



# **HIPPO 2021**

## **9<sup>th</sup> International English Language Olympiad**

**IESOL Assessment Reading**

RQF Level: Entry 3

(CEFR Level: B1)

**Candidate Booklet - Reading**

# **HIPPO 3**

**Semi-final Round**

### **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:** 40 minutes

**Total marks available:** 34



Read the text and choose the best option to complete each gap – a, b, c, or d.

**More than half of girls aged 12-16 don't play any sports**

According 0) \_\_\_\_\_ new research, more than half of teenage girls 1) \_\_\_\_\_ they do not play sport at all. Results out today also show that 1 in 3 girls drop out of sports around age 12.

So why is this happening? Girls say they drop out of sports for several 2) \_\_\_\_\_. 28 percent of those who stopped playing sports said they did so because they thought they weren't good enough, and 25 percent said they didn't feel 3) \_\_\_\_\_ to keep playing. Not thinking of sport as a priority also seemed to be a reason for two fifths of girls aged 12-16, who said focusing on schoolwork and studying took the 4) \_\_\_\_\_ of sport.

Two fifths of teenage girls don't feel 5) \_\_\_\_\_ their parents actually want them to play sports, backed up by the 6) \_\_\_\_\_ that more than 1 in 10 parents said that they are not sure if participating in sport is as important for girls as it is for boys.

As well as speaking to girls, the researchers spoke to adults too. They 7) \_\_\_\_\_ that 15% of adults think girls should concentrate on doing well at school and getting good grades 8) \_\_\_\_\_ than focusing on playing sport. And just under a quarter of parents said they believe that girls are less likely to become professional athletes than boys.

9) \_\_\_\_\_, the research also showed that more than six in 10 adults know that sport is important for girls. They also 10) \_\_\_\_\_ that it helps to improve skills such as confidence, dealing with stress, and social skills.

- Example:** a) to                      b) next                      c) in                      d) with
1.            a) refuse                      b) approve                      c) admit                      d) wonder
2.            a) suggestions                      b) reasons                      c) issues                      d) excuses
3.            a) encouraged                      b) promised                      c) reminded                      d) informed
4.            a) move                      b) spot                      c) area                      d) place
5.            a) like                      b) despite                      c) along                      d) if
6.            a) enquiry                      b) excuse                      c) promise                      d) fact
7.            a) exchanged                      b) invented                      c) discovered                      d) explored
8.            a) rather                      b) instead                      c) besides                      d) because
9.            a) Therefore                      b) However                      c) Otherwise                      d) Altogether
10.            a) realise                      b) deliver                      c) experience                      d) complain



## Reading Task 2

Read the text and answer the questions below. Choose the correct option, a, b, c, or d.

### Julia Donaldson

My name is Julia Donaldson and I am a British author of many picture books and children's books. I grew up in a tall Victorian terraced house in London with my parents, grandmother, aunt, uncle, younger sister Mary and our cat, named Geoffrey after my great-grandfather. We pretended that Geoffrey was really a prince, and Mary and I would argue about which of us would marry him.

I studied Drama and French at Bristol University, where I met Malcolm, a guitar-playing medic. Malcolm and I are now married. Before we had our family, we used to go busking together. Busking means performing music in public places, where people give you small amounts of money. I wrote special songs for each country; the best one was in Italian, about pasta.

Para. 3

The busking GAP) \_\_\_\_\_ a career in singing and song writing, mainly for children's television. I became an expert at writing to order on such subjects as guinea pigs, window cleaning and horrible smells. I had some very unusual requests from the TV producers. For example, they'd ask for a song about throwing a piece of crumpled up wrapping paper into the bin!

Para. 4

I also continued to write "grown-up" songs and perform them in clubs and on the radio. I have recently released two CDs of these songs. One of these, sung by Malcolm and called *Cochon Blues*, was played as one of my choices when I was on the Radio 4 programme, *Desert Island Discs*. Each week a guest, usually somebody well known, is asked to choose eight recordings, a book and a luxury item that they would take if they GAP) \_\_\_\_\_ to be taken to a desert island. As part of the programme, they discuss their lives and the reasons for their choices.

Para. 5

One day, one of my television songs, *A Squash and a Squeeze*, was made into a book. Axel Scheffler, a very talented illustrator, produced the drawings for the book. When the book was first published, I really enjoyed holding it in my hand. GAP) \_\_\_\_\_ songs, which kind of disappear as soon as you've finished playing them, a book is an object you can take home with you. This encouraged me to find some old plays I'd written for a school reading group. I showed them to some people, and since then I've had 46 plays published. I'm very proud of my plays and how they help children. Because most children love acting, plays are an incredible way to improve their reading skills.



My really big achievement was when I wrote *The Gruffalo* story, again illustrated by Axel. We don't work from the same office - he's based in London and I live in Glasgow. But he sends me letters with lovely funny pictures on the envelopes! People think it's tricky to work together when you rarely meet, but we often speak and exchange emails, and it seems to work very well.

