



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

Task 1

Read the text and answer questions 1 - 7.

Global Warming

1. Svante Arrhenius (1859 – 1927) was a Swedish scientist and he was the first to claim that using coal, oil and gas could result in global warming. He believed that there was a relation between the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and average temperatures around the world. Arrhenius suggested that if the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere doubled, then there would be a temperature rise of 5 degrees. He calculated that human activities could lead to global warming.
2. After his discoveries, his ideas were forgotten. At that time, people believed that human activities were **insignificant** compared to the activities of natural forces, such as the sun and the oceans.
3. In 1955, a scientist called Gilbert Plass again began to argue that increased carbon dioxide in the atmosphere traps heat and leads to warmer temperatures. Then in the late 1950's and early 1960's, Charles Keeling used the most modern technologies to measure the increase of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. However, his findings were mostly ignored because global temperatures had decreased between the 1940's and the 1970's and the fear was of a new ice age, not global warming.
4. It wasn't until the 1980's that average temperatures started to rise and scientists started to take the idea of global warming seriously. The media also became interested and pictures of melting icecaps and floods appeared in the news. In 1988, it was finally acknowledged that the climate was now warmer than any period since 1880. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was founded by the United Nations Environmental Programme and the World Meteorological Organisation. The panel consists of more than 2500 scientists and technical experts from over 60 countries around the world. The IPCC produced reports in 1992 and 1996 and a revised version in 2001.
5. Some scientists questioned the findings of the IPCC, saying that they had overestimated the warming trend of the previous 100 years. The IPCC then reviewed their data but this did not make them change their minds. We now know that the 10 warmest years on record have all occurred since 1990.
6. So far, not much has been done to deal with climate change. It is a global problem and cannot be solved by a single country working alone. Therefore, in 1998, the "Kyoto Protocol" was negotiated in Kyoto, Japan. **It** required countries to reduce their emissions of the gases causing global warming to fall by 5% below the levels in 1990. The agreement was signed by 186 countries. Since then, several countries, including the United States of America and Australia, have moved back from the agreement.

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

1. According to the text, between 1859 and 1970,
 - A four scientists warned about global warming.
 - B all scientists agreed that the world was getting warmer.
 - C scientists thought that the sun was getting cooler.
 - D carbon dioxide in the atmosphere doubled.

2. Put the following events into chronological order in the boxes below. The first one is done for you.

Gilbert Pass said that increased carbon dioxide lead to a warmer climate.	
In the 1980s, temperatures started to rise.	
Arrhenius warned that human activities could lead to global warming.	1
Charles Keeling measured the increased carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.	

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

3. In line 3 of paragraph 6, “It” refers to
 - A global warming
 - B Japan
 - C the Kyoto Protocol
 - D climate change

4. What does “insignificant” mean in paragraph 2?
 - A Increasing
 - B Unimportant
 - C Unbelievable
 - D Interesting

5. The purpose of the text is to
- A describe the process of global warming
 - B explain the role of the IPCC
 - C discuss important scientists
 - D give a history of global warming
6. Why were Charles Keeling's ideas not believed at the time?
- A His findings were incorrect
 - B The climate was getting warmer
 - C His technology was out of date
 - D The climate was becoming colder
7. Not all experts agree with the IPCC.

Is this true or false? Tick (✓) the correct box.

True False

Task 2

Read the text and answer questions 8 – 13.

Line	
	<p>It is a well-known fact that a single man, who is rich, must be looking for a wife. Even if the feelings and views of such a man are unknown when he moves to a new neighbourhood, this idea is so well fixed in the minds of the surrounding families, that he is thought to be the property of one or other of their daughters.</p>
5	<p>"My dear Mr. Bennet," said his wife to him one day, "have you heard that Netherfield House has a new tenant at last?"</p> <p>Mr. Bennet answered that he had not.</p> <p>"But it has," she replied; "Mrs. Long has just been here, and she told me all about it." Mr. Bennet did not answer.</p>
10	<p>"Do you not want to know who has rented it?" asked his wife impatiently. "You want to tell me, and I have no objection to hearing it."</p> <p>"Well my dear, Mrs. Long says that Netherfield is taken by a very rich young man from the north of England; that he came down on Monday to see the place, and was so delighted with it, that he agreed to rent it immediately; that he is to move in before the end of September and some of his servants will be in the house by the end of next week."</p>
15	<p>"What is his name?" "Bingley."</p> <p>"Is he married or single?"</p> <p>"Oh! Single, my dear! A single man with a large fortune; thousands of pounds. What a good thing for our girls!"</p>
20	<p>"What do you mean? How can it affect them?"</p> <p>"My dear Mr. Bennet," replied his wife, "how can you be so irritating! You must know that I am hoping that he might marry one of them."</p> <p>"Is that his plan in moving here?"</p> <p>"Plan! How can you talk such nonsense! But it is very likely that he may fall in love with one of them, and therefore you must visit him as soon as he arrives."</p>
25	<p>"I don't see why. You and the girls can go, or you could send them by themselves, which perhaps would be better, for, as you are as good-looking as any of them, Mr. Bingley may like you the best!"</p>
30	<p>"My dear, you flatter me. I certainly was beautiful when I was younger, but I cannot claim to be anything out of the ordinary now. When a woman has five grown-up daughters, she ought not to be thinking about her own beauty."</p> <p>"In such cases, a woman has not often much beauty to think about!"</p>

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

8. The text is a conversation between

- A Mrs. Long and Mrs. Bennett
- B Mrs. Bennet and Mr. Bennet
- C Mr. Bingley and Mr. Bennet
- D Mrs. Long and Mr. Bennet

9. Put the following events into chronological order in the boxes below.

The first one is done for you.

