

# Reading

## Reading

(25 questions – 30 minutes)

01. Choose one word (A, B or C) for each space and write the letter on the answer paper.  
The first one (0) is done for you as an example with the answer A marked on your answer paper.

0. A. holiday	B. trip	C. travel
1. A. later	B. before	C. since
2. A. visiting	B. going	C. driving
3. A. want	B. hope	C. wish
4. A. beards	B. grass	C. hair
5. A. have	B. feel	C. see

Dear Andrew,

I'm in London on (0) ..... with my brother and we are here for five days.

Have you been to London (1) ..... ?

After London we are (2) ..... Scotland to see the mountains.

I (3) ..... I can see the famous cows that are in Scotland.

They are called Highland Cattle and they have very long (4) .....

You must go to Scotland and (5) ..... it for yourself.

Best wishes,  
Jane

## Part 2: Text cohesion

In the second part, you must sort the sentences into the correct order so that the text makes sense.

The sentences below are from a travel magazine. Put the sentences in the right order. The first one has been done for you.

**Planning a holiday**

- Example:** A. First, you need to make sure that you have a valid passport.
- B. A day or two before the flight, you will be packing your suitcase with all the clothes you need for your trip.
- C. If not, you must apply for a new one before booking your holiday.
- D. Then, as you get near the date you are travelling, you have to go online and print your boarding pass.
- E. On travel day, make sure that you get to the airport with plenty of time before your flight leaves.
- F. When your booking is complete, you will need to change some money into the local currency.

0. A    6. \_\_\_\_    7. \_\_\_\_    8. \_\_\_\_    9. \_\_\_\_    10. \_\_\_\_

The sentences below are from a report. Put the sentences in the right order. The first one has been done for you.

- Example:** A This report gives information about a youth club.
- B This would be a tragedy as it is very well used.
- C This is a facility that is under threat of closure.
- D So far over £5,000 has been raised.
- E Despite its popularity it is seriously underfunded.
- F Therefore a group of local people have set up a campaign to raise money for the club.

0. A    11. \_\_\_\_    12. \_\_\_\_    13. \_\_\_\_    14. \_\_\_\_    15. \_\_\_\_

## Part 3: Opinion matching

In the third part, you match four people's opinions to seven statements by choosing the correct person from the list.

Four people were interviewed for *Teens Now* magazine about their weekend jobs. Read the texts and then decide which person mentions each of the details below.

### My Weekend Job

**Andrew** (*male, 15 years old*)

Every Saturday and Sunday, I have to get up early because I deliver newspapers for my local shop. I have to be at the shop by 7am as I have to sort out the newspapers in my bag. I do my deliveries on my bicycle in all weathers. When it is snowing, I leave my bike at home. The only thing I don't like are the dogs.

**Jane** (*female, 17 years old*)

On Saturdays I work in one of the coffee shops in town. I always catch the bus to work because the bus stop is in front of the shop. I work from 9am to 4pm. It is always very busy, and I get tired being on my feet all day. The best thing about my job is that I can take home any cakes that are left over.

**Fred** (*male, 18 years old*)

Now I work in a large supermarket putting products on the shelves and moving boxes in the warehouse. I start work at 9pm on Saturdays and work until the early hours of the morning. I catch the train to work because it is much quicker than the bus. The main problem is that I have to wait an hour after work for the first train home.

**Mary** (*female, 16 years old*)

My Saturday job is cleaning shops after they close. I arrive at work at about 5:30pm. I always catch the 5 o'clock bus to work and the last bus back home. I love this job because I can listen to my iPod/MP3 player while I work. Also, if I finish early, I can go home, and they still pay me for a complete day's shift.

**Who:**

- 16. can take things home from work? \_\_\_\_\_
- 17. works outside even if it's windy and raining? \_\_\_\_\_
- 18. has to wait at work before going home? \_\_\_\_\_
- 19. works during the day but doesn't start too early? \_\_\_\_\_
- 20. doesn't use public transport to get to work? \_\_\_\_\_
- 21. travels home the next day? \_\_\_\_\_
- 22. can use earphones while they work? \_\_\_\_\_

04. Read the text below. Match the headings A-H to the paragraphs 19-25. Write your answers (A-H) on the answer paper. There is one more heading than you need. The answer to paragraph 0 is given on the answer paper as an example (I).

