

ESOL Skills for Life

Reading – Level 2

Sample Candidate Paper ESOLRL2BA/P

Time limit: 1 hour 15 minutes

Number of tasks: 4

Fill in the boxes below

First name

Surname

Date of Birth

My signature confirms that I will not discuss the content of this assessment with anyone.

Signature

For centre use only

Learner ID

Centre Name

Date completed

For office use only

Marks

Task 1

Task 2

Task 3

Task 4

Total Marks

Pass Mark 26/40

Pass

Fail

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Instructions

- Use a pen.
- You have 1 hour 15 minutes to complete four tasks.
- Some questions must be answered with one tick in a box ☐. If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box ☒ and then mark your new answer with a tick ☐.

Information

- This paper has 40 marks.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets.
- You may use a monolingual dictionary.

Advice

- You should spend about 15-20 minutes on each task.
- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Try to answer every question.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Task 1

Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

Marker
use only



A Guide to London



London is a popular city and tourists flock here all year-round. The central districts are always buzzing with city workers. Be prepared for the crowds!

London is vast, so if you want to see lots of the city, you'll need to use public transport; your legs will thank you later! Public transport is good but allow extra time to get around. Taking the underground, which is called the Tube, can be quite slow as it's always busy. Stand on the right on escalators in tube stations to allow rushing commuters to get past.

Taking a bus rather than the Tube is a lot less crowded and you can enjoy London's scenery as you travel. Try going upstairs on a double-decker bus for the best views.

Although they're more expensive, everyone should ride in an **iconic** black cab at least once. The London taxi industry is hundreds of years old, and the drivers are cheery and highly knowledgeable as they have studied the routes in London for years.

London is expensive! However, you don't need to spend lots on accommodation, hostels are great value and offer many facilities. Alternatively, be a house sitter, which is when you look after somebody's house while they're away. Your job is to keep the house clean and protect it from burglars, you will save pounds! Finally, there are many websites offering good value apartments to rent.

London is packed with museums and galleries, which are all free! You should definitely include the Tate Modern and the Natural History Museum in your schedule. Many theatre fans like to see a West End show, but you will be shocked at how expensive they can be. You can get cheaper tickets at the ticket booth in Leicester Square for any remaining seats for that day's shows. You have to go there in person as they don't accept online or phone bookings.

One final tip, London has unpredictable weather. Even if it's sunny in the morning, the weather might completely change a few hours later. Pack an umbrella just in case there's a sudden downpour.

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1. What does the article warn you about London? Give **one** detail.

_____ (1 Mark)

2. Give **one** disadvantage of travelling by Tube?

_____ (1 Mark)

3. What are the benefits of travelling by bus? Give **two** details.

i)

ii)

(2 Marks)

4. What does **iconic** mean in the context of the text?

_____ (1 Mark)

5. How can you save money on accommodation? Name **one** way.

_____ (1 Mark)

6. Name **one** tourist attraction which is highly recommended

(1 Mark)

7. Why might you be surprised if you want to go to the theatre? Give **one** detail.

(1 Mark)

8. How can you get cheaper theatre tickets? Give **one** detail.

(1 Mark)

Put a tick in the correct box ☒.

9. Which statement is true, according to the text?

a) London is especially busy in the summer

☐

b) The weather can be changeable

☐

c) The best way to get around is by walking

☐

d) You are advised not to use escalators at busy times

☐

(1 Mark)

Marker
use only

Total marks for Task 1:10 Marks

Task 2

Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

Marker
use only



Planning a Community Event



Be clear about what you're aiming to achieve from the event. Are you raising money, do you want to create something for the community, or simply have a fun event?

Work with teams of people as it will make life easier. The size of this team will vary depending on the scale of the event. Try and have no more than five people in each group as managing a large team is difficult. Make sure everyone understands their role and have a team leader in each group, who reports back to the **core** team when necessary.

Create a budget and be clear where you will generate income from, such as entrance fees. Often things don't go to plan, so be prepared to make savings on areas that won't affect the experience.

