



HIPPO 2024 PRELIMINARY ROUND CANDIDATE BOOKLET

CEFR LEVEL **C1**
HIPPO CATEGORY **HIPPO S5**

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.

Glossary:

elasticity (noun) the quality that something has of being able to stretch and return to its original size and shape.

Do our noses and ears grow with age?

The 0) _____ that human ears and noses grow larger with age is a common belief, but the reality is more complex. While it may seem that elderly individuals often have larger noses and ears, the actual growth of these facial features is not a straightforward process simply 1) _____ to aging.

Firstly, let's address the 2) _____ about nose growth. The nose, composed mainly of cartilage and bone, undergoes changes throughout a person's lifetime. With age, the cartilage in the nose may lose elasticity and drop slightly, giving the appearance of a larger nose. Additionally, the skin around the nose may also become less elastic, further 3) _____ the perception of increased size. However, this change is 4) _____ and not a result of continuous, significant growth; rather it is a gradual, barely noticeable change.

Similarly, the belief that ears continue to grow with age has some 5) _____ in reality. The cartilage in the ears can lose elasticity over time due to a gradual reduction in collagen production. This can result in the ears appearing larger, especially in relation to other facial features. Genetics also play a role in the size and shape of ears, 6) _____ how they change over the years.

It's important to note that individual 7) _____ in facial aging exist, and not everyone will experience the same changes to their ears and noses 8) _____ they get older. Factors such as genetics, sun exposure, and overall skin health can affect the aging process of facial features.

While there is a 9) _____ of truth to the perception that noses and ears appear to grow larger with age, the actual growth is minimal and primarily 10) _____ to changes in the skin and cartilage. The aging process is complex and varies among individuals, making it 11) _____ to consider multiple factors when examining changes in facial features over time. 12) _____, the idea that ears and noses continue to grow significantly throughout a person's life is false, and the observed changes are more complicated.



- Example:** (a) notion b) detail c) excuse d) reason
1. a) matched b) tied c) compared d) applied
2. a) misconception b) difficulty c) component d) outcome
3. a) reversing b) replacing c) accelerating to d) contributing to
4. a) subtle b) neutral c) abrupt d) mutual
5. a) stance b) hope c) process d) basis
6. a) judging b) evolving c) perceiving d) influencing
7. a) complications b) innovations c) variations d) indications
8. a) within b) towards c) amid d) as
9. a) line b) phase c) degree d) promise
10. a) attributed b) restrained c) addressed d) interpreted
11. a) eligible b) insufficient c) feasible d) essential
12. a) Universally b) Ultimately c) Equally d) Incidentally

(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:

tame (verb) - to make a wild animal able to live with people safely

It's possible to have a lot of dogs over a long adult life and know even less about them at the end of it than when you started. They're all so different, almost like people. So, don't take this as a dog manual, more a selection of things I've learnt about how dogs act, which will hopefully make you a better, more knowledgeable dog companion.

Para. 2

The story of the origin of domestic dog used to be that humans, recognising the alert and protective capabilities of the wolf, simply tamed it. Then came another idea: that the animals recognised our resource wealth. We are always gathering food, making it nice, then throwing some of it away. So essentially, dogs 'tamed' us, by behaving in ways which the humans (GAP) ____ as 'cute'. Some scientists argue for 'co-evolution' - the theory that the two processes happened at the same time.

Dogs appear to be one of the most social animals that we have domesticated. Stanley Coren, a psychologist and the author of *The Intelligence of Dogs*, evaluated more than 1,000 dogs as part of his research. He found the five main traits we use to characterise people - how open, conscientious, extrovert, agreeable and stable you are - also appear in dogs. "Some dogs will go from being perfectly quiet and happy to growling and snapping, and that's very similar to the human traits of being stable or unstable," he says. "In theory, we can change each other, but in reality, you can't fight genes. Genes don't explain everything, but they load the dice."

Para. 4

Have you ever heard of 'dominance theory', also known as 'alpha male theory'? It says that dogs have to understand there is a hierarchy in which they are at the bottom and, (GAP) ____, shouldn't sleep in your bed or eat at the same time as you. This idea has been widely questioned by animal behaviourists. This is somewhat true because all animals have an understanding of who is best to avoid and who is best to challenge for food, but it's no truer of dogs than it would be of a bird or a rat. A dog fitting into a human household, after millions of years evolving to minimise aggression and obtain food, will have much more sophisticated relationships with humans.

Did you know that dogs are not complete carnivores and usually don't need as much protein as they get? As a result of the first misperception - that a perfect, "natural" dog diet is entirely meat - pet food has been developed to have way too much protein. A lot of popular brands are 40% protein, whereas adult dogs do best at about 18% and puppies at 22%. Too much protein can cause inflammation and damage their kidneys.

