

ESOL Skills for Life

Writing – Entry 2

Sample Assessor Pack

The following documents are included in this assessment pack:

- Guidance on the conduct of the assessment
- General marking guidance and assessment principles
- Examples of Contextualisation
- Mark schemes and guidance
- Appendix 1: Adult ESOL core curriculum guidance – Entry 2
- Appendix 2: Writing: Additional marking guidance – Entry 2

Sample Assessment Code: ESOLWE2AU/P

Contents

Guidance on the conduct of the assessment 3

General marking guidance and assessment principles 4

Examples of Contextualisation 5

Mark scheme and guidance 6

 Task 1 6

 Task 2 7

 Task 3 9

Appendix 1: Adult ESOL core curriculum guidance – Entry 2 11

Appendix 2: Writing: Additional marking guidance – Entry 2 13

Guidance on the conduct of the assessment

- The tasks are designed to be completed during normal class time but must be taken under supervised conditions. This means that all tasks must be completed with the tutor/assessor, or other designated supervisor, present.
- This assessment is composed of three tasks. Candidates must complete all three tasks. They may be done in any order.
- Centres wishing to contextualise the tasks should refer to the guidance in the qualification specification and to the separate guidance on contextualisation that is available to download from the Prism online system (secure login required).
- The time allocated to the assessment is 1 hour and 15 minutes.
- Task 1 has a guide time of 15 minutes and Tasks 2 and 3 a guide time of 25-30 minutes each. Any over-running will mean less time to spend on subsequent activities, so assessors should remind candidates when they have used the allotted time.
- Candidates do not have to complete all the tasks in a single session, but they must complete them under supervision and are not permitted to take them away.
- Candidates may not use a dictionary for writing tasks.
- If candidates are to complete all tasks at one time, the complete assessment pack should be given out.
- If candidates are to complete each task separately, they should only be given the task to be completed.
- Candidates should be briefed on the task/tasks to be completed. The tasks each focus on writing skills.
- Candidates may be assisted with aspects that are not being assessed (e.g. the assessor may tell the candidate what to do if they cannot read the written instructions adequately). Tutors/assessors should also refer to the guidance on special arrangements and reasonable adjustments in the qualification specification.
- Candidates should be allowed to complete the tasks independently without any further support according to the guide time allowed.
- At the end of the assessment collect the candidates' work and store securely.

NB - The paper has been designed to be printed in a double-sided format.

General marking guidance and assessment principles

- Assessors should apply the mark schemes positively. Candidates must be rewarded for what they have shown they can do.
- Assessors should mark according to the mark scheme.
- Assessors should always award full marks if these are deserved, i.e. if the answer matches the mark scheme. Half marks may not be awarded.
- If a response is not worthy of credit it should be awarded 0.
- Candidates must pass each task in order to achieve the unit. The pass mark for each task is given overleaf.
- If candidates fail one of the tasks on the paper, they may be given an equivalent task from another paper.
- For Tasks 2 and 3 there is a suggested word count. Candidates will not be penalised for responses which are longer or shorter than the suggested number of words. It is the quality not the quantity of work that affects the assessment outcome. Assessors must judge whether candidates have met the relevant assessment criteria.

Examples of Contextualisation

Task 1

Candidates can write about helping out or working in any situation / location/shop.

Task 2

Contextualisation is not needed as this task is very open and candidates can choose where they have to go. They can give any reasonable reason why they cannot meet.

Task 3

Candidates can write about any class or organisation they are familiar with.

Mark scheme and guidance

Task 1

Assessment Criteria	1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 3.1, 2.2
Mark Scheme	1 mark per correctly completed section of form

Question	Correct Answer	Marks Available
1.	First name and surname	1 mark
2.	Address and postcode	1 mark
3.	Email address	1 mark
4.	2 days you can work	2 marks
5.	2 reasons for being a good volunteer 1 mark per reason that communicates information asked for. If two reasons are given but not in separate sentences full marks can be awarded.	2 marks
6.	Candidate spells most personal details and common words correctly	1 mark
7.	Candidate uses punctuation correctly (throughout their response)	1 mark
8.	Form is legible	1 mark

Total Marks Available	10 marks
Pass Mark for Task 1	7 marks

Task 2

Assessment Criteria	1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2
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Mark Scheme	Marks Available
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Content

Candidate communicates task producing at least 4 relevant pieces of information using appropriate vocabulary and expressions at Entry 2.	3 marks
Candidate communicates most of the task producing at least 3 relevant pieces of information using appropriate vocabulary and expressions at Entry 2.	2 marks
Candidate partially communicates task with 1 -2 relevant pieces of information using appropriate vocabulary and expressions at Entry 2.	1 mark
Insufficient or no relevant information. Communication of task not achieved.	0 marks

Indicative Content

Format of response to be an informal note to a friend. Candidate should use language appropriate for informal communication including opening and closing. Candidates should address all bullet points and give relevant details to expand on the prompts given. For example:

- Where you have to go – alternative arrangements such as work, doctor, family commitment.
- When and where you can next meet– date / time and location.
- What you can do next time you meet – details of an activity.

