



HIPPO 2022

10th International English Language Olympiad

IESOL Assessment Reading

RQF Level: Level 2

(CEFR Level: C1)

Candidate Booklet - Reading

HIPPO 5 – S15

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.

Over the past few years, there has been a lot of talk about electric cars and how we should 0)_____ the way we power our vehicles. But what is it like to actually drive an electric car, or use one for a family holiday? Is it 1)_____ with the demands of a modern family lifestyle, especially for families with young kids or teenagers?

We also investigated if these new cars are good value for money or if they are simply a 2)_____, designed to trick customers into paying for something that isn't really that good. So by driving an electric car on our holiday, we tested if the claims used to sell them are true. And I must admit that after our holiday, I was completely sold on the idea that electric cars are the 3)_____. The price is often considerably more than that of a comparable petrol car, but an average driver will make substantial savings over the first few years as the costs of running an electric vehicle are noticeably lower.

Not only that. If we had bought it to replace our existing vehicle, we would have received a government 4)_____ to encourage us to move to clean electric. That would be welcome, as who wants to either save for years or take out a loan from the bank just to 5)_____ their car?

The hire car we got 6)_____ looked elegant, with beautiful colours, soft seats and a stylish look. The kids weren't embarrassed to be seen in it, which is always a good sign. One of the 7)_____ thrown at electrics by petrol lovers is that they take too long to charge. But we managed 300 kilometres and then charged it while having a snack at a motorway service station. We would have stopped anyway so it didn't affect our journey time. However, you should still seek 8)_____ before you buy one on exactly how far you can go before you need to recharge it.

We found our car to be very economical, costing far less than a petrol car would have cost for the same journey. In many ways, it was 9)_____ to a petrol car, for example by being quieter and more relaxing to drive. I also had the added bonus of knowing I was being kind to the planet, though owning an electric car doesn't have to be about 10)_____ a world-saving green philosophy.

To conclude my research, I would say that only an extreme optimist would believe everything that they have been told about how electric cars will 11)_____ all the traffic problems that we have. There will clearly still be congestion, and indeed if electric cars are a successful 12)_____, there might even be more!

- Example:** a) rethink b) redo c) redraw d) recall
1. a) compatible b) probable c) comparable d) associated
2. a) rip-off b) bargain c) giveaway d) contract
3. a) well-being b) plan c) future d) purchase
4. a) subsidy b) sponsorship c) bonus d) fund
5. a) modify b) refresh c) repair d) upgrade
6. a) certainly b) sufficiently c) nonetheless d) incidentally
7. a) indications b) suspicions c) accusations d) complaints
8. a) illustration b) clarification c) interpretation d) demonstration
9. a) inferior b) senior c) superior d) interior
10. a) opposing b) imitating c) taking over d) adopting
11. a) determine b) generate c) conclude d) resolve
12. a) initiative b) victory c) sensation d) contribution

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.

Animals that steal are everywhere

Para. 1

A thieving parrot has become the latest contributor to New Zealand cinema, after stealing a camera and taking it on a tour of remote countryside. But this was not GAP) _____ incident, and if we investigate more closely, scientific research and the evidence we see around us suggest animals are stealing things all the time.

New Zealand's native alpine parrot is known for its curious and mischievous nature and for taking wallets, jewellery, and other valuables from unsuspecting tourists. One family told local television programme, *Seven Sharp*, that they had been hiking on a local track, and were staying at a hut when they were joined by a number of parrots. They placed the camera out to capture footage of the birds, but one snatched the camera and flew off, filming its flight down the hillside. It captured the airborne escape as well as the parrot's landing and its wild attack on the camera, where the bird tore lumps of plastic off the camera. Fortunately for the family, rather than abandon the camera somewhere remote, the bird picked it up again and dropped it in the area nearby where it was later picked up by the father.

Para. 3

But we shouldn't be surprised by what the parrot did because animals are notorious thieves. By and large, they aren't stealing because they find it amusing; it is in fact a necessary survival technique. When birds take shiny objects, such as mirrors or cameras, they are probably acting to protect themselves from things they do not understand. But animals that steal objects they can't eat are the minority, as most animals steal as a source of food.

