

**ESOL International
English Reading Examination**

Level C1 Advanced

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 30 questions in this examination.

You must attempt all the questions.

Record your answers on the mark sheet.

Total marks available: 30

You have **75 minutes** to finish the examination.

Text 1

Most of the world’s solar panels are facing the wrong direction	1
	2
You’d think it would be easy: the sun is “up,” and, like leaves and basking reptiles, solar panels should face in that general direction. But most installers of solar panels, especially the ones for homes, follow conventional wisdom handed down from architects, who holds that in the northern hemisphere, windows and solar panels should face south.	3
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This makes intuitive since it would seem to maximize the amount of sunlight a panel will get as the sun tracks from one horizon to the other. But it isn’t true, at least according to a single study of homes in Austin, Texas. The Pecan Street Research Institute found that homeowners who aimed their panels toward the west, instead of the south, generated 2% more electricity over the course of a day.	9
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More importantly, those west-facing panels reduced household electricity usage during the times when electricity is most expensive - and power grids are most likely to become overloaded - by 65%, while south-facing panels only reduced usage during those times by 54%. In Texas, as in most places, those “peak times” are from 3pm to 7pm, and correspond with the heat of the day.	16
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	21
It’s obvious that west-facing solar panels produce more electricity later in the day, when the sun were setting in the west, but quantifying the way that favouring late-day sunlight helps homeowners save money and utilities flatten out demand, could lead to a simple but effective hack for the worlds’ solar installers: Simply re-orienting solar panels could shorten the amount of time it takes for them to pay for themselves.	22
	23
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	26
	27

1. The text suggests, that the solar panels should be facing:
 - a. East
 - b. West
 - c. North
 - d. South

2. The above text is true for:
 - a. The northern hemisphere
 - b. The southern hemisphere
 - c. The whole world
 - d. Austin, Texas

3. Solar panels facing west can reduce electricity usage in a house by:
 - a. 2 %
 - b. 10%
 - c. 54%
 - d. 65%

4. The main purpose of this text is to:
 - a. Persuade the reader to buy solar panels.
 - b. Advertise a company selling solar panels.
 - c. Describe how solar panels save money.
 - d. Inform the reader about new findings regarding solar panels.

5. The sentence: "In Texas, as most places, those 'peak times' are from 3 pm to 7 pm." is:
 - a. A fact
 - b. A description
 - c. A command
 - d. An opinion

6. There is a spelling mistake on:
 - a. Line 3
 - b. Line 9
 - c. Line 16
 - d. Line 23

7. A grammatical mistake has been made on:
 - a. Line 4
 - b. Line 11
 - c. Line 23
 - d. Line 24

8. A punctuation error has been made in line 25. It is:
 - a. An apostrophe is not used correctly.
 - b. A colon is not used correctly.
 - c. A capital letter is not used correctly.
 - d. A hyphen is not used correctly.