Range of expression

Common conjunctions and adjectives are used to enhance writing.	2 marks
Common conjunctions and adjectives are used occasionally to enhance writing.	1 mark
Common conjunctions and adjectives not used.	0 marks

Punctuation

Candidate uses common punctuation correctly throughout with only one or two minor errors.	2 marks
Candidate uses common punctuation mostly correctly but errors occur.	1 mark
Common punctuation is rarely used correctly.	0 marks

Grammar

Sentences are grammatically well formed at Entry 2.	2 marks
Some grammatical errors occur but these do not impede communication.	1 mark
The level of grammatical error means communication is not achieved.	0 marks

Spelling

Common and familiar words at Entry 2 are spelt correctly.	2 marks
Most common and familiar words are spelt correctly. Spelling errors do not impede communication.	1 mark
The number of spelling errors means communication is not achieved.	0 marks

Layout and style

Layout and style are appropriate to the purpose of the task.	1 mark
Layout and style are not appropriate to the task.	0 marks

Total Marks Available	12 marks
Pass Mark for Task 2	8 marks

Task 3

Assessment Criteria	1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2
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Mark Scheme	Marks Available
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Content

Candidate communicates task producing at least 4 relevant pieces of information using appropriate vocabulary and expressions at Entry 2.	4 marks
Candidate mostly communicates task producing at least 3 relevant pieces of information using appropriate vocabulary and expressions at Entry 2.	3 marks
Candidate partially communicates task producing at least 2 relevant pieces of information using appropriate vocabulary and expressions at Entry 2.	2 marks
Candidate produces 1 relevant piece of information using appropriate vocabulary and expressions at Entry 2.	1 mark
No relevant communication	0 marks

Indicative Content

Candidate should use appropriate semi-formal language suitable for communication in a paper.

Candidates should address all bullet points and give relevant details to expand on the prompts given. For example:

- Details of the class - subject, day, time.
- What was good about the class – teacher, friends, learning, resources.
- What else they can do at the college – sports, clubs, canteen.

Range of expression

Common conjunctions and adjectives are used to enhance writing.	2 marks
Common conjunctions and adjectives are used occasionally to enhance writing.	1 mark
Common conjunctions and adjectives not used.	0 marks

Punctuation

Candidate uses common punctuation correctly throughout with only one or two minor errors.	2 marks
Candidate uses common punctuation mostly correctly but errors occur.	1 mark
Common punctuation is rarely used correctly.	0 marks

Grammar

Sentences are grammatically well formed at Entry 2.	2 marks
Some grammatical errors occur but these do not impede communication.	1 mark
The level of grammatical error means communication is not achieved.	0 marks

Spelling

Common and familiar words at Entry 2 are spelt correctly.	2 marks
Most common and familiar words are spelt correctly. Spelling errors do not impede communication.	1 mark
The number of spelling errors means communication is not achieved.	0 marks

Layout and style

Layout and style are appropriate to the purpose of the task.	1 mark
Layout and style are not appropriate to the task.	0 marks

Total Marks Available	13 marks
Pass Mark for Task 3	8 marks

Appendix 1: Adult ESOL core curriculum guidance – Entry 2

Simple and compound sentences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> word order in compound sentences, e.g.: subject – verb – (object) + <i>and/but</i> + subject – verb – (object) <i>there was/were/there is going to be</i> clauses joined with conjunctions <i>and/but/or</i> a limited range of common verbs + <i>-ing</i> form verb + infinitive with and without <i>to</i> <i>wh-</i> questions comparative questions alternative questions question words <i>when, what time, how often, why, how</i> and expressions statements with question tags, using Entry 1 and Entry 2 tenses
Noun phrase
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> countable and uncountable nouns simple noun phrases object and reflexive pronouns determiners of quantity – <i>any, many</i> use of articles including: definite article and zero article with uncountable nouns; definite article with superlatives possessive <i>s</i> and possessive pronouns
Verb forms and time markers in statements, interrogatives, negatives and short forms
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> simple present tense of: regular transitive and intransitive verbs with frequency adverbs and phrases simple past tense of regular and common irregular verbs with time markers such as <i>ago</i> future time using: present continuous; use of time markers modals and forms with similar meaning: <i>must</i> to express obligation; <i>mustn't</i> to express prohibition; <i>have to, had to</i>, to express need; <i>could</i> to make requests; <i>couldn't</i> to express impossibility use of simple modal adverbs: <i>possibly, probably, perhaps</i> very common phrasal verbs
Adjectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> adjectives and adjective word order comparatives, regular and common irregular forms
Adverbs and prepositional phrases
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> prepositions and prepositional phrases of place and time adverbs and simple adverbial phrases word order with adverbs and adverbial phrases including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> sequencing: (<i>after that</i>); of time and place (<i>in the morning, at the bus stop</i>); of frequency: (<i>always, sometimes</i>); of manner (<i>carefully, quickly</i>) word order