Para. 7

I also really enjoy writing verse, (GAP) \_\_\_\_\_ it can be extremely difficult. I used to memorise poems as a child, and it means a lot to me when parents tell me their child can recite one of my books. Funnily enough, I find it even harder to not write in verse, though I feel I'm now getting the hang of it! *The Giants and the Joneses* is a novel for 7-11-year-olds, and I have written three books of stories about a princess who appears from the mirror and tries to make the life of an eight-year-old girl super-fun. For teenagers there is a novel called *Running on the Cracks*.

When I'm not writing I am often performing, at book festivals and in theatres. I really enjoy getting the children in the audience to help me act out the stories and sing the songs. Malcolm almost always comes too, with his guitar, and it feels as if we've come full circle - back to busking.

**Example: Julia Donaldson is:**

- a) a writer.
- b) an illustrator.
- c) a university student.
- d) a university teacher.

**11. As a child, Julia lived with Geoffrey, who was:**

- a) her grandfather.
- b) a pet.
- c) her friend.
- d) a prince.

**12. When did Julia get to know her husband?**

- a) When she was busking.
- b) When she was a student.
- c) At a music event.
- d) At a work event.



**13. In paragraph 3, the best phrase to complete the gap is:**

- a) made up
- b) called for
- c) went to
- d) led to

**14. Why did Julia write songs about unusual subjects?**

- a) Because she really enjoyed it.
- b) Because her employers asked for them.
- c) Because she had previous experience.
- d) Because children found it funny.

**15. *Cochon Blues* is the title of:**

- a) a song.
- b) a singer.
- c) a music band.
- d) a radio show.

**16. In paragraph 4, the best word to complete the gap is:**

- a) were
- b) be
- c) would
- d) was

**17. In paragraph 5, the best word to complete the gap is:**

- a) Besides
- b) Despite
- c) Unlike
- d) Except

**18. Julia wrote her first play:**

- a) after she had her first child.
- b) when she was still at school.
- c) at the age of forty-six.
- d) after her first book was published.

**19. Julia believes that plays help children to:**

- a) become better at reading.
- b) improve their memory.
- c) increase their confidence.
- d) become better actors.



**20. What does Julia say about working with Axel?**

- a) They prefer to speak rather than email.
- b) The distance between them is not an issue.
- c) It'd be easier to work from the same place.
- d) They have never met face to face.

**21. In paragraph 7, the best phrase to complete the gap is:**

- a) moreover
- b) therefore
- c) even though
- d) otherwise

**22. In paragraph 7, the underlined phrase 'to get the hang of it' means the same as:**

- a) try and get help with doing something
- b) manage to avoid doing something
- c) feel the enjoyment of doing something
- d) start to learn the skills needed to do something



## Reading Task 3

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

### Text A: Cats

Did you know that cats dream? You may have guessed this if you have seen a cat twitch their body and face while they sleep. They dream similarly to humans.

GAP) \_\_\_\_\_ cats fall into deep, dreamy sleeps, they are known to be able to wake up instantly. This is because in the wild, cats always have to be ready to run or fight. Cats are also nocturnal, meaning that they prefer to sleep during the day and be awake at night. In the wild, during the night is the best time to find food.

It's not unusual for adult cats to have between 15 and 20 hours of sleep per day. Don't be fooled into thinking cats sleep a solid 15-20 hours though. There is a reason why quick naps are called 'catnaps.' A catnap usually lasts about fifteen minutes to half an hour and makes up a large chunk of a cat's sleep pattern.

### Text B: Elephants

The world's largest land animal only sleeps between three and four hours a day, and that sleeping is done at night, GAP 1) \_\_\_\_\_ the day free. Elephants need to be awake for a long period of time because their large size means that they have to eat a lot of food - they can spend up to 18 hours feeding!

Elephants can sleep standing up and like to lean GAP 2) \_\_\_\_\_ trees or termite mounds. It may look strange to us, but elephants don't lay on their sides because their heavy weight might crush their own organs! This is why baby elephants, who don't weigh as much, are more likely to sleep laying down on the ground.

### TEXT C: Chimpanzees

Chimps love comfort and will often use their hands and smart brains to make comfy nests to sleep in. In the wild, they will line their nests with leaves, or whatever they are lucky enough to find, to make them extra comfy. Chimpanzees build their beds - called nests - in tree canopies using branches that they harvest from specific tree species. They spend about eight to nine hours a night on these platforms.

Furthermore, chimps are quite picky when it comes to choosing the right spot to sleep in. This is because in the wild, they also have to think about staying safe from potential predators (animals higher up in the chain that hunt for and feed on other animals). Chimps will also curl up like humans while they sleep.