9. A word has been spelt correctly but wrongly used on:
 - a. Line 3
 - b. Line 6
 - c. Line 18
 - d. Line 19

10. A word has been omitted in line 9. It is:
 - a. Science
 - b. Sence
 - c. Sensitive
 - d. Sense

Text 2

It's true that many marriages end in divorce, but it's pretty crucial that you at last start out believing that it really is 'until death us do part'. If you aren't sure you're making the right decision, it could be a simple case of cold feet, or there could be deeper problems. Read through our list of potential deal breakers and see if any alarm bells start to ring.	1 2 3 4 5 6
You think marriage will solve your relationship problems	7
If you're getting hitched because you think it will sort out all your difficulties, you need to have a serious rethink. Any problems that exist between you and your partner will still remain after the excitement of the big day has worn off and will only be exacerbated by the fact that you've committed yourselves for life. Tackle your problems before saying 'I do'.	8 9 10 11 12 13
You aren't friends	14
The first flush of romance is incredibly excited and it's easy to promise the world to someone when under the <u>influence</u> of that initial chemistry. If you rush into marriage at an early stage, you might find that once the honeymoon period is over, you aren't compatible in the long term. If you don't feel your lover is also your friend, you might not last the distance.	15 16 17 18 19 20
Your life priorities are completely different	21
If you want to travel the world in a camper van and rarely think past next week, but your partner wants to settle down with a mortgage and 2.4 kids, you're going to struggle to find a happy future together. Compromise is vital to a relationship, but you shouldn't be compromising so much that you end up unhappy.	22 23 24 25 26
You think marriage will make you feel secure	27
If you feel in your relationship and are using marriage as a way to stop your partner leaving you, then you need to have a long hard look at yourself. Marriage should be a celebration of your love rather than a method of control, so address your insecurities before asking someone to make the commitment.	28 29 30 31 32
Your family and friends don't like your partner	33
We don't always see eye to eye with our friends and family about our choice of partner, but if there's a general consensus amongst them that this person is really wrong for you, take a moment to stop and think. Your friends and family know you well, and care about your happiness, so they may be seeing something that your head-over-heels feelings have blinded you to. They may be wrong, but it's worth listening to their opinions all the same.	34 35 36 37 38 39

11. The text has been divided into sections in order to:
- Put ideas in a chronological order.
 - Put ideas in order of importance.
 - Group ideas together.
 - Create important ideas.
12. This text is most likely to be found in:
- A magazine
 - An instruction manual
 - A personal letter
 - A promotional leaflet
13. According to the text, which statement is **not** true?
- Your family and friends are always right so act on their advice.
 - Your marriage is not a solution to your difficulties.
 - Do not marry someone for fear of losing them.
 - Do not marry someone if you do not know them well.
14. The expression 'head-over-heels feelings' in paragraph six means that:
- Someone is following their head not their heart.
 - Someone who is not in love.
 - Someone who does not care about their family's opinion.
 - Someone madly in love.
15. According to the text, a couple wanting different things in life should:
- Always compromise.
 - Do what they like separately.
 - Think about whether marriage is the way forward.
 - Sort out their differences during marriage.

16. The word 'tackle' as used in paragraph two **cannot** be replaced by:
- Solve
 - Face
 - Discuss
 - Avoid
17. A word has been omitted on line 28. It should be:
- Unsecure
 - Insecure
 - Non-secure
 - Secure
18. A spelling mistake has been made on:
- Line 1
 - Line 8
 - Line 16
 - Line 17
19. A word has been correctly spelt but wrongly used on:
- Line 1
 - Line 7
 - Line 16
 - Line 30
20. There is an error in the use of active/passive participle forms on:
- Line 8 hitching not hitched
 - Line 11 exacerbating not exacerbated
 - Line 15 exciting not excited
 - Line 34 see not seeing

Text 3

Pollution prompts Paris car ban



(Photo by Fastily)

Reduced speed limits are another tactic to try to tackle pollution.

Alternate driving days are being introduced in the French capital, Paris, in an attempt to tackle dangerous levels of air pollution. From Monday, drivers will only be able to use their vehicles every other day.

This is only the second time since 1997 that such a restriction has been enforced. The French government made the decision after air pollution exceeded safe levels for five days running in Paris and surrounding areas.

Motorcycles will also be covered by the ban, which will allow only vehicles with number plates terminating in an uneven digit to take to the roads, beginning at 05:30 (04:30 GMT) on Monday. On Friday, public transport was made free of charge for three days in an attempt to encourage people to leave their cars at home. This measure will continue on Monday.

The smoggy conditions have been caused by a combination of cold nights and warm days, which have prevented pollution from dispersing. The capital's air quality has been one of the worst on record, French environmental agencies say, rivalling the Chinese capital, Beijing, one of the world's most polluted cities.

On Friday, pollution levels hit 180 microgrammes of PM10 particulates per cubic metre, more than double the safe limit of 80. PM10 particulates are emitted by vehicles, heating systems and heavy industry.

