



HIPPO 2020

8th International English Language Olympiad

IESOL Assessment Reading

RQF Level: Level 1

(CEFR Level: B2)

Candidate Booklet - Reading

HIPPO 5

HIPPO S1

Preliminary Round

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANDIDATES:

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

Time allowed: 45 minutes

Total marks available: 40



Reading Task 1

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

Grumpy Cat

The Internet's biggest animal **0)**_____, 'Grumpy Cat', has died. The cat was owned by Tabatha Bundesen in Arizona, USA, and her real name was actually Tardar Sauce. Grumpy Cat became an internet star for looking annoyed in front of the camera. In March 2019, two months before her death, Grumpy Cat had 8.3 million followers on Facebook, 2.4 million followers on Instagram and 1.5 million followers on Twitter. This was a **1)**_____ for an animal and she had far more followers than many famous human celebrities.

However, what might seem like a funny facial expression was actually a **2)**_____ of a genetic problem. She was born with short back legs and a flat face. **3)**_____ looking grumpy, there is no evidence that the cat was actually unhappy about anything. Her **4)**_____ believed that for 99% of the time she was just a happy and normal domestic cat.

She came to the **5)**_____ of the world when a photograph of her was posted on September 22, 2012 on a social news website called *Reddit* by Bryan Bundesen, the brother of her owner Tabatha Bundesen. She quickly became a very important **6)**_____ and had her own range of products, **7)**_____ books, socks, t-shirts and a calendar produced every year since 2012. All the products showed the cat looking miserable or simply grumpy in some strange way.

In 2018, the Bundesens were awarded a \$710,000 **8)**_____ after winning a court case. The case was against a company which was **9)**_____ to use the cat's picture to sell its "Grumppuccino" iced drink, but which was also selling other products that used Grumpy Cat's **10)**_____.

Tabatha Bundesen had worked as a waitress before her beloved pet **11)**_____ internet stardom. She told the *Express* newspaper that she quit her job "within days" of Grumpy's first **12)**_____ on social media.

grumpy – bad-tempered or irritable.

follower – a person who follows an account on social media.



- Example: a) celebrity b) failure c) fan d) achievement
1. a) maximum b) record c) top d) peak
2. a) way b) reaction c) issue d) result
3. a) Despite b) Against c) During d) Across
4. a) possessions b) owners c) partners d) companions
5. a) thinking b) knowledge c) attention d) understanding
6. a) label b) category c) group d) brand
7. a) considering b) including c) owing to d) out of
8. a) salary b) fee c) payment d) cost
9. a) allowed b) accepted c) agreed d) compromised
10. a) statue b) similarity c) image d) reflection
11. a) grew b) gained c) lost d) bought
12. a) appearance b) display c) exhibition d) absence



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.

Para. 1 Tuareg – the Travelling People

Tribal lifestyle has always been fascinating for people living in urban locations. The life of the Sahara Desert nomads such as the Tuareg tribe for instance is very different to the life of city people. So, what does this tribal lifestyle look like? How do the Tuareg, or the Sahara nomads, actually live? Early travellers' stories often referred to them as the 'blue men of the Sahara Desert', because the Tuareg men are known for covering their faces with a dark blue cloth. And sadly, that is the extent of many people's knowledge of the Tuareg. So let's look at their tribal lifestyle and learn more about the life of the nomads of the Sahara.

Para. 2 Who are the Tuareg?

The Tuareg are a substantial ethnic population that crosses the boundaries of several countries, but cannot trace their GAP _____ back to any one specific country. The Tuareg call themselves Imohag, which means 'free men'. The language of the Tuareg is called Tamacheq, and they use a written script known as Tifinagh. They lead a semi-nomadic life across the Sahara in the North African countries of Mali, Niger, Libya, Algeria and Chad. Semi-nomadic means that they travel a lot, but they also have homes and lands in which they grow crops. In the old days, Tuareg society was divided between those who cultivated the land and those who did not, as looking after the land was considered the work of the lower classes, while the upper classes worked in trading. However, that changed over time as trading opportunities became significantly limited.

