



# Key skills communication Adult literacy ESOL Skills for Life Reading Unit Level 2 Test Paper

## YOU NEED

- This test paper
- An answer sheet

You may NOT use a dictionary

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Do NOT open this paper until you are told to do so by the supervisor

THERE ARE 40 QUESTIONS IN THIS TEST

Total marks available: 40

Try to answer ALL the questions

YOU HAVE 1 HOUR TO FINISH THE TEST

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## INSTRUCTIONS

- Make sure your personal details are entered correctly on the answer sheet
  - Read each question carefully
  - Follow the instructions on how to complete the answer sheet
  - At the end of the test, hand the test paper, your answer sheet and all notes to the supervisor
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REMEMBER: YOU HAVE 1 HOUR TO FINISH THE TEST

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## INSTRUCTIONS TO CENTRES

- This paper must not be photocopied

Questions 1 to 5 are based on the following document.

# British International MOTOR SHOW

## 20 - 30 JULY

**The UK's biggest and best day out**  
**Great value for money**  
**Experience live Motor Theatre action**

Forget what you thought you knew about traditional motor shows. The new look British International Motor Show is back in London after 30 years and has something for everyone. This is THE must-attend event this summer, taking place at a stunning riverside setting.

### The Cars are the Stars

With the world's major car brands and over 200 exhibitors under one roof, you can shop amongst all the latest models, then compare and contrast the best buys.

### Shop @ The Motor Show

The dedicated retail area will have everything you want, from the latest in-car entertainment, stunning driving holidays and handy car accessories to state of the art satellite navigation systems.

### Stunning Live Motor Theatre

Theatre meets cars in this outdoor arena where you will be amazed by an awe-inspiring adaptation of 'Romeo and Juliet' - 'Dockside Story'. This 'Tale of Car-Crossed Lovers' combines car stunts and live music with car ballet!

### Dock Rock Concerts

By night the Motor Theatre changes into a 6,500 capacity arena where concerts will



literally 'rock the dock'. Tickets are sold separately and range from £20 – £40. The show starts at 9.00pm every night.

### SuperCar Paddock

Make sure you don't miss this opportunity to get up close and personal to the ultimate in luxury and performance motoring in the SuperCar Paddock where you can see a stunning line-up of the world's leading SuperCar brands.

### All Action Off-Road Course

An urban regeneration themed off-road course where professional drivers will take you on a thrilling ride through the water splash, vertical climbs and downhill sprints.



### Waterfront Al Fresco Dining

After all that shopping and driving action, take a break, soak up the atmosphere and stop for lunch in one of the stunning waterfront cafés and fine dining restaurants. At weekends, you'll also be entertained by the thrilling on-water displays with powerboats, jet skis and waterskiing acrobatics

- 1 The British International Motor Show offers a
  - A nightly rock concert in an arena
  - B traditional version of 'Romeo and Juliet'
  - C solo downhill sprint and water splash drive
  - D daily display of waterskiing acrobatics
  
- 2 The British International Motor Show is not being held
  - A by the river
  - B inside a paddock
  - C in London
  - D during the summer
  
- 3 The main reason the writer uses sub-headings is to
  - A make the writing more evenly spaced
  - B highlight the different activities available
  - C tell people when things are happening
  - D let people know what activities cost
  
- 4 The writer uses
  - A formal language to explain each event
  - B stirring vocabulary to persuade people to attend
  - C scientific terms to describe the vehicles on show
  - D supporting evidence to advise on the best time to attend
  
- 5 This document could best be described as
  - A a local newspaper article
  - B a magazine review
  - C an encyclopaedia extract
  - D a promotional leaflet

Questions 6 to 10 are based on the following documents.

Document A

## Pointers for Parents

The internet should be a fun and useful tool for your children; however, some people use the internet to harm them, either through the distribution of indecent images or by 'grooming' young children through chat rooms so that they can be abused in the future. To make sure that your children are able to use the internet safely, follow the guidelines below.

