

This is not a live paper

## ESOL Skills for Life

# Reading - Level 2

## Candidate Paper ESOLRL2AC/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

Marks

Task 1

Task 2

Task 3

Task 4

Total Marks

Pass Mark 26/40

Pass

Fail

Date completed

Tutor signature

Date

This is not a live paper

This page is intentionally blank

# This is not a live paper

## 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** task are shown at the bottom of the page.
- You may use a monolingual dictionary (simplified dictionary or glossary).

## 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.

# This is not a live paper

## Task 1

You are researching some holiday ideas. Read this page from a holiday brochure about an island holiday off the coast of Scotland.

Marker  
use only

Read the text below and answer the questions that follow.



Paragraph

## Mull Wildlife Experience

- 1 The Isle of Mull**

A chance to immerse yourself in the fabulous fauna and flora of the Isle of Mull and enjoy wonderful opportunities to explore this beautiful island. Why not join us? Mull is a sheer paradise for lovers of Scotland's natural heritage. Mull is an island gem, with diverse wildlife thriving everywhere from dense woodland to the grassy slopes of Ben More. Its many miles of coastline boast fantastic sandy beaches, particularly at Calgary; whilst off-shore you can find one of Europe's prime habitats for whales and dolphins.
- 2 Day One**

Your holiday starts with a memorable ferry trip from Oban, on the West Coast of Scotland, to the island of Mull, your base for the next four days. Bring a form of ID and your travel voucher with you to the ferry terminal.
- 3 Day Two**

Our 'Wildlife Safari' will not only introduce you to Mull's most spectacular wildlife hotspots, but is a great way to explore some of the more scenic highlights of this beautiful island. Look out for golden eagles soaring high above, sea eagles hunting in coastal bays, otters, seals and perhaps even porpoises sunning themselves in seaweed-strewn bays. There is always plenty of wildlife to look out for whilst admiring the most glorious scenery in the world.
- 4 Day Three**

Spotting a whale in the wild is still one of the greatest thrills in nature, and this holiday includes a full day whale-watch. Marine biologists on board will aid you in spotting minke whales and porpoises. These waters are also frequented by various species of dolphins and by the perfectly harmless basking shark. You will spend about six hours at sea, perhaps landing on a remote island or cove, with chances to view sleek seals at close quarters, while experiencing the peace and tranquility of this remarkable island. Please note that the waters around the island can be rough at times.
- 5 Day Four**

A leisure day to explore the coastline, beaches and mountains of the island.
- 6 Day Five**

Return by ferry to the mainland taking special memories with you.

# This is not a live paper

Marker  
use only

1. “A chance to **immerse** yourself in the fabulously variant fauna and flora of the Isle of Mull”. Look **immerse** up in a dictionary. What does it mean in this context?

---

(1 mark)

Put a tick in the correct box .

2. Mull is an island **gem**. What does **gem** mean in this context?

stone  beautiful place  land  Wildlife centre

(1 mark)

3. This text has a number of purposes. Write the correct number of the paragraph in the boxes below.

a) Which paragraph contains an instruction?

b) Which paragraph contains a warning?

c) Which paragraph contains an invitation?

(3 marks)

Put a tick in the **two** correct boxes .

4. Which days are more likely to be spent on land?

Day 1  Day 2  Day 3  Day 4  Day 5

(2 marks)

# This is not a live paper

Put a tick in the correct box .

5. The word **sheer** in: “A **sheer** paradise for lovers of Scotland’s natural heritage,” could be replaced with:

steep       whole       transparent       total   
(1 mark)

Marker  
use only

6. What is the best in the world according to the text?

---

(1 mark)

7. Who will help you see the wildlife at sea?

---

(1 mark)

Total marks for Task 1: 10 Marks

# This is not a live paper

## Task 2

Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

Marker  
use only



*We are in the process of emigrating to France for an extended period and we needed someone to help us let out our house...*

*"Kate and I were delighted when we were accepted for our first new house together.*

*Tom was very accommodating and he contacted us regularly about the progress of our application.*

*We can't wait to move in and call"... [Read full testimonial](#)*

**Looking for a new home to rent in Anston?  
Hurry...Don't miss out on your dream property!  
Click [here](#) to search properties NOW!**



- Apply for your new home for FREE!
- Book viewings and apply online 24/7
- Quick Application Decisions
- Online portal for paying rent and logging repairs

### **We're here to help you find your perfect rental home**

As you search for your new home, Swell Dwellings Letting Agents in is here to help. You'll find our letting services just swell – as we'll not only help to find you the perfect rental property, but we're here to offer advice and support as well.