Para. 3 _____

Part of the Berber group of people, the Tuareg have lived in extreme conditions in the heart of the Sahara for over a thousand years. At the beginning of the 14th century, trade routes to the profitable salt, gold and ivory markets between North Africa, Europe, and the Middle East appeared across Tuareg territory. With extensive knowledge of the Sahara, the Tuareg began to work alongside the traders, quickly dominating and controlling these routes.

After a number of nation-states were set up in the region in the early 1960s, Governments started to put in place restrictions on trade with neighbouring countries. This was done in order to protect national economic interests. GAP _____, the Tuareg started to lose economic strength and political power.



Para. 4 The legend of the veil

The most famous aspect of the Tuareg men and the most mysterious one is the blue veil. Tuareg men begin wearing a veil at the age of 25. This veil covers up the entire face except the eyes. It is almost never removed, even in front of family members. It is commonly believed that men began wearing the veil to protect their faces from the Sahara sands. GAP _____, why it has become so significant is unknown.

Para. 5 Tuareg marriage

Tuareg men often write beautiful poems, and try to gain the women's affections in many other ways. This is largely because the end decision rests with the women themselves. When a woman finally says 'yes', they start preparing for the wedding, which is a week-long event. When a woman gets married, her female family members usually give her a tent as a gift. The bride often keeps that tent all her life. The Tuareg believe that the house belongs to the woman. The woman also owns the family's livestock. That might be because the men travel a lot. And because they travel a lot, men highly value their camels and swords, which they consider their most valuable possessions.

Para. 6 The life of the tribe

The Tuareg mostly live in tents. They make tent-like homes by setting up wooden posts and then covering the posts with fabric. To help cool down these houses and to keep the desert sand from getting inside, they put straw mats on the inside of the fabric walls. The Tuareg believe in educating all the members of their tribe. All the children are taught how to read and the teachings of the Quran. One of the significant sources of income for the Tuareg is selling their art and handicrafts, which are mostly in the form of jewellery, leather and metal saddle decorations, as well as beautifully crafted swords.

Para. 7 Tuareg food

The Tuareg do not eat meat often. They are not vegetarians, it is just that livestock is very precious. They only eat meat on special occasions, like festivals and weddings. They substitute meat with eating a lot of non-meat protein, such as milk and cheese. Their diet GAP _____ a lot of dates and melon as well. Sometimes, on special occasions, they consume a drink called eghajira, which is created by pounded millet (a type of cereal), dates and cheese mixed with water.



Example: This article is about:

- a) a group of people.
- b) a region of the world.
- c) a language.
- d) an unusual custom.

13. The author says that people's understanding of the Tuareg is:

- a) fairly good.
- b) misguided.
- c) out of date.
- d) limited.

14. In paragraph 2, the best word to fit the gap is:

- a) residents
- b) ancestors
- c) candidates
- d) civilisations

15. What is the name of the Tuareg alphabet?

- a) Tamacheq
- b) Tuareg
- c) Tifinagh
- d) Imohag

16. In the past:

- a) all Tuareg travelled all the time.
- b) some Tuareg travelled and others worked the land.
- c) all Tuareg worked as traders.
- d) lower classes worked as traders.

17. Why were Tuareg so successful at trading?

- a) Because they had a lot of profitable resources.
- b) Because of how well they knew the area.
- c) Because of how strong and brave they were.
- d) Because of the support of the government.



18. In paragraph 3, the best phrase to fit the gap is:

- a) Despite this
- b) As a result
- c) As well as
- d) To prevent that

19. What is the best title for paragraph 3?

- a) The dangers of the Sahara
- b) Common customs and beliefs
- c) History of the tribe
- d) The end of nomadic life

20. The blue veil is worn:

- a) by all family members.
- b) by adult men and women.
- c) by adult men only.
- d) by Tuareg traders only.

