



HIPPO 2022

10th International English Language Olympiad

IESOL Assessment Reading

RQF Level: Level 2

(CEFR Level: B2)

Candidate Booklet - Reading

HIPPO 4 – S10

Semi-Final Round 2022

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.

Is it hard to learn a new language?

Knowing a language means different things to different **0)**_____ Do you want to be able to chat to people during a trip to another country? Or do you want to get a job that requires you to use the language professionally?

In either case, keep your personal goals in mind **1)**_____ worrying about a language being "hard"! To be a confident and effective communicator in a new language doesn't **2)**_____ mean having perfect grammar or a native-like accent. You can often learn to hold a fluent conversation pretty quickly, **3)**_____ with "hard" languages.

What you will find hard or easy mostly **4)**_____ what languages you already know. We tend to transfer **5)**_____ such as vocabulary or grammar from our first language to the new language. But we also transfer other elements, like sounds or rules about politeness. Transfer can be helpful if these are the same across the languages, but can present a **6)**_____ if they differ.

How easy you find a language also depends on how easy it is for you to get the 'input' you need to learn it. Input is any type of language material you can learn from, **7)**_____ it's in a classroom, through conversations in a park, or from watching TV in the language you are learning. If you're an English speaker living in Japan, it will be a lot easier for you to get high-quality Japanese input than it would be for you to get Spanish input, **8)**_____ Spanish might be easier for you to learn.

Motivation is equally important in language learning, **9)**_____ it takes a long time to become fluent in a new language. If you're highly motivated to learn Norwegian, for example, because you want to attend university in Norway, it'll be easier for you to stick with it, **10)**_____ an "easier" language that you are less interested in.

11)_____ which language you decide to study, the most important part of learning a new language is to keep on going with it. Set practical, personal goals for your learning, and then make studying a useful **12)**_____, which will help you become a fluent speaker!

- Example:** a) learners b) teachers c) researchers d) readers
1. a) beyond b) out of c) instead of d) throughout
 2. a) necessarily b) possibly c) additionally d) slightly
 3. a) fairly b) especially c) only d) even
 4. a) tells you b) depends on c) turns to d) results in
 5. a) rules b) qualities c) features d) definitions
 6. a) reference b) challenge c) potential d) view
 7. a) the same b) what if c) when d) whether
 8. a) not quite b) up to a point c) in that case d) even though
 9. a) since b) while c) then d) so
 10. a) compared to b) on account of c) in relation to d) as far as
 11. a) Despite b) As a result of c) No matter d) On top of
 12. a) habit b) preference c) ambition d) addiction

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.

Ants are truly fascinating creatures. There are more than 10,000 known ant species found in the world, and they are a subject of constant study by scientists. In this article, we will explore some facts about ants that you might not have heard about.

Firstly, ants are exceptionally strong. Most of them have the ability to carry between 10 and 50 times their own body weight! The amount an ant can carry depends on the species: the Asian weaver ant, for example, can lift 100 times its own weight.

There are a lot of ants in the world. To put things in perspective, it is estimated that there are around 1 million ants for every human. Ants are present pretty much everywhere: with the exception of Antarctica, the Arctic, and a handful of islands, there is at least one native species of ant found on every continent.

Besides humans, ants are the only creatures that will farm other creatures. Just like we raise cows, sheep, or chickens to obtain food, ants do the same with other insects. The most common example of this is with aphids, which are very small insects that live on plants. Ants will protect aphids from natural predators (animals that kill and eat other animals) and shelter them in their nests from heavy rain showers. In return, they gain a constant supply of honeydew, a form of sticky substance produced by aphids, which ants feed on.

Para. 5

Ants are known to go to extreme measures to save other ants. Studies have shown that these hard-working insects carry their wounded mates back to the nest to heal. Once the injured ants are back in the nest, their open wounds are 'licked' by other ants. Researchers believe they do this to clean the wounds. And they do so rather GAP) _____ : without such treatments, 80 percent of the injured ants die; after receiving it, almost 90 percent survive.

Recently, a team of young researchers in Panama found that one species of ant, the *Azteca alfari*, can rapidly repair any damage to its host tree. The amazing discovery was made by a 16-year-old Alex Wcislo and his friends. To pass time during the summer holiday, the boys decided to shoot clay balls at some local trees. They targeted the leaves to make the task more challenging. Things were going well until one of the 9 mm balls accidentally hit the tree trunk, leaving a clean exit and entry hole.

Para. 7

GAP 1)_____ that he had caused permanent damage, Alex returned to examine the tree the following morning. He was accompanied by his father, William Wcislo, a researcher in tropical plants. To their surprise, the hole had been completely covered over and it was surrounded by ants. Curious to find out how the ants had done this, Alex and his friends joined the volunteer program at the research institute where Alex's dad worked. GAP 2)_____ setting up the experiment with William, the teenagers got to work.

