



HIPPO 2023 PRELIMINARY ROUND CANDIDATE BOOKLET

CEFR LEVEL C1
HIPPO CATEGORY HIPPO S19

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 45 minutes

Use of English 30 minutes





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.

Why Learn Another Language?

Have you heard all the 0) _____ why some people don't learn languages? Many of these are 1) _____ long-held myths, wrong beliefs and misconceptions. The truth is, in today's increasingly connected world, proficiency in other languages is a vital skill that gives you the 2) _____ to engage with the world in a more meaningful way. Whether in your neighbourhood or thousands of miles away, speaking another language means you can compete and 3) _____ in today's world.

One of the most 4) _____ aspects of the human experience is our ability to connect with others. Being able to communicate with someone in his or her language is an incredible gift. People who are bilingual have the unique 5) _____ of being able to communicate with a wider range of people in their personal and professional lives. Knowing the language makes you a local 6) _____ where you are, opening up your world. You will be shaped by communities. You will be surprised by the kindness of strangers, and you will build lifelong friendships with many of them. And for these 7) _____ alone, you will see the reward of learning languages for many years to come.

Language skills can give you a significant competitive 8) _____ that sets you apart from your peers who speak only one language. They are among the top eight skills required in all occupations, regardless of your sector or skill level. And the 9) _____ bilingual professionals is rising. In fact, between 2010 and 2015, the number of U.S. job posts that asked for bilingual speakers more than doubled. Employers are 10) _____ people who can communicate with customers in new and expanding overseas markets, as well as serve and sell to a large foreign-born population here at home.

In the UK, around 22 million people speak a second language 11) _____, and 6 million use another language at home. So, you don't need to get on a plane to put your language skills to work. As an added incentive, an ability to speak another language can also lead to bonuses and an increased salary. Whatever your career 12) _____, with language skills added to the mix, you're ahead of the crowd!



- Example: a) excuses b) details c) checks d) goals
1. a) founded on b) caught on c) written on d) held on
2. a) right b) opportunity c) influence d) appeal
3. a) succeed b) replace c) interfere d) secure
4. a) commanding b) rewarding c) controlling d) qualifying
5. a) advantage b) complication c) occupation d) guidance
6. a) safe to say b) not to mention c) no matter d) worst of all
7. a) comments b) arguments c) reasons d) aims
8. a) price b) process c) account d) edge
9. a) pressure on b) demand for c) question for d) sale of
10. a) exploring b) following c) ignoring d) seeking
11. a) like mad b) to some extent c) all over again d) sooner or later
12. a) aim b) change c) break d) result

(12 marks)



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.

Glossary

orbit - a curved path followed by a planet or an object as it moves around another planet, star etc.; also to move around an orbit

Near-miss asteroids are becoming more frequent

Para. 1 A 340-metre-wide space rock named *Apophis* travelled safely past Earth in March 2021. The next time it returns it won't be so uneventful: *Apophis* will be much closer. It will come within 40,000 kilometres of our planet, passing just above the region where some high-flying satellites orbit. It will be the first time that astronomers will be able to observe such an immense asteroid pass so close to Earth.

Apophis' fly-by gave scientists the opportunity to test the worldwide planetary defence system, in which astronomers assess the chances of an asteroid hitting the Earth as they follow its direction across the night sky. "It's a fire drill with a real asteroid," says Professor Paul Smith, a planetary scientist at the University of Arizona who was involved in the observing campaign. "It was amazing to see, and great to know that all the time and effort we have put in allowed us to get such fantastic information about *Apophis*. Of course, if it wasn't a practice and the fire happened, the effects of the asteroid impact would severely affect the world population. Fortunately, this time around that wasn't an issue".

Para. 3 The fact that scientists could track *Apophis'* path highlights how much astronomers have learnt about near-Earth asteroids, and how much knowledge they still lack. Since 1998, when NASA kicked off the biggest search for near-Earth asteroids, scientists have detected more than 25,000 of them. Top space scientists have been collecting these figures for over twenty years, and last year turned out to be a record year for discoveries. Paul Smith said, "We definitely expected to see a decline and all my personal data was pointing that way, but despite some interruptions to the surveys, astronomers recorded an astonishingly large number of previously unknown near-Earth asteroids over the course of the year".

