



English Speaking Board

ESB Level 2 Certificate in ESOL International All Modes (C1) 500/3648/8

Contents of this Paper

Section	Number of Questions	Weighting for Section
Listening Part One Section A Section B Part Two	 5 5 10	 20%
Reading Part One Part Two	 8 7	 20%
Use of English Part One Part Two Part Three Part Four Part Five	 10 10 10 10 10	 20%
Writing	1	20%

The remaining 20% is for your speaking test.

Total Time Allowed: 2 hours and 40 minutes. You should attempt all sections of this paper.

The use of dictionaries or notes or any electronic device is not permitted in this examination.

Put your answers for Listening, Reading and Use of English on the OPTICAL MARK FORM. USE THE WRITING ANSWER BOOKLET for your answer to the Writing Section. This question paper will NOT BE MARKED.

DO NOT OPEN THE EXAMINATION PAPER UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.

ESB Level 2 Listening (Part One – Section A)

You will hear Carol Simms, a music presenter, talking to Charles Morris, a music critic, about the Simon Bolivar Youth Orchestra of Venezuela in Central America. For questions 1 – 5, choose the correct answer A, B or C. You will hear Section A TWICE. You have one minute to read the questions for Section A.

1. According to Carol, the London audience at the Simon Bolivar concert were

- A. stunned into silence.
- B. overpowered by their feelings.
- C. wearing colourful costumes.

2. According to Charles, Jose Antonio Abreu, the founder of the orchestra,

- A. was motivated by the plight of the slum dwellers.
- B. came from a very poor background.
- C. wanted to enhance Venezuela's musical reputation.

3. 'El Sistema' is funded by

- A. donations from the wealthy.
- B. public money.
- C. international aid.

4. Members of the Simon Bolivar Orchestra

- A. have often been snapped up by foreign orchestras.
- B. are guaranteed life-long employment.
- C. develop other attributes along with their music.

5. In the classical music world, the Simon Bolivar Orchestra is regarded as

- A. worthy of serious consideration.
- B. something of a novelty.
- C. having a lot to learn.

ESB Level 2 Listening (Part One – Section B)

You will hear Carol Simms, a music presenter, talking to Gavin Macdonald of the Scottish Arts Council about plans to create a youth orchestra in Scotland. For questions 6 – 10, choose the correct answer A, B or C. You will hear Section B TWICE. You have one minute to read the questions for Section B.

6. Gavin states that Scotland

- A. is not as wealthy as people might imagine.
- B. has widespread social problems.
- C. has deprivation equal to that in Venezuela.

7. Juan Perez told Gavin that he

- A. would like to help other impoverished youngsters.
- B. hoped to further his education abroad.
- C. owed his life to clarinet playing.

8. Gavin states, that regarding his project, he

- A. already has all the revenue he needs.
- B. expects the government to provide all the money.
- C. is looking for funding from a variety of sources.

9. Gavin believes his project is worthwhile because it can

- A. lead to the creation of a new Scottish orchestra.
- B. offer tangible benefits to disaffected kids.
- C. totally alleviate poverty and inequality.

10. Carol seems to think that Gavin's project

- A. is doomed to failure.
- B. will be a resounding success.
- C. faces considerable obstacles.

ESB Level 2 Listening (Part Two)

Listen to three conversations and for questions 11 – 20, choose the correct answer A, B or C. You will hear each conversation TWICE. You have two minutes to read the questions for Part Two.

Conversation One

11. Richard objects to Jo's meal because he

- A. does not like stews.
- B. dislikes the main ingredient.
- C. thinks eating meat is wrong.

12. Jo says that she

- A. became a vegetarian as a matter of principle.
- B. cannot understand how people can eat meat.
- C. does not like the taste of meat.

13. Richard suggests that Jo

- A. is wrong to eat chicken.
- B. is being inconsistent about her diet.
- C. should consider eating fish.

Conversation Two

14. According to James, Sarah and her band were

- A. disrespectful to the judges.
- B. intimidated by the judges.
- C. treated harshly by the judges.

15. On hearing James's news, Andrea is initially

- A. incredulous.
- B. detached.
- C. anxious.

16. Andrea suggests that

- A. they should take Sarah out.
- B. they should show Sarah moral support.
- C. the judges should be sacked.

Conversation Three

17. The main reason Katrina approaches Tom is to

- A. catch up on the local news.
- B. ask him to help her out.
- C. tell him about her holiday.