Advertise the event so that people buy tickets or help with the event. Think about the different parts of the community you live in and how best to reach them. You could ask people to join a Facebook group, subscribe to a newsletter or simply buy a ticket.

Get the necessary licences and insurance cover just in case something goes wrong. Particular risks to consider include the use of fireworks, kids running about and using attractions like bouncy castles and large crowds. Risk assessment is key to protect you against claims for any injury to the public or damage to people's property. If you already have insurance, check your policy, as you may need additional event insurance policy. If anyone at your event is recording it for a television programme, specific licences may be required.

Keep things simple by only publicising events locally to residents, rather than externally through websites and national newspapers. Speaking of local residents, encourage everyone at the event to take responsibility for keeping the surrounding area litter free and to leave quietly, especially at night.

1. What is an advantage and a disadvantage of working in a team?

i) Advantage:

ii) Disadvantage:

(2 Marks)

Put a tick in the correct box ☒.

2. What could the word **core** be best replaced with?

a) Middle

☐

b) Main

☐

c) Heart

☐

d) Basic

☐

(1 Mark)

3. Why might you need to make savings?

(1 Mark)

4. Other than to sell tickets, why do you need to advertise the event?

(1 Mark)

5. Give **one** possible risk relating to children.

(1 Mark)

6. What might you need a special licence for?

(1 Mark)

7. What advice is given about publicity? Give **one** detail

(1 Mark)

8. What advice is given about respecting people living nearby? Give **one** detail.

(1 Mark)

Put a tick in the correct box ☒.

9. What is the purpose of the text?

a) To entertain

☐

b) To inform about event licences

☐

c) To warn about risks

☐

d) To give advice on event planning

☐

(1 Mark)


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Total marks for Task 2: 10 Marks

Task 3

Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

Marker
use only



Exercise Indoors or Outdoors?

Summertime is the perfect time to take your exercise routine outside. Exercising outdoors may improve energy levels and decrease stress to a greater extent than exercising inside. But don't worry, there are plenty of benefits to exercising inside as well.

According to a review by Fitness Today, exercising outdoors has many benefits. People reported having increased energy and decreased anger. Simply spending more time outside has also been shown to prevent increases in obesity among children. There are other benefits too. Vitamin D, one of the essential vitamins for a healthy immune system, can be got through the sun. Some researchers suggest that 30 minutes of sun exposure twice a week is sufficient. They add, it's essential to wear sunscreen of course. Extreme hot and cold weather can pose some issues when exercising outside. During the summer, it's important to avoid dehydration and drink plenty of fluids. In the winter, cover fingers and toes to avoid frostbite and keep dry as the quickest way to lose body heat is to get wet.

If you live in an area prone to air pollution, you may be better off taking physical exercise indoors. Pollution and other environmental factors can **trigger** breathing problems like allergies and asthma.

Heading to the gym may also be a better option for those who need extra motivation to make their workout happen. A study conducted by 'Gym Fit,' found that people who work out with other people are generally more motivated than solo exercisers. In addition to the social environment offered at gyms, experts say that group workouts led by a certified instructor also ensure participants get a safe and effective workout.

In the end, you don't have to choose just one. Some workout groups exist entirely outdoors, while lots of gyms offer seasonal classes outside.

As the line between indoor and outdoor exercise continues to blur, what's becoming clear is that mixing up indoor and outdoor sessions is a great way to keep exercise exciting and, most importantly, have fun.

1. Name **two** benefits of exercising outside.

i)

ii)

(2 Marks)

2. According to the researchers:

i) What is a benefit of vitamin D?

ii) What precaution should you take?

(2 Marks)

3. What advice is given when exercising

i) In summer? (give **one** detail)

ii) In winter? (give **one** detail)

(2 Marks)

Put a tick in the correct box ☒.

4. What would best replace the word **trigger**?

a) Shoot

☐

b) Set off

☐

c) Prevent

☐

d) Fire

☐

(1 Mark)

5. What does the study suggest can be good for motivation?

(1 Mark)

Put a tick in the correct box ☒.

