

HIPPO 2019
7th International English Language Olympiad

IESOL Assessment Reading
RQF Level: Level 1
(CEFR Level: B2)

Hippo 4
Reading
Semi-final Round

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANDIDATES:

- Do NOT turn over the page until instructed.
- This examination is made up of 3 TASKS.
- Answer all the questions.
- Use only black or blue PEN.
- Remember to transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.

Time allowed: 45 minutes

Total marks available: 40

Reading Task 1

Read the article and circle the correct option to complete the text – a, b, c, or d. An example has been done for you.

McDonald's has changed the Big Mac

A Big Mac burger is usually **0)**_____ with a secret sauce, lettuce, cheese, pickles, onions and a sesame seed bun. But now, it's also going to have two slices of bacon for a short **1)**_____ of time. The reaction online has been **2)**_____: some like the change, and others say that changes shouldn't be made to things that aren't broken.

It's not the first time a major food company has decided to change an iconic **3)**_____. Here are some of our favourites...

Whether it's Cherry Coke, Vanilla Coke or Coke Lite, the fizzy drink company Coca-Cola has tried it all. Back in 1985, Coca-Cola decided to change its original **4)**_____ for the first time in 99 years. They wanted to make a sweeter version of Coca-Cola called "New Coke". The taste tests they did **5)**_____ it was a really good idea. **6)**_____, they underestimated just how much people loved the original recipe and it became an absolute nightmare for the company. Nearly 40,000 Americans wrote to Coca-Cola to **7)**_____ about the change and the company quickly backtracked three months later. However, to this day, Coca-Cola **8)**_____ that the move was a great idea because sales of its original Coca-Cola increased a lot after its return.

Next is the Toblerone chocolate bar – the one shaped like mountain peaks. It all started in 2016 when the makers of Toblerone decided to **9)**_____ the gaps in-between the chocolate bar bigger. It was an **10)**_____ to use less chocolate per bar so the company didn't have to raise its prices. Toblerone fans weren't **11)**_____ and lots of them said they felt really disappointed with the slimmed down version of the chocolate. In 2018, the company **12)**_____ to public opinion and restored the Toblerone to its former glory.

- Example: a) made b) spent c) left d) did
1. a) size b) point c) period d) area
2. a) delayed b) mixed c) negative d) positive
3. a) product b) service c) person d) belief
4. a) advert b) recipe c) packaging d) location
5. a) contributed b) analysed c) suggested d) accepted
6. a) However b) Additionally c) Equally d) Whereas
7. a) complain b) confess c) demand d) agree
8. a) ensure b) promise c) regret d) argue
9. a) make b) cook c) grow d) sell
10. a) absence b) agreement c) attempt d) element
11. a) sensitive b) invited c) impressed d) improved
12. a) got in b) gave in c) ended up d) put up

Reading Task 2

Read the text and answer the questions below. Circle the correct option, a, b, c or d.
An example has been done for you.

Plastic in modern world

Section 1 What is plastic?

Plastic is really useful and we use it every day. But what happens after we throw it away is causing a big problem for our planet. It's thought more than five trillion pieces of plastic are in the world's oceans and it can take years for it to break down. Plastic is in lots of things we use from clothing to crisp packets, and bottles to buckets. Making things from plastic is popular because there are many different types and it can be made into all sorts of shapes, colours and sizes. Plastics are man-made and can be produced from natural materials like coal and oil. The first synthetic plastic - plastic made entirely from man-made materials - was GAP 1 _____ over 100 years ago. It was called Bakelite and was invented by Belgian chemist Leo Baekeland in the early 1900s. Many think Bakelite was the start of plastics as we know them today.

Section 2 TITLE

People can pretty much do GAP 2 _____ they want with plastic. It can be coloured or clear, thick or thin, strong or weak. This means a lot of different things can be made from it. If you look around your home or school, you'll find most things have plastic in them, including your pencil case, games consoles, and even clothing. The new £5 and £10 notes are also made from plastic.

Section 3 Why is plastic a problem?

Ok, so far plastic sounds pretty great - and it is. The new waterproof £5 notes are neat and who doesn't like using glitter?! But the problem with plastic is that most of it isn't biodegradable. It doesn't rot, unlike paper or food, so GAP 3 _____ it hangs around in the environment for hundreds of years. Each year, 400 million tonnes of plastic is produced and 40% of that is single-use; plastic we'll only use once before it's binned. Examples of single-use plastic are carrier bags, drinks bottles and crisp packets.

