



HIPPO 2020

8th International English Language Olympiad

IESOL Assessment Reading

RQF Level: Entry 3

(CEFR Level: B1)

Candidate Booklet – Reading

HIPPO 3

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.
- Remember to transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.
- Use only black or blue PEN.
- Dictionaries are NOT allowed.

Time allowed: 40 minutes

Total marks available: 34



Reading Task 1

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

Hi John,

How are you? You will 0)_____ guess where I have just got back from. A holiday in Costa Rica! You know, the country in Central America.

My parents 1)_____ this location on the Trip Advisor website. The reviews said it was the best place in the world to take children. Most visitors gave it a four or five star 2)_____ on the website. That suggested it would be 3)_____, because five stars is the highest mark a place can get.

We 4)_____ at the main airport in the capital, San Jose. Our hotel was approximately 10 kilometres away from the airport. Dad wanted to take a bus to get there, but my mum 5)_____ to go on public transport. She said she was too tired, so we took a taxi instead.

After we checked into the hotel, we had a quick supper and went to sleep, as everyone was really 6)_____ after the long journey.

The next day we woke up early and went for a walk through the rainforest. We walked on rope bridges. Because they are quite dangerous, you are 7)_____ to go on them without a guide. At first, I felt a little bit 8)_____ and thought about staying behind, but the guide convinced me to give it a go.

It was a really 9)_____ holiday – we never stopped sightseeing and doing new things. There was so much to do that I can't tell you everything in this email, but we can 10)_____ when we get back to school.

Yours Dave

- | | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Example: | a) sometimes | b) never | c) always | d) rarely |
| 1. | a) discovered | b) realised | c) knew | d) acquired |
| 2. | a) count | b) score | c) view | d) gain |
| 3. | a) average | b) amusing | c) annoying | d) amazing |
| 4. | a) departed | b) flew | c) arrived | d) settled |
| 5. | a) refused | b) suggested | c) recommended | d) attempted |
| 6. | a) relaxed | b) patient | c) exhausted | d) incredible |
| 7. | a) told | b) allowed | c) forbidden | d) reserved |
| 8. | a) terrific | b) successful | c) anxious | d) ashamed |
| 9. | a) working | b) calming | c) keen | d) active |
| 10. | a) work out | b) catch up | c) get on | d) go off |



Reading Task 2

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

War Horse by Michael Morpurgo

Sir Michael Morpurgo is an English writer who is mostly known for children's novels such as *War Horse* (1982).

Para. 2 His books are very popular and he is famous for his "magical storytelling". In his books, he describes his characters' relationships with nature and often uses powerful settings, such as World War I. He often shows people coming together and helping each other in times of crisis. In *The Wreck of the Zanzibar* (1995), _____, a small community on an island struggles to survive in cold winter conditions.

When he was a child, Michael was sent away from his home to boarding school. He was only 7 years old. The school was very strict, which he did not enjoy. He also missed his family a lot. He later described his unhappy experiences at boarding school in his novel *The Butterfly Lion*. Michael then went to King's School, a school in Canterbury, Kent, where he felt less homesick than at his previous school.

Michael and his brother were brought up by his mother and a stepfather, who was not encouraging to his sons. He was disappointed that his sons didn't do as well as he expected at school, and called Michael "a bear with very little brain." His stepfather decided Michael should join the army, and sent him to the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. Michael quickly realised that a soldier's life was not for him, and left after nine months.

Para. 5 Michael then studied at university before becoming a teacher. It was not until he was teaching in Kent that he discovered his _____ as a writer.

Para. 6 Michael got married at the age of 19. In 1976, Michael and his wife Clare bought a farm and established the charity *Farms for City Children*. He wanted to introduce the countryside to children brought up in cities. The programme involves the children spending a week at a countryside farm, during which they take part in real work. About 85,000 children have taken part since it was set up, and the charity now has three farms. Morpurgo has _____ to the charity as his greatest achievement in life.

War Horse was changed into a stage play by Nick Stafford. It was first shown at the National Theatre, London, on 17 October 2007. The horses were played by life-sized horse puppets made by a company in South Africa. The puppets were so good that many children thought they were real horses, and they found the play really entertaining and not at all scary.



