



English Speaking Board (International) Ltd.
Level 2 Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Reading)

Paper Time
60 minutes

Booking Number						Candidate Number					
Surname											
Other Names											
Date											
Centre Name											

Please read the text below before attempting any of the paper

- Please complete the paper in blue or black ink, do not use pencil
- Questions may be attempted in any order
- Read each question carefully and answer as many questions as you can
- You must not use a dictionary
- At the end of the test, please close your paper and hand all materials to the Supervisor/Invigilator
- Do not open this paper until you are told to do so by the Supervisor/Invigilator

Marker's Use									
Marker Initials						Moderator Initials			
1	1.1			1	1.1				
2	1.2			2	1.2				
3	1.3			3	1.3				
4	1.4			4	1.4				
5	2.1			5	2.1				
6	3.1			6	3.1				
7	1.1			7	1.1				
8	1.2			8	1.2				
9	1.4			9	1.4				
10	2.1			10	2.1				
11	3.1			11	3.1				
12	1.3			12	1.3				
13	1.1			13	1.1				
14	1.2			14	1.2				
15	1.3			15	1.3				
16	1.4			16	1.4				
17	2.1			17	2.1				
18	3.1			18	3.1				
19	3.2			19	3.2				
20	3.2			20	3.2				
21	3.2			21	3.2				
Overall Grade						Overall Grade			

Task 1

Read the text and answer questions 1 – 6.



Paragraph 1 A Advertising the lift off

The launch of the first ever Higher Apprenticeship in Space Engineering took place on 15 March 2013 in Harwell, Oxford. The programme has been developed by Loughborough College in collaboration with the National Space Academy. It is hoped that this programme will lead the way in training across the country. Science Minister, David Willetts, speaking at the event said, “The UK space industry is a major success story. We need to have a good supply of talented scientists and engineers to build on this success. This new Higher Apprenticeship is the first of its kind.”

Paragraph 2 C A large financial undertaking

In spite of the recent _____, the space industry has still grown considerably and has a huge impact on everyday life. There is a great demand for satellite TV and radio, mobile phone services and GPS navigation. The government also needs these developments for emergency services and security, to manage air traffic or to monitor climate change. It is hoped the space industry will continue to grow. The government recently agreed to give an extra £60 million to the UK Space Agency for Europe’s space programme. This means that the UK will invest on average, £240 million per year in the European Space Agency over the next five years.

Paragraph 3 _____

In 2010/2011, the UK space sector contributed £9.1 billion to the nation’s economy. The British government plans to invest £240 million each year to grow the UK Space Sector into a £30 billion industry by 2030. Partly due to the success of space companies, wages in the industry are above the national average. The growing industry has meant employment for some at a time when jobs are harder to come by in many areas. Currently the UK space sector employs approximately 28,900 people. Whilst apprentices will be working in a specific role, there will be a wide range of jobs available. So they may find themselves working in weather forecasting, in defence or in telecommunications.

Paragraph 4 _____

When young people hear the words ‘**space engineering**’, they probably think of rockets and exploring space, but it actually affects almost everything we do! Every time a person speaks to someone on a mobile phone or turns on the TV, they are using space technology. And it doesn’t end there; space engineering helps to manage traffic, enabling drivers to avoid delays through the use of sat navs. Without space engineers, our weather forecast would not be so accurate. If young people choose a career in the space industry, they could be part of projects that actually change the world. They could be supporting a mission to Mars or helping to grow crops in places where people suffer from hunger or famine. Now is the perfect time to join the space industry as it means that they will never be out of a job. Projects can vary a lot in the space industry– this is just one of the many reasons why employees in this sector find their jobs so interesting.

Task 1

Read the text and answer questions 1 – 6.

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

- The text is about
 - lunar exploration training
 - careers that involve working in space
 - working for a mobile phone company
 - training to work in the space industry
- There are four paragraphs in the text. Each paragraph should have a heading. Match the headings in the table below to paragraphs 3 and 4. Paragraphs 1 and 2 have been done for you.