- use of intensifiers, e.g. *really, quite, so*

Discourse

- adverbs to indicate sequence – *first, finally*
- use of substitution
- markers to structure spoken discourse

Appendix 2: Writing: Additional marking guidance – Entry 2

This guidance is provided to support the accurate application of the mark scheme and help tutors to evidence and justify their assessment judgements.

Task 1 Form

Additional notes for the form

There is no requirement for all items to be completely accurate. Where spelling or punctuation errors do not impede communication, individual marks can be awarded. If the errors are frequent, then this can be taken into account when deciding whether to award the overall marks for spelling and punctuation.

For example, if the single items are days of the week and a capital letter is not used, if 'road' in the address has no capital letter, marks can be awarded because the information is clear, however the mark for using punctuation correctly will not be awarded. Similarly, if personal or 'other' information e.g. a nationality, day of the week, activity etc. have minor spelling errors, but the meaning is clear, marks can be awarded, but the mark for spelling will not be awarded.

For the two sentences required, care must be taken not to penalise twice. For example, if the sentences have been awarded 1 mark because there are errors in spelling and punctuation and the remainder of the form is mostly accurate i.e. no more than one or two minor errors, then the marks can be awarded for spelling and punctuation.

Assessment Criteria	1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 3.1, 2.2
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Mark Scheme	Marks Available
First Name and family name	1 mark
Address and postcode	1 mark
Telephone Number	1 mark
Other information e.g. nationality	1 mark
Other information e.g. date of birth	1 mark
Other information provided in two sentences NB If a candidate gives two pieces of information in one continuous sentence 2 marks can be awarded	2 marks (1 mark per sentence that communicates even if errors in spelling and punctuation)
Candidate spells most personal details and common words correctly	1 mark
Candidate uses punctuation correctly	1 mark
Form is legible	1 mark

Total Marks Available	10 marks
Pass Mark for Task 1	7 marks

Additional notes for marking continuous text

Role of indicative content

For tasks 2 and 3, indicative content is included in addition to the mark scheme and is specific to the task set. It provides examples of the kinds of information candidates might provide in their response to the task. It is not prescriptive and candidates may produce writing that is relevant to the task that is not included but should none the less be rewarded.

Recommended word limits

Recommended word limits are provided as guidance for candidates. Where candidates have produced significantly less than the recommended range, it is unlikely that they will have produced the required amount of information or an appropriate range of vocabulary and expressions at the correct level. Where candidates have produced more than the recommended limit, the whole response should be marked in accordance with the mark scheme.

Using best fit in level of response mark schemes

For more extended writing, level of response mark schemes are used and assessors have to make a judgement in relation to the band or number of marks to award for different criteria. There may be cases where assessors are not sure which of two marks to award when looking at the wording of the criteria. In these cases, the decision must be made on whether the candidate work fits most or almost all of the criteria and award the mark.

For example, when awarding the mark for Content it may be that a small part of the required information has not been provided but the vocabulary and expressions used are clearly at the required level covering different aspects of the language included at that level and there is a logical sequence to the writing. In which case the top mark should be awarded.

Conversely, a candidate might have provided all the required information, but the level of language does not sufficiently cover the range or complexity required at the level and then the lower mark should be awarded.

Candidates can still be awarded the top mark for a criterion even with minor omissions and errors.

