - A choose to have a Celtic design
 - B eventually decide that it was a mistake
 - C come from the island of Tahiti
 - D are among the British aristocracy

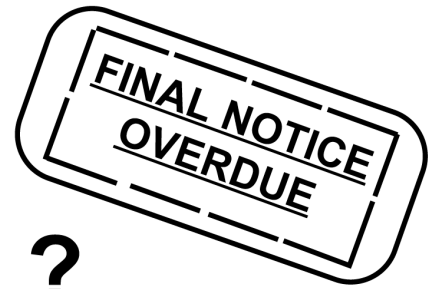
- 5 In which paragraph does this sentence belong? 'On average people wait fourteen years before seeking advice on having a tattoo removed.'
 - A Paragraph 1
 - B Paragraph 2
 - C Paragraph 3
 - D Paragraph 4

Questions 6 to 10 are based on the following draft document.

14 Stafford Place Bexhill BE3 4ST	
Date as postmark	
Mrs B Goodman A Cut Above the Rest 15 Court Road Bexhill BE5 7BD	
Dear Mrs Goodman	line 1
I am writing to ask if you would consider offering me a placement for to weeks as part of my work experience. This starts from the week beginning Monday 21 April.	line 2 line 3 line 4
I have always been intrested in hairdressing and during the last school holidays. I had helped out at my aunt's hairdressing salon in Southend. I have definnitley made up my mind that I would like to train as a hairdresser when I leave school.	line 5 line 6 line 7 line 8
If you would like to interview me before you make a decision, I am available any weekday after school or at any time on Saturdays.	line 9 line 10 line 11
Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I look forward to hearing from you.	line 12 line 13
Yours sincerely	
Julie Hammond	

- 6 The word 'definnitley' on line 7 has been spelt incorrectly. The correct spelling is
- A definitely
 - B defintley
 - C definatley
 - D definatley
- 7 A full stop has been wrongly used on
- A line 3
 - B line 6
 - C line 7
 - D line 12
- 8 On line 6, 'had helped' is incorrect. The words should be replaced with
- A help
 - B helped
 - C helps
 - D will help
- 9 Which of the following contains a spelling mistake?
- A 'I am writing' (line 2)
 - B 'the week beginning' (line 4)
 - C 'always been intrested' (line 5)
 - D 'like to interview me' (line 9)
- 10 On which of the following lines has the word 'to' been used incorrectly?
- A line 3
 - B line 8
 - C line 9
 - D line 13

Questions 11 to 15 are based on the following document.



Out of your depth ?

Being in debt is a nightmare but there is something you can do about it. Stage one is to sit down and add up all your bills to find out exactly how much you owe. Next make a list of all the money that comes in and how much goes out each month. Then do your sums. How much do you have left each month after paying essential expenses? That's the amount you have left to start paying off your debts.

You **must** pay your mortgage or rent or you could lose your home. Council tax is another priority - at worst, you could go to jail for not paying this. Gas and electricity bills must be paid or you could find yourself cut off. The consequences of not paying credit card or store bill are generally less serious, although goods not paid for may have to be repossessed.

Don't look for quick fixes. Using a debt management service may seem an easy solution but don't forget you have to pay for their services and this money would be better spent paying off your debts. Don't even consider borrowing more money from a loan company. You will be paying a massive rate of interest and just exchanging one debt for another.

You can keep your debts down by paying more than the minimum each month off your credit card. See if you can switch your credit card balance to a card that offers a lower interest rate. Try to pay regular bills by direct debit, so that you know exactly how much you're spending each month.

11 The document states that a person in debt should

- A use direct debits to make payments that come round each month
- B make use of the services of a debt management company
- C borrow money from a loan company to pay off existing debts
- D pay only the minimum amount off a credit card debt each month

- 12 The document states that if you do not pay your council tax it is possible you may
- A have your furniture repossessed
 - B be given a prison sentence
 - C have your gas or electricity cut off
 - D lose your home
- 13 The word 'essential' in paragraph one means
- A unexpected
 - B regular
 - C total
 - D necessary
- 14 According to the document, in which order should you draw up a plan to repay your debts?
1. Make a list of income and expenses
 2. Add up your bills to find out how much money you owe
 3. Find out how much money is left after expenses
- A 2 1 3
 - B 3 1 2
 - C 1 3 2
 - D 2 3 1
- 15 The **main** purpose of this document is to
- A warn people against using credit cards too often
 - B describe what could happen to a person in debt
 - C persuade people never to borrow money
 - D advise people how to deal with being in debt

Questions 16 to 20 are based on the following draft document.