21. In paragraph 4, the best word to fit the gap is:

- a) However
- b) Therefore
- c) Secondly
- d) Because

22. In Tuareg tribes, who is in charge of the marriage arrangements?

- a) The woman.
- b) The man.
- c) The elders.
- d) The parents.

23. In a Tuareg household, how are the possessions distributed?

- a) Women own the house and nothing else.
- b) Men own all of the things that are of value.
- c) Women choose what they want to own when they marry.
- d) They are divided based on tradition.



24. Nowadays, Tuareg earn money from:

- a) selling hand-made products.
- b) teaching of the Quran.
- c) trading camels.
- d) selling fabric.

25. In paragraph 7, the best word to fit the gap is:

- a) features
- b) acquires
- c) adjusts
- d) contributes

26. Which of the following best describes the Tuareg diet?

- a) It is mostly vegetarian.
- b) It is entirely vegetarian.
- c) It includes mostly meat.
- d) It does not include meat or cheese.



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 - Growing in Small Spaces

No garden is too small for a tree. OK, a huge oak tree on your balcony may not be the best choice, but there's a wide range of small flowering trees, including fruit trees, that are suitable for small spaces. Choosing the right tree for a small garden is very important.

Height? This is probably the most important factor. Even small trees may, over time, reach a height of 6-8 metres or more. If this is too high, consider a dwarf variety. These only grow to 2-3m.

All year interest? Think about when you want your tree to look good. Think about flowering time, leaves, and fruit. If you only have room for one tree, look for a deciduous one that'll look nice all year round, such as one with lovely autumn colours following summer flowers. Just remember that you won't get this GAP 1) _____ from an evergreen tree.

When to buy trees and shrubs? Autumn is a great time to buy and plant a new tree or shrub. However if pushed for time, you can plant at any time until early spring as long as the soil is dry enough to work (if it sticks to your boots or tools it is too wet). Container-grown trees and shrubs can be planted at more or less any time of year, but need thorough, regular watering after planting to GAP 2) _____ good root establishment. If planted in spring or summer it can be very challenging to keep them alive during hot, dry spells.

Text B - Everything is bigger in America

The General Sherman is a giant sequoia tree from California in the USA. By size, it is the largest known living tree on Earth. The naturalist James Wolverton named the tree in 1879 after General William Sherman. Wolverton had been in the army with General Sherman in the American Civil War.

GAP 1) _____ the General Sherman is the largest currently living tree, it is not the largest tree ever recorded. The Crannell Creek Giant, a coastal redwood near Trinidad, California, is estimated to have been 15 to 25% larger than the General Sherman. That tree was cut down in the mid-1940s.

In 2017 one of the branches fell off the General Sherman. The branch was bigger than an average tree. It caused a lot of damage to nearby fences and pavements but luckily no one was hurt. Such events are not thought to GAP 2) _____ any problems with the tree's health. In fact, one of the theories is that it could actually be a natural defence mechanism against adverse weather, although some scientists hold a different opinion.



Text C - Grow what you eat

If you have a garden and want to grow lots of free food, then plant a fruit tree. If you have to choose one tree, then I suggest the Victoria plum. This produces enormous crops of juicy fruit. It has pink-red skin with yellow flesh inside. It's great eaten fresh and even better cooked. Victoria plums have stood the test of time. They were first found in a Sussex garden in 1805 and introduced to other gardens from the 1840s. It has won lots of awards for its great taste. Today, it is the variety most widely grown by the UK's commercial plum growers.

One problem is that it can have too much fruit and its branches can snap under the weight! So simply support or prop up the branches up to avoid them breaking. They can also be attacked by the plum moth which spoils the fruit, but this is very rare and easily avoided. All you need to do is leave some other food near the tree to GAP 1) _____ the moths and they won't bother with the plums.

