

LANGUAGECERT IESOL
Reading & Writing
Communicator Level – B2
Practice Paper 3

Centre no

Date

Time allowed: 2 hours and 10 minutes

- Reading
- Writing

Instructions to Candidates

- Answer all the questions.
- All your answers must be written in **black or blue ink** not pencil.
- Monolingual dictionaries **are** permitted.
- For the Reading Parts make sure you copy all your answers on the separate Answer Sheet.

For examiner's use only

Parts	W1	W2	Total
Candidate's score			
RESULT:			
REVIEWED:			

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.

I think I saw a ghost

Four years ago, I spent the summer travelling through Europe. I spent two days in Verdun, France, touring the World War I battle sites. I was staying in a hotel that occupied an old three-storey building, which was certainly there before the 1914-18 war.

(1) _____ The bed was situated by the entrance to the room, with its foot facing the window. When lying on my back, with my head on the pillow, I could see the window. (2) _____ But something woke me up a couple of hours later. My eyes opened and were drawn to the window. Within a few seconds, I realised that there was a human figure framed in the window. I raised myself on to my elbows and looked harder.

(3) _____ He had his back to me. He appeared to be leaning on the window sill and staring in the direction of what would have been the Front during the war. In retrospect, it looked like the ghost of a French officer gazing toward the battle lines. (4) _____ I switched it on and the figure was gone. I turned the light back off a few seconds later but the figure was still not there, so I know that the figure was not a shadow cast from outside the room. I turned the light back on and got out of bed to see if there was something I might have mistaken for a human-like figure.

(5) _____ It was at that moment that I remembered something. I had lowered the blind on it when I went to bed. Now it was up! That thought made me shiver, because I knew I might have imagined the figure of a man at the window, but I was not imagining the fact that the window blind was now up.

(6) _____ Afraid I would be passed for crazy, I kept it to myself.

- A It looked like a man wearing a military jacket and a French Kepi hat.
- B So, for the past four years, I have believed I saw a ghost in my hotel room that night.
- C I was in a room on the top floor with a window facing eastwards, toward the old battlefield.
- D For that reason, I have never told anyone about my ghost.
- E I walked to the window and looked around.
- F The second night, I went to bed around 10:30 and fell asleep quickly.
- G There was a light beside the bed.

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

It was my lifestyle that had needed changing. So I swapped my stodgy meals for organic food, fruits and vegetables. My new diet was surprisingly easy to stick to and I loved the fact that I could still enjoy my favourite cakes, if they had the right ingredients, but I struggled to find snacks and more nutritious 'fast' food when I was out. It hit me that there must be more people like me. I'd found my dream - I wanted to open a natural food café.

B

I'm Megan Adamson and I'm from Brighton. I created Flavoursome with a passion for high-quality creative food, excellent service and enjoyable times. Years of research, tasting, experimenting and hard work has gone into this project and I am delighted to finally be sharing it with everyone in the local area. My team members are all passionate about fast, wholesome food. We are dedicated to offering our customers the best possible food experience. We are small, independent and proud of it. Eat in or take away, we're here for you.

C

Dear Mary,
Went to that new organic place, Flavoursome, last night. Yes, I know what you're thinking, but it's brilliant. I didn't think I'd enjoy it either, but they make these wonderful cakes with healthy ingredients. You may think that means they don't taste nice, but these were great. The rest of the meal was good, too. The good thing is that it's 'fast', so you can have a healthy lunch either in the place or as a takeaway if you don't have much time. You'll love it.
Sue

D

Homemade cakes generally contain far less sugar than commercial cakes. Inspect the ingredients and you'll find all sorts of food additives that you'd probably rather not eat. Homemade cakes are better value for money too. Look for recipes that use fruit (including dried fruit), nuts or vegetables. Choose organic sugar, flour, oats, fruits, milk, eggs, and butter. Replace sugar with fruit puree. If you choose simple, healthy cake recipes, it's satisfying. They are so much better than manufactured cakes.

Which text:

1. tells us about an unexpected experience?
2. gives advice on healthy ingredients?
3. tells us what led to a career change?