6. Which statement is true, according to the text?

a) Summertime is the best time to exercise

☐

b) Exercising outside increases obesity

☐

c) Gym instructors improve the safety of exercise

☐

d) Gyms only offer indoor exercise

☐

(1 Mark)

Marker
use only

Put a tick in the correct box ☒.

7. Which statement is true about the article overall?

a) Offers a balanced point of view

☐

b) Favours exercising indoors

☐

c) Favours exercising outdoors

☐

d) Advises against excessive exercise

☐

(1 Mark)

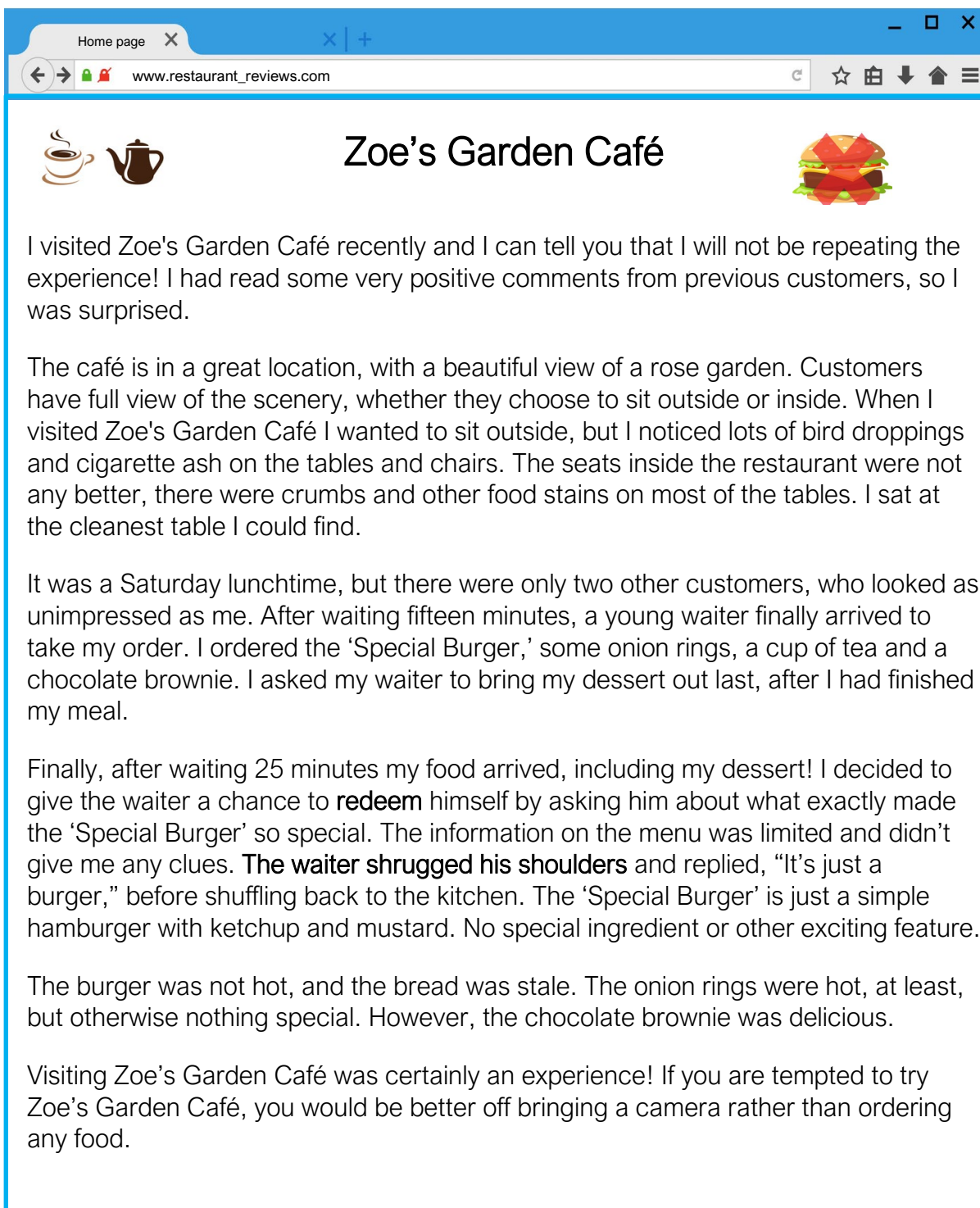
Marker
use only

Total marks for Task 3: 10 Marks



Task 4

Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

Marker
use only



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying "www.restaurant_reviews.com". The page title is "Home page". The main content area features a header with a coffee cup and teapot icon on the left, the title "Zoe's Garden Café" in the center, and a burger icon with a red 'X' on the right. Below the header, there are five paragraphs of text describing a negative dining experience at the café.

 **Zoe's Garden Café** 

I visited Zoe's Garden Café recently and I can tell you that I will not be repeating the experience! I had read some very positive comments from previous customers, so I was surprised.

The café is in a great location, with a beautiful view of a rose garden. Customers have full view of the scenery, whether they choose to sit outside or inside. When I visited Zoe's Garden Café I wanted to sit outside, but I noticed lots of bird droppings and cigarette ash on the tables and chairs. The seats inside the restaurant were not any better, there were crumbs and other food stains on most of the tables. I sat at the cleanest table I could find.

It was a Saturday lunchtime, but there were only two other customers, who looked as unimpressed as me. After waiting fifteen minutes, a young waiter finally arrived to take my order. I ordered the 'Special Burger,' some onion rings, a cup of tea and a chocolate brownie. I asked my waiter to bring my dessert out last, after I had finished my meal.