Which text...	Text
Example: describes the fruit a tree produces?	C
27. includes the date a tree was discovered?	_____
28. suggests some ways of protecting a tree from damage?	_____
29. makes a comparison between two specific trees?	_____
30. talks about how trees change with the seasons?	_____
31. mentions an event where the exact cause is unknown?	_____
32. warns of potential issues resulting from warm weather?	_____
33. refers to an unlikely form of tree damage?	_____
34. does not offer any advice to gardeners?	_____



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

35. In Text A, the best word to complete the first gap is:

- a) condition
- b) effect
- c) capacity
- d) coincidence

36. In Text A, the best word to complete the second gap is:

- a) ensure
- b) accept
- c) avoid
- d) benefit

37. In Text B, the best phrase to complete the first gap is:

- a) While
- b) Once
- c) Provided that
- d) As a result

38. In Text B, the best word to complete the second gap is:

- a) develop
- b) contain
- c) indicate
- d) display

39. In Text C, the expression 'to stand the test of time' means:

- a) to face difficulties over a period of time.
- b) to be used frequently over a short time.
- c) to remain popular over a long time.
- d) to be tested at a particular time.

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

- a) deprive
- b) decline
- c) disapprove
- d) distract

END OF READING ASSESSMENT



HIPPO 2020

8th International English Language Olympiad

IESOL Assessment Listening

RQF Level: Level 1

(CEFR Level: B2)

Candidate Booklet - Listening

HIPPO 5

HIPPO S1

Preliminary Round

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANDIDATES:

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

Guide time: Approx. 25 minutes **Total marks available:** 22



Listening Task 1

Listen to the recording and circle the correct option – a, b, c, or d. An example has been done for you.

You have one minute to read the questions before the recording is played.

You will hear the recording twice.

Example: Tom needs help with:

- a) a birthday gift.
- b) a birthday party.
- c) a birthday invitation.
- d) a birthday card.

41. How much money can Tom spend on the gift?

- a) No more than £20.
- b) No more than £30.
- c) Approximately £50.
- d) There is no limit.

42. What gift does Ana recommend for Tom's sister?

- a) Perfume.
- b) A pair of shoes.
- c) A wallet.
- d) Jewellery.

43. Ana says Tom should buy the gift from:

- a) anywhere as long as the gift is fashionable.
- b) a shop she knows and likes.
- c) a good quality supermarket.
- d) a website.

44. Why can't Ana come to the birthday party?

- a) She will be on holiday with her family.
- b) She is starting a new job that day.
- c) She is doing some charitable work that day.
- d) She will be preparing for a job interview.

45. What secret did Tom share with Ana?

- a) He wants to start a new degree course.
- b) He got offered a job as a journalist.
- c) He got offered a job as a teacher.
- d) He completed his degree.

46. Tom and Ana are planning to see each other again:

- a) on holiday.
- b) over a coffee.
- c) at the cinema.
- d) at dinner.



Listening Task 2

Listen to the recording and circle the correct option – a, b, c, or d. An example has been done for you.

You have one minute to read the questions before the recording is played. You will hear the recording twice.

Example: John is speaking to:

- a) school pupils.
- b) university students.
- c) other workers.
- d) school teachers.

47. What was John's first job?

- a) A teacher.
- b) A lawyer.
- c) A waiter.
- d) An architect.

48. John didn't enjoy working as an architect because:

- a) the work did not pay well.
- b) he had to work long hours.
- c) he wasn't good at drawing.
- d) he disliked working on his own.

49. John says that the best part about being a teacher is:

- a) watching children learn.
- b) developing his skills.
- c) working with other teachers.
- d) increasing children's confidence.

50. John doesn't like the fact that:

- a) he has to take holiday at a certain time.
- b) the holidays are not long enough.
- c) he has to work in the evenings.
- d) he cannot work from home.

51. What does John like about the school he works at?

- a) Its size.
- b) Its location.
- c) The food.
- d) The staff room.