A	Mrs. Bennet told her husband about Mr. Bingley.	
B	Mr. Bingley decided to rent the house.	
C	A young man from the north came to Netherfield.	1
D	Mrs. Long told Mrs. Bennet about Mr. Bingley.	

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

10. This text has a lot of conversation. We know this because

- A there are only two characters
- B there are a lot of inverted commas
- C the language is very informal
- D short forms are used

11. Which of the following is closest in meaning to **irritating** in line 21 of the text?

- A Annoying
- B Boring
- C Interesting
- D Irrigating

12. The text is
- A the conclusion of a report
 - B an article in a magazine
 - C the beginning of a novel
 - D part of a script from a play

13. What does the text tell us about Mr. Bingley?
- A Mr. Bingley has five daughters
 - B Mr. Bingley is married
 - C Mr. Bingley is single
 - D Mr. Bingley is from the south of England

Task 3

Read these texts about the royal family and answer questions 14 - 21.

Text A

Last year the royal family cost the taxpayer £35.7 million, a rise of £1.9 million on the previous year. This rise is more than double the rate of the increase in prices of food, electricity etc. This big rise included a 45% increase in the amount spent on the royal palaces, including Buckingham Palace and the Kensington Palace apartments of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. Over the last two years, £4.5 million has been spent on the 20 room apartment where the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge live with Prince George.

This increase in spending came at a time when many ordinary people were struggling financially. Royal staff insisted that the almost £36 million was only equivalent to 56p per person and represented value for money.

Text B

The royal family is **essential** to our national identity, as is our national song or anthem (God Save the Queen). They do not, of course, have any real power but nevertheless they do a useful job, for example, raising funds for the poor and representing causes, such as "Save the Children". They represent the UK and work in a non-political way, whatever their own political views may be. They represent the nation's history and give us a sense of tradition.

The Royal Family is not perfect, but this makes them more lovable because we can see that they are just human beings like the rest of us. They bring a little bit of magic and excitement into our lives. The birth of Prince George a few years brought joy and pride to many in the nation.

Text C

Many tourists are attracted to the United Kingdom because of the historical traditions provided by the monarchy. People come from all over the world to visit Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle. **They** aren't just royal residences; they are also great tourist attractions.

This brings a lot of money into the country. Would people travel from America or Japan, for example, to see a president? I don't think so! Even though the United Kingdom is a beautiful country and has some spectacular scenery, our climate is often wet and cold. We need the excitement and magic of the royal family to ensure that our tourist industry continues to do well. Many jobs depend on it.

Text D

Queen Elizabeth II is one of the richest women in the world. She has a personal fortune of around £330 million. Why should the taxpayer pay her and her family to live in luxury, in a palace with servants to wait on her? The rest of us live in small houses or flats and have to do our own washing and cooking!

Taxpayers' money should be spent on reducing poverty, on creating jobs, on healthcare and education, not on paying them to be driven about in big cars, wear posh clothes and live in huge castles. I don't know how the Queen can sleep at night knowing how many people live in poverty and have miserable lives.

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

14. The texts are about the

- A income that the royal family earns
- B reasons for having a monarchy
- C pros and cons of having a monarchy
- D traditions of the royal family

15. According to Text A, which of the following is correct about last year?

- A £1.9 million was spent on Kensington Palace.
- B The royal family cost £1.9 million more than the year before.
- C £4.5 million was spent on Buckingham Palace.
- D The rate of inflation in Britain was 45%.

16. In the first paragraph of Text C, “**they**” refers to the British

- A royal palaces
- B historical tradition
- C Royal Family
- D tourists

17. Look at Text B. Circle the letter of the word which is closest in meaning to “**essential**”.

- A invisible
- B unnecessary
- C necessary
- D external

Write your answer on the line below.

18. In which text does the writer sound angry and upset about the royal family?

_____.

Write your answer on the line below.

19. According to Text A, how much did the monarchy cost each **individual** taxpayer last year?

_____.

20. Which two texts are opposed to the monarchy?

_____.

21. In which texts are the following opinions expressed? Write the correct letter in the box below. The first one is done for you.

The royal family brings many tourists to the UK.	C
There are more important priorities for taxpayers' money than the royal family.	
The royal family does good work for charities.	
The royal family is not expensive for each taxpayer.	

End of assessment