



# HIPPO 2024 PRELIMINARY ROUND CANDIDATE BOOKLET

CEFR LEVEL **B2**  
HIPPO CATEGORY **HIPPO 5-S4**

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.

### Stress and Play

You may have **0)** \_\_\_\_ that meditation and exercise are effective ways to relieve stress, but activities that adults tend to **1)** \_\_\_\_ for children are also wonderful ways to improve our mood and reduce anxiety.

Play is not just essential for kids; it's also an important source of relaxation and stimulation for adults. As we get older, we become set in our ways and find it hard to get out of our comfort zones and try out new, fun activities. But **2)** \_\_\_\_ your leisure interests is not only fun, it also helps us to manage stress and build happiness. Improving brain function and creativity, **3)** \_\_\_\_ memory loss, decreasing depression, strengthening your relationships with others - these are all wonderful side effects of play.

There's a **4)** \_\_\_\_ about human motivation called Maslow's Hierarchy, developed by a famous American psychologist Abraham Maslow. It says that after our most basic survival needs, **5)** \_\_\_\_ food, water and shelter, are met, we start to focus on fun and personal growth. Need a few ideas to get started? Here are some fun ways to do it.

Why not follow a new recipe to bake a cake? Baking allows us to use all our **6)** \_\_\_\_ to reach a state of relaxation and peace. **7)** \_\_\_\_ bread making, for example: you're using touch when kneading the dough, sight when watching the bread rise, smell when it's baking, and finally taste when eating it.

Another idea would be to complete a puzzle. Get a huge jigsaw puzzle- the bigger the better! Spread it out on the table or floor and have a **8)** \_\_\_\_ . Scientists believe that when we engage in play that we enjoyed as children, those natural feel-good emotions come back. This is because the activity reminds us of those **9)** \_\_\_\_ times.

Gardening could also be the **10)** \_\_\_\_ . Spending time in the fresh air promotes a good night's sleep, and restful sleep is key for lowering stress. Planting flowers, herbs or plants and watching them grow is rather **11)** \_\_\_\_ .

These are just a few examples of fun, stress-relieving activities, but **12)** \_\_\_\_ interests you is something you should try. And remember that taking a little time for self-care is always important even when our lives are busy, or we are going through difficult times.



- Example:  a) heard      b) said      c) told      d) seen
1.      a) reveal      b) apply      c) separate      d) reserve
2.      a) ceasing      b) expanding      c) observing      d) rejecting
3.      a) encountering      b) preventing      c) preserving      d) supporting
4.      a) theme      b) remark      c) survey      d) theory
5.      a) such as      b) unlike      c) similar to      d) kind of
6.      a) traits      b) thoughts      c) senses      d) ideas
7.      a) Give      b) Take      c) Bring      d) Look
8.      a) go      b) clue      c) hand      d) word
9.      a) cautious      b) careless      c) carefree      d) careful
10.      a) question      b) thought      c) answer      d) belief
11.      a) satisfying      b) preferable      c) sympathetic      d) amused
12.      a) anything      b) something      c) everything      d) whatever

(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.

### Neil the Seal

A 600kg southern elephant seal has been causing a stir on the Australian island of Tasmania, appearing in the streets rather than his usual home by the sea. He's been nicknamed Neil the Seal and has gathered a large social media following after some of his unusual behaviour were captured on video.

Para. 2 The seal has been seen lying in front of a local estate agents' office, approaching customers outside a fish and chip shop, and even blocking a woman from getting into her car. Of course, an Instagram account has now been set up for Neil, with more than 63,000 followers. There are also TikTok posts and YouTube videos showcasing his adventures, all of which have been getting millions of views. Photos and videos of Neil trying to eat traffic cones, damaging road signs, or inconveniencing road users, have GAP) \_\_\_\_ the seal attracting large crowds, many wanting to film his funny behaviour for themselves. Items like T-shirts and soft toys are also being sold in his name, and there's even been a song written about him.

### Section 2 Title

Para. 3 But Neil's rising fame has begun to make marine experts GAP) \_\_\_\_ about his welfare. According to the Department of Natural Resources and Environment in Tasmania, southern seal elephants will move with speed if disturbed or feeling alarmed, which can also be dangerous for humans.

Southern elephant seals are the largest of all seal species. Males can reach up to 5 metres in length and weigh up to 3,500kg - roughly the same as a van. Females tend to be a bit smaller - usually less than 3 metres long and weighing about 500 kg, or the same as a grand piano.

Para. 5 Mary-Anne Lea, a professor from the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies at the University of Tasmania, said: "It's OK when seals are cute and interacting in generally safe ways, but then they become bigger and other natural behaviours kick in and you can start to have interactions that you might not be comfortable with". As Neil's popularity has grown, local authorities have had to repeatedly urge people to "keep their distance, keep dogs on a lead and away from the seal".