They drilled holes in some trees nearby and then carefully documented what followed. The young scientists found that in 14 of the 22 cases, *Azteca alfari* ants instantly gathered in the damaged area. The hard-working insects immediately got to work and, using material from

another part of the tree, significantly reduced the size of the hole within a couple of hours. In most cases, the gap was completely closed up within a day.

Para. 9

The insects' relationship with the local trees has been known for many years. The trees provide the ant colonies with food and shelter. GAP)_____, the insects protect their leaves from herbivores (plant-eating creatures). However, their repair skills, which researchers suspect have been improved fixing damage caused by the sharp nails of different animals that climb the trees, had never been seen before.

"Sometimes messing around when you are bored has a good end result," said Alex. "This project has taken up all my free time which I'd otherwise have spent gaming, but it allowed us to experience first-hand all the difficulties involved in conducting a scientific study."

Para. 11

Alex and his team still have one mystery to solve. They are not sure why the insects did not repair all the holes. Understanding this GAP) _____ behaviour is something they hope to explore in the future.

Example: The main purpose of this text is to

- a) give information.
- b) provide entertainment.
- c) offer advice.
- d) describe personal experience.

13. A typical ant can carry

- a) at least 10 times its body weight.
- b) no more than 10 times its body weight.
- c) on average 50 times its body weight.
- d) between 50 and 100 times its body weight.

14. Which is true about the number of ants in the world?

- a) There used to be 1 million times more ants than humans.
- b) There are not enough ants compared to humans.
- c) There are significantly more ants than humans.
- d) The increasing number of ants is concerning.

15. Ants benefit from their relationship with aphids by obtaining

- a) water.
- b) food.
- c) shelter.
- d) protection.

16. In paragraph 5, the best option to complete the gap is

- a) successfully
- b) desperately
- c) thoroughly
- d) equally

17. How are injured ants helped in the first place?

- a) They are given food.
- b) They are moved to safety.
- c) They are kept warm.
- d) They are given water.

18. In paragraph 7, the best option to complete the first gap is

- a) Thoughtful
- b) Concerned
- c) Relieved
- d) Confused

19. In paragraph 7, the best option to complete the second gap is

- a) Despite
- b) Before
- c) After
- d) During

20. How did Alex and his friends discover that ants can repair trees?

- a) by accident
- b) after long research
- c) when studying trees
- d) as part of a school experiment

21. The day after he damaged the tree, Alex found that the hole

- a) had disappeared.
- b) had become bigger.
- c) had become smaller.
- d) had changed shape.

22. The experiment conducted by the boys showed that

- a) ants only do this work on certain tree species.
- b) ants need a day on average to repair a tree.
- c) ants immediately inspect all damaged trees.
- d) ants use other plants to repair the damage.

23. In paragraph 9, the best option to complete the gap is

- a) Despite this
- b) In return
- c) In other words
- d) As a result

24. Which best describes the relationship between the ants and the trees?

- a) It benefits both parties.
- b) It benefits the ants more than the trees.
- c) It benefits the trees more than the ants.
- d) It is dependent on the presence of herbivores.

25. What did Alex conclude about the experiment?

- a) It was more useful to his friends than him.
- b) He found it to be more entertaining than gaming.
- c) He believes that its findings are not fully accurate.
- d) It gave him a better understanding of research methods.

26. In paragraph 11, the best option to complete the gap is

- a) optional
- b) exceptional
- c) independent
- d) selective

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

If you've ever wondered how honey is made, a British Beekeepers Association (BBA) course is for you! If you're thinking of keeping bees yourself, or just starting on your beekeeping GAP 1) _____, these courses give you an excellent opportunity to find out about being a beekeeper.

A lot of people are concerned about bee stings. But don't worry, during a beekeeping experience, you'll be dressed in safety clothing known as a 'bee suit'. Having said that, a full bee suit is not a guarantee that you will never get stung. The main thing to remember is that honeybees are naturally gentle creatures and will only attack when they feel their queen bee or their home are under threat. Also, make sure there are no bees left in the folds of your suit when you take it off. Bees are great at squeezing into tiny places that you won't search and that's a GAP 2) _____ way to get stung!

Our beekeeper courses are suitable for beginners. It's a really good way to get started if you're thinking of keeping bees, or if you just want to see how honey is made. Once you are keeping bees, you will be helping to protect them and enjoying the experience.

Text B

A colony is the bee 'family' that lives together and stays together when they move. It is made up of one queen bee, who is the leader, and lots of worker bees. So, if you're a beekeeper with lots of beehives (the name for a bee's home), you'll have one family of bees living in each beehive.