More than eight million tonnes of plastic enters the world's oceans each year. It can be blown into the sea from ships and beaches, or carried there by river. Some also gets flushed down the toilet. Another issue is that not all plastic can be recycled. This might be because of the way it is made or because it is too expensive or difficult to do. Some coffee cups, GAP 4 _____, have a waterproof plastic lining which can make them difficult to recycle. Every day seven million cardboard coffee cups are thrown away but only one in 400 are recycled.

Section 4 **TITLE**

Experts think that by 2050, the amount of plastic in the ocean will weigh more than the amount of fish in the ocean. All animals, whether they live on land or in the sea, can be hurt by plastic. They can get trapped in bigger items such as carrier bags or food packaging. Birds, fish and shellfish can mistake plastic for food when it has broken down in to smaller pieces. One in three sea turtles, and around 90% of seabirds, have eaten it. They can't digest plastic so their stomachs become full, GAP 5 _____ they don't have room for actual food. Each year, over 100,000 animals in the sea are killed by plastic.

Section 5 **What are 'trash islands' or 'garbage patches'?**

You might have seen the astonishing pictures of what looks like little bits of land in the middle of the sea. When you look closely they're actually made up of floating plastic! The rubbish includes bags, bottles and fishing gear. These are known as 'trash islands' or 'garbage patches'.

Example: This text is:

- a) an email to a friend.
- b) an informative article.
- c) a leaflet.
- d) a short story.

13. In section 1, the author says that:

- a) plastic is not very useful.
- b) plastic is useful but not good for the environment.
- c) plastic made from coal does not harm the environment.
- d) plastic is not very popular nowadays.

14. In section 1, the best word to complete gap 1 is:

- a) found
- b) created
- c) improved
- d) experimented

15. What is Bakelite?

- a) It is a material people use to make plastic.
- b) It is the surname of the person who invented plastic.
- c) It is the name of an early type of synthetic plastic.
- d) It is a popular product made without any plastic.

16. What is the best title for section 2?

- a) How do we use plastic?
- b) The invention of plastic money.
- c) Plastic – pros and cons.
- d) Who uses plastic the most?

17. In section 2, the best word to complete gap 2 is:

- a) either
- b) whatever
- c) nothing
- d) a variety

18. In section 3, the best word to complete gap 3 is:

- a) alternatively
- b) instead
- c) whereas
- d) while

19. In section 3, the best word to complete gap 4 is:

- a) therefore
- b) anyhow
- c) for example
- d) gradually

20. What does the figure of over eight millions tonnes of plastic per year refer to?

- a) The total amount of plastic produced.
- b) The total amount of plastic recycled.
- c) The total amount of single-use plastic.
- d) The total amount of plastic that ends up in oceans.

21. Why can't all plastic be recycled?

- a) Because the process is too expensive.
- b) Because people do not have the right technology.
- c) Because there is too much of it.
- d) Because of a number of reasons.

22. What word or phrase best describes the proportion of recycled coffee cups?

- a) significant
- b) minimal
- c) decreasing
- d) difficult to estimate

23. What is the best title for section 4?

- a) Harmful effects on animals.
- b) Food shortages.
- c) We will solve it by 2050.
- d) Ban plastic carrier bags.

24. In section 4, the best word to complete gap 5 is:

- a) meaning
- b) resulting
- c) preventing
- d) occurring

25. According to section 4:

- a) plastic is more harmful to land animals.
- b) some animals eat plastic because they cannot find real food.
- c) animals will soon adapt to digest plastic.
- d) plastic can harm marine and land dwelling animals.

26. What are 'garbage patches'?

- a) Places where plastic ready for recycling is kept.
- b) Large amounts of plastic floating in the sea.
- c) Places where people dump garbage.
- d) Islands where people do not recycle plastic.

Reading Task 3

A) Read the three texts and answer the questions below by indicating which text each question relates to: A, B, or C.

An example has been done for you.

Text A

Namastey London, in English: Greetings London, is a 2007 Indian romantic comedy-drama film starring Akshay Kumar. The film is based on the true story of one of Akshay Kumar's friends. He told Akshay about the problems he had when he moved to London. The plot of the film involves the main characters trying to fit in with life in London and learning to speak English. It explores the problems people have dealing with another culture. In the film, characters have successes and failures but eventually find love.

The film became a success when it was released in India. It was also very popular in Britain and America. The reviews of the film were very positive. Taran Adarsh of indiafm.com, an important Indian film review website, wrote, "*Namastey London* is addictive stuff. You watch it once and you want to watch it again".

The film soundtrack is also highly rated. The album sold around 14 million copies. In 2018 a second film, *Namastey England*, was made. GAP 1 _____, it was not popular and reviews on the internet conclude that it is one of the worst films of all time.