18. Katrina's holiday

- A. has been arranged on the spur of the moment.
- B. is part of a large family gathering.
- C. is based in one part of New Zealand only.

19. Katrina

- A. has reservations about the whole trip.
- B. is particularly looking forward to going hiking.
- C. has surprised herself by being adventurous.

20. Tom implies that Bernard

- A. is not happy living in New Zealand.
- B. planned to return to his old neighbourhood.
- C. was fond of local gossip.

Remember to transfer your answers to the optical mark form.

ESB Level 2 Reading (Part One)

Read the text about the Loch Ness Monster, and for questions 21 – 28, choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

Finding Nessie

The Highlands of Scotland are a wild and beautiful region of mountains and lakes. Sparsely populated and with no industry, the main economic activity of the Highlands is tourism. Visitors come to fish and climb mountains. One particular attraction is Loch Ness ('loch' being the Gaelic word for 'lake'). This lake is the longest and deepest in the UK. The **murky** waters, made almost black by decaying vegetation, hide a mystery which has yet to be unravelled. The lake is believed to contain a monster, or family of monsters, huge aquatic animals with long necks, small heads and humped backs, possibly some species of dinosaur which got trapped after the last Ice Age cut the lake off from the sea.

Legend has it that, back in the sixth century, St Columba overcame a 'water beast' in Loch Ness but modern interest was sparked off in 1933 when a tourist reported seeing 'something like a dragon' trundling across the road. This resulted in a flood of letters to the newspapers recounting many 'sightings' of a creature, variously described as a 'sea serpent' or 'dragon'. Eventually, the creature came to be called the Loch Ness Monster, or 'Nessie', for short. In 1934, a blurred photograph of a long neck and tiny head breaking through the lake's surface caused great excitement and led to the first serious attempt to discover if the monster really existed or was just a figment of overheated imaginations or perhaps too much Scotch whisky!

The first systematic search for Nessie started in 1934 when twenty men, armed with binoculars and cameras, were stationed at strategic locations around the lake. The resulting photographs were inconclusive. A more scientific investigation, beginning in the 1960s, used the most modern technology available with groups of volunteers, equipped with telescopic lenses, manning the lake shore all year round and underwater sonar devices tracking the depth of the lake. The sonar identified moving objects of 6m in length rising from the bottom of the lake. The objects never rose to the surface so could they be the monster family?

Various mini-submersibles made sweeps of the lake and sonar readings revealed the presence of large moving objects in the water. One submarine, in an effort to overcome the pitch blackness of the deep water, was equipped with powerful floodlights which homed in on the direction of the sonar signals to enable pictures to be taken. Some of these appear to show an animal with dinosaur-like characteristics but sceptics dismissed this 'proof' as merely floating tree stumps. The sonar data gave tantalising glimpses of something strange in the depth of the lake and watchers on the shore continued their fruitless vigil. In 2003, a full search was made of the loch using the latest satellite tracking and nothing was found. The sightings from the shore have dwindled to nothing in recent years and the fear is that these creatures from the age of the dinosaurs have finally followed their ancestors into oblivion or perhaps we have to reluctantly conclude, the Loch Ness Monster is and always has been a myth.

- 21. The Scottish Highlands have**
- A. a wide variety of activities for tourists.
 - B. a diverse economic infrastructure.
 - C. very little to recommend them.
 - D. low population density.
- 22. Murky in paragraph 1 can best be replaced by**
- A. dark.
 - B. opaque.
 - C. shadowy.
 - D. muddy.
- 23. The story of the monster in Loch Ness is**
- A. a 20th century phenomenon.
 - B. rooted in antiquity.
 - C. a device to attract tourists to the area.
 - D. patently untrue.
- 24. The evidence for the existence of the Loch Ness Monster is**
- A. weighty.
 - B. wishful thinking.
 - C. open to interpretation.
 - D. non-existent.
- 25. According to the text, the people trying to find Nessie have**
- A. utilised technological innovation.
 - B. been very amateur in their approach.
 - C. lacked any scientific training.
 - D. abandoned their search.
- 26. The people who have come nearest to proving Nessie's existence are**
- A. the photographers.
 - B. the shore patrollers.
 - C. the submariners.
 - D. the satellite tracking operatives.
- 27. The lack of Nessie sightings in recent years suggests that**
- A. the public have lost interest in the story.
 - B. Nessie may well be dead.
 - C. scientific evidence has shown that Nessie is just a fairy story.
 - D. common sense has finally prevailed.
- 28. The passage indicates that, regarding Nessie, the writer**
- A. is totally cynical.
 - B. is convinced that a monster lurks in the lake.
 - C. would like to think that Nessie exists.
 - D. has an open mind.

