

ESOL International

English Reading Examination

Level B1 Intermediate

Instructions to learners

Check that you have the correct paper.

Please complete the information on your mark sheet.

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

You may NOT use a dictionary.

There are 31 questions in this examination.

Answer all the questions.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

Total marks available: **31**

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

Text 1

Read the text. Answer the questions on your mark sheet.

<u>On your bike, get set, go!</u>	1
If you are into cycling and love to race, why not try Street Velodrome. It is a bike race, where you _____ against other cyclists in your age group that takes place all over the country. The velodromes, which are special cycle tracks with steeply curved sides, are all over the country, in towns and cities. They are often part of an existing stadium or can be set up within a sports venue.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8
To join in the fun, all you have to do is go the Street Velodrome website, register you're details and select the location and date suitable to you. If you are eleven years or younger you can enter a specail competition called Tigers vs Sharks and if you are twelve years and older, you can register for the NexGen Series, (a talent development programme for young cyclists). And the good news is...it's all absolutely free.	9 10 11 12 13 14
To qualify for NexGen, you will need to get a good time from your trial session and then race others over two laps of the circuit. The quickest riders stay in the competition and the very best are invited to join the London Superfinals.	15 16 17 18
Numbers are limited, but if you are successful, you will receive an email within two weeks, confirming your place.	19 20 21
On the day, just turn up, as the bikes and helmets are provided by our super-efficient coaching team, who will give you one to one training before venturing out onto the track.	22 23

1. **What is the name of the bike race?**
 - a. Steet Velodrome.
 - b. Street Velodrome.
 - c. Street Velodome.
2. **What are the special cycle tracks described as having?**
 - a. Deeply curved sides.
 - b. An existing stadium.
 - c. A sports stadium.
3. **How old do you have to be to enter the Tiger vs Sharks competition?**
 - a. Eleven years or younger.
 - b. Eleven years or older.
 - c. Twelve years or older.
4. **Who will be invited to the Superfinals?**
 - a. The most talented.
 - b. The quickest.
 - c. The very best.
5. **According to the text, the coaches are:**
 - a. Good trainers.
 - b. Super-efficient.
 - c. Successful.
6. **The best word to fill the gap on line 4 is:**
 - a. Play.
 - b. Go.
 - c. Compete.
7. **The best word to replace 'register' on line 9 is:**
 - a. Post.
 - b. Enrol.
 - c. Report.
8. **The opposite meaning of 'successful' on line 19 is:**
 - a. Prosperous.
 - b. Unlucky.
 - c. Fortunate.
9. **There is a grammar mistake on:**
 - a. Line 9.
 - b. Line 11.
 - c. Line 23.
10. **There is a spelling mistake on:**
 - a. Line 4.
 - b. Line 6.
 - c. Line 11.

Text 2

Read the text. Answer the questions on your mark sheet.

<u>Blue Origin prepares to take passengers</u>	
Blue Origin, a spaceflight company, believes in a future where millions of people live and work in space. Why Because they believe that in order to preserve Earth, our home, for our grandchildren's grandchildren, we must go to space to tap into its unlimited resources and energy. If they can make it cheaper to go to space, this would be able to happen.	1
Imagine being a space tourist, _____ more than 62 miles above the Earth's surface, beyond the edge of space and looking down onto our beautiful, amazing planet. Blue Origin, has designed a capsule around 15 cubic metres, which is about the size of a small van, called New Shepard, with 6 seats for passengers and crew, and each seat having a window to take in the breathtaking views going into space.	2
The billionaire, Jeff Bezos, who set up the company, has already booked his parking spot near the Shackleton Crater, by the south pole of the moon, as this is where there is the most sunlight.	3
The trip will last around 10 minutes. This amazing, once in a lifetime experience will blast off from the launch site in West Texas in the USA. It hasn't been announced how much this will cost, but it is believed it is likely to be around £200,000. This is the price another spaceflight company, Virgin Galactic, is going to charge tourists to go into space.	4
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11. The purpose of this text is to:

- a. Inform about space tourism.
- b. Describe space tourism.
- c. Persuade you to travel in space.

12. According to the text, how far is space from earth?

- a. 62 miles.
- b. 6 miles.
- c. 15 miles.

13. What is the name of the capsule?

- a. Blue Origin.
- b. New Shepard.
- c. Shackleton.