A significant proportion of these observations came from the Catalina Sky Survey, conducted at an observatory in Arizona, USA. It uses three telescopes to hunt for potentially threatening space rocks. The operations at the site were briefly suspended the previous year, yet the Catalina survey still discovered 1,548 near-Earth objects. These included a rare 'mini-moon', a tiny asteroid less than 3 metres in diameter that has been temporarily captured by Earth's gravity. The 'mini-moon' will make another close pass to Earth in about thirty years' time.

Para. 5 Another batch of discoveries came from the Pan-STARRS survey telescopes in Hawaii. Their findings included an object named **2020 SO**, which GAP) _____ not to be an asteroid, though they are still tracking it. It was a lost piece of rocket that had been circling around in space since it helped to launch a NASA mission to the Moon in 1966. It was initially identified



as unusual because, when spotted, it lacked the speed to be a true natural asteroid. Only later did scientists realise that it was 'space junk'. This piece of 1960s rocket, which disappeared decades ago, has been floating around space continually. It had probably circled the Earth several times since it was first lost but, before now, the technology employed was not good enough to see it.

Para. 6 Some of the asteroids discovered by the Pan-STARRS survey in 2020 came close to Earth, and a large number passed the planet at a distance closer than the Moon. Objects closer than the Moon are considered to be extremely close, and are recorded as a 'near-miss'. One near miss included the tiny space rock which travelled just a few thousand kilometres above the Indian Ocean. That made it the closest object observed up till that point, though that record was broken just three months later by another small object, **2020 VT4**. Although **2020 VT4** passed less than 400 kilometres from the planet, it wasn't spotted until 15 hours later. Had it come near to hitting the Earth, it would probably have broken apart in the atmosphere.

All these discoveries are making astronomers more conscious of the nature of the Solar System, where plenty of asteroids move around in space near Earth. The recent push to observe *Apoophis* highlights how astronomers around the world can work together to assess the threat posed by asteroids. By the time *Apoophis* comes around again, in 2029, scientists will have an even more detailed record of space rocks which threaten the Earth. "It's been a huge international project," says Professor Jones, who is in charge of the project. "Some people might think it would be tedious, with a lot of staring into telescopes and counting figures, but I take the opposite view, and find the whole process compelling."

Example: The asteroid *Apoophis*

- a) hit the Earth but had limited impact.
- b) will be closer next time it comes.
- c) is predicted to hit the Earth in future.
- d) was not spotted by scientists.

13. In paragraph 1, the word 'immense' means

- a) incredibly large
- b) very surprising
- c) highly unusual
- d) oddly shaped

14. Why does Professor Paul Smith use the term 'fire drill'?

- a) To criticise how some scientists react to an asteroid sighting.
- b) To scare people by highlighting their fear of fire.
- c) To downplay the seriousness of an asteroid impact.
- d) To use a familiar term to help explain what he is talking about.



15. Paul Smith suggests that if an asteroid hits the Earth,

- a) the effects will be disastrous.
- b) it will have only a limited impact.
- c) we have no idea what will happen.
- d) the warning system will save us.

16. In paragraph 3, the words 'kicked off' mean the same as

- a) practiced
- b) discovered
- c) started
- d) rejected

17. The tracking of *Apophis* has revealed that scientists

- a) can only track the largest objects from space.
- b) still lack the basic tools and knowledge to do their job.
- c) believe further research is now unnecessary.
- d) have made progress but there is more to know.

18. The number of asteroids detected by scientists

- a) is on a downward trend.
- b) has remained constant since 1998.
- c) has reached a new peak.
- d) was exactly what was predicted.

19. The site where the Catalina Sky Survey is based

- a) was closed for a year.
- b) was temporarily closed last year.
- c) opened for the first time last year.
- d) will not reopen until next year.