ESB Level 2 Reading (Part One)

Read the text about Bamse, the sea dog, and then for questions 29 – 35, choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

Sea Dog Bamse; the Pride of Norway

Last January, when on a cruise up the coast of Norway, we stopped off briefly at the small town of Honningsvåg. It was three in the afternoon and already pitch-black and biting cold. The only refuge from the Arctic winter was a small museum, warm and welcoming and serving good but very expensive coffee. Leaving the museum, we bumped into something almost buried in a snowdrift. Closer inspection and a dusting off of the snow, revealed a bronze sculpture of a large dog, wearing a sailor's hat. A plaque gave brief information; "Sea Dog, Bamse 1937 – 1944. Member of the Royal Norwegian Navy and the Pride of Norway". Intrigued, we decided to find out more about this canine hero so once back on board our ship, we googled 'Bamse' and an amazing story emerged.

Bamse (Norwegian for 'teddy bear') was a St Bernard, a breed known traditionally for rescuing travellers lost in the mountains. As a puppy, he was purchased by Captain Hafto, a member of the Norwegian Naval Reserve. He spent his early life on board his master's boat and as a beloved member of the family. When World War Two broke out in 1939, Captain Hafto was called to active service and given command of a patrol boat, 'The Throdd'. He couldn't bear to leave Bamse behind, so he enrolled his faithful companion as an official member of the navy with the title of 'ship's dog'. In 1940, the Germans invaded Norway and some of the Norwegian navy vessels, including The Throdd, escaped the German blockade and headed across the North Sea to Scotland where they remained until the end of the war. Bamse had already shown his **mettle** by rescuing a sailor from drowning and disarming a knife-wielding thief who had tried to rob a member of the crew. He also saved the lives of two sailors by pulling them out of the line of enemy fire.

The Throdd was based in the Scottish town of Montrose and Bamse soon became a firm favourite with the townsfolk and the mascot of all the Norwegian sailors serving in Scotland. One of his tasks was to round up the members of the crew from the bars of Montrose. Unaccompanied, wearing a sailor's hat, with a bus pass round his neck, he would catch a bus into town to seek out his fellow crew-members and escort them back to the ship before the curfew.

Poor Bamse did not live to see the end of hostilities. In July 1944, he collapsed near his ship and died prematurely of a heart attack. Wrapped in the Norwegian flag, he was buried the next day with full military honours at the entrance of Montrose harbour, his head pointing towards Norway. The ceremony was attended by hundreds of tearful Norwegian servicemen and local townspeople. Norwegian sailors still continue to visit his grave and honour his memory to this day. In 2006, Bamse was posthumously awarded a gold medal for gallantry and devotion to duty, the only animal from World War Two to receive such an honour. In 2008, two Scottish writers published his biography. Also in 2008, a larger-than-life bronze statue of Bamse was unveiled in Montrose and it was a smaller copy of this statue that we had cleared the snow from on that dark afternoon in Honningsvåg.

29. The writer stopped at Honningsvåg because

- A. he wanted to see the statue of Bamse.
- B. the weather was too bad for the boat to continue.
- C. he hoped to find out more about Bamse.
- D. it was part of the itinerary.

30. The St Bernard, as a breed of dog, is

- A. trained to protect mountain sheep.
- B. not normally associated with the sea.
- C. known for its aggressive behaviour.
- D. considered unsuitable as a pet.

31. Bamse's life was

- A. moulded by history.
- B. relatively uneventful.
- C. long and happy.
- D. marred by tragedy.

32. According to the text, during Bamse's time in the navy, he

- A. worked only on shore.
- B. had a purely ceremonial role.
- C. experienced enemy action.
- D. took orders directly from Captain Hafto.

33. Mettle in paragraph 2 can best be replaced in the text by

- A. strength.
- B. courage.
- C. audacity.
- D. bravado.

34. Bamse's funeral was

- A. sparsely attended.
- B. put off till after the war.
- C. a very emotional affair.
- D. a simple ceremony.

