

International ESOL
English for Speakers of Other
Languages
Communicator Level – B2
Practice Paper 1



Time allowed: 2 hours and 30 minutes

- Listening
- Reading
- Writing

Listening Part 1

You will hear eight short unfinished conversations. Choose the **best reply** to continue the conversation. Put a circle round the letter of the **best reply**. First, look at the example. You will hear the conversations once only.

Example:

Speaker 1: Are you sure this one will fit into the room?
Speaker 2: It's no bigger than the one we have now.
Speaker 1: You really should measure it.
Speaker 2:

- a) Why are you so surprised?
- ☒ b) You worry too much.
- c) I'll change it after I finish this one.
- d) I have it right here.

1.
 - a) You'll need a doctor's note.
 - b) You could do much better.
 - c) Don't be afraid of it.
 - d) That's not reasonable.
2.
 - a) We'll need to organise the event.
 - b) They won't all fit in at the same time.
 - c) That's the best idea so far today.
 - d) We could try giving better directions.
3.
 - a) I'm not keen on having another.
 - b) But I have to go to work now.
 - c) I'll make time for you.
 - d) But I want to order it now.
4.
 - a) It seems an impossible job.
 - b) I know. I didn't believe them either.
 - c) You could see how it was done.
 - d) I know. I really felt I was there.
5.
 - a) You're bound to add more.
 - b) OK, but that's it. I'm off now.
 - c) I'll get quite a bit, then.
 - d) See you next week, then.
6.
 - a) I'll have to write it down.
 - b) Sorry, I don't understand your problem.
 - c) Perhaps we'll find it somewhere.
 - d) Sorry. I get what you mean.

7. a) Sorry, she's out all day today.
 b) Could you tell me who you need to see?
 c) Could you hold, please, and I'll check?
 d) Sorry, but it's an expensive call.
8. a) We've not met for ages.
 b) It's always a pleasure.
 c) I'm a lot older too.
 d) I've heard all about you.

(Total: 8 marks)

Listening Part 2

You will hear three conversations. Listen to the conversations and answer the questions below. Put a circle round the letter of the correct answer. You will hear each conversation once only. Look at the questions for Conversation One.

Conversation 1

- 1.1 The man and woman are
- a) buying a house.
 - b) planning a garden.
 - c) looking for a new hobby.
 - d) discussing cookery.
- 1.2 The man is
- a) excited.
 - b) frightened.
 - c) annoyed.
 - d) surprised.

Conversation 2

- 2.1 The speakers are talking about
- a) a murder.
 - b) a mugging.
 - c) shoplifting.
 - d) a burglary.
- 2.2 The man and woman
- a) work together.
 - b) live together.
 - c) are neighbours.
 - d) are teachers.