We're Mark and Sam the owners of your local Letting Agent. We're here to answer your questions about renting and to discuss any aspect of your tenancy.

If you're looking for a new rental home in Anston, you're in the right place. Swell Dwellings has successfully found homes for thousands of tenants in the UK. We have great relationships with landlords and can help you find somewhere you can call home.

And the great news is that with us, you can apply for your new home for FREE!

### **Do it all online!**

We've made it easy for you to manage your tenancy online. You can browse available properties and book an appointment with Tom, our expert viewing agent at a time that suits you – and even apply for a property online 24/7. Once you've moved in, you can easily log repairs or maintenance issues through our online portal. But if you would prefer to talk to someone we have friendly reception staff. Call Julie who is on hand during office hours to deal with your enquiries.

### **What next?**

Search for 'Hot New Listings' by clicking below – and book your viewing slot today.

# This is not a live paper

1. Give **three** advantages to using this estate agent.

a) \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

b) \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

c) \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

2. a) Who are Mark and Sam?

\_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

b) Who is Tom?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

c) Who is Kate?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

Marker use only



## This is not a live paper

The underlined words in the text could be directly replaced by one of the words below, write the appropriate letter beside the number in the boxes below:

3. accommodating:

a) lodging

b) disparaging

c) purchasing

d) sheltering

4. logging:

e) renting

f) felling

5. letting:

g) paying

h) recording

i) obliging

(3 marks)

Put a tick in the correct box .

6. What do you think is the main purpose of the whole text? To:

persuade

entertain

describe

inform

(1 mark)

Marker  
use  
only

Total marks for Task 2: 10 Marks

## Task 3

Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

Marker  
use only

# Closures bring national library network to brink of 'absolute disaster', reveals official inquiry



Library services are on the brink of disaster and can only be saved if they become more like coffee shops with wi-fi, sofas and hot drinks, a report will recommend on Thursday.

A combination of funding cuts and declining attendance threatens the viability of the library network unless urgent action is taken, according to the Independent Library

Report for England, which was commissioned by the Government.

William Sieghart, entrepreneur, publisher and author of the report, said: "We're at a critical moment for the libraries and if we're not careful we could lose so many. A lot of people, including myself, think it would be an absolute disaster."

His report, which has been hailed as the last chance to halt a decline in which 324 libraries have closed since 2011, recommends a complete "reinvigoration of the library network" for the 21st century, with every library in the country fitted with wi-fi to attract people who would otherwise spend time in cafés. A drive to make libraries truly digital could also lead to the creation of a single national library card and catalogue, allowing readers to withdraw books across the country.

The report also recommends the establishment of a library task force, led by councils but supported by groups including the BBC, Arts Council England and the British Library, to improve national standards.

The library campaigner Desmond Clarke, a former librarian, has endorsed the report, saying: "Now, we have a blueprint for a national public library service." He welcomed the creation of the library task force, saying it would "fill the leadership void and allow libraries to rediscover their purpose". He added: "This report must not be kicked into the long grass; it is almost the last chance to rebuild a public library service with real value."

## This is not a live paper

1. Why are libraries at risk of closure according to the article? Give one reason.

---

(1 mark)

Put a tick in the correct box .

2. “We’re at a **critical** moment for the libraries”. The word **critical** could be replaced by:

judgemental  desired  necessary  serious

(1 mark)

3. a) Who asked the writer to produce the report?

---

(1 mark)

- b) What is the ex-librarian’s opinion of the report?

---

(1 mark)

- c) What does Desmond Clarke imply is not satisfactory at the moment?

---

(1 mark)

Marker  
use  
only

# This is not a live paper

Put a tick in the correct box .

4. a) What is the tone of the title?

sympathetic  impassioned  arrogant  passive   
(1 mark)

b) What is the overall purpose of the newspaper article?

to criticise  to reassure  to inform  to advise   
(1 mark)

c) What is the main purpose of the library report?