	Paragraph number
B Highly-paid employment in a variety of areas	
C A large financial undertaking	2
D Transforming life in the future	
A Advertising the lift off	1

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

- At the end of paragraph 1, why are quotation marks used?
 - To advertise a course
 - To emphasise the meaning of the sentences
 - To highlight frequently used words
 - To show what David Willetts said

4. Which word below can fit in the gap in paragraph 2?

- A Prosperity
- B Recession
- C Increase
- D Competition

5. The main purpose of this article is to

- A instruct
- B persuade
- C entertain
- D inform

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

6. In Paragraph 4 of the article, a career in the space industry could

- A prevent starvation
- B begin armed conflict
- C limit communication
- D bring about migration

Task 2

Read the text and answer questions 7– 12.

Holmes sat in his big armchair with the weary expression which hid his normally keen, energetic and eager nature, while I sat opposite him, and we listened in silence to the strange story which our visitor, Mr Hatherley, told us.

“You must know,” he said, “that I am an orphan and a bachelor, living alone in accommodation in London. By profession I am an engineer, and I have had considerable experience in this work during the seven years that I was apprenticed to a well-known firm in Greenwich. Two years ago, having come into a sum of money through my poor father’s death, I decided to start in business for myself and set up an office in Victoria Street.

I suppose that everyone finds his first independent start in business a difficult experience. For me it has been **exceptionally** hard. In two years I have had three consultations and one small job, and that is absolutely all that my profession has brought me. My total takings were £27. Every day, from nine in the morning until four in the afternoon, I waited in my little office and I started to think that I should never have a business.

Yesterday, however, just as I was thinking of leaving the office, my clerk entered to say there was a gentleman waiting who wished to see me on business. The clerk brought a card with the name of ‘Colonel Lysander Stark’ on it. Close behind him came the colonel himself, a man rather over average height, but very thin. I do not think that I have ever seen so thin a man. Yet this thinness seemed to be natural, and due to no disease, because he had bright eyes and walked briskly.

‘Mr. Hatherley?’ he said, with a German accent, ‘You have been recommended to me, Mr.Hatherley, as being a man who is not only proficient in his profession but also discreet and capable of keeping a secret.’

I felt very flattered as any young man would at such an introduction. ‘Can I ask who it was who described me like that?’

‘Well, perhaps it is better that I should not tell you that just at this moment. That person also said that you are both an orphan and a bachelor and live alone in London.’

‘That is correct,’ I answered; ‘Although I don’t understand what that has to do with my professional qualifications. I understand that it was on a professional matter that you wished to speak to me?’

‘Undoubtedly so. But you will find that all I say is really to the point. I have professional work for you, but absolute secrecy is quite essential, absolute secrecy, you understand.’

‘If I promise to keep a secret,’ I said, ‘you may absolutely depend that I will do so.’

He looked very hard at me as I spoke, and it seemed to me that I had never seen such a suspicious and questioning man.

'Do you promise, then?' he said at last.

'Yes, I promise.'

'Absolute and complete silence before, during, and after? No reference to the matter at all, either in word or writing?'

'I have already promised.'

'Very good.' He suddenly jumped up, and, **darting like lightning across the room**, he flung open the door. The passage outside was empty.

'That's all right,' said he, coming back. 'I know the clerks are sometimes curious about their employer's business. Now we can talk in safety.' He brought his chair very close to mine and began to stare at me again with the same questioning and thoughtful look.

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

7. The text is about

- A an offence
- B a regulation
- C an experience
- D a procedure

8. Put the following events in chronological order. The first one has been done for you.

A. The colonel pulled up his chair and stared at Mr Hatherley.	
B. Holmes and his friend listened to Mr Hatherley's story.	1
C. Mr Hatherley was thinking of leaving the office.	
D. Colonel Stark followed the clerk into the room.	

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

9. '**Exceptionally**' in paragraph 3 means
- A** extremely
 - B** usually
 - C** evidently
 - D** frequently
10. The main purpose of this text is
- A** to tell a narrative
 - B** to describe a process
 - C** to instruct the reader
 - D** to give details of an expedition
11. In paragraph 8, what did Mr Hatherley consider as being unimportant?
- A** Expertise
 - B** Specialisation
 - C** Personal details
 - D** Commercial practice
12. 'Darting like lightning across the room' emphasises
- A** a typical reaction
 - B** a fast action
 - C** a slow action
 - D** a normal action

Task 3

Read the four texts below and answer questions 13 – 21.