Para. 6

Another interesting question is around the dogs' intelligence. Border collies, for example, are renowned for their incredible skill sets, and their intellectual skills are often described in human terms, e.g. "as intelligent as a three-year-old". But when researchers analysed the DNA of the highly trained dogs, these breeds were simply more obedient than others. In other words, your own dog could probably herd sheep or sniff out drugs; it's just choosing not to. Your three-year-old, meanwhile, would be terrible at it.



Another question some people attempted to answer is whether your dog really can talk. So-called “button dogs” – often seen on social media – will, when put in front of a mat with buttons that say words, reliably hit “walk” or “treat” or “love”, to the GAP) ____ that it almost looks like they’ve learnt to communicate with their owners. A large-scale study that is under way at the University of California is already confident that the dogs don’t just press the buttons randomly. However, one of the researchers has warned: “We might be attributing too much to their understanding of these words. There is no evidence to suggest that dogs know “love” means love; they just know what the sound leads to, which in most cases is a treat.”

Para. 8

And finally, if your dog is trying to tell you something, don’t ignore it. Robert Alleyne, a dog behaviourist, explains: “We know for a fact that there are dogs who can detect epilepsy; there are cancer detection dogs.” This astonished the scientific community during Covid, when French researchers found that dogs were able to detect the virus in 97% of cases, which was higher than any of the 15 tests available at that time. Alleyne goes on to note that his dog could smell depression. “Whenever I felt down, I could see that he would recognise it. He would keep his head on my knee for an hour, GAP)___ he was saying that he understood.”

Example: This article is about

- a) different pets.
- b) pet dogs.
- c) wild animals.
- d) pet owners.

13. The author introduces this article as

- a) a short history of dog and human relationships.
- b) a guide to dog ownership for beginners.
- c) an overview of some facts about dog behaviour.
- d) a description of her adult life with dogs.

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

- a) perceived
- b) dictated
- c) reviewed
- d) assigned

15. What does the author say about how dogs began to live with humans?

- a) It’s not entirely clear how it happened.
- b) There is only one theory explaining it.
- c) A recent discovery explains this process.
- d) There isn’t sufficient data to form a theory.



16. In paragraph 3, the underlined phrase 'load the dice' means

- a) prevent from happening
- b) influence the outcome
- c) introduce variety
- d) make things fun

17. What does Stanley Coren say about dogs?

- a) They tend to be more stable than humans.
- b) They have fewer personality traits than humans.
- c) Their personality is constructed similarly to humans.
- d) Dogs are becoming less social over time.

18. In paragraph 4, the best option to complete the gap is

- a) moreover
- b) therefore
- c) in addition
- d) nevertheless

19. The 'alpha theory' in the context of domesticated dogs

- a) doesn't explain any dog behaviour.
- b) has damaged our relationship with dogs.
- c) is gaining a lot of popularity.
- d) only applies to a certain extent.

20. What does the text say about dogs' diet?

- a) Ideally, the diet should consist of meat.
- b) Modern food might cause health issues in dogs.
- c) Domestic dogs require less protein than wild animals.
- d) Dog food brands do not include enough protein in the food.

21. In paragraph 6, what is the main purpose of the underlined sentence?

- a) to make a joke
- b) to summarise a point
- c) to provide further detail
- d) to provide an alternative

22. What would be the best title for paragraph 6?

- a) Intelligent or just obedient?
- b) As smart as a toddler.
- c) How to train a dog.
- d) The many skills of a dog.



23. In paragraph 7, the best option to complete the gap is

- a) level
- b) area
- c) range
- d) point

24. The current experiments involving dogs pressing buttons have shown that

- a) dogs don't like learning new words.
- b) dogs know on average of three words.
- c) dogs can learn how to get what they want.
- d) dogs pressing the right buttons is a coincidence.

25. In paragraph 8, the best option to complete the gap is

- a) ever since
- b) while
- c) due to
- d) as if

26. What does Robert Alleyne say about dogs detecting illnesses?

- a) It would be unwise to rely on them.
- b) They can be surprisingly accurate.
- c) Only some dog breeds are capable of it.
- d) Not many illnesses can be detected by dogs.

(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 Harambee, Kenya

The unique tradition of moving a household by the whole community, called Harambee, is commonly practised in rural parts of Kenya when a family does not have enough money to pay professional movers. This old custom started generations ago (as far back as the late 19th century) to help low-income families in villages relocate between homes.

