



English Speaking Board (International) Ltd.
Level 1 Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Reading)

Paper Time
60 minutes

Booking Number						Learner 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	1.4		2	1.4	
3	3.1		3	3.1	
4	1.3		4	1.3	
5	1.2		5	1.2	
6	2.1		6	2.1	
7	1.1		7	1.1	
8	1.3		8	1.3	
9	1.4		9	1.4	
10	1.2		10	1.2	
11	3.1		11	3.1	
12	2.1		12	2.1	
13	1.1		13	1.1	
14	1.4		14	1.4	
15	3.1		15	3.1	
16	1.2		16	1.2	
17	1.3		17	1.3	
18	2.1		18	2.1	
Overall Grade			Overall Grade		

Task 1

Read the text and answer questions 1 – 6.

Financial Facts	
1	Who invented the hole-in-the-wall cash machine? For many years, Mr John Shepherd-Barron was described as the inventor and he received an award from the Queen in 2005 for services to banking. He said he was inspired when he was in the bath.
2	"It occurred to me there must be a way I could get my own money anywhere in the world or the UK. I thought about the idea of a chocolate bar machine, and of replacing chocolate with cash." He signed a contract with Barclays Bank and the first Automated Cash System machine was placed outside the Enfield, North London Barclays Branch in June 1967. A small sign was placed there in 1992 to commemorate the 25 th anniversary of the first machine to dispense cash. In the United States, Donald Wetzel decided to have the first U.S. cash dispenser, which was placed at one of Chemical Bank's New York branches in 1969.
3	Plastic cards had not been invented, so Mr Shepherd-Barron's machine used cheques that had been covered with carbon. The machine identified it, and then matched the cheque against a pin number. The machine paid out a maximum of £10 a time. Mr Shepherd-Barron thought a pin number could have six numbers but his wife, Caroline, said that she could only remember four figures , so because of her, four figures were used. While the four-digit pin code has stayed, modern-day machines are not based on this original device.
4	Later, James Goodfellow insisted that he was the man who came up with the idea. "I invented the cash machine," he said. "Out of my head came the system for a special card and a pin number – a system that still works. All I want people to do when talking about Mr Sheppard-Barron is to describe him as the inventor of 'a' cash machine rather than the inventor of 'the' cash machine."
5	In 1965, Mr Goodfellow registered the invention for the hole-in-the-wall ATM (Automatic Teller Machine) and he insists that his idea is behind machines used around the world today. His invention of the machine which followed in May 1966 was a success and has been praised for changing the face of banking. "My invention was very cleverly worded as it was for a card with a code," explained Mr Goodfellow. "Even though the technology has changed, it still follows the same basic rule". Around the world, there were 40,000 machines by 1980, a million by 2000, and over 3.2 million in 2023.

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

1. The text is about
 - A one inventor
 - B distributing currency
 - C expanding the use of cheques
 - D the development of cash machines.

2. **Inspired**, as used in the first paragraph, means
 - A involved
 - B absorbed
 - C informed
 - D stimulated.

Write your answer on the line.

3. What did the people use in the first cash machine?

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

4. Look at the sentence from Paragraph 3. **“Mr Shepherd-Barron thought a pin number could have six numbers but his wife, Caroline, said that she could only remember four figures.”** What were Caroline’s words when she was speaking?
 - A “You can only remember four numbers.”
 - B “I can only remember four figures.”
 - C “A pin number can have six figures.”
 - D “I could only remember six numbers.”

5. Put the years for the events. The first one has been done for you.

Event		Year/s
A	James Goodfellow registered his invention	1965
B	A machine was put outside Barclays Bank in Enfield	
C	Mr John Shepherd-Barron received an award from the Queen	
D	A sign was put up to mark the site of the first cash machine	

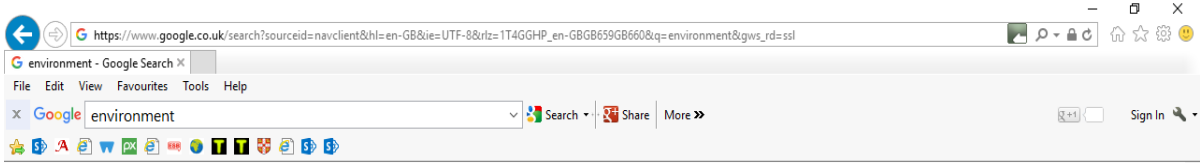
Circle the letter of the correct answer.

6. The main purpose of this text is to

- A** influence people
- B** give instructions
- C** warn the reader
- D** inform about the past.

Task 2

Read the texts and answer questions 7 – 12.

