## ESOL Skills for Life

### Reading

#### Level 2

### Candidate Paper – Sample Assessment

**Assessment Code:** ESOLRL2AD/P

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate Name:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gateway Qualifications</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registration Number:</td>
<td>DOB:</td>
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<td>Centre Name:</td>
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<td>Date &amp; Time of Assessment:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Tasks:</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time Limit:</td>
<td>1 hour and 15 minutes</td>
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Fill in your candidate name, registration number, centre name, date and time in the box above.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task 1 Marks</th>
<th>Task 2 Marks</th>
<th>Task 3 Marks</th>
<th>Task 4 Marks</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pass Mark</th>
<th>Total Marks</th>
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<tr>
<td>26/40</td>
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**Pass/Fail**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Candidate Signature:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
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<th>Assessor Signature:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
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**Instructions**

- Use a pen.

- You have 1 hour and 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.

- 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**

You have seen this leaflet in your doctor’s surgery. Read the leaflet and answer the questions that follow.

---

**Fighting Flu**

**Flu is really just a bad cold, isn’t it?**

**No.** You’re likely to feel much worse – as well as having a high temperature, headache, sore throat and dry cough, you could be shivery, achy and even too weak to get out of bed. Flu can develop into more serious illnesses such as bronchitis and pneumonia, which could lead to a stay in hospital.

**Hardly anyone gets flu now, do they?**

**Yes, they do.** Although many people say they very rarely get flu, each year around 20% of people in the UK are infected, and the likelihood of a major **epidemic** is very difficult to predict. Flu spreads easily and quickly through coughing, sneezing or by touching something, such as a door handle after someone with flu has touched it, and even touching your nose or mouth – so one person with flu can infect lots of other people around them.

**But the flu vaccine gives you flu, doesn’t it?**

**No.** The injectable flu vaccine, or ‘jab’, is given to millions of patients each year and only contains parts of the flu virus so cannot give you flu. Although some may experience side effects, these are usually **mild** and go away within a day or so, and are normally less serious than getting flu.

**A flu vaccination every year, really?**

**Yes.** The strains or types of flu can change, so a new flu vaccine is produced each year to protect against the most common strains that are expected to be a problem in the coming season. Just because you’ve had a flu vaccination in the past won’t mean you’re protected now – that’s why it’s important to get a flu vaccination every year.

---

It’s a fact that flu can be serious, so it pays to be protected. Book an appointment for a flu jab at your doctors’ surgery today!
1. This text has a number of purposes. Put a tick ✔ in the three boxes that apply.
   a) to entertain ☐
   b) to instruct ☐
   c) to advertise ☐
   d) to inform ☐
   e) to encourage ☐
   f) to narrate ☐

   (3 marks)

2. Give three ways that flu can be spread.

   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________

   (3 marks)

3. Why should you have a flu jab each year? Give two reasons.

   __________________________________________
   __________________________________________

   (2 marks)

4. The word **epidemic** could be replaced by which of the following?
   Put a tick ✔ in the correct box:
   a) accident ☐
   b) cold ☐
   c) illness ☐
   d) outbreak ☑

   (1 mark)

5. The word **mild** could be replaced by which of the following?
   Put a tick ✔ in the correct box:
   a) soft ☐
   b) slight ☑
   c) warm ☐
   d) gentle ☐

   (1 mark)

Total Marks for Task 1: **10**
Task 2

You have decided to vote by post and receive this leaflet with your ballot papers.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTING BY POST

Complete the ballot paper yourself and in private. If you need help, contact the Acting Returning Officer for the constituency by using our Helpline 03069 990101 or email aro@voting.coz.