- Make sure that you know how to use the computer and that you are aware of the services your child uses.
- Keep the computer in a family room so that you can see what is happening online.
- Make sure that information such as names, telephone numbers, addresses and school particulars are never given out.
- Make it clear to your child that they must not arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone they have met online without your permission. If a meeting is arranged, make sure it is in a public place and you go along as well.
- Make sure that your child understands the reasons behind the rules – it is not that you don't trust your child, it is about keeping them safe from people who don't have your child's best interests at heart. Discuss and establish rules for internet use.

Document B

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Computers are now a common feature of everyday life and in an ever increasing number of homes. Used properly, they can produce great rewards in education and communication. Some people, however, use the internet to cause harm to children and young people. They may also use chat rooms to try to trick you into believing that they are young people like you, and ask to meet up.

**So stay safe** by following these simple rules.

- Never give out your name, telephone numbers, home address or details about your school or college on the internet, especially to people you do not know.
- Never arrange to meet in person any stranger you have 'met' via the website.
- If you use a chat room on the internet, always tell your parents or carers if anyone says or writes something that makes you feel uncomfortable.
- Be constantly aware that a person you have been communicating with may not be who they say they are and could have created an account in a false name.

- 6 The best heading for Document B is
- A Computers and Education
  - B Fresh Facts for Females
  - C How to Communicate
  - D Guidelines for Young People
- 7 Both documents suggest that
- A young people should only use a computer in the presence of an adult
  - B personal details should not be revealed to strangers on the internet
  - C you should never contact a stranger you meet through a chat room
  - D it is never safe to use the internet as people are not always honest
- 8 According to Document A, setting up rules when using the internet is important
- A because young people waste a lot of their time in chat rooms
  - B because young people can't be trusted to behave responsibly
  - C to protect young people from those who could possibly harm them
  - D to protect young people from spending too long on the computer
- 9 In the last line of Document A, the word 'establish' could best be replaced by
- A set up
  - B agree to
  - C chat about
  - D insist on
- 10 Both documents use
- A fact and statistics
  - B description and persuasion
  - C information and guidance
  - D anecdotes and opinions

Questions 11 to 15 are based on the following draft document.

<b>Aldeburgh Town Guide</b>	line 1
Aldeburgh, on the Suffolk Heritage coast, is a quiet, unspoilt seaside town on the site of a medieval fishing and shipbuilding centre. Its older streets run parallel with the sea, southwards towards the River Alde and the Martello Tower. This is the most northerly and the largest of the defence towers built in Napoleonic times, now a holiday home. On the river are two sailing clubs; inland there is a golf course and tennis and bowls facilities. On the long shingle beach, fishermen will sell their catch from huts; fishing from the beach needs no licence. The town has a wide range of shops and services. These include several art galleries, cinemas, hotels and restaurants.	line 2 line 3 line 4 line 5 line 6 line 7 line 8 line 9 line 10
<b>Brudenell Hotel, Restaurant and Bar</b>	line 11
<b>A pebbles throw from the beach</b>	line 12
Situated a step away from the beach the Brudenell Hotel's two star restaurant has been compared by many to dining on a cruise liner. Fresh local seafood and grills are a speciality. Enjoy al fresco dining on our sea-facing terrace.	line 13 line 14 line 15
<b>The Mill Inn</b>	line 16
<b>Market Place</b>	line 17
Dennis and Sue invite you to the Mill Inn where a warm welcome awaits you. This is a traditional pub with traditional values, selling traditional ales. Excellent food is offered in our lounge or modern restaurant. We specialise in fresh, locally caught fish and seafood. Accomodation is available all year round. All our very comfortable rooms _____ tea and coffee making facilities, TVs and sea views.	line 18 line 19 line 20 line 21 line 22 line 23