35. Since his death, Bamse has been

- A. largely forgotten.
- B. commemorated by two identical statues.
- C. reburied in Norway.
- D. honoured in a singular way.

ESB Level 2 Use of English (Part One)

For questions 36 – 45, choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

36. When _____ that homework?
A. finished doing
B. have you finished
C. will be finishing
D. did you finish doing
37. Adders are snakes _____ bite can be fatal to humans.
A. their
B. of whom
C. whose
D. that
38. _____ have achieved the same fame as Marie Curie.
A. The female scientists are few
B. Few are the female scientists
C. The few female scientists
D. Few female scientists
39. The project _____ to be handed in now. It's not due until next week.
A. shouldn't have
B. doesn't have
C. wouldn't have
D. must have
40. Tell Mavis I'm going to be late, if you _____ to see her.
A. happen
B. can
C. should
D. going
41. It was driver error that made the car _____.
A. crashed
B. crashing
C. to crash
D. crash
42. We'll have to hire professional cooks _____ the number of guests coming to the party.
A. given
B. supposing
C. provided
D. saying
43. Plants do well in my garden _____ the soil being poor.
A. although
B. despite
C. even
D. because
44. Edmund Hillary, the New Zealander, _____ person to climb Mount Everest.
A. who was the first
B. when he was the first
C. was the first
D. being the first
45. _____ most vehicles, hydrogen-powered cars generate no pollution.
A. Not alike
B. Dissimilar
C. Unlike
D. Dislike

ESB Level 2 Use of English (Part Two)

For questions 46 – 55, choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

- 46. The company is too small to _____ with the really large ones.**
A. win
B. beat
C. contest
D. compete
- 47. Paula _____ me she would help me to write the letter.**
A. relieved
B. swore
C. encouraged
D. assured
- 48. When I saw the lion coming towards me I was absolutely _____.**
A. petrified
B. fearful
C. scared
D. afraid
- 49. Because of the unexpected costs, the company is unlikely to _____.**
A. break through
B. break even
C. break down
D. break up
- 50. The tennis player was _____ for his excellent self-discipline.**
A. infamous
B. notorious
C. identified
D. renowned
- 51. The scientists believed that the experiment _____ they were right.**
A. described
B. explained
C. clarified
D. proved
- 52. My sister is doing a parachute jump to _____ money for charity.**
A. fund
B. build
C. increase
D. raise
- 53. Dave was fed up with his job and handed in his _____.**
A. notice
B. declaration
C. statement
D. reference
- 54. Sarah had good _____ but her actions resulted in disaster.**
A. intentions
B. schemes
C. beliefs
D. hopes
- 55. Stacy was really _____ that she didn't get the promotion.**
A. hopeless
B. dissatisfied
C. unsuccessful
D. disappointed

ESB Level 2 Use of English (Part Three)

For questions 56 – 65, in the passage below, write ONE word in each blank space to make the passage grammatically correct and meaningful.

The Louvre Pyramid

If someone were asked to make a list of the most important museums in the world, there is little doubt that close to the top, if not at the head of that list, (56)_____ be the Louvre Museum in Paris. Not only does the museum house some of the (57)_____ celebrated works of art in the world such as the Mona Lisa, (58)_____ the building itself has long been a major tourist (59)_____. So, it was a highly controversial decision, in 1984, when the then President of France, Francois Mitterrand, approved the building of a large glass pyramid in the main courtyard of this famous museum.

The pyramid is 20.6 metres in height with a base of three sides, each 35 metres in (60)_____. There are 673 glass panels in total, of which the majority are roughly diamond-shaped. The building was designed by I.M. Pei, a Chinese-American architect, who (61)_____ already gained a reputation for innovative design. Mitterrand wanted the new addition to the Louvre to be iconic, but it also needed to (62)_____ a key problem. The number of visitors to the museum was so large that the original entrances to the Louvre could no (63)_____ cope with them all. The pyramid was designed to provide a spacious entry to the museum and manage the flow of visitors.

There were many (64)_____ of the pyramid. They claimed that such an obviously modern building was completely (65)_____ of keeping with the historical main buildings of the museum. However, the people of Paris have grown to love the latest addition to the Louvre and it is now regarded as an emblem of Paris itself.