The play was supposed to be on in the theatre for 16 weeks. However, due to popular demand the show was moved to the New London Theatre in the West End on 28 March 2009. It finally closed in the West End after eight years, having been seen by 2.7 million people in London and seven million worldwide. It was the National Theatre's most successful production.

In 2011, *War Horse* was adapted into a British film directed by the famous American director Steven Spielberg. The film was nominated for many awards, including six Academy Awards (Oscars). During filming, fourteen different horses were used as the main horse character Joey, because they needed to show him aging. Four horses played the other main horse character, Topthorn. Up to 280 horses were used in the battle scenes.

To date, Sir Michael Morpurgo has written over 300 works in 25 languages. They are _____ in 55,000 libraries around the world.

Para. 10

Example: The text above is a part of:

- a) a biography.
- b) a news story.
- c) a letter.
- d) an instructional text.

11. According to the text, Michael's books:

- a) are usually non-fiction.
- b) are mostly about magic.
- c) often describe people working together.
- d) always avoid the subject of war.

13. In paragraph 2, the best phrase to complete the gap is:

- a) for example
- b) of course
- c) however
- d) still

12. Which is true about Michael's education?

- a) He was schooled at home.
- b) He made his parents proud with his grades.
- c) He didn't enjoy his time at school.
- d) He never went to university.

14. Which is true of Michael's step-father?

- a) He was very supportive of Michael.
- b) He said Michael was as strong as a bear.
- c) He wanted Michael to have a military career.
- d) He left the family to join the army.

15. In paragraph 5, the best word to complete the gap is:

- a) words
- b) talent
- c) function
- d) job



16. Michael opened *Farms for City Children* to:

- a) help the children of farmers.
- b) make extra money from the farm.
- c) grow food for his children.
- d) give children a break from the city.

17. In paragraph 6, the best word to complete the gap is:

- a) suggested
- b) referred
- c) called
- d) nominated

18. Which is true about the play *War Horse*?

- a) It had puppets made in the UK.
- b) It used real horses on stage.
- c) Children really enjoyed it.
- d) Some children were scared by the puppets.

19. How long was the play on at the theatres?

- a) 16 weeks.
- b) 8 years.
- c) A shorter time than expected.
- d) A longer time than expected.

20. Why did the film use so many different horses to play Joey?

- a) So that the horses didn't get too tired.
- b) The story takes place over a number of years.
- c) The horses looked like the other main horse, Tophorn.
- d) The director was unhappy with some of the horses.

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

- a) spread
- b) contained
- c) placed
- d) available

22. What is the main purpose of this text?

- a) To entertain.
- b) To inform.
- c) To persuade.
- d) To explain.



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.

Glossary:

image - *noun* a picture

Text A

The Sheep Pig

This book was first published in 1983, with illustrations by Mary Rayner. When Farmer Hogget wins a piglet (a baby pig) at the fair, he is amazed that Fly, his sheep-dog, welcomes him as one of her own pups. Fly names the piglet Babe and teaches him all he needs to know about the farm and its animals.

GAP_____ Babe watches his 'mum' round up the sheep, he decides he would love to try too. However, his legs are too short and he is far too fat to run around after a flock of sheep. He then tries a different tactic: politely asking the sheep to form an orderly line! The sheep are so surprised to be treated with respect that they happily agree. And Farmer Hogget soon notices that Babe has a great way of dealing with them!

One of Dick King-Smith's best-loved stories, this wonderful book is full of humour. The short chapters make it ideal for very young readers, and it will be especially enjoyed by young animal lovers.

Text B

That Rabbit Belongs to Emily Brown

One day they are attempting to launch themselves into space from the kitchen when one of the Queen's servants knocks at the door. He demands Emily give Stanley away in GAP _____ a brand-new teddy bear.

Emily refuses, but the Queen keeps asking. The queen keeps sending her servants to try and convince the girl to accept the bear and give up the rabbit. In the end the naughty Queen orders for Stanley to be stolen, but soon discovers that you can't make someone else's toy your own. In the end, Emily rescues Stanley. But first, she suggests that the Queen has some adventures with a brand-new teddy to make him into a 'real toy of her own'.

With a really funny text and lively illustrations, this fantastic picture book was a deserving winner of the 2006 Nestle Gold Award. A real treat for any child who has a much-loved toy of their own.



