



HIPPO 2023 PRELIMINARY ROUND CANDIDATE BOOKLET

CEFR LEVEL B1
HIPPO CATEGORY HIPPO 4 - S10

Candidate Number _____

Date of Birth _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANDIDATES:

Do NOT turn over the page until instructed.

This examination is made up of 2 units: READING & USE OF ENGLISH

Answer all the questions.

Use only black or blue PEN.

Dictionaries are not allowed.

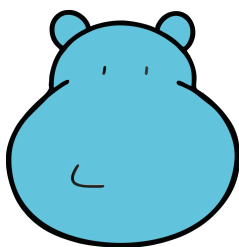
Remember to transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.

Time allowed:

Reading 40 minutes

Use of English 30 minutes





Reading Task 1

Read the text and circle 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 discovered this **1)** _____ on the Trip Advisor website. The reviews said it was one of the best places in the world to take children. Most visitors gave it a four or five star score on the website. That **2)** _____ it would be amazing, because five stars is the highest mark a place can get.

We arrived at the main airport in the capital, San Jose. Our hotel was approximately 10 kilometres from the airport. Dad wanted to take a bus to get there, but my mum refused to go on public transport. She said she was too tired, so we took a taxi **3)** _____.

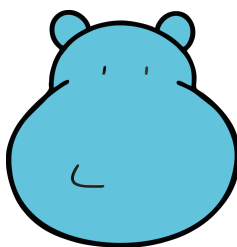
After we **4)** _____ to the hotel, we had a quick supper and went to sleep, as **5)** _____ was really exhausted by the long journey.

The next day we woke up early and **6)** _____ to go for a walk through the rainforest. It was really exciting. We **7)** _____ the rivers on rope bridges. They are quite dangerous, you are forbidden to go on them without a guide. At first, I felt a little bit anxious and thought about **8)** _____, but the guide convinced me to do it.

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

Yours Dave

- | | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Example: | a) sometimes | b) never | c) always | d) rarely |
| 1. | a) position | b) location | c) situation | d) direction |
| 2. | a) declared | b) suggested | c) demanded | d) offered |
| 3. | a) mostly | b) as well | c) instead | d) further |
| 4. | a) set off | b) gave in | c) got back | d) checked in |
| 5. | a) everyone | b) anybody | c) another | d) nobody |
| 6. | a) continued | b) refused | c) decided | d) imagined |
| 7. | a) climbed | b) completed | c) connected | d) crossed |
| 8. | a) going out | b) breaking up | c) staying behind | d) carrying on |
| 9. | a) resting | b) watching | c) sightseeing | d) shouting |
| 10. | a) as soon as | b) as much as | c) as short as | d) as near as |



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.

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). 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 frequently shows people coming together and supporting their neighbours in times of crisis. For example, in *The Wreck of the Zanzibar* (1995), a small community on an island struggles to survive in cold winter conditions.

Para. 2

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 wasn't comfortable with. 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 southern England, where he felt a little less lonely than at his _____ 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. Michael quickly realised that a soldier's life was not for him, and left after nine months.

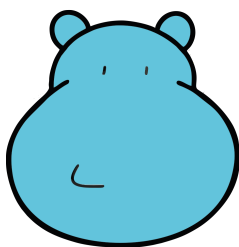
Para. 4

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

Para. 5

Michael got married at the age of 19. In 1976, Michael and his wife Clare bought a farm and started a charity called *Farms for City Children*. The charity runs a programme which introduces the countryside to children brought up in cities. The programme involves the children spending a week at a farm, during which they take part in real work, for example growing vegetables. About 85,000 children have taken part since it was set up, and the charity now has three farms. Michael has referred to the charity as his greatest _____ in life.

His book *War Horse* was made 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 (models controlled by people) 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 frightening.



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 ever.

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. This was because the director wanted to demonstrate the horse aging. Four horses played the other main horse, Topthorn. Up to 280 horses were used in the battle scenes.

Today, Michael Morpurgo has written over 300 works which have been _____ into 25 languages. They are available in 55,000 libraries and are some of the most borrowed children's books in the world.

Para. 9

Example: The text above is about

- a) a writer.
- b) a director.
- c) an actor.
- d) a farmer.

11. Michael's books

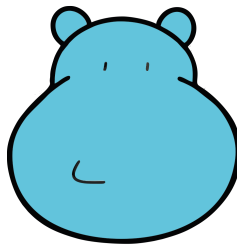
- a) are usually non-fiction.
- b) are mostly about magic.
- c) often describe people helping each other.
- d) always avoid the subject of war.

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

- a) principal
- b) previous
- c) preferred
- d) possible

13. Which is true about Michael's education?

- a) He received his education at home.
- b) He made his parents proud with his grades.
- c) He didn't enjoy his time at school.
- d) He always tried to do his best at school.