Text B

Venom is a 2018 American superhero film directed by Ruben Fleisher. Tom Hardy plays journalist Eddie Brock, who becomes a superhero when he is infected by a plant from another galaxy. When he becomes a superhero, he GAP 2 _____ fighting crime and protecting the earth.

The film took \$450 million at the box-office around the world, but because it cost a lot to make, it has yet to make a profit. However, in future, with future video releases and more people going to the cinema in countries where it has not been released yet, it is GAP 3 _____ to make a profit.

It received mostly negative reviews from critics for its script and lack of plot, though some praised Hardy's performance. On one of the review websites, the film has an average score of only 35 out of 100, based on 46 critics reviews, which is a very low score indicating "generally unfavourable reviews". However, Tom Hardy has said that he has already signed a contract for 2 more *Venom* films, so there will be new films with the same characters in the future.

Text C

The Wedding Party 2: Destination Dubai is a 2017 Nigerian romantic comedy drama film. The plot is that the main character, Nonso, accidentally asks a lady, Deirdre, to marry him, thinking she is someone else. Her rich British family is against the marriage, as are many of Nonso's Nigerian relatives. After a disastrous meeting of the 2 families in Lagos, the largest city of Nigeria, both families agree to a wedding in Dubai, setting off a colourful, exciting and memorable journey to see if the characters can find love. The two cultures clash and there are plenty of laughs along the way to the inevitable happy ending.

The film received many five star reviews and was described it as 'the funniest film of the year'. It is recommended for anyone over the age of 14. Film review experts said that even though it is GAP 4 _____ for all the family, younger children might be put-off by the love interests that dominate the film. *The Wedding Party 2* is currently the highest earning film ever made in Nigeria.

Which text does the writer...	Text
Example: mention the director of the film?	B
27. mention a character whose initial mistake results in happiness?	-----
28. suggest that a viewer's age will affect enjoyment of the film?	-----
29. mention the music from the film?	-----
30. describe a film that is based on real events?	-----
31. highlight an unsuccessful follow-up film?	-----
32. mention a character who moved to a new country?	-----
33. suggest the film has made a lot of money?	-----
34. describe an action film?	-----

B) Now answer the following questions by circling the correct option.

35. In Text A, the best word to fit gap 1 is:

- a) Alternatively
- b) Basically
- c) Furthermore
- d) However

36. In Text A, the underlined word 'addictive' means:

- a) only used by addicts
- b) difficult to stop doing
- c) not very enjoyable
- d) that can be added

