IESOL Assessment Reading

RQF Level: Level 1

(CEFR Level: B2)

Candidate Booklet – Reading

SAMPLE 1

The following details must be completed:

Candidate Name:		
Candidate Date of Birth:	DD / MM / YYYY	
Centre Name:		
Examination Date & Time:	DD / MM / YYYY	HH:MM

SAMPLE

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANDIDATES:

- Do NOT turn over the page until instructed.
- This examination is made up of 3 TASKS.
- Answer all the questions.
- If you change your mind about an answer, initial your corrections.
- Use only black or blue PEN.
- Dictionaries are NOT allowed.

Time allowed: 50 minutes **Total marks available:** 22

GA USE ONLY:

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.

UK Children Reading Too Early

Children **0)** _____ too young to learn to read when they first start school in the UK, an academic claims.

Pushing young pupils too hard could put them off for life, especially boys, says Professor Lilian Smith. She believes government plans to teach children to read even earlier, at pre-school, are a **1)** _____. Dr Smith, a professor of education at the University of Michigan, thinks policy makers are pushing children too hard too early. Most children in the UK start learning to read and write when they start primary school – often before their fifth birthday. In Scandinavian countries, formal teaching begins much **2)** _____, usually when children are six or seven.

Dr Smith said there was a danger that the British model could put children off reading for life if pupils were forced to learn before they were **3)** _____. She said: "The evidence we have, so far, is that, if you start formal teaching of reading very early, children do well in tests, but when you follow them on to the age of 11 or 12, they don't do any better than those who had a more **4)** _____ approach".

She suggests a more informal approach, which supports children's "natural curiosity", is much better and gives the example of **5)** _____ going to visit a local bakery and then writing down what they have seen and experienced. Dr Smith also emphasises that English is a very difficult language to learn. "Some people think that because English is so difficult you need to start early but that's wrong. If it is so difficult, **6)** _____ until they're older and do it in a natural context - where they see things and write them down. Children should be introduced to the alphabet at the age of about five-and-a-half in an ideal world," said Dr Smith.

Example:	a) is	b) are	c) be	d) believe
1.	a) good idea	b) difficulty	c) correction	d) mistake
2.	a) easier	b) sooner	c) later	d) faster
3.	a) taught	b) unprepared	c) complete	d) ready
4.	a) relaxed	b) formal	c) early	d) structured
5.	a) advice	b) doctors	c) children	d) workers
6.	a) wait	b) teach	c) stay	d) explain

(6 marks)

SAMPLE

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.

Dear Library User

We are writing to give you some information about how to borrow library items during the summer holiday period. Our staff will be working throughout the summer to help all users renew and return library items.

Opening hours: Except for in unforeseen circumstances, the library building will be open 24 hours a day as normal throughout the summer holidays. You can return books in person at any time via the book returns slots, which are located near the main entrance to the library. The Help Desk will be staffed 9am - 5pm on weekdays (with the exception of Bank Holidays).

Taking library items overseas: When you borrow books from the library, you are responsible for returning them before the due date or extending the loan period to keep the books for an extended time. If you take library items overseas, you must ensure that you renew the loan and can return them on time. You can renew the items online. Alternatively, you can contact the Help Desk via telephone.

Renewals and fines: During the holiday period all users are liable for the same overdue fines as in term time. Remember that books may be renewed (online, by phone or in person) if:

- the book is not reserved by another user
- the borrower does not owe the Library more than £10 - borrower accounts are blocked when the level of fines reaches £10

Fines will accrue at a rate of 20p per day per loan item once the due date has passed.
Please think about this carefully and ask Help Desk staff for advice before leaving on holiday.

Returning books reserved by another user: If another borrower has reserved a book you have taken away with you during the holiday, the loan period cannot be extended. In order to avoid fines, you will need to make arrangements to return books to campus. If you are not in the country, you can return books using a postal service.

We recommend that you obtain postal insurance to cover damage or loss of books. Remember, you are responsible for loaned items until they are safely returned to the library.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind you about the Annual Book Fair, which will be taking place during the last weekend of the summer holiday. Tickets are now available to purchase online on the University's website. Each ticket entitles you to a 20% discount on one purchase. Don't miss this opportunity to get a selection of some truly great reads at competitive prices!

Enjoy your holidays!

The Library Team

Example: This letter has been written to:

a) library users.
b) library staff.
c) international students only.
d) the library manager.