Which text provides the answers to the following questions?

4. What did someone find it difficult to buy?
5. How can we eat well for less money?
6. What doesn't have to take a long time?
7. Who is proud of her achievements?

Reading Part 4

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

Enjoy life more - schedule your leisure time

Time management advice often talks about the importance of having a schedule. When you're at work, constant meetings, conference calls and to-do lists, provide a lot of structure. Whether you are actually getting things done is another story.

But have you ever given any thought to scheduling your leisure time? Many of us find it too easy to let our evenings and weekends fall into a comfortable – and often boring – routine. If you work for yourself, you probably have some flexibility about when you do your work. But you probably still end up putting things off, working more slowly than you should, and rushing things at the last minute. Flexibility requires us to discipline ourselves.

The answer is often, paradoxically, to stop worrying about scheduling your work time and start building in some time for fun instead. For example, if you tend to start work at 8am, schedule yourself a break for 10am. Having a concentrated two hours to work in will help you focus and challenge yourself to see how much you can get done in that time. This way, you also avoid focusing for too long at a time, which results in loss of concentration. It's a good idea to give some thought to your evenings. For many office employees, email and other company systems are available outside work hours and it's easy to get sucked into 'just one more thing' after your evening meal. If the only other attraction in your evening is the television, it's easy to get caught up working. So try planning to do something different from time to time, such as going out for a nice meal or to see a film, or simply relaxing on the sofa with your partner or your family. If you plan ahead, it's much more likely to actually happen. Do your weekends end up in you sleeping late and wasting half the day? Instead of just waking up on Saturday and having no idea what you want to do, try planning ahead. If you've got something exciting to do during the day, you'll be much more motivated to do it. You'll also have something to look forward to. Looking forward to a leisure activity can be almost as much fun and uplifting as the activity itself.

You might also be surprised to find that when you do block out a chunk of time for something, everything else that needs to be done will fit in around it. And if planning your weekends feels too strict for you, then plan for spontaneity! Decide that you'll spend, say, noon until bedtime on Saturday doing something, and then, whatever happens - and this goes for everything -, stick to your plan!

1. What do unplanned evening routines become, if we are not careful?

2. What characteristic do people who have flexible working conditions need?

3. What should be included in a leisure schedule?

4. How long should people work before taking a break?

5. What is the danger of working for too long without a break?

6. What do working people tend to do a lot at the weekend?

7. If you plan to do anything, what must you do?



READING – ANSWER SHEET

Place a ☐ in the appropriate box.
Never mark more than one box.



PART 1

	A	B	C
1.	☐	☐	☐
2.	☐	☐	☐
3.	☐	☐	☐
4.	☐	☐	☐
5.	☐	☐	☐
6.	☐	☐	☐

PART 2

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
2.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
3.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
4.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
5.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
6.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

PART 3

	A	B	C	D
1.	☐	☐	☐	☐
2.	☐	☐	☐	☐
3.	☐	☐	☐	☐
4.	☐	☐	☐	☐
5.	☐	☐	☐	☐
6.	☐	☐	☐	☐
7.	☐	☐	☐	☐

PART 4

Write your answers in the spaces next to the numbers
Write a maximum of five words for each answer

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	

☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐

DO NOT
WRITE HERE

Writing Part 1

You've seen the notice below in a newspaper. Write an **email** to the newspaper about higher Internet speeds. Mention their importance for:

- you personally
- business in general
- education.

Write between 100 – 150 words.

High-speed Internet is vital in any modern city. We want to improve speed to ensure our city benefits now and in the coming decade. To help us plan for this, we'd appreciate your ideas and comments. Please write and let us know what's most important to you. It's vital to get as many different viewpoints as possible.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.



Writing Part 2

Last night you had a wonderful time celebrating your birthday. Write a **letter** to a friend who couldn't come, describing the evening and suggesting what you could do together to celebrate his/her birthday.

Write between 150 – 200 words.

[illegible]

[illegible]

End of Examination

Task fulfilment	Grammar	Vocabulary	Structure