14. According to the text, who is going to charge £200,000 to go into space?

- a. Jeff Bezos.
- b. Blue Original.
- c. Virgin Galactic.

15. According to the text, what has Jeff Bezos already done?

- a. Built the capsule.
- b. Booked a parking spot.
- c. Travelled more than 62 miles.

16. Which line has a spelling error?

- a. Line 5.
- b. Line 10.
- c. Line 22.

17. Which word could NOT replace 'unlimited' on line 6?

- a. Limited.
- b. Endless.
- c. Plentiful.

18. The word that best fills the gap on line 9 is:

- a. Experiencing.
- b. Driving.
- c. Travelling.

19. What punctuation is missing on line 4?

- a. A question mark.
- b. A comma.
- c. An exclamation mark.

20. In the text, what is the meaning of 'breathtaking' on line 13?

- a. Astonishing.
- b. Short of breath.
- c. Unimpressive.

Text 3

Read the text. Answer the questions on your mark sheet.

Thomas Edison

Thomas Edison (1847 – 1931) was born in Milan, Ohio, USA, on February 11th 1847, the youngest of seven siblings. He became an inventor and businessman who developed many key inventions of modern life, such as the electric light bulb.

Edison only attended three months of school, irritating the teachers with constant questioning and not being able to follow instructions. He taught himself through reading every book on the library shelf and by the age of 12, he was reading, Sir Isaac Newton's famous book on maths. Edison was not impressed by the difficult maths within the book, so he decided to try and make science easier.

He was very enterprising and as a youngster, sold sweets and newspapers to earn a living. Having a gift for business and with his extra income from printing newspapers, he spent it on increasing his chemistry set.

After various inventions and money earned from many patents, such as the invention of the phonograph in 1877, the first audio recording device, he was able to establish a proper research laboratory.

His company was first in delivering electricity directly into people's homes. His other important inventions include the motion picture camera and an electric car.

21. According to the text, Edison was:
 - a. Entertaining.
 - b. Enterprising.
 - c. Impressive.
22. In the text, which word means 'growing'?
 - a. Delivering.
 - b. Recording.
 - c. Increasing.
23. In the text, the word 'irritating' has the same meaning as:
 - a. Hurting.
 - b. Annoying.
 - c. Humouring.
24. According to the text, what did he have a talent for?
 - a. Chemistry.
 - b. Business.
 - c. Inventions.
25. Which word in the text is used to mean 'ability'?
 - a. Impressed.
 - b. Gift.
 - c. Important.

Text 4

Read the text. Answer the questions on your mark sheet.

School holiday projects

Keeping active kids entertained in the school holidays is not for the faint-hearted, and it is easy to start feeling like every minute should be packed full of roller coasters and Mickey Mouse.

But sometimes, simply sitting down and helping your children **create** something imaginative, is just as satisfying as seeing them hurtled upside down at a theme park – and much cheaper too.

Bring out the Heston Blumenthal in your little chef, with fun filled, quirky jam jars. Getting busy with creating chocolate jungle swamps, coconut grass, and jelly snakes will keep them focused for hours. Older children can get hands-on with the baking, while younger ones will enjoy filling the jars. Be warned, they might be so proud of their creations, that no tasting on your part will be allowed.

Promised the kids a holiday sleepover? Pizza-making is a brilliant way to entertain a group of rowdy children. Have a big batch of dough already made and just let them get on with the rolling and topping. Have all the topping ingredients out in little bowls and get the kids to things they might normally keep away from, like red pepper strips or mushrooms. Serve with houmous to dip the crusts in, so nothing goes to waste.

26. According to the text, keeping kids entertained is:
- Not for the faint-hearted.
 - Not a roller coaster.
 - Not for sitting down.
27. How are the jam jars described as?
- Quirky.
 - Filled.
 - Swamps.
28. According to the text, what will the younger children enjoy?
- The baking.
 - Filling the jars.
 - Rolling and topping.
29. In the text, the words 'keep away from' mean:
- Exit.
 - Fear.
 - Avoid.
30. Which word could best replace 'create' in bold.
- Fashion.
 - Produce.
 - Perform.
31. Which word would best fill the gap in the last paragraph?
- Touch.
 - Lick.
 - Taste