1) The aim of the letter is to:

a) discourage students from using the library during the summer holidays.
b) invite students to make suggestions about library opening hours.
c) clarify how the library is going to operate during the summer holidays.
d) notify library users of increased fines.

2) During the summer holiday, library users will be able to return books:

a) whenever they want to.
b) between 9-5 on weekdays only.
c) on weekdays and bank holidays.
d) between 9-5 seven days a week.

3) Library users are advised:

a) not to take library items out of the country.
b) that library items do not need to be returned during the summer.
c) that loan periods have been extended to the autumn.
d) to make use of the online renewal system.

4) If a book loan becomes overdue during the summer holiday:

a) no fines will be applied.
b) the fines are lower than usual.
c) the fines are the same as usual.
d) the fines start at 20 pence per item per week.

5) Library users can renew books:

a) at the rate of 20 pence per day.
b) if the book isn't reserved for someone else.
c) only if they do not have any outstanding fines.
d) only in person.

SAMPLE

6) Library users returning items in the post:

a) are responsible if items get damaged.
b) must take out postal insurance.
c) will face fines.
d) should contact the Help Desk staff first.

7) The Annual Book Fair will be taking place:

a) before the start of the summer holiday.
b) during the summer holiday.
c) after the summer holiday.
d) during the autumn.

8) Tickets to the Annual Book Fair:

a) are discounted for students.
b) offer a discount on all purchases.
c) are cheaper than last year's.
d) can be bought online.

(8 marks)

SAMPLE

Reading Task 3

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

Australia: Skippyroo Kangaroo

How to Play: This is a popular game played in many Australian preschools and kindergartens to help children remember their classmates' names as well as develop good listening skills. Kids sit in a circle and an adult asks one child to go into the middle - she is the first Skippyroo, the kangaroo. Skippyroo crouches forward on the floor with her eyes closed while the kids in the circle chant: "Skippyroo, kangaroo, dozing in the midday sun, comes a hunter, run, run, run." At this stage an adult points to a child sitting in the circle, who then touches Skippyroo's shoulder and says, "Guess who's caught you just for fun?" and waits. Skippyroo tries to name the owner of the voice and if she guesses correctly, swaps places. The game begins again and continues until all the kids have had a chance to be Skippyroo.

Text B

United Kingdom: Pass the Parcel

How to Play: Before the game begins, Mum or Dad will need to make the parcel by wrapping something fun or silly they have around the house in layer upon layer of paper. Using a different pattern or colour for each layer will make it easier for kids to tell them apart. To play, ask the kids to sit or stand in a circle, then turn on the music. Players pass the parcel around until a parent stops the music. The player who is holding the gift removes one layer of wrapping paper. Start up the music again and continue playing until the final layer of paper is removed. The child who removes the last layer of paper gets to keep what is inside. This is also a fun game for children to play at birthday parties, but you should make sure that the child celebrating opens a nice present.

Text C

Greece: Agalmata

How to Play: Choose one player to be "It" and have her stand, eyes covered, in the centre of a playing field. She starts to count, at least to 10, but she can go higher. The point is that there's no set number; only "It" knows when she'll stop and open her eyes. While "It" is counting, the others scatter around, never sure when she'll yell "Agalmata!" (That's "statue" in Greek. Tell kids to yell it to be authentic, or to just say "statue" if that's easier). On this cue, players freeze, taking on poses that mimic famous statues. They can imitate any statue they've ever seen a photo of - a javelin thrower, The Thinker, even the Statue of Liberty. Kids are allowed to use found items, such as sticks, a ball, or a Frisbee, to add a touch of realism. "It" tags any statues that are moving - they're out - then tries to make the steady ones laugh or move. The last player remaining composed is the winner and becomes the new "It." This game is great for practising balance.

Which text does the following?		Text
Example:	Describes a game played in Australia.	A
1.	Describes a game which is played without help from adults.	_____
2.	Describes a game which should be played outside.	_____
3.	Describes a game where children do not sit in a circle.	_____
4.	Describes a game where no one has to shut their eyes.	_____
5.	Describes a game where a child gets a prize.	_____
6.	Describes a game where if a child laughs, they lose.	_____
7.	Describes a game which tests memory.	_____
8.	Describes a game which requires something to be prepared.	_____

(8 marks)

END OF READING ASSESSMENT

CANDIDATE DECLARATION:

I confirm that the work contained in this booklet is my own and I had no prior knowledge of the content of this examination.

I declare that I will not divulge to any person any information about the questions and/or tasks.

Signed:	
Dated:	DD / MM / YYYY

SAMPLE