Para. 4

'Kleptoparasites', that is animals that steal food or resources already owned by another animal, are common, and prove the ruthless nature of the animal kingdom. Kleptoparasites sometimes take resources from others of their species, and sometimes outside of their species. If you've ever had an aggressive seagull snatch a sandwich from your picnic at the beach, you've played host to a kleptoparasite. Gulls are large and look threatening, and their attacks are often quite GAP) _____ when it comes to grabbing a meal.

Some animals are intergenerational thieves. For example, young oystercatcher seabirds cannot break open tough shells, such as oysters. So, they just wait till their older relatives have done it, and then rush in and steal the tasty contents of the shell. Imagine doing that to a member of your family and consider what the reaction might be! As you can guess, the older oystercatchers are not impressed, but despite their razor-sharp beaks pecking the younger ones, it is the elder oystercatcher that loses out on the meal.

Other animals like to target humans who have already helpfully done the hard work acquiring the food. Clever sperm whales, for example, regularly steal fish from commercial fishers. In Alaska, sperm whales grab approximately 15 percent of fish that are caught on 'longline' hooks. Fishermen also spot sperm whales sneaking fish from nets. Researchers have observed that the sound of the engines on fishing boats seems to let the whales know that an easy meal is available. In an attempt to prevent whales from stealing their catch, they use technology to track whales, so that fishing boats know to head elsewhere.

Para. 7

Some seabirds, like the tern, dive into the depths to capture fish. Other seabirds, like the western gull, are not diving birds. How is a non-diving bird supposed to catch fish? They take them straight from the beak of a diving bird as soon as they are out of the water, or from the deck of fishing boats. Lazy, but GAP) _____.

You have probably heard of the cuckoo, a bird that is famous for laying its eggs in the nest of another bird and getting the other bird to do all the hard work raising the cuckoo's chick. But did you know there is also a cuckoo bee which displays similar behaviour? But while the cuckoo bird chick is raised by the other bird as its own, the cuckoo bee's actions take an even nastier direction. The mother cuckoo bee lays her eggs in another bee's nest, but the cuckoo bee larvae are active earlier than others, allowing it to feed on the food prepared for the bee's youngsters. Therefore, the cuckoo bee survives but not the young of the other bee. Not exactly a polite thing to do but it certainly works for the cuckoo bee.

While the most common form of stealing is by animals that take food, chinstrap penguins are known for taking nest building materials from other chinstrap penguins. They steal rocks to improve the size and strength of their own nest. Male chinstrap penguins are the primary thieves. There are videos showing the penguin who is the victim looking puzzled as to why his nest is getting smaller, despite him adding more rocks. This means that some penguins find it difficult to complete their nest.

Para. 10

Do you think we humans would never steal from others? The truth is, humans are master thieves. There are many instances of people stealing food from other people, but we also take food from other species as well. Many people around the world rely on food killed by lions or other large predators, for example. And even closer to home, chances are you might be a kleptoparasite as well; have you eaten any honey or drunk cow's milk lately?

Example: This text is

- a) an academic essay.
- b) a magazine article.
- c) an excerpt from a diary.
- d) a summary of a study.

13. In paragraph 1, the best option to fit the gap is

- a) a repetitive
- b) a frequent
- c) an isolated
- d) a dangerous

14. A New Zealand alpine parrot stole the camera

- a) after attacking a group of tourists.
- b) which has now been recovered.
- c) and the camera has not been found.
- d) and returned it undamaged.

15. In paragraph 3, the underlined phrase 'by and large' means the same as

- a) usually
- b) occasionally
- c) never
- d) always

16. The author believes animals take shiny objects

- a) because they enjoy looking at them.
- b) to attract sources of food.
- c) because they see them as a risk.
- d) for a variety of reasons.

17. In paragraph 4, the best option to fit the gap is

- a) restless
- b) violent
- c) urgent
- d) critical

18. The author says that kleptoparasites

- a) only steal from animals of a different species.
- b) steal from animals or humans.
- c) only steal from humans.
- d) steal from any animals but not humans.

