English Speaking Board ESB

ESB Entry Level Certificate in ESOL
International All Modes (Entry 3) – (B1)
500/3646/4

Contents of this Paper

Section	Number of Questions	Weighting for Section
Listening Part One Part Two	 10 10	20%
Reading Part One Part Two	 10 5	20%
Use of English Part One Part Two Part Three Part Four	 10 10 10 5	20%
Writing	1	20%

The remaining 20% is for your speaking test.

Total time allowed: 2 hours. You should attempt all sections of this paper. The use of dictionaries, notes or any electronic device is not permitted in this examination.
Put your answers for Listening, Reading and Use of English on the OPTICAL MARK FORM. Use the WRITING ANSWER BOOKLET for your answer to the Writing Section. This question paper WILL NOT BE MARKED.

DO NOT OPEN THE EXAMINATION PAPER UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

ESB B1 Entry Level 3 Reading (Part One)

You are going to read a text about the English language.
For questions 21 – 24, match the headings below (A – G) with the paragraphs.
There are TWO headings that you do not need. The first heading has been done as an example.

The English Language

Example: G. English Spoken Across the World

Today, English is the most popular language in the world, with an estimated 350 – 400 million native speakers. However, importantly, it is also the common language for many non-native speakers all over the world. Almost a quarter of the globe's population, possibly 1.5 – 2 billion people, can understand English and have, at least, a basic level, whether written or spoken. In fact, for every native speaker, there may be three non-native speakers.

21.

English is recognised as an international language and a large number of countries teach it in schools as their foreign language of choice. In fact, English is the most widely taught foreign language in schools across the globe, with over 100 countries teaching it to at least a working level. Over 1 billion people throughout the world are currently learning English, and there are estimated to be more students of English in China alone than there are inhabitants of the entire USA. A 2014 report by the British Council suggests that the number of people learning English is likely to continue to increase over the next 10 – 15 years, to reach around 2 billion, after which there may be a decline.

22.

English is the official language of industry and business. Over 90% of international airlines use English as their language of choice, known as "Airspeak". For instance, an Italian pilot flying an Italian plane into an Italian airport contacts ground control in English, not Italian. Similarly, a large number of global companies do business in English, even if all members of that company and others they deal with are non-English speakers.

23.

Up to 95% of popular music worldwide is in English, and American television and movies are available almost everywhere. Half of world newspapers are in English, and some 75% of world mail correspondence is in English. At least 35% of internet users are English speakers, and an estimated 70 – 80% of the content on the internet is in English.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

24.

After centuries of use, and many changes, English has a rich vocabulary. No other language has so many words to say the same thing. We do not know how many words there are in the English language, but we think there are more than a million. In reality, it is almost impossible to count the number of words in any language. The Oxford English Dictionary contains about 615,000 word entries. This includes some scientific terms and dialect words. It does not include more specialised scientific and technical terms. There is a large number of new words and expressions invented each year. English is an ever-changing language adapting to an ever-changing world.

A **The Language of Industry**

B **More English Speakers than Chinese Speakers**

C **The Language of Media and Entertainment**

D **The World is Learning English**

E **English is Losing Popularity**

F **A Large and Changing Vocabulary**

G **Example: English Spoken Across the World**

LIVEWORKSHEETS

For questions 25 – 30, decide whether the sentences below are TRUE (T) or FALSE (F), according to the text.

25. There are more native speakers of English than non-native speakers.	True / False
26. English is the most popular language learnt in schools.	True / False
27. Many pilots must use English to communicate at work.	True / False
28. We know exactly how many English words there are.	True / False
29. Most pop music is in English.	True / False
30. There are no new words being added to the English language.	True / False

LIVEWORKSHEETS

ESB B1 Entry Level 3 Reading (Part Two)

You are going to read a text about growing up with two languages.
For questions 31 – 35, choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

Growing up with Two Languages

The other day the sales assistant in the shop asked me, "How did you learn such good English?" Her question surprised me as I was born in London to foreign parents, an Austrian father and an Italian mother. I was educated in the UK and, despite my foreign-sounding name, people thought I was British when I was growing up.

I wasn't even particularly skilled in Italian when I was a child. Every summer, my aunt, who lived in Rome, used to take my sisters and me for a month's holiday to the Italian coast. There, my Italian slowly improved, though I made lots of mistakes.

I remember the moment when I realised that speaking two languages could give me two identities. At the age of 13, I spent the summer with a family friend and her children in a house in Italy, where I spoke only in Italian for six weeks, living like an Italian teenager. On the first day back in England, I could not remember how to speak English. I had changed into a different person in those six weeks away. I had become an Italian girl.

As an adult, I live like an Italian in London. I write in English, but speak Italian on a daily basis with my Italian husband. I also speak it at work. As a result, my Italian is stronger than my English and strangers think that I am not British.

Unfortunately, my husband and I have not spoken much Italian with our three children so they are not very good at it. But, if they were asked, all three would say they were 'Italian Londoners'.

Growing up within two cultures can have positive and negative aspects for both the children and the parents. As an adult, my friend, Mary, taught herself the language of her Ethiopian parents. She realised that it was a way to find out about her family history. However, it was not always easy for her as a teenager. She wanted to forget her Ethiopian culture, so she could be accepted by her British classmates. She even changed her tastes in music and food. Now, Mary appreciates the interesting culture that she has been given by her parents. However, it is not easy for parents living abroad to give their children a cultural identity and allow them the freedom to find their own.

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31. The writer says she

A. went to school in the UK but now lives in Italy.
B. was born in the UK but had foreign parents.
C. is not from the UK but has very good English.
D. is fluent in Italian but doesn't like speaking it.

32. According to the text, how did the writer first learn Italian?

A. Her parents taught her.
B. By speaking it with her husband.
C. By spending time as a child in Italy.
D. By using it every day at work.

33. The writer says

A. she always speaks Italian with her children.
B. her children have excellent Italian skills.
C. she doesn't speak Italian with her husband.
D. her children feel they are a mix of Italian and English.

34. According to the text, Mary was not interested in her culture because

A. she didn't want to be different from other teenagers.
B. she didn't like Ethiopian music and food.
C. her friends couldn't speak her language.
D. she didn't know anything about Ethiopian culture.

35. The writer thinks that growing up with foreign parents

A. has its advantages and disadvantages.
B. is easy for the children and parents.
C. is not a good experience.
D. means the children will speak two languages.

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