Jenny and Chris have been together for 5 years.
You were invited to their anniversary meal and disco we have
organised the party as a surprise for them.

line 1
line 2
line 3

**The party will be held on 6 November at The Crown, Bamburgh,
starting with the meal at 7.30 pm.**

line 4
line 5

These are the menu choices.

line 6

Starters

Chef's choice soup

line 7
line 8

Main Course

Steak with pepper sauce
Roast vegetable bake

line 9
line 10
line 11

Desserts

Blackcurrant sorbet
Cheese and biscuits

line 12
line 13
line 14

Can you come.

line 15

**Please let one of us know whether you can join us by 21 October
at the latest. We hope to have lots of friends with us for the
evening. It will be great fun.**

line 16
line 17
line 18

We need your choices from the menu by 21 October.

line 19

Contact: James 01222 888999 or Moira 02255 444777

line 20

- 16 In the draft document which of the following is incorrect?
- A You were (line 2)
 - B will be (line 4)
 - C These are (line 6)
 - D you can (line 16)
- 17 A full stop followed by a capital letter is needed after
- A together (line 1)
 - B disco (line 2)
 - C November (line 4)
 - D choices (line 19)
- 18 A word has been spelt incorrectly on
- A line 14
 - B line 16
 - C line 17
 - D line 19
- 19 The word 'suprise' has been spelt incorrectly on line 3. The correct spelling is
- A surprice
 - B surpprise
 - C suppprise
 - D surprise
- 20 A question mark is needed instead of a full stop on
- A line 1
 - B line 15
 - C line 18
 - D line 19

Questions 21 to 25 are based on the following document.



DIWALI

Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights, is a popular festival which comes from South Asia.

The festival extends over five days during the months of October or November and involves lights, fireworks and the giving of sweets. This makes it a great time for children.

Preparations for Diwali may begin three weeks before the event. It is seen as a time to redecorate houses and buy new clothes. Rangoli are drawn on the floors. These are patterns and the most popular subject is the lotus flower.

During Diwali itself, every village home is lit at night with little lamps in the hope that Lakshmi, the goddess of good luck and wealth, will visit it. These lamps are traditionally fuelled with mustard oil, although in big towns electric lights are more commonly used.

One story is that the festival marks the return of Rama to rule over his people. He had been absent for fourteen years during which he overcame the demon Ravana.

Diwali is a time when everyone is happy because of the victory of good over bad and light over darkness.

In Britain, the city of Leicester is well known for its Diwali celebrations.

- 21 The festival of Diwali lasts for
- A 5 days
 - B 3 weeks
 - C 2 months
 - D 14 years
- 22 Which of the following **best** describes Diwali?
- A It is a festival arranged especially for children
 - B It is a celebration of the defeat of evil
 - C It is a special day of worship of the lotus flower
 - D It is a festival that first started in the city of Leicester
- 23 The document states that during Diwali
- A lights burning mustard oil usually light up large towns
 - B village homes are usually lit up with large electric lights
 - C lights are lit in village homes in order to attract good fortune
 - D lights are lit in order to scare away the demon Ravana
- 24 Without changing the meaning, the word 'popular' in the second line could be replaced with
- A very colourful
 - B exciting
 - C fashionable
 - D well-liked
- 25 What is the **main** purpose of this passage?
- A To persuade people to join the Diwali celebrations
 - B To tell people how they should behave during Diwali
 - C To explain how to prepare for the Diwali festivities
 - D To describe how and why Diwali is celebrated

Questions 26 to 30 are based on the following draft document.

TLB ENGINEERING

TRENTHAM ROAD, HEXLEY, HE3 4AH
Tel 01785 919293

Date as postmark

Mr Matthew Harris
52 Forsbrook Drive
Hexley
HE15 7GJ

Dear Mr Harris

With regard to your application for the job of computer technician, I am writing to tell you that unfortunately you were not chosen for interview this time.

line 1
line 2
line 3

We had a large number of applicants and had difficult decisions to make we feel that, although you have the necessary qualifications, we need someone with more experience at this time.

line 4
line 5
line 6
line 7

However, next April we plan to expand the computer department at our works in Trentham Road and we _____ in need of more technical staff. We will keep your application in our files.

line 8
line 9
line 10
line 11

If you want some more information as to why you were not selected for interview, please do not hesitate to telephone us and ask to speak to Miss Marie Jones, one of our senior computer technicians.