### What has been done to try and protect Neil?

In April, Neil was relocated from a popular Tasmanian beach near Hobart because his presence was attracting too many onlookers. To help keep track of his whereabouts, wildlife rangers fitted Neil with a tracking device, to help quickly identify if he turns up in another challenging location, and to gather more information about his behaviour.



The Tasmanian resident who set up the Instagram page for "Tassie locals" and their children to learn about Neil's behaviour, said they no longer posted his up-to-date location to ensure his safety. The decision was made after taking advice from marine biologists. A post on the Instagram account said: "I would ask everyone that engages with Neil to please remember that he is not there for our financial gain, he is a wild creature with his own unique personality and deserves the respect of all people."

#### Section 4 Title

It's thought Neil came on a "haul out", a period in which seals come to land to rest, in July 2022. During this time, the animals take time to rest and if they are female, they can even give birth. The seals remain on land for about four weeks before returning to sea until the next breeding season.

Para. 9

Professor Lea said people were "astounded" by Neil's size, but had little understanding of why he was moving around and resting on land. "People GAP) \_\_\_\_\_ that he is thirsty or hungry or unwell. They don't know that southern elephant seals haul out for rest periods after spending a long time at sea - so they need to be out on land." She added: "I think the basic advice is for people to remember that Neil is a wild animal. If they would like Neil to live a long, healthy and happy life in Tasmanian waters, then people need to give him a respectful distance wherever possible and listen to the local authorities."

#### Example: This text is about

- a) an animal.
- b) an island.
- c) social media.
- d) travelling.

13. In paragraph one, the underlined phrase 'to cause a stir' means

- a) to solve some problems.
- b) to attract a lot of interest.
- c) to move to a different location.
- d) to worry a lot about something.

14. In paragraph 2, the best option to fit the gap is

- a) depended on
- b) kept to
- c) counted on
- d) led to

15. How did local people react to the seal's unusual behaviour?

- a) They reported it to local authorities.
- b) They enjoyed it and some recorded it.
- c) They tried to move the seal back into the water.
- d) They encouraged the seal to do silly tricks.



16. In paragraph 3, the best option to fit the gap is
- a) uneasy
  - b) delicate
  - c) unaware
  - d) painful
17. Why is there a van mentioned in section 2 of the text?
- a) To make the text more entertaining.
  - b) To help readers understand a concept.
  - c) To introduce more variety to the text.
  - d) To accurately describe an event that took place.
18. What does Professor Lea say about seals?
- a) They never display dangerous behaviours.
  - b) They are only aggressive towards other animals.
  - c) Males tend to be more aggressive than females.
  - d) It's possible for them to be dangerous to humans.
19. In paragraph 5, the underlined phrase 'urge people to' could be best replaced by
- a) report people
  - b) stop people from
  - c) insist that people
  - d) protect people
20. What is the best title for section 2 of the text?
- a) Who is the best person to decide about Neil's future?
  - b) How do southern elephant seals grow to such a large size?
  - c) Why do experts want people to stay away from Neil?
  - d) When is a good time to approach a seal in a safe manner?
21. The owner of 'Tassie Locals' Instagram account stopped posting updates about Neil because
- a) the account stopped being profitable.
  - b) his children asked him to stop.
  - c) it could have put the seal in danger.
  - d) it wasn't safe for him to do so.



22. Which is true about Neil coming to spend some time on land?

- a) It was a completely normal behaviour.
- b) It happened at an unusual time of year.
- c) It is rare for male seals to do that.
- d) It was a sign of his poor health.

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

- a) assume
- b) gossip
- c) respond
- d) confess

24. What is professor Lea's advice to the general public?

- a) Neil needs a lot of help to recover properly.
- b) Avoid coming into close contact with Neil.
- c) Report it if you see Neil behave dangerously.
- d) You can assist a seal trying to get back into water.

25. What is the best title for section 4 of the text?

- a) What other research is needed?
- b) Why come out at this location?
- c) Is four weeks long enough?
- d) Why did Neil end up on land?

26. Which best describes the purpose of this article?

- a) To provide an overview of seals' natural habits.
- b) To report on recent research about seals.
- c) To provide wider context for a recent event.
- d) To criticise the behaviour of the general public.

(14 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 Sifnos, Cyclades, Greece

Simple yet delicious meals are a major part of the appeal of this Cyclades island, which has a reputation as an exceptional destination for those who enjoy a good meal. In part, this is a result of it being the birthplace of the influential early-20th-century chef Nikolaos Tselementes, who wrote the first cookbook in Greece. Before that, recipes were passed down through families and communities.