1. For your vote to count, you must fill in and return the voting statement with your ballot paper.
2. You must provide your signature and date of birth. If you do not, the postal voting statement will be invalid.
3. Vote for only one candidate by putting a X in the box next to your choice on the ballot paper.
4. Do not mark the ballot paper in any other way or your vote may not count.
5. If you need help voting, the person helping you must not tell anyone how you voted.
6. Put the ballot paper in the small envelope marked A and seal it.
7. You must make sure you have completed the postal voting statement by signing it and providing your date of birth, preferably using a black pen. Your signature and date of birth will be checked against data that the Acting Returning Officer now holds for you. This will ensure that no fraud is taking place.
8. Then put the envelope marked A together with the postal voting statement in the larger envelope marked B. Return it straight away.
9. **After receiving this postal vote, you cannot vote in person at a polling station.**
10. If you accidentally spoil or lose your ballot paper, you can apply to the Acting Returning Officer for a replacement.
11. **Electoral fraud is a crime. It is an offence to vote more than once in an election unless you are voting on your own behalf and as a proxy for another person.**
Answer the following questions.

1. Which of your details will be checked when you send in your ballot papers?

_________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________

(2 marks)

2. Why does the Acting Returning Officer check against data already held?

_________________________________________________________________________

(1 mark)

3. Put a tick in the correct box.
   What is the meaning of the term **straight away**?
   a) soon  [  ]  b) immediately  [  ]
   c) in the future  [  ]  d) yesterday  [  ]

(1 mark)

4. Give two ways you can contact the Acting Returning Officer.

_________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________

(2 marks)

5. Which section contains a warning?

   a) 3  [  ]  b) 5  [  ]  c) 8  [  ]  d) 11  [  ]

(1 mark)
6. Look up the following words underlined in the text in a dictionary. What do they mean in this context?

a) constituency

b) ballot

c) proxy

(3 marks)

Total Marks for Task 2: 10
Task 3
Read the website below and answer the questions that follow.

**Extreme Weather in the UK**

A combination of factors, including climate change, explain some of the extreme weather events in the UK and across the globe.

Extreme weather is when a weather event is significantly different from the average or usual weather pattern. This may take place over one day or a period of time. A flash flood or heat wave are two examples of extreme weather in the UK.

Other examples of extreme weather events in the UK include: drought which is caused by a lack of rain; flash floods which are caused by too much rain in a short period of time; strong winds and storms; an extreme cold spell; and an extreme heat wave. All of these have happened in the UK between 2000 and 2010.

During 2004-06 the UK received below average rainfall. This meant that reservoirs and groundwater supplies were not recharged with the water needed.

Boscastle in Cornwall suffered a flash flood in August 2004. Nearly three times the average rainfall for the whole of August fell in just one day. The rain ran down the steep valley sides causing flooding in the village. The floodwater picked up cars and trees in its path.

In January 2005 stormy weather brought havoc to roads in the North of England as lorries overturned. Power was also cut off in 80,000 homes. Winds in excess of 100 mph were recorded.

In December 2010 much of the UK was under snow. Arctic air caused the temperatures to drop significantly below the average. At night temperatures of minus 10°C were not uncommon.

In summer 2003 Europe suffered from an intense heat wave. In the UK the temperature of 38.5°C was the highest ever to be recorded.
Answer the following questions.

Put a tick ☑ in the correct box.

1. Who would find this text the most useful?
   a) Someone interested in climate change
   b) Someone who lives in the Republic of Ireland
   c) Someone whose house has been flooded
   d) Someone who likes fishing

   (1 mark)

2. Which extreme weather condition affected other countries as well as the UK?

   (1 mark)

3. Choose the word or phrase that best fits the meaning of the underlined words in this context. Put a tick in the correct box.
   i) significantly
      a) immeasurably ☐ b) similarly ☐ c) slightly ☐ d) considerably ☑
   ii) recharged
      a) refined ☐ b) refilled ☐ c) reformed ☐ d) reconsidered ☐
   iii) havoc
      a) order ☐ b) harmony ☐ c) chaos ☑ d) more traffic ☐

   (3 marks)
4. Which of the following statements are true. Tick three boxes.

a) Extreme weather always involves high winds
b) The village of Boscastle is located in a steep valley
c) Climate change is the sole reason for extreme weather in the UK
d) In the summer of 2003 the average temperature in the UK was 38.5°C
e) Extreme weather is when it is completely different to the norm
f) The night-time temperature in December 2010 was always below -10°C
g) During 2005 the UK experienced both a lack of rainfall and damaging storms

(3 marks)

Put a tick ✔ in the correct box.