ESB Level 2 Use of English (Part Four)

For questions 66 – 75, read the text below and complete the gap with the correct form of the word at the end of the line. Do not write more than ONE word in each gap. Spelling mistakes will be penalised. Two examples are given below.

Do All Animals Sleep?

The **(0) EXPLANATION** for sleep might seem a pretty simple affair, **0. EXPLAIN**
but **(00) SCIENTISTS** and researchers are still unsure as to exactly **00. SCIENCE**
why an **(66)**_____ sleeps and whether in fact every **66. ORGAN**
species needs to do so.

There are several features that creatures of different species appear
to share when it comes to sleep. Firstly, there is usually a marked
(67)_____ in physical activity and a decreased response to **67. REDUCE**
outside stimuli. Sleeping creatures often **(68)**_____ a **68. ASSUMPTION**
particular position; people lie down, bats hang upside down and
horses often stand up. Secondly, sleep can also be broken,
meaning it is a **(69)**_____ simple matter to wake a **69. RELATIVE**
sleeping creature up.

There are examples of animals that can disrupt their normal
sleeping patterns for certain special events. Migratory birds, for
example, can survive on **(70)**_____ less sleep during their **70. SIGNIFY**
long journeys to warmer climates. Some birds have been shown to
take extremely brief naps lasting just a few seconds, while at the
same time remaining semi-alert to their **(71)**_____. **71. SURROUND**

When it comes to simpler forms of life, the **(72)**_____ of **72. DEFINE**
sleep becomes more difficult to apply. Fish and amphibians are
among the types of creature in which it is **(73)**_____ **73. CLEAR**
whether actual sleep occurs, or whether they are simply in a resting
state where there is **(74)**_____ movement. Insects, on **74. MINIMISE**
the other hand, definitely set **(75)**_____ time to slumber. **75. SIDE**

ESB Level 2 Use of English (Part Five)

For questions 76 – 85, complete the second sentence in each pair below so that it means the same as the first one. In each case you must use the keyword given. Do not make any changes to the keyword and write no more than five words in total in each blank space. Contractions (e.g. *don't*) count as two words.

Example a) I think that punishing James for being late only once is unfair.

Keyword: hard

b) You are being too hard on James for being late only once.

76. a) There is a very good chance that the train will be delayed.

Keyword: likely

b) _____ the train will be delayed.

77. a) Mary and I decorated our house so that we could save some money.

Keyword: ourselves

b) To save money on the house, we _____.

78. a) We live in the countryside but it is only a mile to the local shops.

Keyword: more

b) Although we live in the countryside, our house _____ a mile from the local shops.

79. a) Dora had a headache so she went home.

Keyword: suffering

b) Dora went home early because she _____ a headache.

80. a) Nick had so many jobs to do that he could not decide which one to start first.

Keyword: mind

b) With so many jobs to do, Nick could not _____ which one to do first.

81. a) I am absolutely certain that El Greco is the finest painter I've ever seen.

Keyword: doubt

b) El Greco is _____ the finest painter I've ever seen.

82. a) Because we woke up late, it was necessary to go straight to the airport.

Keyword: set

b) We woke up so late that we _____ for the airport straight away.

83. a) Apart from Simon, everyone enjoyed the party.

Keyword: exception

b) Everyone enjoyed the party _____ Simon.

84. a) As no one has objected, we will sign the contract.

Keyword: given

b) We will sign the contract, _____ objections.

85. a) It is very rare for me to miss a day's work because I am not normally ill.

Keyword: ever

b) I am not normally ill and I _____ a day off work.

Remember to transfer your answers to the optical mark form.

ESB Level 2 Writing

Choose ONE of the following options. Write between 250 – 280 words in English. USE THE SEPARATE WRITING ANSWER BOOKLET

1. “Despite all the problems of living in a city, more and more people are abandoning the countryside and moving into urban areas.”
Write an **essay** explaining why people choose to migrate to cities and some of the problems that this creates for society and the environment.
2. You recently bought a new printer for your computer but when you got it home you found that it did not work. You returned it to the store but the sales assistant was rude and refused to refund your money. Write a **letter** to the manager of the store explaining the problem, complaining about the treatment you have received and stating what you want him/her to do. You do **not** need to write your address.
3. *‘I was really excited when I won a two-week holiday on a tropical island, but when I arrived at the luxury hotel, things were not at all what I had expected.’*
Write a **story** about what happened on your holiday.

END OF PAPER

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