But the island's fame is also a result of a plentiful supply of fresh produce. Herbs grow through the cracks of stone walls at the side of the road, and there are olive trees growing in almost every car park. A great meal is almost GAP 1) \_\_\_\_\_ at any of the tavernas, which might seem plain and simple on the outside, but offer outstanding dishes.

Restaurant-hopping in a rental car, which is vital for those wanting to explore, is easy: the island is only nine miles long. There are just a handful of empty roads twisting across the hills and mountains, all leading to whitewashed villages and quiet bays.

You'll need to travel by ferry to get to Sifnos. There are ferries almost daily from the port of Piraeus in Athens, mainland Greece, and can take between four to six hours, depending on the route. GAP 2) \_\_\_\_\_, there are also good connections between Sifnos and other islands of the Cyclades.

### Text B Patmos, Dodecanese, Greece

Patmos has been a destination for those seeking peace since the Byzantine emperor Alexios I Komnenos gifted the island to a monk named Christodoulos in 1088. When the monk arrived, the only building on the island was St John's chapel (a type of small church). Christodoulos built a monastery (a set of buildings housing religious people), which eventually attracted a larger community to settle in the area. From that time, the island has continued to be a destination for those interested in spiritual and intellectual development.

Walking through the old town of Patmos is like a trip back through the last 900 years; cars are not allowed and the buildings seem to grow out of the rock. Patmos is also famous for its unspoiled beaches – you won't find many sunbeds or beach bars here. The island attracts large visitor numbers in summer, so you may want to consider organising your trip in spring or autumn for a quieter time.

To reach Patmos, fly to the island of Kos or Leros and board one of the Dodekanisos Seaways ferries, which take one to three hours. It's also GAP) \_\_\_\_\_ to fly to Athens and travel overnight on one of the nine-hour Blue Star Ferries, but be sure to book a cabin.



**Text C Amorgos, Cyclades, Greece**

A tiny island at the easternmost edge of the Cyclades, Amorgos is likely one you've never heard of. The 126 square kilometre island is a quiet spot of natural beauty. It will be remembered forever thanks to being included in the opening scene of filmmaker Luc Besson's drama *Le Grand Bleu*. Besson admitted to falling in love with Amorgos at first sight. With its long hiking trails and quiet village tavernas and cafes, the island is perfect for those seeking a quieter Greek island experience, far away from the tourists and nightclubbers present in the rest of the Cyclades islands.

Amorgos' breathtaking landscape is full of charming villages and great architecture. Why not climb up all the way to the Hozoviotissa monastery and take in the dramatic views onto the sea. On the way back down, wave to the sleepy goats shading themselves under olive trees. Stroll through the narrow, medieval streets of the island's capital, Chora, lined with whitewashed houses and windmills, before visiting a 13th-century castle built into the rocks.

As with many Greek islands, the main GAP) \_\_\_\_ for its quiet atmosphere is that it's difficult to get there. The island is 1 hour and 20 minutes away by ferry from Naxos, just under two hours from Santorini and about a seven hours' journey from the port of Athens.

Which text...	Text
<b>Example:</b> describes the island of Sifnos in the Cyclades?	A
27. recommends a form of transport on the island?	-----
28. recommends specific places to visit on the island?	-----
29. describes an island fastest to get to from Athens?	-----
30. compares the island to other islands in the area?	-----
31. includes the most information about the island's history?	-----
32. says that the island inspired an artist and their work?	-----
33. talks about the quality of the food on the island?	-----
34. recommends a good time to visit the island?	-----



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

35. In Text A, the best word to complete the first gap is
- a) served
  - b) overpriced
  - c) guaranteed
  - d) prepared
36. In Text A, the best word to complete the second gap is
- a) Essentially
  - b) Alternatively
  - c) Precisely
  - d) Personally
37. In Text B, the underlined word 'unspoiled' means the same as
- a) not providing required facilities
  - b) not to be overlooked by visitors
  - c) not easily discovered by tourists
  - d) not affected by development
38. In Text B, the best word to complete the gap is
- a) possible
  - b) mandatory
  - c) desirable
  - d) sufficient
39. In Text C, the underlined phrase 'take in' means the same as
- a) accept
  - b) appreciate
  - c) approach
  - d) approve
40. In Text C, the best word to complete the gap is
- a) result
  - b) impact
  - c) concern
  - d) reason

(14 marks)