5. What two words best describe the tone of this text?

a) chatty ✔ b) nostalgic c) factual
   d) persuasive e) informative f) humorous

(2 marks)

Total Marks for Task 3: 10
Task 4
Read the newspaper page below, and answer the questions that follow.

Thursday 25th May
Fairport Express

Letters Page

Is Fairport holiday-maker friendly?

Dear Sir,

I run a small bed and breakfast hotel in Fairport and I believe the council and people of this town could do a lot more to help the tourist industry. Remember, tourists contribute over £20m every year to the local economy and if they don’t return Fairport will die. My guests love the scenery, the unspoilt coastline and the nearby theme park. However, many complain that the local people don’t make them feel welcome. They say the service in cafes and restaurants is slow. Signage around the town, for which the council has responsibility, is poor but when they ask locals for directions they are often met by indifference or even rudeness. I think this is intolerable in a civilised town like Fairport. How would we feel if we were treated like that in London or Bristol? Do locals expect slow service when they eat out? I would suggest that the local council spends a bit more of our local taxes on improving the appearance of the town. And at the same time a few local people need to either take a crash course in etiquette or move out!

Yours faithfully,

Dennis Blythe

Dear Sir,

I have lived in Fairport all my life and since the 1960s, when the tourists started arriving, the place has gone to the dogs. The town is now full of fast-food takeaways and amusement arcades which are all dead in the winter, chaotic in the summer and an eyesore the whole year round. You ask if Fairport is holiday-maker friendly, but shouldn’t you really be asking how friendly the tourists are? They may spend their money in the town, but it’s only the hotel and café owners who benefit. The rest of us have to tolerate the noise, litter and bad behaviour caused by our visitors from out-of-town. I dread the summertime in Fairport and would like to see our Council provide facilities, such as a community centre, for the locals rather than always pandering to the cafe and hotel owners who seem to run this once beautiful seaside town. I reckon the town would be a much better place without any tourists!

Your faithfully,

Tariq Khan
Answer the following questions.

1. What does Dennis think the Council could do to improve Fairport? Give one detail.

(1 mark)

2. What does Tariq think the Council could do to improve Fairport? Give one detail.

(1 mark)

3. Tariq uses the expression **the place has gone to the dogs**.

   Which of the following best explains the expression in this context?

   Put a tick ✅ in the correct box:

   a) it has improved considerably
   b) it now accepts pets
   c) it has deteriorated a lot
   d) it is no longer in business

   (1 mark)
4. The letter writers use certain words and phrases to make their points.

Match up the words and expressions from the words underlined in the text that are closest in meaning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a) indifference</th>
<th>1. indulging</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b) etiquette</td>
<td>2. blot on the landscape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) eyesore</td>
<td>3. not the same</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) tolerate</td>
<td>4. politeness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) pandering</td>
<td>5. put up with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6. apathy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7. expense</td>
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</table>

Write the appropriate number beside the letter in the grid below:

a) □  b) □  c) □  d) □  e) □

(5 marks)

5. Compare the views of Dennis and Tariq. Which two statements below are true?

Put a tick ✔ in the two correct boxes:

a) Both agree that tourist money helps the town  □

b) Both have lived and worked in Fairport all their lives  □

c) Dennis blames both the Council and local residents  □

d) Tariq focuses only on the negative aspects of tourism  □

e) Both letters contain warnings.  □

(2 marks)

Total Marks Task 4: 10
END OF ASSESSMENT