line 12
line 13
line 14
line 15

Yours sincerely

Claudette Sinclair
Chief Administrative Officer

- 26 The correct words to fill the gap on line 9 are
- A have been
 - B were being
 - C will have been
 - D will be
- 27 A capital letter has been used incorrectly on
- A line 8
 - B line 9
 - C line 12
 - D line 14
- 28 A spelling mistake needs correcting on
- A line 2
 - B line 5
 - C line 6
 - D line 10
- 29 A full stop followed by a capital letter is needed after
- A make (line 5)
 - B someone (line 6)
 - C Road (line 9)
 - D ask (line 14)
- 30 Which of the following is true?
- A 'were' should be replaced by 'was' (line 2)
 - B 'decisions' is spelt incorrectly (line 4)
 - C 'qualifications' should begin with a capital letter (line 6)
 - D a question mark should replace the full stop after 'files' (line 11)

Questions 31 to 35 are based on the following document.

Here are four important things to think about as you look for the right place to live:

1 Buying a home is not always better than renting. Property prices are high now and it is expensive to buy a house. Some people do not want the responsibility of owning a house. Another reason to rent is many people only live in an area for a short time.

2 Plan your move in advance. Don't wait till the last minute. Arrange a time to meet your landlord or landlady at the property. Make sure you tell your bank to pay the rent and deposit. Another good idea is to ask your friends and family to help you move.

3 There are benefits to sharing a house or flat. A few simple rules will keep things going smoothly. Always sort out money so everyone knows how much to pay. Share out household chores equally. Discuss problems at an early stage. Don't let them build up.

4 Being a student and living away from home for the first time is stressful, even frightening. New students have a lot to deal with and they sometimes rent the first place they find, even if it is not suitable. The result is that students often live in poor conditions. There is plenty of accommodation but it is sometimes hard to know where to look.

- 31 The **main** purpose of this document is to
- A give advice about renting somewhere to live
 - B warn you not to rent a house
 - C advertise houses and flats to rent
 - D describe how to move into a new flat or home
- 32 Point 1 explains why
- A buying a house is expensive at the moment
 - B not everyone wants responsibilities
 - C some people do not stay long in one place
 - D it can be better to rent a home than buy it

- 33 According to the document, when you move it is important to
- A share household chores
 - B buy the right house
 - C plan ahead
 - D help your family
- 34 Which word can **best** replace 'benefits' on the first line of point 3?
- A payments
 - B responsibilities
 - C advantages
 - D agreements
- 35 According to the document, some students live in unsuitable places because
- A they are living away from home for the first time
 - B they sometimes rent the first property they find
 - C living alone for the first time is frightening
 - D there is not enough accommodation

Please go on to the next page

Questions 36 to 40 are based on the following document.

Stamford County Council

To: Maureen Baker

Date: 14 July 2006

From: John Tyler

Subject: ADVERTISEMENT

As requested at our last meeting, I have prepared a draft advertisement about our disposal service. This advertisement will be included in the Echo for one week. Please check it and let me know if I have left anything out.

REMOVAL OF BULKY HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Stamford County Council runs a regular service to collect and remove such items from local households.

Items collected free of charge.

Furniture, white goods (cookers, fridges, freezers, washing machines), beds, wardrobes, dressing tables, carpets, tables, chairs, electrical goods.

Items collected for £10 per item.

Bath suites, kitchen units/cupboards, radiators, gas fires, windows, doors, loose wood (£10 per bundle).

Items not accepted.

Garden refuse, fencing, car batteries, tyres, car parts, pianos, calor gas bottles.

To arrange collection.

Phone 0291 445 98156 from 9.00 am-8.00 pm on weekdays or 02921 991 76551 from 9.00 am-11.00am on Saturday. Alternatively we have a 24-hour answering service on 02921 668 452, or you can contact us by fax on 0291 888 621.

- 36 The document states that
- A car batteries will be collected free of charge
 - B it will cost £10 to get rid of two bundles of wood
 - C no electrical goods will be accepted for disposal
 - D a gas fire will be collected for a fee of £10
- 37 Without changing the meaning, the word 'bulky' in the heading of the advertisement could **best** be replaced by
- A broken
 - B useless
 - C large
 - D unwanted
- 38 Which of the following statements concerning the disposal of household items is true?
- A An advert about the disposal service will be placed in the Echo every week
 - B All items will be removed free of charge
 - C Messages about collection of items for disposal can be left at any time
 - D The council will collect any type of unwanted item by arrangement
- 39 Which of the council's services can be obtained by ringing 02921 991 76551?
- A The fax receiving service
 - B The Saturday morning telephone service
 - C The weekday telephone service
 - D The 24-hour answering service
- 40 This document could **best** be described as
- A a letter
 - B notes
 - C a memo
 - D an essay

End of test

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