52. John usually arrives at work:

- a) at 7 AM.
- b) at 7.15 AM.
- c) at 7.45 AM.
- d) at 8.45 AM.

53. What are John's career ambitions?

- a) To become a head teacher.
- b) To train other teachers.
- c) To work part-time.
- d) To work as an architect again.

54. John says that people who want to be teachers must:

- a) be good at communicating.
- b) have a sense of humour.
- c) be very patient.
- d) be quite confident.



Listening Task 3

Listen to the recording and answer the questions below. There are 3 speakers. 1 - a, 2 - b, 3 - c.

You have one minute to read the questions before the recording is played. You will hear the recording twice.

Which speaker...

- | | | | |
|-----------------|---|---------|-------|
| Example: | got their first mobile phone as a teenager? | Speaker | 2 - b |
| 55. | says mobiles make it difficult for some people to focus? | Speaker | _____ |
| 56. | believes mobile phones have both good and bad points? | Speaker | _____ |
| 57. | says mobiles are a good source of entertainment? | Speaker | _____ |
| 58. | says mobiles contribute to people working around the clock? | Speaker | _____ |
| 59. | seems to be addicted to their phone? | Speaker | _____ |
| 60. | says mobiles make it easy to stay in touch with family? | Speaker | _____ |
| 61. | says mobiles give you easy access to information? | Speaker | _____ |
| 62. | is concerned about the expense of having a mobile phone? | Speaker | _____ |

END OF LISTENING ASSESSMENT



HIPPO 2020

8th International English Language Olympiad

IESOL Assessment Use of English

RQF Level: Level 1

(CEFR Level: B2)

Candidate Booklet - Use of English

HIPPO 5
HIPPO S1

Preliminary Round

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANDIDATES:

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- Dictionaries are NOT allowed.

Time allowed: 30 minutes



1. Choose a, b or c to complete the sentences.

63. In the last few weeks Ivan _____ so many nice people.
a) met b) has met c) had met
64. I'd rather you _____ smoke in here.
a) no b) didn't c) don't
65. Otto believes that in ten years' time people _____ on Mars.
a) will be living b) will live c) are going to live
66. Our university is not very good. Everything seems to work in a _____ fashion.
a) timely b) jumbled c) haphazard
67. We arrived just _____ time to have dinner before the movie.
a) on b) at c) in
68. Once you _____ the contract, we will send you the goods.
a) sign b) are signing c) have signed
69. Ping Lee, _____ boyfriend is a footballer, wants to be an actress.
a) whom b) whose c) which
70. When Mrs. Lee arrived at work, she realised she _____ her phone at home.
a) left b) was leaving c) had left
71. I feel really sick. If I _____ those mushrooms, I _____ so poorly now.
a) hadn't eaten / wouldn't have felt b) didn't eat / wouldn't feel c) hadn't eaten / wouldn't feel



72. Where do fish keep their money? In a river _____ .
a) bank b) coast c) shoreline
73. I'll book _____ sleeper on _____ Geneva-Paris train tomorrow.
a) a / a b) the / a c) a / the
74. Suzy _____ a hat made for the wedding next month.
a) has b) is having c) designed

3. Decide if the sentences are correct (a) or incorrect (b).

75. I think that people are going to live under the sea in 50 years.
a) Correct b) Incorrect
76. You look exhausted! Have you been working out?
a) Correct b) Incorrect
77. She has claimed employment benefit for over six months.
a) Correct b) Incorrect
78. They say that travel broads the mind.
a) Correct b) Incorrect
79. Tax evasion is one of the biggest problems modern economies meet.
a) Correct b) Incorrect
80. Miss Hassan is very fond on apples.
a) Correct b) Incorrect
81. Ephraim has been a keen fisherman all his life.
a) Correct b) Incorrect
82. Airfare is getting cheaper and cheaper.
a) Correct b) Incorrect

END OF READING ASSESSMENT