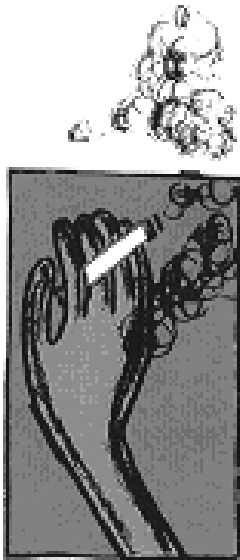
- 11 There is a missing apostrophe on
- A line 3
  - B line 10
  - C line 12
  - D line 23
- 12 There is a spelling error on
- A line 7
  - B line 9
  - C line 14
  - D line 21
- 13 The best word to use in the gap on line 22 is
- A has
  - B have
  - C having
  - D had
- 14 There is a missing comma on
- A line 4
  - B line 13
  - C line 15
  - D line 20
- 15 The two sentences on lines 9 to 10 (starting 'The town' and ending 'restaurants') could best be joined by replacing the word 'These' with the word
- A so
  - B but
  - C who
  - D which

Questions 16 to 20 are based on the following document.

# Smoking: facts for women

## Smoke gets in your body

In the 1920s and 30s smoking was seen as an elegant activity, enhanced by lengthy holders and beautifully coloured cigarettes.



Today, tobacco companies are aiming increasing amounts of marketing at women – particularly young women – associating their product with health, fun and the mysteries of adult life.

But there is nothing elegant or sophisticated about smoking. Now we know what it is doing to us. It is expensive and unhealthy. It makes you dependent.

It takes away control of your life.

## Smoke gets in your lungs

Lung cancer is a leading cause of cancer death in British women. Why? Women are taking up smoking at a younger age and they are smoking more.

**The good news is...** The risk of lung cancer will reduce rapidly when you stop smoking. In five years it will be half that of a smoker and the risk will continue to decrease to almost that of a non-smoker.

## Smoke gets in your heart

Cigarette smoking is one of the three major causes of heart and blood vessel disease. About 30,000 of the 110,000 Britons who die from heart attacks each year die early because of their smoking.

**The good news is...** When you give up smoking, the risk of dying from heart attack falls in the first few years. After about 10 years, the risk is close to that of someone who has never smoked.

## Smoke gets in your sex life

Women who smoke and take the contraceptive pill increase the risk of heart attack up to 20 times. They are 20 more times likely to have a certain type of stroke.

It is more difficult to get pregnant if you smoke. Women who smoke are less fertile. Smokers trying to get pregnant are 3 times more likely than non-smokers to take more than a year to conceive.

**The good news is...** If you stop smoking, your fertility will improve.

## Smoke gets in your bones

Smokers have been found to have lower levels of the hormone oestrogen in the body.

They reach the menopause about two years earlier than non-smokers.

They are also more likely to suffer from brittle bones – a bone weakening disease which causes older women to stoop, lose height and suffer broken hips.

## Smoke gets in your breath, teeth, skin, hair, fingers

Smokers' cough, stained teeth and fingers and premature wrinkles are not desirable, sexy or sophisticated.

**Millions of women have stopped smoking.  
You can do it too.**

- 16 The tone of the document can best be described as
- A concerned
  - B critical
  - C ironic
  - D light-hearted
- 17 According to the document, tobacco marketing is
- A elegant
  - B expensive
  - C misleading
  - D mysterious
- 18 According to the document, when you stop smoking
- A you lose control of your life
  - B you are less likely to become pregnant
  - C the risk of lung cancer decreases
  - D the risk of a heart attack increases
- 19 The main point of the document is that
- A women who smoke are at risk of a number of health problems
  - B women smoke more now than they did in the 1920s and 30s
  - C young women see smoking as fun and sophisticated
  - D smoking causes smokers' cough, stained teeth and fingers
- 20 The document contains
- A straightforward language and instructions
  - B technical terminology and personal anecdotes
  - C medical jargon and irrelevant information
  - D clear arguments and supporting evidence

Questions 21 to 25 are based on the following document.

## Britons rely on homes for pensions

A third of British workers are relying on the sale of their homes to fund their retirement rather than saving in private or company pension schemes, according to research by Mercer Human Resource Consulting.



The report underlines government fears that future retirees will be a drain on the state because they are not saving enough for retirement.