Finally, after waiting 25 minutes my food arrived, including my dessert! I decided to give the waiter a chance to **redeem** himself by asking him about what exactly made the 'Special Burger' so special. The information on the menu was limited and didn't give me any clues. **The waiter shrugged his shoulders** and replied, "It's just a burger," before shuffling back to the kitchen. The 'Special Burger' is just a simple hamburger with ketchup and mustard. No special ingredient or other exciting feature.

The burger was not hot, and the bread was stale. The onion rings were hot, at least, but otherwise nothing special. However, the chocolate brownie was delicious.

Visiting Zoe's Garden Café was certainly an experience! If you are tempted to try Zoe's Garden Café, you would be better off bringing a camera rather than ordering any food.

1. What encouraged the writer to go to the café?

(1 Mark)

Put a tick ☒ in the **three** boxes that apply.

2. Which statements are true, according to the text?

a) You can see the view from outside only

☐

b) It was clean inside the café

☐

c) The writer expected there to be more customers

☐

d) He decided to sit in the garden

☐

e) The customers also in the café were not happy

☐

f) The café is in a nice spot

☐

(3 Marks)

3. When did the writer ask for the chocolate brownie to be brought to him?

(1 Mark)

4. Explain in your own words what the word **redeem** means in this context.

(1 Mark)

5. What does the phrase: **The waiter shrugged his shoulders**, tell you about the attitude of the waiter?

(1 Mark)

6. What did the writer **not** like about his food? Give **two** details.

i)

ii)

(2 Marks)

Marker
use only

Put a tick in the correct box ☒.

7. What is the purpose of the text?

a) To complain to the café

☐

b) Warn a friend

☐

c) Report the cafe to the council

☐

d) Review the café for future customers

☐

(1 Mark)

Total marks for Task 4: 10 Marks

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End of Assessment

Task	Stimulus
Task 1	https://departmentofwandering.com/beginners-guide-to-london-know-before-you-go/
Task 2	https://www.theguardian.com/voluntary-sector-network/2013/feb/05/tipa-planning-successful-community-event
Task 3	https://www.active.com/fitness/articles/indoor-vs-outdoor-fitness-what-s-better?page=2
Task 4	https://www.wikihow.com/Sample/Negative-Restaurant-Review

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