37. In Text B, the best verb to fit gap 2 is:

- a) turns out
- b) turns to
- c) takes after
- d) takes away

38. In Text B, the best word to fit gap 3 is:

- a) ambitious
- b) average
- c) expected
- d) unlikely

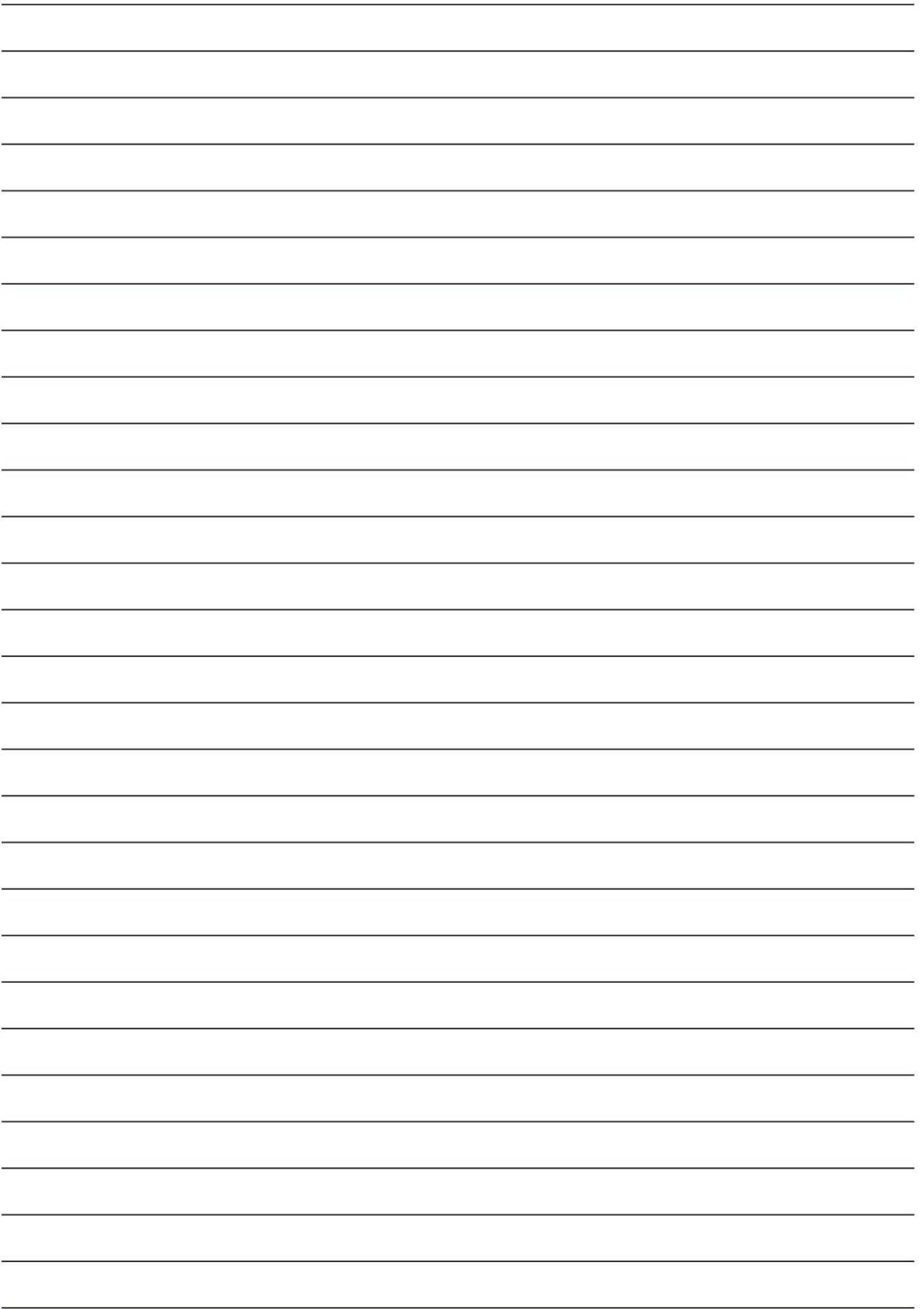
39. In Text C, the underlined word 'memorable' means:

- a) one that is likely to be remembered
- b) one that is not worthy of remembering
- c) one that is difficult to remember
- d) one that has been forgotten

40. In Text C, the best word to fit gap 4 is:

- a) capable
- b) considerable
- c) deliberate
- d) suitable





2. Complete the second sentence using the word given, so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Write between two and five words in each gap.

1. Do you think you should reduce the amount of fatty food you eat? **DOWN**
Do you think you should _____ the amount of fatty food you eat?
2. I always think of Greece when I think of oranges. **ASSOCIATE**
I always _____ oranges.
3. "Don't touch my bag!" Mina said to Helen. **HER**
Mina told _____ bag.
4. "I am sorry I didn't believe you," I said to John. **NOT**
I apologised _____ him.
5. There are more students in Hippo Olympiad this year. **THERE**
Last year _____ students in Hippo Olympiad.
6. If the curtain was longer, it would reach the floor. **ENOUGH**
The curtain is _____ the floor.
7. I can't wait until we do some experiments in the lab. **FORWARD**
I'm really _____ some experiments in the lab.
8. Tesla eventually realised that he was wrong. **CONCLUSION**
Tesla eventually _____ that he was wrong.
9. The judge told the jury to consider the man's past life. **ACCOUNT**
The judge told the jury to _____ the man's past life.
10. I didn't understand a word so I asked my teacher and she explained it to me. **GOT**
I didn't understand a word so I _____ it to me.

3. Decide if the underling parts are correct or incorrect, and correct the ones that are incorrect.

11. I lived here for as long as I can remember.
12. I will be a pilot when I grow up.
13. We were waiting for 2 hours before they let us in.
14. The Danube is the longest river in the European Union.
15. He looks like he has just woken up.
16. This cheese is not so bad, it is completely eatable.
17. All the construction workers must wear a hard hat.
18. The United won last night, the score was three - zero.
19. When you approve of something, you shake your head.
20. I wish you wouldn't snap your fingers, it is very annoying.

4. Fill in the gaps to complete the sentences. Use one word for each gap.

21. If you need to _____ the waiter's attention, just raise your hand.
22. Could I _____ a suggestion? I think we should...
23. I really don't see the _____ of taking an exam if you are not ready.
24. Do you think you could pass that book _____ to me, please?
25. My brother believes I should go to university, but I am in _____ minds about it.
26. My sister has offered to _____ us up for the weekend.
27. Did you hear about John _____ mugged?
28. I was completely _____ of wolverine's existence until the film.
29. My grandad uses old-fashioned _____ for his rheumatism.
30. The robber _____ the staff with his gun, pointing it at them.