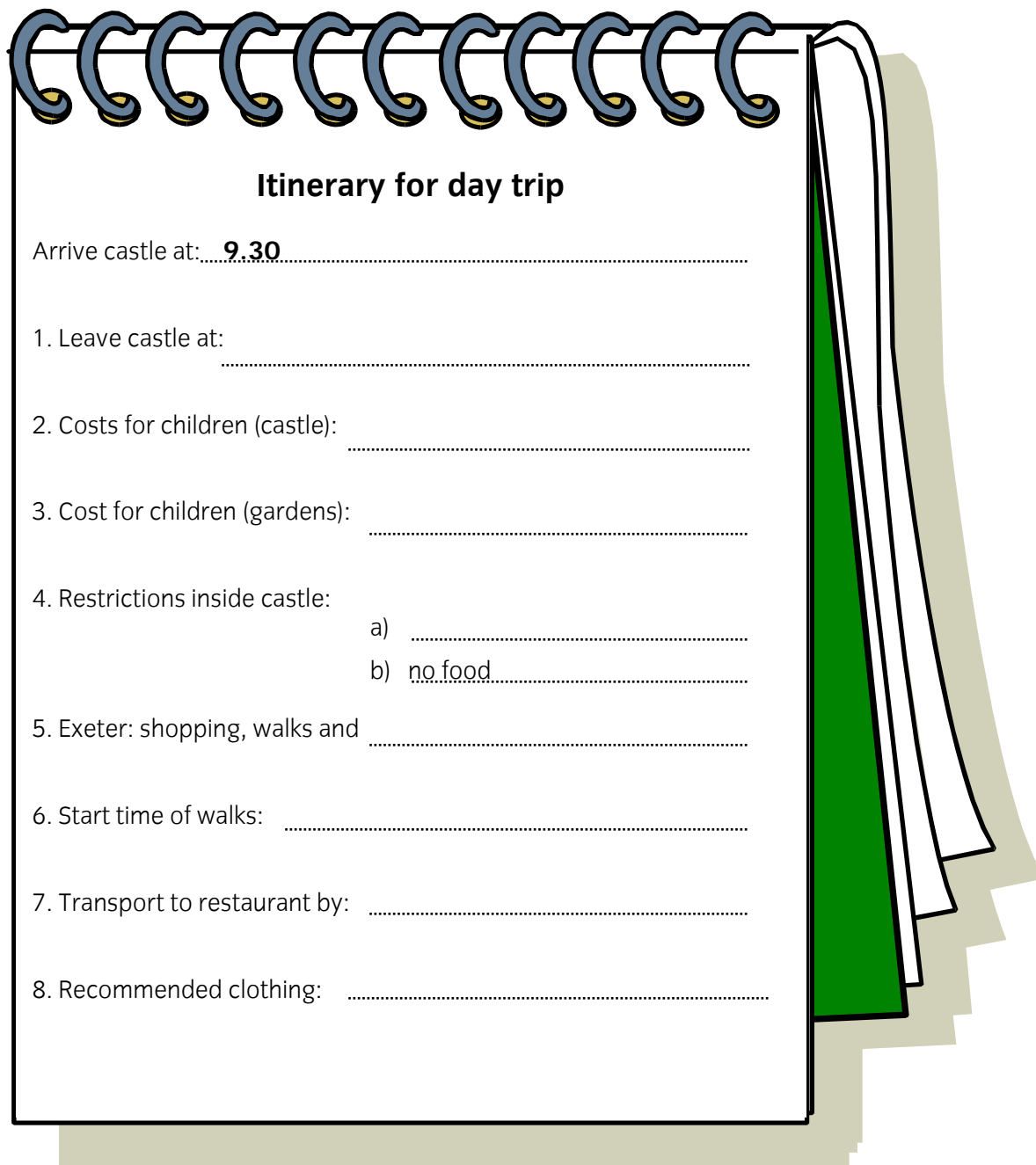
Conversation 3

- 3.1 The man is
- a) in a chemist's shop.
 - b) in a shoe shop.
 - c) at a doctor's surgery.
 - d) in a clothes shop.
- 3.2 The woman is
- a) offering congratulations.
 - b) giving advice.
 - c) paying a compliment.
 - d) giving praise.

(Total: 6 marks)

Listening Part 3

Listen to the message about a day trip. Write **short** notes (1-5 words). First, look at the notepad. An example is done for you. You will hear the message once only.



Itinerary for day trip

Arrive castle at: **9.30**

1. Leave castle at:

2. Costs for children (castle):

3. Cost for children (gardens):

4. Restrictions inside castle:

a)

b) no food

5. Exeter: shopping, walks and

6. Start time of walks:

7. Transport to restaurant by:

8. Recommended clothing:

(Total: 8 marks)

Listening Part 4

Listen to the conversation and answer the questions. Put a circle round the letter of the correct answer. First, look at the questions. An example is done for you. You will hear the conversation twice.

Example:

John will be having dinner

- a) at home with his parents.
- ☒ b) at a friend's house.
- c) at the cinema.
- d) at work.