The government will review pollution levels on Monday, before deciding whether to extend the driving restrictions for longer.

21. A car ban has been introduced in Paris because:
- There is too much traffic congestion.
 - The city is polluted.
 - Paris is the most polluted city in the world.
 - Pollution in Paris is caused solely by vehicles.
22. How long will the ban stay in place?
- One summer season
 - One year
 - Until the next review
 - Indefinitely
23. The ban, according to the text, means that:
- No vehicles are allowed in Paris at any time.
 - Only cars are not allowed in Paris at any time.
 - Only motorcycles are not allowed in Paris at any time.
 - Vehicles are allowed in Paris at specific times and days only.
24. What have the French government done to encourage people not to drive in Paris?
- Introduced free public transport on certain days during the ban.
 - Introduced free public transport at any time during the ban.
 - Introduced free use of public bicycles on certain days during the ban.
 - Introduced free use of public bicycles at any time during the ban.
25. What is the top safe limit of air pollution:
- 80 microgrammes of PM 10 per m³
 - 80 milligrammes of PM 10 per m³
 - 180 microgrammes of PM 10 per m³
 - 180 milligrammes of PM 10 per m³

Text 4

As Ben Geoghegan reports, the Euro Millions winner is a UK ticket-holder. A UK ticket-holder has come forward to claim the £107.9m Euro Millions jackpot - the UK's fourth biggest win in National Lottery history.



(Photo by Magnus D)

The winning numbers in Friday evening's draw were 6, 24, 25, 27 and 30, with the lucky star numbers 5 and 9. Lottery operator Camelot confirmed it has had a claim staked for the jackpot prize, though no further details about the winner or winners were released.

Subject to validation, the prize could be paid out when banks open on Monday. The ticket-holder can then decide whether or not to go public and share the news. There will be no information released on whether the winning ticket belonged to an individual player or a syndicate, or where exactly the ticket was purchased, unless the ticket-holder decides to go public.

'Delighted'

A National Lottery spokesman said: "We're delighted Friday's ticket-holder has come forward to claim this amazing prize. This massive win ranks fourth biggest on the National Lottery Rich list and is the first Euro Millions jackpot to be won here in the UK so far this year." British winners have claimed more than £4 billion in prizes since Euro Millions draws began in 2004.

The largest Euro Millions jackpot claimed to date was won by Colin and Christine Weir, of Largs in Scotland. The couple won £161m in July 2011, and have since set up the Weir Charitable Trust to improve quality of life in Scotland. The second largest sum - £148m - went to Adrian and Gillian Bayford, from Haverhill, Suffolk, in August 2012. The third biggest jackpot of £113m, in October 2010, was claimed by a winner who decided to remain anonymous.

Based on the Sunday Times Rich List for 2013, the £107.9m (\$179m) jackpot winner would be the 745th richest person in the UK, with a fortune that would narrowly outrank that of pop stars George Michael and Robbie Williams. The newspaper estimates the two singers have a wealth of £105m each.

26. Who won the most recent lottery jackpot?
- a. Ben Geoghegan
 - b. A UK citizen
 - c. A European citizen
 - d. Adrian and Gillian Bayford
27. How much was won?
- a. £ 107.9 m
 - b. € 107.9 m
 - c. £148 m
 - d. € 161 m
28. Colin and Christine Weir are:
- a. The richest people in the UK.
 - b. The second richest people in the UK.
 - c. Winners of the largest Euro Millions jackpot.
 - d. Winners of the second largest Lottery jackpot.
29. The text suggests, that:
- a. The most recent lottery winners are richer than *George Michael*.
 - b. *George Michael* is richer than the most recent lottery winners.
 - c. *Robbie Williams* is richer than the most recent lottery winners.
 - d. The most recent lottery winners are richer than *Robbie Williams* and *George Michael* together.
30. The above text includes a mixture of:
- a. Opinions and instructions
 - b. Facts and opinions
 - c. Facts and advice
 - d. Descriptions and advice

End of Examination

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