19. According to the author, oystercatchers

- a) avoid conflict by cooperating when feeding.
- b) act just like humans when eating.
- c) transfer food gathered from young to old.
- d) sometimes attack each other when feeding.

20. Fishermen try to deal with the problems caused by sperm whales by

- a) trying to avoid locations where the whales are.
- b) making more engine noise to scare the whales.
- c) using 'longline' hooks to catch fish.
- d) trying to spot sperm whales that get into nets.

21. In paragraph seven, the best option to fill the gap is

- a) effective
- b) helpful
- c) valuable
- d) persuasive

22. The author think that the actions of the cuckoo bee are

- a) worse than those of the cuckoo bird.
- b) not a bad as those of the cuckoo bird.
- c) the same as the cuckoo bird.
- d) rarely successful.

23. The author suggests that chinstrap penguins

- a) mainly steal food from other penguins.
- b) need humans to help them build their nests.
- c) struggle to build nests because of theft.
- d) choose smaller penguins as their victims.

24. In paragraph 10, the underlined word 'instances' means the same as

- a) samples
- b) commands
- c) standards
- d) examples

25. In the final paragraph the author suggests

- a) humans are not at all like animals.
- b) humans and animals are similar in their actions.
- c) human actions are clearly better than those of animals.
- d) animals act in ways that are better than humans.

26. Throughout the article the author tries to

- a) stress his own experience and research in this area.
- b) dismiss arguments that he does not like.
- c) impress the reader with lots of scientific data.
- d) keep the reader engaged with examples from nature.

Reading Task 3

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

An example has been done for you.

Text A

Necker Island is a small island in the British Virgin Islands, in the Caribbean Sea. The island is owned by businessman Sir Richard Branson and operates as a luxury resort.

In 1965, two journalists visited the island, and spent 15 days there to write a newspaper story. They hoped that they would survive for at least three weeks, but they had to give up on the fifteenth day. On their return, they reported that there was nothing pleasant about the desert island, and the mosquitos and other insects were more venomous and persistent than any they had previously encountered. Because of these issues, nobody lived there until the late 20th century. Today, a permanent staff of over 100 live on the island, and there's further accommodation for 40 guests.

So how did Necker Island come under the ownership of Richard Branson? Mr Branson was made aware that some of the islands in the British Virgin Islands were for sale in 1978. After making a bid of \$100,000, he was initially GAP) _____, but managed to buy the island a year later when the owner suddenly needed money. Although Mr Branson now owns it, under local law all beaches are open to the public, so you can always go for a walk around the island if you ever get there.

Text B

Gough Island is an isolated volcanic island in the South Atlantic Ocean, about 1,700 miles west of South Africa.

The island had a brief period of human occupation from 1936 to 1938, when people hunted birds and collected eggs to survive. Today, the island is unoccupied, except for a South African weather station employing 6 people, which has been on the island since 1956. The workers typically stay for one year before the next boat brings their replacements. The conventional wisdom is that people shouldn't stay there for too long, as it might affect their mental health.

Gough Island's future as one of the least disturbed islands in the world is secure, because it is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This means nobody can damage it, and the island will remain one of the best GAP) _____ for nesting seabirds and seals in the Atlantic. It is host to almost the entire world population of some of the most endangered seabirds, as well as a unique species of flightless bird.

Unfortunately, the island has been invaded by a large population of mice, which feed on protected seabird eggs. A decision was taken to eliminate the mice by dropping poisoned food in different locations. However, last year someone spotted a mouse on the island, so the attempt can't have been entirely successful.

Text C

Lundy Island lies 10 miles off the coast of England, with a permanent population of 28 people, though it is usually visited by thousands of tourists in summer. In 1969, Lundy was purchased by a British millionaire, who donated it to the charity, the National Trust. The island is still owned and maintained by the National Trust.