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 4, the best word to complete the gap is

- a) rejected
- b) discovered
- c) caught
- d) forgot

16. Why did Michael open *Farms for City Children*?

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

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

- a) achievement
- b) respect
- c) defeat
- d) rule

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

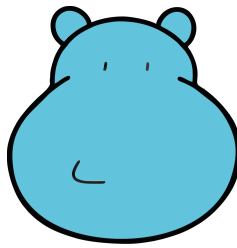
- a) It had puppets made in the UK.
- b) It used real horses on stage.
- c) Children really enjoyed it.
- d) Most children were scared by it.

19. The play was shown in theatres

- a) over a period of 16 weeks.
- b) since 28th March 2009.
- c) for a shorter time than expected.
- d) for a longer time than planned.

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

- a) So that the horses didn't get too tired.
- b) To show the main horse getting older.
- c) Because some of them didn't like Tophorn.
- d) The director was unhappy with some of the horses.



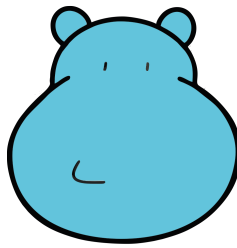
21. In paragraph 9, the best word to complete the gap is

- a) translated
- b) placed
- c) changed
- d) corrected

22. What is the main purpose of this text?

- a) To encourage the reader to see *War Horse* at the theatre.
- b) To inform about the life and work of Michael Morpurgo.
- c) To present the humour in Michael's Morpurgo's books.
- d) To show how easy it is for books to become films.

(12 marks)



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

The Sheep Pig

Dick King-Smith's book, *The Sheep Pig*, was first published in 1983, with pictures drawn by Mary Rayner. When Farmer Hogget wins a piglet (a baby pig) at the fair, he is amazed that his dog welcomes the piglet as one of her own pups. The dog names the piglet Babe and teaches him all he needs to know about the farm and its animals.

As Babe watches his 'mum' control 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 group of sheep. He then tries a different method; politely asking the sheep to form a straight 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 GAP) _____ 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.

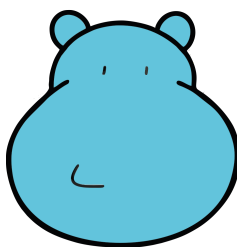
Text B

That Rabbit Belongs to Emily Brown

One day, Emily is at home playing with her toy rabbit, Stanley, when one of the Queen's servants knocks at the door. He demands Emily give her rabbit to the Queen in exchange for a brand-new teddy bear.

Emily refuses, but the Queen won't stop asking. The Queen keeps sending her servants to try and GAP) _____ 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. After some time, Emily rescues Stanley. But first, she suggests to the Queen that she 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 the story of 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 travellers. The story ends with his family GAP 1) _____ him. They all look forward to a happy future together.

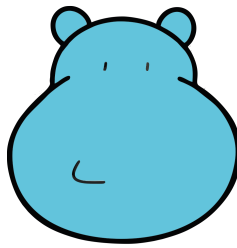
This is a classic novel full of wonderful pictures. Its images perfectly show what it means to leave your country and your family, and start a new life in a new country. The book is beautifully illustrated with black and white drawings. It also has a dreamlike atmosphere in which nothing is what it seems, and domestic appliances (for example fridges and kettles) change into strange creatures.

Children and adults of all GAP 2) _____ will enjoy this moving story. It is also a wonderful opportunity for teachers to discuss the themes of loneliness and experiencing different cultures with their students. Younger readers will benefit from reading this book together with an adult. This is because the adult can explain how it might feel to be in a foreign country without knowing the language. There are a few scary 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 circling the correct option.

31. In Text A, the best words to complete the gap are

- a) arguing with
- b) dealing with
- c) breaking with
- d) fighting with

32. In Text B, the best word to complete the gap is

- a) convince
- b) prevent
- c) remind
- d) blame

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

- a) forgetting
- b) avoiding
- c) losing
- d) joining

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

- a) futures
- b) ages
- c) days
- d) lives

(12 marks)

END OF READING ASSESSMENT

DO NOT TURN OVER THE PAGE UNTIL INSTRUCTED.

Hippo 4 Preliminary 2023 Key

1. B	26. B
2. B	27. A
3. C	28. C
4. D	29. C
5. A	30. C
6. C	31. B
7. D	32. A
8. C	33. D
9. C	34. B
10. A	35. B
11. C	36. C
12. B	37. A
13. C	38. A
14. C	39. A
15. B	40. B
16. D	41. A
17. A	42. B
18. C	43. C
19. D	44. A
20. B	45. A
21. A	46. C
22. B	47. C
23. A	48. B
24. A	49. B
25. B	50. B
	51. A
	52. B
	53. A
	54. A