Task 2 Short continuous text

Assessment Criteria	1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1,2.2
Guidance	40-50 words

Content (maximum 3 marks covering whole task)

Candidate communicates task producing at least 4 relevant pieces of information using appropriate vocabulary and expressions at Entry 2.	3 marks	<p>All the requirements of the task are communicated.</p> <p>Vocabulary and expressions may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge and use of a range of lexis - appropriate and relevant to task • using intensifiers – e.g. really, quite, so • using there was / were / is going to be • using simple negatives e.g. there are no..., it is not... • using multiple points rather than just single statements • using time markers and sequencing – e.g. ago, next week, everyday, first • giving directions and instructions • expressing simple, views, opinion and feelings. <p>Not all these examples will be required to achieve the task; vocabulary and expressions will vary depending on the task.</p>
Candidate communicates most of the task producing at least 3 relevant pieces of information using appropriate vocabulary and expressions at Entry 2.	2 marks	<p>Communication of information is more limited and language less varied, but the candidate does mostly address the requirements of the task.</p>
Candidate partially communicates task with 1 -2 relevant pieces of information using appropriate vocabulary and expressions at Entry	1 mark	<p>Expressions and vocabulary will be more limited and/or task has omissions.</p>

2.		
Insufficient or no relevant information. Communication of task not achieved.	0 marks	The information is so limited that the task is incomplete or so irrelevant that it does not match the requirements. Vocabulary and expressions are not appropriate at Entry 2.

Range of Expression (maximum 2 marks covering whole task)

Common conjunctions and adjectives are used to enhance writing.	2 marks	There will be a variety of simple sentence patterns which may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • using common conjunctions to join clauses – e.g. and, but, or • using adjectives and adjective order – e.g. a nice big restaurant • using some comparative adjectives or adjectival phrases – e.g. bigger, better, more expensive.
Common conjunctions and adjectives are used occasionally to enhance writing.	1 mark	Some use of the above, but mostly very simple sentences with little variety.
Common conjunctions and adjectives are not used.	0 marks	Language is very basic with no attempt at enhancement.

Punctuation (maximum 2 marks covering whole task)

Candidate uses common punctuation correctly throughout with only one or two minor errors.	2 marks	Evidence of correct use of common punctuation such as capital letters, including for proper nouns, full stops, question marks.
Candidate uses common punctuation mostly correctly but errors occur.	1 mark	There will be errors, but it should be clear where sentences start and end and that overall the message is comprehensible.
Common punctuation rarely or not used correctly.	0 marks	There is a lack of punctuation overall, which significantly impairs communication.

Grammar (maximum 2 marks covering whole task)

Sentences are grammatically well formed at Entry 2.	2 marks	<p>Grammatical structures may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use of present simple, present continuous for future and past simple using accurate word order • using correct word order in compound sentences • use of present continuous for future – e.g. I'm planning a party • prepositions of place and time • possessive 's' and possessive pronouns • determiners of quantity – any, many • countable and uncountable nouns • definite and indefinite articles. <p>Not all these examples will be required to achieve the task; grammar will vary depending on the task.</p> <p>Accept a small number of minor errors that do not impede communication.</p>
Some grammatical errors occur but these do not impede communication.	1 mark	The candidate uses mostly correct grammar but there are errors for example in word order, plurals, articles, tenses.
The level of grammatical errors means communication is not achieved.	0 marks	Grammatical errors are such that the task is not achieved at even a minimal level.

Spelling (maximum 2 marks covering whole task)

Common and familiar words at Entry 2 are spelt correctly.	2 marks	The candidate spells correctly familiar high frequency words for example days of the week, numbers to twenty, familiar names, places etc. Spelling is not expected to be perfect and there may be one or two errors in common familiar words. Candidates should not be penalised for errors in more unfamiliar or specialised words where these have been attempted as long as the meaning is clear.
Most common and familiar words are	1 mark	Overall, the spelling of the words is such that the information is communicated and even

spelt correctly. Spelling errors do not impede communication.		where there are errors, the meaning of the word is understandable.
The number of spelling errors means communication is not achieved.	0 marks	Some words may be correctly spelt, but if the inaccurate spelling is such that the overall message is not clearly communicated then no marks can be awarded.

Layout and style (maximum 1 mark covering whole task)

Layout and style are appropriate to the purpose of the task.	1 mark	This may include a date, initial greeting such as 'Hi', 'Dear...' and a concluding salutation such as 'Thanks', 'Bye', 'Regards' 'Best wishes' followed by a name in a letter, note or email.
Layout and style are not appropriate to the task.	0 marks	No attempt at appropriate layout or inappropriate expressions used.