It comes as a leading pensions organisation criticised the government's plans to address the issue, claiming the new proposals will leave most people worse off.

Mercer said that with the average house in Britain costing £173,000, workers who did

opt to sell their home and purchase a pension would be forced to live on just £6,800 a year under the current rates. Those who decided to rent a property after the sale could be left £100 a year out of pocket using these estimates.

Mercer's Dr Deborah Cooper said: "If people fail to save enough now and rely on selling their homes to provide an income, they could be in for a nasty shock at retirement. For most people, selling a home to buy a pension will provide little income, if any at all, once rental or repurchasing costs have been taken into account."

This came as an independent lobbying body, the Pensions Policy Institute, condemned the government's white paper on pensions, claiming the plan would not meet several of its key aims.

It said the government's goal of providing everyone with a state pension of at least £135 a week by 2050 was unachievable as it would not include those who had lower state pension contributions because of career breaks.

- 21 According to the document, many British people
- A prefer private pension schemes to state ones
  - B do not worry about money once they are retired
  - C are not saving sufficiently to fund their retirement
  - D expect to receive a company pension when they retire
- 22 According to the document, recent research shows that
- A selling your home at retirement will provide a limited income
  - B it is better to rent than own your own home when you retire
  - C houses will be worth £6,800 a year more when people retire
  - D in 2050 the government will not provide people with pensions

- 23 The tone of the document could best be described as
- A sarcastic
  - B amusing
  - C serious
  - D flippant
- 24 The best sub-heading to place in the box before the second section of writing is
- A Government goal unattainable
  - B Career breaks cause cash shortage
  - C Independent lobbying body supports government
  - D £135 a week inadequate for pensioners
- 25 The document is most likely to be
- A a page in an economics text book
  - B an extract from a research document
  - C a summary from a company report
  - D an article in a financial newspaper

Please go on to the next page

Questions 26 to 30 are based on the following document.

# GETTING A JOB



If you've just left school or university, you're bored in your current job or you're out of work for any other reason, looking for a job can be one of the most difficult and stressful processes you'll have to go through.

When looking for a job, you will be in a tough market and you must give yourself the best possible shot. This means doing all you can to impress a potential employer. The first hurdle is to get an interview and for this you will be judged solely on your letter of application, application form and contents of your CV. Don't be surprised if you don't hear from a company once you've made an application.

Once you have managed to get a job interview, the hard sell really starts. Do all you can to find out about the job and the company who are interviewing you. Company websites are often useful for information about the firm's history, management and future goals. Sometimes you can telephone the company's information or press department and ask for a company brochure or annual report.

If you have been asked to prepare a presentation, don't leave this to the last minute. Address the task as early as you can so that, even if you're not writing, your mind will be thinking about it and planning your responses.

Dress, manner, appearance and punctuality are all vital and first impressions will stick. Suit and tie are not always the most appropriate dress. In some creative fields, for example, the dress requirement is less formal. Walk confidently to your chair and acknowledge and greet the interviewer(s) as you judge appropriate. Eye contact and a firm handshake create a good impression.

In some cases, an interview can go so well that you may be offered the job there and then. Be prepared to talk about the pay and conditions you are looking for and, if applicable, to know how much notice you need to give your current employer.

If you feel you need time to think or want to get someone else's advice, say so. If the employer wants you for the job, he/she should be prepared to wait. Don't allow yourself to be steamrollered into a decision in a hurry.

- 26 According to the document, when looking for a job you should
- A apply before leaving school or university
  - B avoid being stressed by the process
  - C promote yourself in a positive way
  - D expect an answer from all your applications
- 27 The word 'steamrollered' on the last line of the document could best be replaced by
- A pressurised
  - B manipulated
  - C persuaded
  - D flattered
- 28 Before an interview it is advisable to
- A telephone the interviewer
  - B research the company and the job
  - C find out the interview questions
  - D give notice to your current employer
- 29 The writer of the document uses a mixture of
- A evidence and description
  - B fact and persuasion
  - C information and advice
  - D anecdote and opinion
- 30 At an interview it is advisable to
- A wear a suit
  - B speak slowly
  - C be formal
  - D be confident

Questions 31 to 35 are based on the following draft document.