1. What would John's father like his son to take more seriously?
 - a) Football.
 - b) Family life.
 - c) Education.
 - d) Food.
2. John and his parents live in
 - a) an urban area.
 - b) a suburban area.
 - c) a remote area.
 - d) a rural area.
3. John's father initially thinks that buying his son a car is
 - a) a terrible idea.
 - b) an impossibility.
 - c) an absurd idea.
 - d) a waste of time.
4. John's mother considers her son to be
 - a) energetic.
 - b) studious.
 - c) lazy.
 - d) sociable.
5. John's mother changed her mind about the car because
 - a) John can persuade her very easily.
 - b) John gave good reasons to have one.
 - c) She thinks in the same way.
 - d) She's always a good listener.

6. Why doesn't John have a part-time job?
- a) He's always doing something.
 - b) He has to study all the time.
 - c) He doesn't have transport.
 - d) He doesn't need the money.
7. John's mother is in favour of
- a) buying a cheap car.
 - b) lending John her car.
 - c) buying an economical car.
 - d) giving John money to buy a car.
8. What must John do before he gets a car?
- a) Pass his final school exams.
 - b) Learn about car maintenance.
 - c) Get accepted at university.
 - d) Pass his driving test and get a job.

(Total: 8 marks)

Reading Part 1

Read the text and complete the tasks that follow. Choose a, b, c or d. Put a circle round the most appropriate answer. An example is done for you.

Lottery winners who lose their millions

For a lot of people, winning the lottery is a dream come true. But for many, the reality is more like a nightmare.

Evelyn Adams won \$5.4 on the New Jersey lottery in 1986. Today the money is all gone and Adams lives in a trailer.

'Everybody wanted my money. I never learned to say 'No.' I wish I had the chance to do it all over again. I'd be much smarter about it now. I was a big-time gambler,' admits Adams. 'I made mistakes, some I regret, some I don't. I can't go back now so I just go forward, one step at a time.'

William 'Bud' Post won \$16.2 million in the Pennsylvania lottery in 1988.

'I wish it never happened. It was totally a nightmare,' says Post.

A former girlfriend successfully sued him for a share of his winnings, a brother was arrested for hiring a hit man to kill him, hoping to inherit a share of the winnings. Other siblings persuaded him to invest in a car showroom and a restaurant, both of which failed through his mismanagement and further strained family relationships.

Post now lives quietly on \$450 a month, having lost virtually all his money.

Ken Proxmire was a machinist when he won \$1 million in the Michigan lottery. He moved to California and went into the car business with his brothers. Within five years, he had filed for bankruptcy.

'He was just a poor boy who got lucky and wanted to take care of everybody,' explains Ken's son Rick.

'It was a hell of a good ride for three or four years, but now he lives more simply working as a machinist,' says his son.

These sad-but-true tales are not uncommon, says Susan Bradley, a certified financial planner. 'There is a widely held belief that money solves problems. But people soon learn that money can cause as many problems as it solves,' she says.

Bradley recommends taking time out from making any financial decisions. 'It's a time to think things through, sort things out and only then to seek an advisory team to help make those important financial choices,' she says.

'You really don't want to buy a new house before taking the time to think about what the consequences are. People don't realise how much it costs to live in a big house – decorators, furniture, taxes, insurance, even utility costs are greater. People need a reality check before they sign the contract.'

Example:

For many lottery winners, the dream

- a) *can become reality.*
- ☒ b) *is not always a good one.*
- c) *is better than they imagined.*
- d) *can remain just a dream.*

1. For Evelyn, winning the lottery
 - a) has taught her a lot about life.
 - b) was the best thing to happen to her.
 - c) brought her closer to her family.
 - d) is something she regrets.
2. William Post's ex-girlfriend
 - a) was taken to court by him.
 - b) bought the winning lottery ticket.
 - c) stole some of his money.
 - d) took legal action against him.
3. Post lost a lot of his money because
 - a) he wasn't a good businessman.
 - b) his brothers and sisters tricked him.
 - c) he got on badly with his family.
 - d) he gave too much of it away.
4. According to Ken Proxmire's son, his father was
 - a) not used to having money.
 - b) lucky throughout his life.
 - c) too concerned about others.
 - d) rich for about five years.
5. Susan Bradley thinks lottery winners should begin by
 - a) developing a financial partnership.
 - b) starting financial planning.
 - c) not asking experts to help them.
 - d) thinking instead of spending.
6. The article shows that money
 - a) can with wisdom bring happiness.
 - b) often leads to problems.
 - c) brings out the best in people.
 - d) is best invested in business.