END OF READING ASSESSMENT

DO NOT TURN OVER THE PAGE UNTIL INSTRUCTED

# HIPPO 2024

## Preliminary Round

## HIPPO 5-S4 Use of English MC Test V2

Time allowed: 30 minutes

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

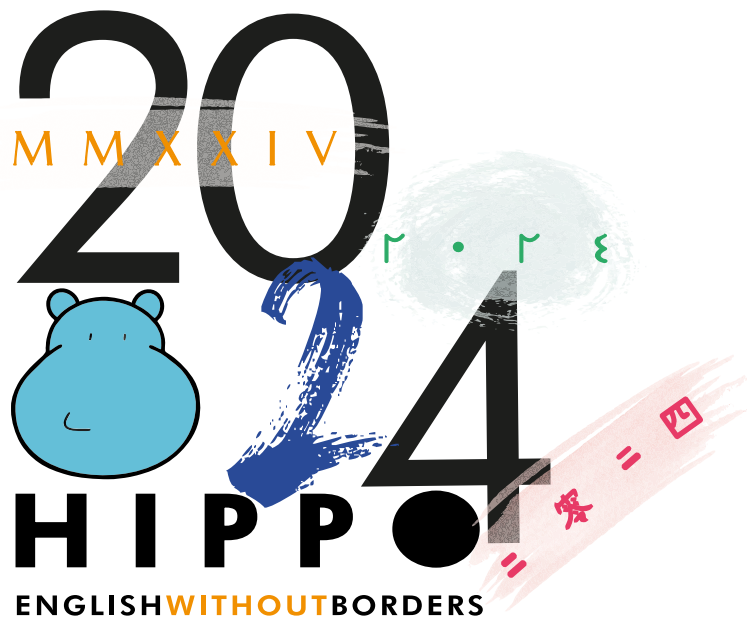
41. I can't find my keys anywhere. They \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) must be stolen      B) must have been stolen      C) must be stolen      D) ought to have been stolen
42. She \_\_\_\_\_ her phone in the car, so she had to go back to get it.
- A) left      B) leaves      C) had left      D) leaving
43. She is an expert in the field, \_\_\_\_\_ her success is well-deserved.
- A) although      B) so      C) but      D) yet
44. The manager requested that the staff \_\_\_\_\_ their opinions on the new policy.
- A) express      B) expressing      C) to express      D) expressed
45. The government's decision to \_\_\_\_\_ taxes has sparked public outcry.
- A) rise      B) eradicate      C) raise      D) escalate
46. The company is known for its \_\_\_\_\_ commitment to environmental sustainability.
- A) stringent      B) loose      C) strict      D) flexible
47. The new policy aims to increase \_\_\_\_\_ in government operations.
- A) lucidity      B) transparency      C) saneness      D) translucence
48. The manager \_\_\_\_\_ the importance of clear communication in the workplace.
- A) underscored      B) called attention      C) understated      D) emphasized
49. The novel is \_\_\_\_\_ with suspense and unexpected twists.
- A) filled      B) overfill      C) crowded      D) full

# HIPPO 2024

## Preliminary Round

## HIPPO 5-S4 Use of English MC Test V2

50. The teacher advised the students \_\_\_\_\_ too much time on one question.  
A) not spending      B) don't spend      C) to not spend      D) not to spend
51. The team members, \_\_\_\_\_ expertise varies widely, collaborated successfully on the project.  
A) that      B) whom      C) whose      D) who
52. The novel's plot is so \_\_\_\_\_ that the readers are kept guessing until the very end.  
A) intricate      B) rudimentary      C) banal      D) trifling
53. The government is taking measures to \_\_\_\_\_ unemployment.  
A) alleviate      B) aggravate      C) intensify      D) exacerbate
54. She \_\_\_\_\_ her car in the garage when the storm hit to avoid the damage.  
A) would park      B) can't have parked      C) should have parked      D) must have parked
55. The concert was cancelled \_\_\_\_\_ the sudden storm.  
A) due to      B) because      C) because off      D) owing to
56. The speaker encouraged the audience to \_\_\_\_\_ their opinions during the Q&A session.  
A) articulate      B) dialogue      C) express      D) convey
57. The government introduced measures to \_\_\_\_\_ the adverse effects of climate change.  
A) mitigate      B) better      C) deteriorate      D) intensify
58. The manager advised the team to \_\_\_\_\_ the client's feedback and make necessary changes.  
A) incorporate      B) exclude      C) omit      D) expel
59. The students were \_\_\_\_\_ to present their research findings at the international conference.  
A) selected      B) elected      C) chosen      D) picked
60. The research findings \_\_\_\_\_ that the hypothesis was incorrect.  
A) indicates      B) indicating      C) indicated      D) had indicated



## END OF ASSESSMENT

Remember to transfer your answers onto  
the answer sheet!