20. In paragraph 5, the best phrase to complete the gap is

- a) turned in
- b) turned out
- c) turned to
- d) turned up

21. Which is true of the object called 2020 SO?

- a) It was recorded and tracked by the Catalina Sky Survey.
- b) It was deliberately placed in space by NASA as a test.
- c) Scientists couldn't see its earlier movement around the Earth.
- d) Scientists are no longer able to locate its position.



22. In 2020, the Pan-STARRS survey

- a) didn't observe any space objects at all.
- b) spotted an asteroid that hit the Earth.
- c) recorded an asteroid striking the Moon.
- d) saw many asteroids come close to Earth.

23. Which is true about the asteroid 2020 VT4?

- a) It was a long way from Earth.
- b) It almost hit another asteroid.
- c) It broke apart while passing Earth.
- d) It wasn't noticed as it passed the Earth.

24. In paragraph 7, the underlined word 'push' could be replaced with

- a) effort
- b) failure
- c) habit
- d) conflict

25. Which statement best describes Professor Jones' opinion?

- a) His work could be seen as boring, but it is exciting.
- b) The threat of Earth being hit by an asteroid is increasing.
- c) That Earth will soon be hit by an asteroid.
- d) That scientists cooperating is leading to better data.

26. This text is

- a) an article published in a journal aimed at scientists.
- b) an example of biased reporting to emphasize a specific view.
- c) a report on a science topic written for a general reader.
- d) promoting a particular project to gain more funding.

(14 marks)



Reading Task 3

Part 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

Have you ever seen a Sinclair C5 car driving down your road? Probably not. I have only ever seen one, and that was over 20 years ago when Britain ran out of fuel for a few weeks. The reason you have almost certainly never noticed a C5 'car' is that it was, in fact, a total disaster.

Sir Clive Sinclair invented the Sinclair C5, a small one-person, battery-powered, electric vehicle. Sir Clive had a long-running interest in electric vehicles. He had become one of the UK's best-known millionaires and earned many awards for his innovative home computer business in the early 1980s. He hoped to repeat his success in the electric vehicle market, which he thought was ready for a new GAP) _____.

However, the car was seen as a complete joke. It looked silly, went very slowly, the battery constantly ran out, you got rained on, and it looked scarily small next to a big truck. It also failed due to lack of demand, because, at that time, there was no concern about the damage greenhouse gas emissions cause to the environment.

Out of 14,000 C5s made, only 5,000 were sold before production ceased. Today, they are worth more than originally sold for, as they are quite fun to drive around in.

Text B

One of the 'Four Great Inventions' (along with paper, gunpowder and printing), the magnetic compass was first invented as a device for predicting the future as early as the Chinese Han Dynasty (around 200 BC). It was later adopted for navigation (finding the direction to a place) by the Chinese Song Dynasty during the 11th century. The first compass was recorded in Western Europe around 1190. Without the compass, people would not have spread to all the corners of the world.

Basically, with a magnetic compass, you point it where you want to go and follow where the needle points. However, the problem is that the Earth's magnetic pull changes every now and then, so you might be directed to a slightly different place. This might not matter for a short distance but as the distance increases, so does the GAP) _____ in the direction. If you didn't know what you were doing, you could end up hundreds of miles off course. Experienced compass users know how to compensate for this magnetic change.

It might be an old invention, but really a lot of modern navigation systems, such as the maps on your mobile phone, are based on the compass.



Text C

The wind-up, or clockwork, radio was invented by Englishman Trevor Baylis. The radio, instead of relying on batteries or external electrical sources, is powered by the user turning a handle. This energy is stored in a part of the radio, which then gives it power.

In the late 1980s, Baylis saw a television programme about the spread of illnesses in Africa, and realised that a way to halt the transmission of disease would be to educate people through radio programmes. Within 30 minutes, he had created the prototype (first model) of his most well-known invention, the wind-up radio.

While the prototype worked well, he struggled to find a production partner. The turning point came in 1994 when his invention was featured on the BBC TV programme *Tomorrow's World*, which resulted in GAP)_____ coming forward to give him money to make his radios. His design won many awards, and he was congratulated by Queen Elizabeth II and Nelson Mandela.

In 2001, he made shoes that can charge batteries as you walk in them. He walked across Namibia, a country in Africa, and at the end, used the power generated by the shoes to phone the UK.