Text C

The Arrival

In this unusual book, we follow a young man as he packs his bags and leaves his family to go and start a new life in another country. During his journey, he finds it difficult to communicate, find somewhere to live, and find a job and enough food. He is also learning the stories of other immigrants. The story ends with his family joining him. They all look forward to a happy future.

This is a classic, wordless novel full of wonderful pictures. But even without any words, its images perfectly show what it means to leave your country and your family, and start a new life in a new country. The book is beautifully illustrated with black and white drawings. It also has a dreamlike atmosphere in which nothing is what it GAP 1)_____, and domestic appliances (for example fridges and kettles) change into strange creatures.

Children and adults of all ages will be charmed by this moving story. It is also a wonderful opportunity to look at themes of immigration, loneliness, and language in the classroom. For younger readers, this is a book that will GAP 2)_____ from being read together with an adult. This is because they can explain what it might feel like to find oneself in an alien country without knowing the language. There are a few dark images in the book, so it's definitely for children old enough to have a conversation with an adult about why those images might be there.

Which text...

Text

Example	mentions the name of the author?	A
23.	describes an animal with a special skill?	_____
24.	has a character who has very good manners?	_____
25.	describes a book which won a prize?	_____
26.	talks about a child who teaches an adult a lesson?	_____
27.	tells you when the book was first available?	_____
28.	describes the most serious of the three books?	_____
29.	recommends a book for grown-ups as well as kids?	_____
30.	explains how the book could be used in schools?	_____



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

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

- a) As
- b) If
- c) But
- d) Besides

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

- a) support of
- b) apology for
- c) addition to
- d) exchange for

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

- a) watches
- b) seems
- c) believes
- d) plans

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

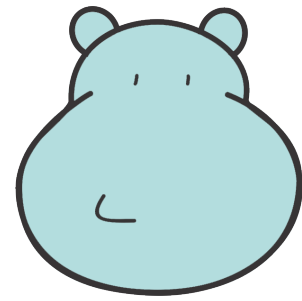
- a) choose
- b) admire
- c) benefit
- d) realise

HIPPO 2020

Semifinal Round

HIPPO 3 Writing Test

Time allowed: 45 minutes



Candidate Number

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Date of Birth

D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y

1. The things that I waste my time on... (Write about 80 words.)

2. Put the verbs into the correct form.

1. If you press the green button, the machine _____ (start).
2. I _____ (train) to be a supermarket manager.
3. Nobody _____ (think) she will win the Eurovision contest.
4. I hear you've got a new job. How _____ (you/get) on?
5. Mulan can't find her key. She _____ (lost) it.
6. Tawamba had a beard. Now he doesn't. He _____ (shave) it.
7. Was Lee here when you arrived? No, he _____ (go) home.
8. Would you like tea or coffee? I _____ (have) tea, please.
9. _____ (you / do) anything tomorrow evening? No, I'm free.
10. Why do you need the bucket? I _____ (wash) the car.

Candidate Number

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Date of Birth

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D D M M Y Y Y Y

3. Insert the missing word where necessary.

11. Our TV was broken but my father managed to _____ it.
12. I really love travelling and, when I visit cities, I like to go _____.
13. Ants, bees, flies are all _____.
14. Milan is in _____ north of Italy.
15. _____ Mount Everest was first climbed in 1953.
16. When I go shopping with the family, we go by _____ so we can put things in the back seat.
17. What is the name of that thing that you use to take a dog for a walk? You mean a _____.
18. When we got to the stadium we realised that the game had been _____.
19. I am so happy that I am going on a school _____ to Paris with my classmates.
20. If something is unusable it means that you can't _____ it.

4. Correct the incorrect sentences and tick the correct ones.

21. It's not true. I do like football. _____
22. Why are you worried? What do you think about? _____
23. She was practicing the piano for ten years. _____
24. Oh, I love your new hairstyle. Did you dye your hair? _____
25. The people over there look funny. _____
26. When you reach the park go straight ahead. _____
27. Mohammed is always leaving the door open. _____
28. Why are you smelling my shoes? Did I step into something? _____
29. Why do you look at me like that? Do I look funny? _____
30. These questions have been easy. _____