The island is served by scheduled boat and helicopter services. Entrance to Lundy is free for anyone arriving on these services, but visitors who come on private boats are charged £6.00 each. Lundy has 23 holiday properties, which include a lighthouse, a castle, and a Victorian mansion. It also has a campsite located in the south of the island. The island is popular with rock climbers, having the UK's longest continuous climb, known as "The Devil's Slide". Lundy was one of the rare places in the UK where the black rat was found, until their elimination in 2006, which was aimed at protecting the resident nesting seabirds.

Lundy is also famous for having its own stamps, which are extremely GAP) _____ by collectors, who pay vast sums of money for antique ones.

Text D

Benbecula is an island in the Atlantic Ocean, about 80 miles off the west coast of Scotland. There is a daily five-hour sea-ferry crossing to the mainland, and the airport has regular flights to Glasgow.

In 1746, the legendary Prince Charles Stuart wanted to become king of Britain. As he was being pursued by his enemies, he was caught in a storm and forced to land on Benbecula. The islanders were sympathetic to his cause, and GAP) _____ him off the island to safety, which is celebrated in the well-known song, "Over the sea to Skye".

In the nineteenth century, a considerable proportion of the population was forcibly removed by the rich owner. They were replaced by sheep, which in those times were worth more than people. The current population is around 1,300 and continues growing. After a long campaign, local residents took control of the island in 2006 by purchasing it from its private owners and they now manage it for themselves.

The island is home to a large population of hedgehogs, which, cute as they are, are not native to the area and have been causing a lot of damage to the environment. Despite significant funds being dedicated to programmes aimed at either destroying, or capturing and relocating the animals, significant numbers remain on the island.

Which text

Text

Example: describes an island owned by one person.

___A___

27. mentions that the island is internationally protected.

28. says that the island got rid of an unwelcome animal species.

29. describes the island with the lowest population.

30. describes an island which is home to a very rare species.

31. includes a description of hostile conditions on the island.

32. states that money failed to solve a significant problem.

33. says that an island was abandoned and then occupied again.

34. mentions a famous historic event.

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

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

- a) turned out
- b) turned up
- c) turned down
- d) turned round

36. In Text B, the underlined phrase 'conventional wisdom' means the same as

- a) scientifically proved
- b) best research
- c) mistaken idea
- d) usual thinking

37. In Text B, the best option to complete the gap is

- a) shelters
- b) covers
- c) shields
- d) defenders

38. In Text C, the underlined 'scheduled' means the same as

- a) official
- b) random
- c) nominated
- d) timetabled

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

- a) thought about
- b) looked round
- c) sought after
- d) brought back

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

- a) smuggled
- b) exported
- c) auctioned
- d) released

Candidate Number

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Date of Birth

D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y

2 Name the objects in the pictures.



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 You will need a s_____ understanding of basic teaching skills before you enter the classroom.
- 12 Too much sugar will d_____ your teeth.
- 13 Can you believe this! Boris l_____ himself to Brad Pitt. They have nothing in common.
- 14 I've been through something similar so I can e_____.
- 15 I am colour blind so I have difficulty d_____ between red and green.

Candidate Number

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Date of Birth

D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y

16 Ex-boss was fired because of negligence. I hope to avoid my p_____ mistake.

17 Health and safety are the most important, so our p_____ concern is doing all we can to make everybody feel safe.

18 I believe his only r_____ feature is the experience he has in the job.

19 She was so nervous, she was bound to s_____ under pressure.

20 Because she was not tall enough, she tried to p_____ through the fence.

4 Decide if the sentences are correct or incorrect. If you think a sentence is incorrect, find the mistake and correct it.

21 Most of the people interviewed requested that their identities should not be enclosed.

22 By the time we arrive at the stadium, the match will have finished. It's all your fault!

23 The prime minister has been announced by public due to unpopular decisions.

24 I sincerely believe that good photograph can often convey far more than words.

25 The fans are raving about the recent performances of the team.

26 I am knackered. I was waiting for two hours before they let me in.

Candidate Number

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Date of Birth

D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	

27 I picked up a lot of army slang while I had been doing my military service.

28 When I was young I spoke as a stutter.

29 He is clearly not using the word "dead" in its literary sense.

30 Bill Hughes was named the new co-anchor of The Prime Time.

Hippo Association use only

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