Total Marks Available	12 marks
Pass Mark for Task 2	8 marks

Task 3 Short continuous text

Assessment Criteria	1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2
Guidance	50-70 words

Content (maximum 4 marks covering whole task)

Candidate communicates task producing at least four relevant pieces of information using appropriate vocabulary and expressions at Entry 2.	4 marks	<p>All the requirements of the task are communicated.</p> <p>Vocabulary and expressions may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge and use of a range of lexis - appropriate and relevant to task • using intensifiers – e.g. really, quite, so • using there was / were / is going to be • using simple negatives e.g. there are no..., it is not... • using multiple points rather than just single statements • using time markers and sequencing – e.g. ago, next week, everyday, first • giving directions and instructions • expressing simple, views, opinion and feelings. <p>Not all these examples will be required to achieve the task; vocabulary and expressions will vary depending on the task.</p>
Candidate communicates task producing three relevant pieces of information using appropriate vocabulary and expressions at Entry 2.	3 marks	<p>Communication of information is more limited and language less varied, but the candidate does mostly address the requirements of the task using appropriate vocabulary and expressions.</p>
Candidate partially communicates task producing at least 2 relevant pieces of information using appropriate vocabulary and	2 marks	<p>Some requirements of the task are missing or unclear and the range of vocabulary and expressions is limited.</p>

expressions at Entry 2.		
Candidate produces 1 relevant piece of information using appropriate vocabulary and expressions at Entry 2.	1 mark	Expressions and vocabulary will be very limited and/or task has major omissions.
No relevant communication	0 marks	The information is so limited that the task is incomplete or so irrelevant that it does not match the requirements. Vocabulary and expressions are not appropriate at Entry 2.

Range of Expression (maximum 2 marks covering whole task) – as Task 2

Common conjunctions and adjectives are used to enhance writing.	2 marks	There will be a variety of simple sentence patterns which may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • using common conjunctions to join clauses – e.g. and, but, or • using adjectives and adjective order – e.g. a nice big restaurant • using some comparative adjectives or adjectival phrases – e.g. bigger, better, more expensive.
Common conjunctions and adjectives are used occasionally to enhance writing.	1 mark	Some use of the above, but mostly very simple sentences with little variety.
Common conjunctions and adjectives are not used.	0 marks	Language is very basic with no attempt at enhancement.

Punctuation (maximum 2 marks covering whole task) – as Task 2

Candidate uses common punctuation correctly throughout with only one or two minor errors.	2 marks	Evidence of correct use of common punctuation such as capital letters, including for proper nouns, full stops, question marks.
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Candidate uses common punctuation mostly correctly but errors occur.	1 mark	There will be errors, but it should be clear where sentences start and end and that overall the message is comprehensible.
Common punctuation rarely or not used correctly.	0 marks	There is a lack of punctuation overall, which significantly impairs communication.

Grammar (maximum 2 marks covering whole task) – as Task 2

Sentences are grammatically well formed at Entry 2.	2 marks	<p>Grammatical structures may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use of present simple, present continuous for future and past simple using accurate word order • using correct word order in compound sentences • use of present continuous for future – e.g. I'm planning a party • prepositions of place and time • possessive 's' and possessive pronouns • determiners of quantity – any, many • countable and uncountable nouns • definite and indefinite articles. <p>Not all these examples will be required to achieve the task; grammar will vary depending on the task.</p> <p>Accept a small number of minor errors that do not impede communication.</p>
Some grammatical errors occur but these do not impede communication.	1 mark	The candidate uses mostly correct grammar but there are errors for example in word order, plurals, articles, tenses.
The level of grammatical errors means communication is not achieved.	0 marks	Grammatical errors are such that the task is not achieved at even a minimal level.

Spelling (maximum 2 marks covering whole task) – as Task 2

Common and familiar words at Entry 2 are spelt correctly.	2 marks	The candidate spells correctly familiar high frequency words for example days of the week, numbers to twenty, familiar names, places etc. Spelling is not expected to be perfect and there may be one or two errors in common familiar words. Candidates should not be penalised for errors in more unfamiliar or specialised words where these have been attempted as long as the meaning is clear.
Most common and familiar words are spelt correctly. Spelling errors do not impede communication.	1 mark	Overall, the spelling of the words is such that the information is communicated and even where there are errors, the meaning of the word is understandable.
The number of spelling errors means communication is not achieved.	0 marks	Some words may be correctly spelt, but if the inaccurate spelling is such that the overall message is not clearly communicated then no marks can be awarded.

Layout and style (maximum 1 mark covering whole task) – as Task 2

Layout and style are appropriate to the purpose of the task.	1 mark	This may include a date, initial greeting such as 'Hi', 'Dear...' and a concluding salutation such as 'Thanks', 'Bye', 'Regards' 'Best wishes' followed by a name in a letter, note or email.
Layout and style are not appropriate to the task.	0 marks	No attempt at appropriate layout or inappropriate expressions used.

Total Marks Available	13 marks
Pass Mark for Task 3	8 marks