During a traditional Harambee, kind members of the community volunteer to help out for the day by transporting items for the neighbours who are moving. Some will take apart furniture, while others use vehicles if available, or simply carry household goods along local paths.

To Kenyans, Harambee represents the valued ideal of providing assistance and teamwork within their culture. But GAP) ___symbolising this belief, people enjoy these events as opportunities to unite around a shared goal, reconnect as a community, make new friendships, and strengthen their bonds through working together. Those receiving help one day are then expected to give back later on at others' Harambees.

Originating out of necessity, this practice has turned into an unofficial system of lending assistance between villagers. What started generations ago, now continues on as a time-honoured tradition tying the community together.

Text B Monkey Buffet Festival, Thailand

An unusual festival held every year in Lopburi, Thailand, Monkey Buffet Festival, highlights the country's cultural and religious respect for monkeys. This special event started in 1989, when a businessman put out fruit and vegetables to appease the huge groups of aggressive macaque monkeys that were overrunning the town and its ancient ruins.

To everyone's surprise, the feast calmed the unruly monkeys who proceeded to enjoy the offering without any fighting or harm. As news spread, sightseers began visiting to see monkeys peacefully feasting on grand vegetarian buffets laid out on banana leaves. Before long, the event grew into a cheerful festival drawing visitors from around the world.

Today, over 600 macaques come to downtown Lopburi's Phra Prang Sam Yod temple to eat fresh fruit, vegetables and treats intentionally offered to curb the raids on local homes and shops. While monkeys eagerly devour foods, pose for selfies and groom each other, crowds excitedly snap photos and take videos to share via social media.

The festival promotes the values of understanding and acceptance. By honouring Buddhist values of mercy and compassion, locals have turned former pests into welcome guests. They have now embraced this annual peace-making event as part of their cultural heritage.



Text C Skip the Salt, Egypt

The wave of health awareness building around 'Skip the Salt' in Egypt shows shifting views on food and wellness. Egypt has very high rates of heart disease, largely blamed on popular dishes high in salt, oil and fat. But these foods remain common because they are part of a cultural tradition and what people are familiar with.

Concerned, some Egyptian doctors started public campaigns telling restaurants, chefs and home cooks to limit salt without GAP 1) ___ flavour. While many first mocked the idea, attitudes began slowly changing when national celebrities publicly cut out salt and promoted low-salt Egyptian cooking.

Yearly 'Skip the Salt' festivals then started happening with renowned chefs, health experts and officials teaming up to make nutritious adaptations of dishes like koshari, molokhia, fatteh and kebabs. Instead of salt, they use herbs, spices, and vinegars to provide customary tastes minus the health risks, showing traditional plates can be modernised.

People who first made fun of the 'Skip the Salt' idea now praise these attempts to honour food traditions while also improving the understanding of health by younger generations. Community festivals help gradually introduce the concept of cutting back on salt around shared meals, which are GAP 2) ___ Egyptian culture. Egyptians still come together to enjoy their cuisine in celebration, but more and more opt not to shake on extra salt for better health.

Text D Cheese Rolling, England

The strange custom of cheese rolling held every spring in Brockworth, England, gives insight into the region's enjoyment of risky rural traditions going back hundreds of years. Every spring, hundreds of daring competitors gather along the very steep Cooper's Hill to chase after a giant round Double Gloucester cheese released to roll down the hill at speeds over 70 mph.

Though the officially organised cheese rolling events were ended by the local council in 2010 because of the inevitable injuries, some eager contestants refuse to let the tradition disappear. The informal event still attracts the brave individuals who readily throw themselves downhill after a tumbling cheese GAP) ___ the high risk of crashes. But for these fearless racers, the short-lived excitement of capturing runaway cheese before it reaches the hill's bottom is worth short-term bumps and bruises.

At today's community-hosted rolls, the casually dressed competitors stay as dedicated as ever to continuing the 250-year tradition. While safety critics still voice caution, cheese rolling remains cherished in Gloucester as a distinctly English test of endurance.



Which text...	Text
Example: describes a custom that takes place in Kenya?	A
27. describes a custom based around mutual support?	-----
28. highlights the dangers involved in participation?	-----
29. does NOT provide information about when the tradition started?	-----
30. describes a custom which has no practical value?	-----
31. says that the event attracts international interest?	-----
32. describes an event that continues despite a formal attempt to stop it?	-----
33. describes a concept which was originally criticised by some?	-----
34. emphasises the importance of finding solutions and the value of tolerance?	-----

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

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

- a) furthermore
- b) beyond
- c) secondly
- d) before

36. In Text B, the underlined word 'appease' means the same as

- a) to bring to a state of calm
- b) to make more enjoyable
- c) to remove forcefully
- d) to attract in high numbers