Which text does the following?		Text
<b>Example</b>	Describes the sleeping pattern of a common pet.	A
23.	Describes an animal that sleeps for the shortest time a day.	-----
24.	Does NOT compare the animal to people.	-----
25.	Says that grown up and young animals sleep differently.	-----
26.	Says that the animal makes small movements when it sleeps.	-----
27.	Says that the animal takes great care to create its sleeping area.	-----
28.	Says that the animal has lots of short sleeps across the day.	-----
29.	Says that the animal spends more time eating than asleep.	-----
30.	Mentions that the animal uses its intelligence.	-----

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

**31. In Text A, the best option to complete the gap is:**

- a) Despite
- b) Because
- c) However
- d) Although

**32. In Text A, the underlined word 'instantly' means the same as:**

- a) properly
- b) very quickly
- c) obviously
- d) exactly

**33. In Text B, the best word to complete the first gap is:**

- a) reserving
- b) requiring
- c) creating
- d) leaving

**34. In Text B, the best word to complete the second gap is:**

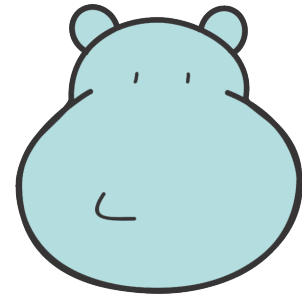
- a) against
- b) away
- c) among
- d) across

# HIPPO 2021

Semifinal Round

HIPPO 3 Writing Test

Time allowed: 45 minutes



Candidate Number

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Date of Birth

D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y

**1. It is better for children to grow up in the countryside than in a big city. Do you agree or disagree? (Write about 80 words.)**

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**2. Write one word in each gap.**

1. I am very good \_\_\_\_\_ Physics.
2. He runs very \_\_\_\_\_, my tortoise is faster than him.
3. I \_\_\_\_\_ never eaten sushi before we went to that restaurant last week.
4. She \_\_\_\_\_ used to wear red clothes when she was young, she really hated that colour.
5. Where is the broom? It is \_\_\_\_\_ the back of the cupboard.
6. If you want to do it the right way, you have to do it \_\_\_\_\_. Nobody else can do it like you.
7. Don't worry. I can \_\_\_\_\_ you money. You can give it back in two weeks.
8. There is a wide \_\_\_\_\_ zone in the city centre. No vehicles are allowed there.
9. Are you ok? No, I have a \_\_\_\_\_ throat and my nose is runny.
10. Our team played very \_\_\_\_\_ but we lost in the end.

Candidate Number

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Date of Birth

D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y

11. He is looking \_\_\_\_\_ to spending some time on his own.
12. Where is the \_\_\_\_\_? I want to change the channel but I don't want to get up.
13. Hippo organisation was \_\_\_\_\_ 10 years ago.
14. The person who makes things out of wood is called \_\_\_\_\_.
15. Fred is having second \_\_\_\_\_ about getting married.

**3. Use the correct verb form.**

16. He \_\_\_\_\_ (be) to Mexico before.
17. She \_\_\_\_\_ (see) many films over the last year.
18. Before I arrived home, I \_\_\_\_\_ (call) my mother.
19. Once you \_\_\_\_\_ (do) your homework, you can go and play with your friends.
20. So, Mr. Jenkins, what \_\_\_\_\_ (do) yesterday at 6PM?
21. We have always grown rice, but this year we \_\_\_\_\_ (grow) potatoes.
22. Who \_\_\_\_\_ (this book belong)?
23. What \_\_\_\_\_ (smell) so nice?
24. I can't stand him. He \_\_\_\_\_ (always / pick) his nose.
25. Lately, I \_\_\_\_\_ (be) under the weather.

**4. Correct or incorrect? If the sentence is incorrect, correct it on the line next to it.**

26. This pants are not my size. \_\_\_\_\_
27. He lied on the ground. \_\_\_\_\_
28. I didn't go to school for the last two months. \_\_\_\_\_
29. But I do like beans. I really do. \_\_\_\_\_
30. He slammed the door and left, never to return again. \_\_\_\_\_



# HIPPO 3 - B1 READING ANSWER SHEET - HIPPO Preliminary Round 2021

## Reading Task 1

Question	Answer	Question	Answer
1.	C	8.	D
2.	B	7.	C
3.	A	8.	A
4.	D	9.	B
5.	A	10.	A

**Total: / 10**

## Reading Task 2

Question	Answer	Question	Answer
11.	B	17.	C
12.	B	18.	B
13.	D	19.	A
14.	B	20.	B
15.	A	21.	C
16.	A	22.	D

**Total: / 12**

## Reading Task 3

Question	Answer
23	B
24	B
25.	B
26.	A
27.	C
28.	A
29.	B
30.	C
31.	D
32.	B
33.	D
34.	A

**Task Total: / 12**

## Hippo 2021 SF Round Writing Hippo 3 Key

1. At
2. Slowly
3. Had
4. Never
5. In
6. Yourself
7. Lend
8. Pedestrian
9. Sore
10. Well
11. Forward
12. Remote
13. Founded / started
14. carpenter
15. Thoughts
16. Has been
17. Has seen
18. Had called
19. Have done
20. Were you doing
21. Are growing
22. Who does this belong to?
23. Smells
24. Is always picking
25. Have been
26. This – these
27. Lied – lay
28. Didn't go – haven't been
29. C
30. C