<b>Josephs Leaving Do</b>	line 1
Attention everybody!	line 2
After working with us for eight years, Joseph is finally leaving us to move on to pastures new at "The Cedars".	line 3 line 4
There will be a presentation on Friday 8th February at 4.30pm in the staff room. Everybody is welcome. Afterwards, for those who are interested, there will be the opportunity of going on to "The Four Swans" for a liesurely drink. At 7.30 there will then be an informal buffet meal accompanied by live music, which will be held at Sensations. Tickets cost £15. Entry will be by ticket only. See Laura as soon as possible if you haven't bought yours yet.	line 5 line 6 line 7 line 8 line 9 line 10 line 11 line 12
Finally, if you would like to make a contribution to the leaving present of a great DVD player, please see Christine or Satvinder before the end of this week – at the very latest. All cheques should be made out to the Staff Association Fund. Cash is, of course perfectly acceptable!	line 13 line 14 line 15 line 16 line 17

31 There is a spelling mistake on

- A line 7
- B line 8
- C line 9
- D line 13

32 There is a set of inverted commas missing on

- A line 6
- B line 8
- C line 10
- D line 14

- 33 The two sentences on lines 10 to 12 (beginning 'Entry will' and ending 'yet') could best be joined by using the word
- A then
  - B and
  - C if
  - D so
- 34 There is an apostrophe missing on
- A line 1
  - B line 3
  - C line 10
  - D line 12
- 35 There is a comma missing on
- A line 4
  - B line 14
  - C line 15
  - D line 17

Please go on to the next page

Questions 36 to 40 are based on the following document.

# Capital Punishment

Capital punishment is the lawful infliction of death as a punishment and since ancient times it has been used for a wide variety of offences. In England by 1500 only major crimes such as treason, murder, rape, burglary and arson carried the death penalty. By 1700, however, Parliament added many new capital offences and hundreds of people were put to death each year.

Reform of the death penalty began in Europe in the 1750s with the argument that it was needlessly cruel, over-rated as a deterrent and occasionally there was a fatal error. Portugal was the first European nation to abolish the death penalty in 1867. Britain, however, did not do so until 1965. Today, it is virtually abolished in Western Europe and most of Latin America, although it is still retained by many nations, including the United States of America, China and the Philippines.

In Britain, the number of convictions for unlawful killings has more than doubled since the abolition of capital punishment. In 2004, there were 833 unlawful killings as opposed to 300 in 1964. Since 1964, 71 murders were committed by people released after serving 'life sentences'. About 6,300 people are currently serving 'life' in prison for murder.

Many people would like capital punishment to be reinstated in Britain as it permanently removes the worst offenders from society, saves money and is a deterrent to others. It is also seen as an acceptable form of retribution: the criminal should suffer the same fate as his/her victim; there is some form of release for the families of the victims.

On the other hand, it has to be considered that by reintroducing the death penalty a great deal of suffering will be caused to the families of murderers.

More importantly, it is also a virtual certainty that innocent people will be put to death. Famous miscarriages of justice include those of the Guildford Four, the Birmingham Six, James Driskell and Robert Brown, all of whom were eventually released after spending numerous years in prison for crimes they did not commit.

- 36 The writer's main purpose is to
- A criticise
  - B persuade
  - C inform
  - D advise
- 37 According to the document, Britain stopped using the death penalty in
- A 1750
  - B 1867
  - C 1965
  - D 2004
- 38 According to the document, capital punishment is
- A always morally and ethically wrong
  - B rarely used in Western Europe
  - C the illegal killing of criminals
  - D not widely supported in Britain
- 39 According to the document, the main concern with reintroducing capital punishment is that
- A it would act as a deterrent
  - B there would be wrongful executions
  - C the cost would be too high
  - D the victims' families would suffer
- 40 The document could best be described as a
- A short essay
  - B newspaper article
  - C memorandum
  - D formal report

End of test

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