A

Almost all workers are legally entitled to 5.6 weeks [paid holiday](#) per year (known as statutory leave entitlement or annual leave). Self-employed workers are not entitled to annual leave.

Most workers who work a 5-day week must receive 28 days paid annual holiday per year. This is calculated by multiplying a normal week of 5 days by the annual entitlement of 5.6 weeks.

Part-time workers are also entitled to a minimum of 5.6 weeks of paid holiday each year. An employer can choose to include public or bank holidays as part of a worker's annual holiday.

C

Recruiter : Caring Solutions
Location : Staines, Middlesex
Salary : £7.75 - £9.30 per hour
Job type : Permanent

Due to an increase in work load we require 10 Home Carers to cover the following areas: Staines, Shepperton and Weybridge.

The Home Carers are required to provide quality home care support. We require Home Carers to be reliable and flexible. You will support people living in their own homes with all aspects of their lives, from personal care, including bathing and toileting through to shopping and general housekeeping.

We require people who are:-

- female, as our service users are women
- car drivers, you must have access to a car
- good communicators, as you will be dealing mainly with the elderly

B

Public bodies should always deal with people fairly and be prepared to listen to their customers. They should avoid being defensive when things go wrong.

Public bodies should treat people equally and **impartially**. They should understand and respect the diversity of their customers and ensure equal access to services and treatment regardless of background or circumstance.

The actions and decisions of a public body should be free from any personal bias or interests that could prejudice those actions and decisions, and any conflict of interests should be declared. Public bodies should not act in a way that unlawfully discriminates against or unjustifiably favours particular individuals or interests.

D

Do you ever wish you could spend all your time travelling to new and exciting countries?

Are you down about the fact that you will never have enough leave days to take your dream trip to Thailand? Is your daily routine of sitting in an office from 9-5 too tedious?

Whether you want to explore the world or just get out of your home town and try living somewhere new, there are many different types of travel jobs that may give you the experience (or career) of a lifetime.

If you want to make a career out of travelling, there are conventional travel jobs that may interest you. Getting involved in the [newspaper](#) industry could gain you a travel job as a [sports writer](#) or [reporter](#). You could be a travel writer, paid to experience new cultures and learn about foreign cities and countries. Many jobs in multinational companies will offer opportunities to travel.

Task 3

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

13. The best title for Text A is

- A Booking annual leave
- B Employers have first say
- C Workers' holiday rights
- D Issues related to bank holidays

14. Read Texts C and D. Are these statements true or false?

Tick (✓) the correct answer.

		TRUE	FALSE
C	Carers will support people in care homes.		
D	Employment with a newspaper means the possibility of a job which involves travelling.		

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

15. In Text C, give the reason why bullet points are used.

- A They are headings.
- B They make a clear list.
- C They show someone is speaking.
- D They are used to emphasise something.

16. Which of the words or phrases below best matches the meaning of the word

impartially as used in Text B?

- A Formally
- B Specially
- C Individually
- D Objectively

Circle the letter of the correct text.

17.	In which text does the writer advertise a vacancy?	A	B	C	D
18.	In which text does the writer refer to legislative time off?	A	B	C	D
19.	Which text gives advice about choosing an interesting job?	A	B	C	D
20.	In which text does the writer insist on non-discriminatory service?	A	B	C	D
21.	In which text is it compulsory to have your own transport?	A	B	C	D

End of assessment

Sources

Text 1 Adapted from <http://space.loucoll.ac.uk/apprenticeships/why-work-in-the-space-industry/> Accessed: 24.01.14

Photo <http://space.loucoll.ac.uk/about-us/> accessed 0406 14

Text 2: The Adventure of the Engineer's Thumb by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (text adapted)

Text 3: A <https://www.gov.uk/holiday-entitlement-rights> Accessed 26.01.14

B <http://www.ombudsman.org.uk/improving-public-service/ombudsmansprinciples/principles-of-good-administration/7> Adapted and accessed 02.06.14

C Names changed and adapted from an advert.

D <http://www.employmentspot.com/employment-articles/travel-jobs/> Adapted and accessed 26.01.14

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