(Total: 6 marks)

Reading Part 2

Read the text and fill the gaps with sentences A - H. Write the letter of the missing sentence in the box in the correct gap. There are two extra sentences you will not need.

England's disappearing coastline

Explore north-east Norfolk before the tide comes in. It's from the top of Horsey Mill that the problem becomes apparent. 1. The artificially raised dunes along the coast provide little protection for land lower than the waves that rage at its door.

Depending on whom you believe, this 25-square-mile triangle of north-east Norfolk will be reclaimed by the North Sea in 20-50 years' time 2. Even worse, some experts believe that the sea could come in at any time and flood it.

Up the road is Waxham Great Barn. 3. It is possibly the longest thatched barn in Britain, sitting in the valley surrounded by ancient woodland, home to a colony of Natterer's bats. House martins swoop overhead as I sip. This has to be the most magnificent setting for a teashop anywhere in the land. 4. In this beautiful spot, peace and quiet reign.

But the sea is ever present. 5. Earlier I went for a stroll along a wonderfully deserted sandy beach. The dunes are so precarious, the paths along them have been closed. 6.

- A Here, the green of the fields lies as flat as the blue of the meres: you could iron a shirt on it.
- B I can hear the long, withdrawing roar of waves a quarter of a mile away from my campsite.
- C It was built with the stone of three old monasteries to create something resembling a cathedral.
- D This made me realise just how much damage has already been done.
- E Maintaining the nine miles of defenses after then is apparently unsustainable.
- F Nevertheless, I was unprepared to witness the full extent of the sea's destructive power.
- G If this isn't what the English countryside should be, I don't know what is.
- H What appears at first sight to be a little piece of paradise is consequently a disaster waiting to happen.

(Total: 6 marks)

Reading Part 3

Read the four texts below. There are ten questions about the texts. Decide which text A, B, C or D tells you the answer to the question. The first one is done for you.

A

The fascination with medieval Islamic architecture that pervades paintings such as John Frederick Lewis's *The Bezestein Bazaar of El Khan Khalil, Cairo* (1872) makes for superb portrayals of some of the world's great urban spaces. His watercolours are incredibly fine notations of the stucco-work and the tiles, lattices and niches that make Islamic architecture in many ways the most beautiful ever created. It is hard to discern any underlying imperial disdain. None of these painters is a great artist, and yet the exhibition is full of great art.

B

£10 (£9 Senior Citizen, £8 Student/Job Seeker/Child 12-18 yrs/Disabled concessions)
Free for Tate Members
Book online with Tate or call 020 7887 8888

Tickets for special exhibitions can be bought at Tate Britain or Tate Modern seven days a week from 10.00 to 17.00, with late opening until 21.00 at Tate Modern on Friday and Saturday.

There is no booking fee when you buy tickets in person at the galleries. We do however encourage you to purchase tickets in advance online.

C

I've bought our tickets for the exhibition so that we don't have to queue this evening. I'm good, aren't I?

Anyway, I'll meet you at the Gallery restaurant, near Tate Britain, at 6.30 pm. That way we can have dinner before we catch the late showing which is open until 9pm tonight. The restaurant is meant to be really good! I think an hour and a half should give us enough time to see the art work, don't you? See you later.

D

Thank you for your query about future exhibitions on analogous themes to the 'Orient' one. I'm afraid that there are none planned at present. However, I added you to our mailing list, so you will be informed of all forthcoming events.