## Oxford Street, London

0. Oxford Street is the busiest shopping street in Europe and has around half a million visitors a day. There are about 300 shops, including designer shops and department stores. Oxford Street forms part of the A40, which is a major road from London to Fishguard, which is in South Wales, 250 miles away. There are no sign posts because traffic on this part of the road is usually restricted to taxis and buses. The first department stores in Britain opened on Oxford Street and they included Selfridges, John Lewis and HMV.
19. Towards the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Oxford Street changed from being a residential area to a commercial area. The first shops to open up were shoe repair shops and shops selling different fabrics, such as curtains and carpets. Furniture shops also started to appear. A lot of these shops then became part of the large department stores. The whole street was practically rebuilt and by the 1930s, the street was completely retail. It is still totally commercial today.
20. During the Second World War, Oxford Street suffered a lot of damage with many buildings having to be completely rebuilt. During the night and morning of the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> September 1940, about 270 military airplanes dropped bombs onto the West End of London which mostly included Oxford Street. Many buildings were destroyed and fires damaged many others. They rebuilt a lot of buildings but many of the big department stores remained closed. By 1960, everything was almost back to normal.
21. Oxford Street is in a very important location for people travelling in and out of London, as well as around London. There are a lot of major bus routes which use Oxford Street, which is why, during the day only buses and taxis can use it. There are also four underground train stations which serve five different underground lines. About 100 million passengers a year use all four stations. Oxford Circus is the busiest station since it is halfway along Oxford Street. A new high-speed rail link is being built across London from East to West and two stations on Oxford Street will have access to this line.
22. Oxford Street is a very busy road with about 175,000 people getting on and off buses every day. The road is always full of buses and taxis, which can make crossing the street very difficult. Between 2009 and 2012 there were over 70 accidents involving traffic and people trying to cross the road. There have been some plans to reduce the traffic along Oxford Street, one of which is banning private vehicles between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm every day except Sundays. This ban was introduced in June 1972 and was a success. The main problem is that there are many more buses and taxis today than there were in 1972.
23. From 2005 to 2012, Oxford Street was completely closed to all traffic for one day a year, the Saturday before Christmas. They called this day "VIP Day" (*Very Important Pedestrians*). In 2006, the Mayor of London suggested that Oxford Street be permanently closed to all traffic, but the next Mayor said that this would cause too much disruption around the centre of London. Local business owners were not happy with these plans.
24. Even though private vehicles are banned during the day, a report from King's College, in London, showed that Oxford Street has the world's highest concentration of nitrogen dioxide. Nitrogen dioxide is a gas coming from vehicles which can be very bad for your health. The average content of this gas in the air was 135 micrograms per cubic metre. This figure included night traffic when there were fewer vehicles. At very busy times during the day, levels went up to 463 micrograms.
25. With the number of people visiting Oxford Street every day, it's no surprise that it has its share of criminals committing crimes. In 2005, the Metropolitan Police reported that Oxford Street is the most dangerous street in Central London. It was also reported that Oxford Street was the shopping destination most surrounded by crime in Britain. In 2011, there were 660 vehicle crimes, 920 cases where items were stolen from people, 2,600 violent crimes and 5,000 reports of antisocial behaviour. The street always has a very heavy police presence with many police officers wearing yellow hi-vis jackets. The police also use lots of plain clothed officers who can mix into the crowds without being noticed. On top of that there are hundreds of cameras (CCTV) watching every part of Oxford Street. Since these reports in 2011 crime has reduced quite a lot.

### Headings

- A. Transport options
- B. Extensive damage
- C. A source of pollution
- D. Businesses booming
- E. Cracking down on unlawful acts
- F. Controversial plans
- G. The great fire of London
- H. Traffic issues
- I. Introduction (Example)

- 19. \_\_\_\_
- 20. \_\_\_\_
- 21. \_\_\_\_
- 22. \_\_\_\_
- 23. \_\_\_\_
- 24. \_\_\_\_
- 25. \_\_\_\_