37. In Text B, the underlined word 'curb' means the same as

- a) encourage
- b) outlaw
- c) limit
- d) arrange



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

- a) adding
- b) losing
- c) doubling
- d) improving

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

- a) by heart
- b) with all your heart
- c) at the heart of
- d) a change of heart

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

- a) towards
- b) unlike
- c) whereas
- d) despite

(14 marks)

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

HIPPO 2024

Preliminary Round

HIPPO S5 Use of English MC Test V1

Time allowed: 30 minutes

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

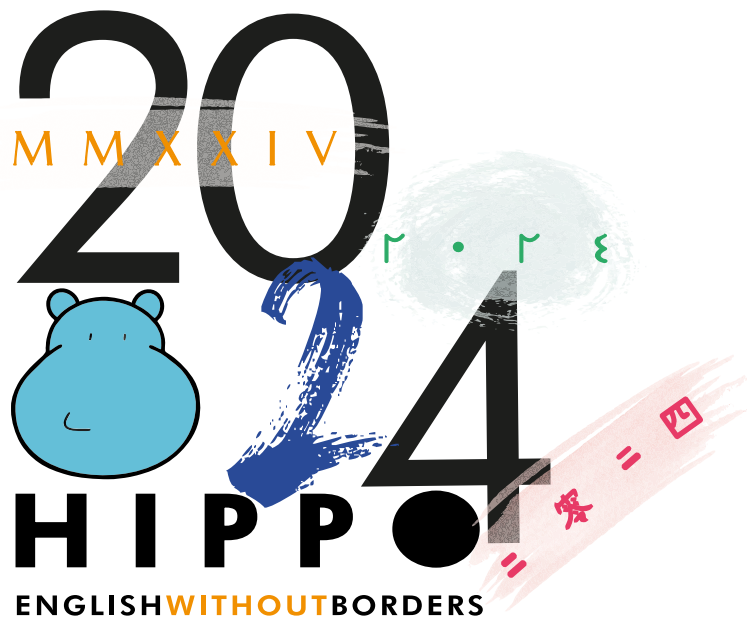
41. The company's success is largely attributed _____ its innovative approach.
A) with B) by C) to D) for
42. Despite the _____ weather, the team continued with the outdoor event.
A) inclement B) precocious C) mellow D) mellifluous
43. The detective quickly _____ the suspect's alibi as false.
A) inferred B) discerned C) insinuated D) perpetrated
44. The new law was implemented to _____ corporate transparency.
A) augment B) undermine C) enhance D) deteriorate
45. The concert was _____ by a standing ovation from the audience.
A) met B) acknowledged C) encountered D) greeted
46. The artist was known for her _____ use of colour in her paintings.
A) poignant B) eclectic C) austere D) tedious
47. It's essential to _____ your skills through continuous learning.
A) forsake B) blunt C) disregard D) hone
48. She insisted that she _____ the email before sending it to the client.
A) will proofread B) would proofread C) proofreads D) proofreading
49. The film was _____ for its thought-provoking storyline and outstanding performances.
A) acclaimed B) reproached C) condemned D) denounced

HIPPO 2024

Preliminary Round

HIPPO S5 Use of English MC Test V1

50. The artist's work is often characterized by its _____ style and bold use of colour.
A) traditional B) conventional C) avant-garde D) reactionary
51. The new policy aims to _____ discrimination in the workplace.
A) exacerbate B) perpetuate C) curb D) foster
52. The author's writing is known for its rich _____ and vivid descriptions.
A) imagery B) imitation C) symbolism D) metaphor
53. The committee will convene tomorrow to _____ the proposed changes.
A) discourse B) deliberate C) dialogue D) reflect
54. The novel is written in a _____ style that captivates readers from the first page.
A) gripping B) mundane C) prosaic D) lacklustre
55. The manager emphasized the need to _____ the team's efforts for a successful outcome.
A) sustain B) coordinate C) scrutinize D) collaborate
56. She is known for her ability to _____ complex ideas in a clear and concise manner.
A) confound B) obfuscate C) articulate D) mystify
57. The negotiations _____ a breakthrough when both parties reached a consensus.
A) culminated in B) were culminated C) peaked in D) climaxed in
with
58. The company's expansion plans were _____ by the economic downturn.
A) hampered B) handicapped C) facilitated D) impeded
59. The new policy is designed to _____ the gap between the rich and the poor.
A) elongate B) widen C) broaden D) narrow
60. The musician's talent _____ from others in the industry.
A) individualises him B) sets him apart C) differentiates him D) separates him



END OF ASSESSMENT

Remember to transfer your answers onto
the answer sheet!