Bees are described as 'eusocial' animals, a word that comes from the Greek for 'good', and the word social, to explain that bees are great at cooperating. Often, there is a division of labour with different individuals having different roles, such as defence or looking for food. Some workers are responsible for collecting food for the colony, and others for defending it against attackers. Bees are also brilliant at jointly solving more difficult tasks. These cooperative eusocial characteristics are also found in ants and wasps.

Swarming is when a queen bee and a group of her workers leave a hive in search of a new home. A swarm is usually about 30,000 bees, so they can be quite scary. But just remember, it's all part of the natural cycle of bee life. However, some beekeepers make sure there are never any new queen bees born in a hive, as having more than one queen is what starts the swarming process.

Text C

In recent years, putting beehives on the roofs of buildings in towns and cities has grown in popularity. Urban beekeeping has become a fantastic hobby for city dwellers. However, GAP 1)_____ the method of beekeeping is the same wherever your beehives are, whether it's in the city or countryside. It is the best hobby I ever took up, and a lot of other people I know have also started doing it.

Don't worry about bee stings. Only a GAP 2) _____ of people are allergic to them, and for most people the fear of a bee sting is far greater than the actual pain or the possible consequences.

A lot of people say that beekeeping is good for the environment, but not everyone agrees on this point. Some say farmed honeybees are preventing wild bees from doing their job. Others say having hives is good for farming and the environment. I just know it is fun and provides you with lots of cheap honey.

I can collect as much as 30 kgs of honey a year from the hives I keep. But this all depends on where your hive is, how many bees you have in your colony, the weather, the pollen, and quite a few other factors that can be difficult to control.

Which text

| | | |
|----------------|---|-------|
| Example | Describes a beekeeping course. | A |
| 27. | Explains how some beekeepers stop their bees leaving. | _____ |
| 28. | Explains how bees work together. | _____ |
| 29. | Says that people overestimate the impact of bee stings. | _____ |
| 30. | Mentions the protection beekeepers need to work. | _____ |
| 31. | Lists what affects how much honey is produced. | _____ |
| 32. | Shows a similarity between bees and other creatures. | _____ |
| 33. | Gives advice on how to avoid a bee sting. | _____ |
| 34. | Suggests beekeeping might not always be beneficial. | _____ |

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

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

- a) passage
- b) route
- c) journey
- d) process

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

- a) common
- b) fascinating
- c) popular
- d) familiar

37. In Text B, the underlined word 'roles' means the same as

- a) functions
- b) appearances
- c) directions
- d) situations

38. In Text B, the underlined word 'characteristics' means the same as

- a) quantities
- b) features
- c) belongings
- d) preferences

39. In Text C, the best option to complete the first gap is

- a) in contrast
- b) in existence
- c) in comparison
- d) in reality

40. In Text C, the best option to complete second gap is

- a) handful
- b) problem
- c) quantity
- d) majority

Candidate Number

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| D | D | M | M | Y | Y | Y | Y |

2 Name the objects in the pictures.



1



2



3



4



6



7



8



9



10

1 _____
2 _____
3 _____
4 _____
5 _____

6 _____
7 _____
8 _____
9 _____
10 _____

3 Fill in the blank with one word. You are given the first letter of the word.

- 11 Have you thought about d_____ your hair red?
- 12 'I must go,' Dorothy said, g_____ at her watch.
- 13 'We must practice a lot, we will have r_____ every night'.
- 14 The streets of most big cities are l_____ with rubbish.
- 15 Could you g_____ some cheese. I am making pasta.
- 16 I always feel stiff and s_____ after gardening.
- 17 The car crashed into a wall, nearly hitting two b_____.

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18 Women usually prefer books with a sad e_____.

19 It was a long v_____, but at least the sea was calm.

20 When the company closed, my parents were made r_____.

4 Complete the second sentences so that they have a similar meaning to the first. Use the word given.

21 Although he was exhausted, Ned kept on climbing.

fact

In _____ he was exhausted, Ned kept on climbing.

22 May had been sure she would win the music competition. She came third however.

been

Despite _____ would win the music competition, May came third.

23 Don isn't usually late.

like

It _____ be late.

24 'I'll meet you outside the track at eight whatever happens,' said Mika to Kimi.

promised

Mika _____ outside the track at eight.

25 A university professor has been teaching my son English.

taught

I have _____ English by a university professor.

26 I am a very stubborn person and that is why I lost my job.

such

If I _____ person, I wouldn't have lost my job.

27 I haven't got much money in the bank.

amount

I've only got _____ money in the bank.

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| D | D | M | M | Y | Y | Y | |

28 Buying things online means I don't have to go into town so often. **saves**
Buying things online _____ to go into town so often.

29 I haven't got much cash at the moment. **short**
I _____ cash at the moment.

30 Don't pay attention to what your father says; your new shoes are lovely!

notice
Take _____ what your father says; your new shoes are lovely!

Hippo Association use only

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