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ENGLISHWITHOUTBORDERS

HIPPO THE CONTEST

PRELIMINARY ROUND CANDIDATE BOOKLET

CEFR LEVEL A1
HIPPO CATEGORY HIPPO 2-S1

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 30 minutes

Use of English 20 minutes

13th
Edition

Reading Task 1

Read the sentences. Circle the best option – a, b, or c - to complete each gap. An example has been done for you.

Example: I usually have ____ at 8 o'clock in the morning.

- a) breakfast b) lunch c) dinner

1. There are ____ students in our class than last year.
a) more b) much c) many
2. We have mathematics ____ the morning.
a) on b) in c) at
3. Please ____ down your name on this form.
a) read b) write c) make
4. Our teacher always ____ our homework carefully.
a) checks b) looks c) sees
5. I can't find my pencil. Can I ____ yours, please?
a) ask b) carry c) borrow
6. The opposite of 'cheap' is ____.
a) different b) expensive c) important
7. The post office ____ at 8:30 every morning.
a) starts b) closes c) opens
8. This orange juice is too sweet - please ____ some water.
a) eat b) add c) ask
9. You must ____ quiet in the library.
a) change b) speak c) be
10. The sky is very ____ today - there are no clouds at all.
a) clear b) wet c) windy

(10 marks)

Reading Task 2 - A

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

The Computer Club

My name is Peter. I go to computer club every Thursday after school. The club starts at 4 o'clock and finishes at 5:30. There are fifteen students in the club, and we learn how to make simple computer games.

Mr. Wilson is our new teacher, because Ms Davies left the school. He knows a lot about computers and always helps us with our problems. Last week, he taught us how to make a programme with moving pictures. It was difficult at first, but now I can do it well. I sit next to my friend David. He is very good with computers and sometimes helps other classmates. We both want to make computer games when we are older. David's sister came to the club last year, but now she studies at university.

Next month, we are going to have a special day. We will show our parents the games we made. I'm excited, because I designed a great game about space. I think it's better than some of the sports games and games with animals from other students.

Example: The computer club is on

- a) Thursdays.
- b) Fridays.
- c) Saturdays.

11. How long is the computer club?

- a) two hours
- b) one hour
- c) one and a half hours

12. Who teaches the computer club?

- a) Peter
- b) Ms. Davies
- c) Mr. Wilson

13. What did the students learn last week?

- a) how to draw pictures
- b) how to make pictures move
- c) how to play games

14. What does David do in the club?

- a) repairs computers
- b) helps other students
- c) makes all the games

15. Where is David's sister now?

- a) at the club
- b) at work
- c) at university

16. What will the students do next month?

- a) test different games
- b) make an exciting space game
- c) show their work to their parents

(6 marks)

Reading Task 2 – B

Read the text and fill in the gaps below. Circle the correct option, a, b, or c. An example has been done for you.

(Example) ____ Tom,

I got a new bike for my birthday! It's red and black. Would you like to come and 1) ____ it this weekend? We can ride our bikes in the park 2) ____ my house.

The weather will be sunny and warm 3) ____ Saturday. My dad says we can have lunch in the garden. He's going to 4) ____ his special hamburgers!

Please 5) ____ me if you can come. We can meet at ten o'clock, 6) ____ maybe a bit later if that's too early?

Sam.

Example:

a)

Dear

b) From

c) To

17. a) look

b) see

c) watch

18. a) next

b) at

c) near

19. a) in

b) on

c) at

20. a) make

b) eat

c) take

21. a) tell

b) speak

c) talk

22. a) if

b) and

c) or

(6 marks)

Reading Task 3 - A

Read the three texts and answer the questions below. An example has been done for you.

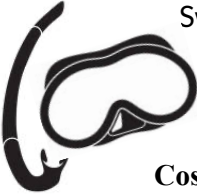
Text A

Swimming Lessons

for Ages 8-12
with Mrs. Brown

Tuesday and Thursday
4:00 – 5:00pm

Equipment:
Swimming suit
Towel



Cost: £8 per lesson

Special note: No complete beginners!

Text B

Art Classes
for Ages 7-14
with Mr. Green

Monday and Wednesday
3:30 – 5:00pm

Equipment:
Some materials
provided



Cost: £10 per class

Special note: Wear old clothes!

Text C

Music Club
for Ages 9-15
with Ms. White

Saturday
10:00 – 11:30pm

Equipment:
Instruments available
at the club



Cost: £12 per session

Special note: No experience needed!

Which class...

Text

Example: is once a week?

C

23. costs the most?

24. is the shortest?

25. provides all the things you need?

26. has the youngest minimum age?