We greatly welcome feedback from visitors, and wondered if you wish to contribute to our monthly newsletter. You might be interested to know that there are special concessions for 'Friends of the Tate' who assist us in this way.

Which text:

1. provides information about opening times?
2. invites the public's opinions?
3. refers to more than one gallery?
4. describes the subject matter of the works?
5. indicates where you can see the exhibition?

B

Which text provides the answers to the following questions?

6. What is the best way to ensure entry to the exhibition?
7. What's the best way to learn about future exhibitions?
8. Which materials were used in the paintings?
9. How long does it take to see the exhibition?
10. How can you show your support for the gallery?

(Total: 9 marks)

Reading Part 4

Read the text and answer the questions. **Write a maximum of five words for each answer.**
An example is done for you.

How much faster can humans run?

When Usain Bolt, a 21-year-old Jamaican, smashed the world 100-metres record in the Beijing Olympic Final in 2008, it was the 18th time the record had been legally broken since an American called Don Lippincott ran 10.6 seconds in 1912, and the 8th new 100 metres record set since 1991. The 10-second barrier was broken in 1968, the 9.90 barrier in 1991, and the 9.80 barrier in 1999. Now, with the record standing at 9.69, the 9.70 barrier has also been broken.

The best sprinters are running, albeit briefly, at about 26-27mph. The title of 'fastest man in the world' is traditionally held by the 100-metre world record holder, but one scientific form of reckoning bestows that title on the former 200-metre runner Michael Johnson, whose performance in setting the world record of 19.32 sec at the 1996 Olympics produced an average speed of 23.15mph (compared with Bolt's 23.02mph in his record-breaking run). In terms of peak speed, Canada's Donovan Bailey is credited with the record, hitting 27.07mph in winning the 100m title at the 1996 Olympics in a then world record of 9.84 sec.

The days when 100-metre runners used to knock a tenth of a second off the world record – as Jesse Owens did in running 10.2 sec in 1936 – are long gone. The record has been creeping down in hundredths of second since Jim Hines became the first man to break 10 seconds in 1968, winning the Olympic title in 9.95 sec.

Ben Johnson was infamously stripped of his 1988 Olympic 100-metre title – and world record of 9.79 sec – for taking banned steroids, leaving Carl Lewis to take the gold. It took another 11 years for another man to equal Johnson's Olympic time – Maurice Greene, who retired in 2007 after winning world and Olympic titles, but recently had to deny accusations that he had used drugs. Meanwhile, Bolt responded to the obvious question that followed his world record by saying that he had never taken any performance-enhancing drugs.

Improvements in track surfaces and running shoes have certainly helped athletes go faster in the last 20 years, as have advances in training methods and nutrition. Nevertheless, it is generally agreed that 30mph is the likely limit for humans as things stand. What might yet push human beings beyond that limit, however, is gene therapy. As recent experiments with mice have demonstrated, this rapidly growing technology can produce profound improvements in strength, speed and endurance. It's scary stuff.

Had Jesse Owens been able to take advantage of the advances in physiology, nutrition, training, footwear and track surfaces, you fancy he would have been up there with the best in today's sprinting scene.

Example:

How many times has the 100m record been broken since 1912?

18 / eighteen

1. What unofficial 'title' does Michael Johnson hold?

2. Who reached the highest speed in a race?

3. By how much did Jessie Owens break the world record?

4. Who is the 1988 Olympics 100-metre title holder?

5. When was Ben Johnson's discredited 'record' matched?

6. What do some people suspect about Maurice Greene?

7. Name two things that have helped improve times legally.

8. What do experts believe gene therapy might affect?

9. How would Jessie Owens perform alongside today's top athletes?

(Total: 9 marks)
(Total marks for Reading: 30)

Write an **email** of application for the following job:

- Write between 100 and 150 words.*

Apply to Mr Green (Manager): jgreen@sunnybay.com

Your friend wants you to go on holiday together but it's to a place you're not keen on. Write a **letter** persuading your friend to go somewhere **you'd** like to go to.

End of Examination