To recommend more library closures to the Government

To recommend changes in the library system to the Government

To inform the Government of declining attendance in libraries

To instruct the Government to establish a library task force   
(1 mark)

Marker  
use only

## This is not a live paper

5. Which word in paragraph 4 could be replaced with 'campaign'?

---

(1 mark)

6. The report recommends a complete "reinvigoration of the library network."  
Name one example from the text of how it can be reinvigorated.

---

(1 mark)

Marker  
use  
only

Total marks for Task 3: 10 Marks

# This is not a live paper

## Task 4

Read the forum below and answer the questions that follow.



### Should plastic bags be banned from grocery stores?

Marker  
use  
only

#### Plastic bags are a danger!

I despair with people's throwaway approach to life! Plastic bags are just a waste. Future generations will have to pay for the actions we take today. Do you want that for your grandchildren? What gets me hot under the collar is plastic bags can harm animals too as they get tangled up or ingest them. I have seen many plastic bags littering the beaches where I live then they get washed out to sea which can be fatal for sea life. I find this appalling! Please everybody, buy canvas bags, they are the best option and will carry your shopping for years!

**Piotr, Brighton**

#### Plastic bags forever!

What would dog owners do without free plastic bags to pick up their pet's waste? You can use them on your dog walks, in kitchen bins and for putting wet stuff in when it's pouring down. Plastic bags are very useful things!

**Shania, London**

#### Plastic bags get a bad press!

Today's plastic grocery bags are produced from a by-product (ethane) of natural gas refining. If we didn't use the ethane for making plastic bags it would simply be burned, further adding to global carbon dioxide emissions. If we didn't remove the ethane from the natural gas it wouldn't be safe to transport and use. Plastic bags are much more economical to produce and transport to their final destination, while having a carrying capacity of hundreds of times their weight. Plastic grocery bags are also very easy to recycle at participating stores, with many of the drop off bins located at the entrance of the store. So they're not all bad!

**Simon, Swansea**

#### Plastic bags forever?

Why do people insist on using plastic bags? It drives me crazy! They don't contribute to global warming but they do wreck the environment. Millions of plastic bags end up in landfill sites. Because plastic bags are made of high density polyethylene, or HDPE, it takes over 100 billion years for them to break down. So they stay there for a very long time indeed. I prefer using cloth bags more why don't you follow suit?

**Olga, Birmingham**

# This is not a live paper

1. Read the title of Simon’s post, “Plastic bags get a bad press.” What does the expression “bad press” mean?

---

(1 mark)

Marker  
use  
only

Put a tick in the correct box .

2. Choose the word or phrase that best describes the tone of Piotr’s post?

positive       pleading       unsure       furious and  
frustrated

(1 mark)

3. Choose the word or phrase that best describes the tone of Piotr’s post?

	Name of Writer
Which post is the most light-hearted?	
Which post is the most scientific?	
Which post has the strongest argument <b>for</b> using plastic bags?	
Which post is <b>least</b> in favour of using plastic bags?	

(4 marks)

4. Use a dictionary to look up the word by-product. What does it mean in this context?

---

(1 mark)

## This is not a live paper

Put a tick in the correct box .

5. In Piotr's post what does "gets me hot under the collar" mean in this context? To feel:

nervous     angry     confused     embarrassed

(1 mark)

Marker  
use  
only

Put a tick in the correct box .

6. a) Which phrase is the odd one out?

### Throwaway

dispose of     get rid of     throw off     throw out

(1 mark)

- b) Which phrase is the odd one out?

### Pouring down

lashing down     splashing down     pelting down     bucketing down

(1 mark)

Total marks for Task 4: 10 Marks



# This is not a live paper

## End of Assessment

The texts and illustrations in this assessment paper have been incorporated solely for the purposes of the examination in accordance with Section 32 of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, as amended by the Copyright and Rights in Performance (Research, Education, Libraries and Archives) Regulations 2014. No copyright or clearance for any other use has been obtained or sought.

Gateway Qualifications  
01206 911 211  
[enquiries@gatewayqualifications.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@gatewayqualifications.org.uk)  
@GatewayQuals