<p>A</p> <h3 style="text-align: center;">Diet News</h3> <p>Eating broccoli could make us age more slowly. Experts think that the vegetable helps to slow down vision loss and prevents us getting middle-age spread which is when you put weight on your waist and hips.</p> <p>Scientists say that this slowing down is helped by eating broccoli and cabbage. A new study found that these vegetables helped the liver, eyes and bones and helped people to produce energy.</p> <p>Broccoli is also well known as a vegetable that contains calcium, which is a chemical that builds strong bones and teeth and it also helps high blood pressure. Broccoli also provides a health bonus in the form of protective substances that may shelter you from disease.</p> <p>Cabbage has similar effects and red cabbage is even better for you.</p>	<p>B</p> <p>Dear Mr. Bingley</p> <p>I would like to apply for an evening course in computer studies at Merchant College and I am writing to ask if you would please support my application by letting me give your name as a referee?</p> <p>I am keen to improve my computer skills as I feel this will help me in my work especially when I need to make orders and email other businesses.</p> <p>The application has to be sent in before the end of April so I would be grateful if you can let me know as soon as possible, so that I will be able to complete the form. The college will then invite me for an interview and ask me if I have approval from my full-time employment.</p> <p>I hope you give my application serious consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p> <p>Marie Williams</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">C</p>  <p>Dolphins are known to be intelligent. Scientists have now discovered that they can almost speak like humans. Researchers at a nature reserve in the Crimea believe one dolphin listens to noises of up to five different sounds before replying.</p> <p>“This is just like a conversation between two people,” said Dr Vyacheslav Ryabov. He studied two adult Black Sea Bottlenose dolphins in a Sea Life Centre, a male named Yasha and a female called Yana. The pair have lived for 20 years in a swimming pool where he recorded the conversations between them. However, he said “Unfortunately, the dolphin’s speech cannot be heard by humans without special equipment.”</p>	

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

7.	Which text involves a request?	A	B	C
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Write your answer on the line.

8. Write what **'it'** refers to in Text **A**, Paragraph 3.

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

9. In Text **A**, paragraph 3, **bonus** means

- A** a drug
- B** a remedy
- C** an advantage
- D** an agreement.

10. Circle the letters of the **TWO** correct answers about Text **B**.

- A** Marie will send in the form before she hears from Mr Bingley.
- B** The application must be in by the end of April.
- C** Marie does not know how to use a computer.
- D** Marie is applying for a part-time course.

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

11. In Text **B**, what does Marie need before she sends in her application?

- A** A form
- B** An email
- C** A reference
- D** An interview

12. What is the purpose of Text **C**? To

- A** invite you to visit
- B** give instructions
- C** narrate a story
- D** give a report.

Task 3

Read the text and answer questions 13 – 18.

	<h2>News from around the world</h2>
1	<p><u>Making an impression</u></p> <p>Anton Oberländer is good at persuading people. Last year, when he and a group of friends were short of cash for a camping trip to Cornwall in England, he managed to talk Germany's national rail operator into handing them some free tickets. The management was so impressed with him that he was invited to give a speech to 200 of their employees. To their surprise, Anton was 14 years old.</p>
2	<p><u>A chosen education</u></p> <p>The Berlin teenager's self-confidence comes from the school that he attends. There are no exams until students are over 15 and there are no timetables. The pupils decide which subjects they want to study for each lesson and when they want to take an exam. The school's curriculum is very different to that of other schools. Set subjects are limited to Maths, German, English and Social Studies, with other courses such as "responsibility" and "challenge". For "challenge", students aged 12 to 14 are given £115 and sent on an adventure that they have to plan entirely by themselves. Some go boating on rivers and others work on a farm. Anton went walking along England's south coast.</p>
3	<p><u>Inspiring confidence</u></p> <p>Margret Rasfeld, the head teacher, argues that the most important skill a school can pass down to its students is the ability to do something themselves. "Look at three or four year olds – they are all full of self-confidence," Rasfeld says. "Often children can't wait to start school but unfortunately, most schools then somehow manage to take away that confidence. Nothing inspires students more than when they discover the meaning behind a subject on their own."</p>
4	<p>_____</p> <p>Students at her school are encouraged to think up other ways to prove their acquired skills, such as making codes for a computer game instead of sitting a maths exam. Oberländer had never been away from home for as long as three weeks until he started his challenge in Cornwall. He said he learned more English on his trip than he had in several years of learning the language at school.</p>
5	<p><u>A popular school</u></p> <p>The main reason why the school is gaining a reputation as Germany's most exciting school is because its way of thinking brings impressive results. Year after year, Rasfeld's school ends up with the best grades among Berlin's schools. Having opened in 2007 with just 16 students, the school now runs at full capacity, with 500 pupils and long waiting lists.</p>

Circle the letter of the correct answer

13. The text is about the effects of

- A a language course
- B a physical challenge
- C an educational theory
- D a motivational speech.

14. **Impressed**, in the first paragraph, means

- A unconvinced
- B confused
- C amazed
- D puzzled.

Write your answer on the line.

15. Write what the students had to do with £115.

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

16. The best title for paragraph 4 is

- A Taking a vacation
- B Lack of motivation
- C Succeeding in exams
- D Demonstrating learning.

17. In Paragraph 3, a sentence near the end finishes with “.... **they** discover the meaning behind a subject on their own.” **They** are

- A students at the school
- B four-year-old children
- C Oberlander and friends
- D managers of the rail company.

18. The purpose of the text is to
- A** compare various ways of educating students
 - B** complain about the UK school curriculum
 - C** inform students how to gain self-belief
 - D** describe a different way of learning.

End of assessment