Text D

Usually, Adidas's trainers include more than 12 different materials. The *Futurecraft.Loop*, a recent design of Adidas trainer, uses just one type of plastic, and could GAP) _____ a new era of shoe design.

Upon first glance, these running shoes, while notably stylish, look no different from any other high-end running shoes. The interesting part comes once you're done with them. Instead of throwing the shoes away, you can return them to Adidas so 100% of each shoe can be reused to create a brand new one. When they look a bit worn, Adidas can simply break down the plastics and make another pair of identical trainers out of them.

It took more than seven years of research, including developing new technology to make the shoes out of a single material and no glue. James Carnes, vice president of global brand strategy at Adidas, says the new shoe is meant to be a first step to "clean up some of the impact that we have made through our massive product creation every year."

Unfortunately, people had to wait to actually buy a pair; they were in the testing phase for years, and the date for public sales was put back till 2021. Finally, you can now get your hands on them, if you happen to have a spare \$180.



Which text...	Text
Example: describes something that was a total failure?	A
27. also gives information about the maker's second invention?	-----
28. highlights an invention designed to solve an environmental problem?	-----
29. suggests that the initial sales of the product were disappointing?	-----
30. explains how publicity helped to financially support the inventor?	-----
31. describes a product that has only recently become available to purchase?	-----
32. says that the invention doesn't always work as intended?	-----
33. criticises a product for many different reasons?	-----
34. highlights how quickly a product was invented?	-----

Part B) Now answer the following questions. Circle the correct option, a, b, c, or d.

35. In Text A, the underlined words 'in fact' can best be replaced with:

- a) furthermore
- b) actually
- c) secondly
- d) occasionally

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

- a) approach
- b) approval
- c) reaction
- d) position

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

- a) error
- b) course
- c) neglect
- d) defeat



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

- a) researchers
- b) publishers
- c) suppliers
- d) investors

39. In Text D, the best phrase to fill the gap is:

- a) bring back
- b) bring in
- c) bring up
- d) bring out

40. In Text D, the underlined word 'impact' could be replaced with

- a) profit
- b) return
- c) contact
- d) effect

(14 marks)

END OF READING ASSESSMENT
DO NOT TURN OVER THE PAGE UNTIL INSTRUCTED.

HIPPO 2023

Preliminary Round

HIPPO S19 Use of English MC Test



50. I _____ for Tina's wedding next month.
A) have a new dress made B) had a new dress made C) am having a new dress made
51. I can't make _____ what they are saying but they sure look angry.
A) up B) on C) out
52. _____ you _____ your computer long before it broke down?
A) Have / had B) Did / have C) Had / had
53. It is surprising how quickly people _____ travelling by car in the past.
A) used to B) got used to C) were used to
54. This time next year I _____ my own business.
A) will be running B) will have run C) will run
55. Could you lend me some money to _____ me over to the end of the month?
A) tide B) get C) ebb
56. _____ in 2010, the new law saved many lives on roads.
A) Having introduced B) Having been introduced C) Being introduced
57. Joan asked me to tell you that she would like _____ by Monday.
A) the letters sent B) that you sent C) sent the letters
58. This medicine will successfully _____ all your troubles with...
A) alleviate B) deaden C) control
59. The woman was found guilty and sentenced _____ 6 years in prison.
A) for B) on C) to
60. His job is now more _____, to represent community in...
A) advocational B) advocative C) advocating

END OF ASSESSMENT

Hippo S19 Preliminary 2023 Key

1. A	31. D
2. B	32. B
3. A	33. A
4. B	34. C
5. A	35. B
6. C	36. A
7. C	37. A
8. D	38. D
9. B	39. B
10. D	40. D
11. B	41. B
12. A	42. A
13. A	43. C
14. D	44. A
15. A	45. A
16. C	46. B
17. D	47. C
18. C	48. B
19. B	49. A
20. B	50. C
21. C	51. C
22. D	52. C
23. D	53. B
24. A	54. A
25. A	55. A
26. C	56. B
27. C	57. A
28. D	58. A
29. A	59. C
30. C	60. B