27. is at the weekend?

28. is for people with some skills?

(6 marks)

Reading Task 3 - B

Choose the correct question to match the given answer. Circle the correct option, a, b, or c.
An example has been done for you.

Example:

- a) When's your birthday?
- b) How old are you?
- c) Where do you live?

I'm twelve years old.

29.

- a) What's the time?
- b) When do you wake up?
- c) How long do you sleep?

At quarter past eight.

30.

- a) Where is your bag?
- b) Do you like this colour?
- c) What colour is your bag?

It's red and yellow.

31.

- a) Why didn't you come yesterday?
- b) Are you feeling better now?
- c) When were you ill?

Because I was ill.

32.

- a) How many keys do you have?
- b) Where are the keys?
- c) Are these your keys?

They're on the table.

33.

- a) How often do you come here?
- b) When will you come here?
- c) When did you come here?

Usually once a week.

34.

- a) Do you have any pets?
- b) Which do you like better, cats or dogs?
- c) Would you like to have a cat?

I prefer cats.

(6 marks)

END OF READING ASSESSMENT

13th HIPPO

preliminary round

HIPPO 2-S1 Use of English MC Test V1



Time allowed: 20 minutes

Choose A, B, C or D to complete the sentences.

35. Matteo _____ in his bed thinking about the wonderful day in Gardaland.
A) lay B) laid C) lied D) lying
36. What _____ yesterday at 8?
A) did you do B) have you done C) were you doing D) did you
37. This summer, we spent a month at _____ Como.
A) the B) a Lake C) the Lake D) Lake
38. Paul decided not to _____ the book to anyone.
A) borrow B) be borrowing C) lend D) loan
39. How long _____ here waiting?
A) do you stand B) are you standing C) have you been standing D) have you been stood
40. Mary is quite _____ her sisters.
A) different then B) different from C) indifferent from D) dissimilar from
41. Skiing _____ be a dangerous sport.
A) has to B) need to C) should D) can
42. The floods did a lot of _____ to the crops.
A) damage B) destruction C) damages D) devastation
43. If you need me, I _____ in the garden, darling.
A) work B) would work C) will work D) will be working

13th HIPPO

preliminary round

HIPPO 2-S1 Use of English MC Test V1



44. _____ type of holiday do you like best?
A) What B) Which C) Whichever D) Whatever
45. The boy _____ to move until the dog had been taken away.
A) didn't dare B) wasn't daring C) hadn't dared D) hasn't dared
46. Swallows are _____ in Europe than in Arctic.
A) commoner B) more common C) the most common D) the commonest
47. When we were on holiday this year, we _____ to the beach every day.
A) were going B) went C) have been D) were
48. When I leave secondary school, I _____ to work.
A) will start B) am going to start C) will have started D) am start
49. This is the furthest anyone _____ into the jungle.
A) ever went B) goes C) has ever been D) had ever been
50. I gave her a book _____.
A) to read B) to read it C) for reading D) for her reading
51. Who _____ America in 1492?
A) did discover B) discovered C) did discovered D) was discovering
52. _____ the bicycle tomorrow? I would like to borrow it.
A) Do you use B) Would you use C) May you be using D) Will you be using
53. What other languages _____ English do you speak?
A) beside B) besides C) apart to D) in
54. My brother enjoys swimming, but he never seems to have _____ time.
A) a B) the C) some D) more



END OF ASSESSMENT

REMEMBER TO TRANSFER YOUR ANSWERS
ONTO THE ANSWER SHEET!



IESOL E1/A1 READING ANSWER SHEET – HIPPO Preliminary Round 2025

Reading Task 1

Question	Answer
1.	A
2.	B
3.	B
4.	A
5.	C
6.	B
7.	C
8.	B
9.	C
10.	A
Total: / 10	

Reading Task 2

Question	Part - A	Question	Part - B
11.	C	17.	B
12.	C	18.	C
13.	B	19.	B
14.	B	20.	A
15.	C	21.	A
16.	C	22.	C
Total: / 6		/6	

Reading Task 3

Question	Part - A	Question	Part - B
23.	C	29.	B
24.	A	30.	C
25.	C	31.	A
26.	B	32.	B
27.	C	33.	A
28.	A	34.	B
Total: / 6		/6	

HIPPO 2-S1 USE OF ENGLISH MC KEY V1

- 35. A
- 36. C
- 37. D
- 38. C
- 39. C
- 40. B
- 41. D
- 42. A
- 43. D
- 44. A
- 45. A
- 46. B
- 47. B
- 48. B
- 49. C
- 50. A
- 51. B
- 52. D
- 53. B
- 54. B