

**ESB Level 1 Certificate in ESOL  
International All Modes – (B2)  
500/3647/6**

**Contents of this Paper**

<b>Section</b>	<b>Number of Questions</b>	<b>Weighting for Section</b>
<b>Listening</b> Part One Part Two	10 10	20%
<b>Reading</b> Part One Part Two	10 5	20%
<b>Use of English</b> Part One Part Two Part Three Part Four	10 10 10 5	20%
<b>Writing</b>	1	20%

The remaining 20% is for your speaking test.

**Total time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes. You should attempt all sections of this paper.**

**The use of dictionaries, 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 B2 Level 1 Listening (Part One)**

**You will hear people talking in ten different situations.  
For questions 1 – 10, choose the correct answer A, B or C. You will hear each passage TWICE.  
You have one minute to read the questions for Part One.**

**1. In the end Becca**

- A. fails to change her friend's mind.
- B. forces her friend to change his mind.
- C. persuades Mark to change his mind.

**2. André speaks to his mother in a**

- A. determined way.
- B. confident manner.
- C. dishonest way.

**3. Louise relies on Paul to**

- A. telephone the owner.
- B. be the decisive one.
- C. examine the wallet.

**4. We hear that pineapples**

- A. were 3 euros each.
- B. are selling out fast.
- C. are 3 euros each.

**5. Chrissie thinks August is a bad idea because**

- A. three weeks is too long a holiday.
- B. of the climate and the noise.
- C. it is too late in the year.

- 6. Alexander wants to**  
A. tidy up the house.  
B. get out of tidying up.  
C. cancel their party.
- 7. Timothy's mum wants him to**  
A. clean his football boots.  
B. clean up the bedroom floor.  
C. look after his things better.
- 8. John and Theresa hope that the woman**  
A. recognises them.  
B. doesn't spot them.  
C. leaves quickly.
- 9. Why did Danny refuse to help his grandmother?**  
A. He was too busy.  
B. They had a fight.  
C. He is not a kind person.
- 10. The hotel receptionist will book the guest**  
A. a restaurant table for his friend and the mountain tour.  
B. the mountain tour and concert ticket.  
C. a dinner reservation and the mountain tour.

**Remember to transfer your answers to the optical mark form.**

**ESB B2 Level 1 Listening (Part Two)**

You will hear a conversation between two old friends, Peter and Amanda, who have not seen each other for a very long time.

For questions 11 – 20, mark each statement True (T) or False (F).

You will hear Part Two TWICE.

You have one minute to read the questions for Part Two.

**Old Friends**

11. Amanda and Peter had arranged to meet that day. \_\_\_\_\_
12. Amanda did not recognise Peter. \_\_\_\_\_
13. Peter is in his home town to help his parents. \_\_\_\_\_
14. Amanda is in her home town for her brother's wedding. \_\_\_\_\_
15. Neither Peter nor Amanda live in their home town now. \_\_\_\_\_
16. Peter is an artist. \_\_\_\_\_
17. Amanda enjoyed being an art student. \_\_\_\_\_
18. Amanda and Peter both live in South London. \_\_\_\_\_
19. Peter invited Amanda to go for a coffee. \_\_\_\_\_
20. Peter would like to meet Amanda again. \_\_\_\_\_

**Remember to transfer your answers to the optical mark form.**

## ESB B2 Level 1 Reading (Part One)

You are going to read a passage about a horse race called **The Palio** which takes place in Siena, Italy. For questions 21 – 24, match the headings (A – G) with the appropriate paragraph. One heading has been done as an example. There are TWO headings which you do not need.

### The Palio in Siena

**Example: F. The Palio: Siena's main attraction**

Tourists from all over the world love to visit Italy and one of the most popular areas to visit is the beautiful region of Tuscany. Its capital city is Florence but it also has two other famous cities, Pisa in the west with its Leaning Tower and Siena in the south. The most important event in Siena is a horse race called The Palio which has taken place every summer since the 6<sup>th</sup> century. Siena is divided into seventeen districts. Ten of these districts take part in this very exciting horse race in the main square, in the heart of the city. All the people of Siena are passionate about this race and it is a very important part of their lives. The preparations for the race go on throughout the whole year.

**21.**

The Palio is very old so, over the centuries, many rules and regulations have been added and some of them are very complicated. Many different traditions and customs have been developed. The whole event lasts four days. Before the race, a circular racetrack is prepared in the main square. The ten districts that compete in the race choose a jockey to represent them. The jockeys do not know which horse they will ride until the first morning of the event. They are then given time to get to know their horses and practise riding them.

**22.**

On the fourth day of The Palio, the actual race takes place. The city is full of excitement and the event lasts all day. At 8.00am, there is a church service for all the jockeys who then have their final practice. At 3.00pm, the horses are blessed and then there is an enormous parade through the city of the horses and their riders all wearing historical costumes. Around 6.30pm, the procession arrives at the main square and the riders wait until they hear the noise of an exploding firework which is the signal for the race to start.

**23.**

The race is very competitive and the horses must run three times around the racetrack which is quite dangerous as it is very narrow in places. Horses and riders fall and are often injured, sometimes very seriously. The frequent injuries to the horses have led some animal rights supporters to say the race is just too dangerous and should be stopped. The first horse that crosses the finish line, even if its jockey has fallen off, wins the race. The winner receives a beautiful painted flag which has a different picture on it every year.

**24.**

Despite the objections of animal rights supporters, The Palio is still very popular and if you get the chance, you should go and experience this unique event. You need to arrive about 4.30pm if you want to get a place in the square but be warned, there are no public toilets in the square. You can buy drinks but it is much cheaper to bring your own with you as well as a hat to protect you from the sun. It is not a good idea to take small children, as the square gets very crowded. If you are prepared to pay, there are some seats available or you could try to contact one of the residents of the square who rent out their balconies during The Palio but this option is very expensive indeed! Whether you choose to stand, sit or have your own private balcony, The Palio is a wonderful experience.

Adapted from: [www.discoveruscany.com](http://www.discoveruscany.com)

**A Reasons to attend The Palio**

**B Preparation for the race**

**C Advice and suggestions**

**D The day of the race**

**E Italian festivals**

**F The Palio: Siena 's main attraction**

**G The disadvantages of the race**

**Remember to transfer your answers to the optical mark form.**

For questions 25 – 30, choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

- 25. The first paragraph states that**
- A. Tuscany is Italy's most popular tourist region.
  - B. The Palio is the only tourist event in Siena.
  - C. all the districts of Siena take part in The Palio.
  - D. all the citizens are enthusiastic about The Palio.
- 26. According to the text,**
- A. The Palio is a simple event to organise.
  - B. The Palio has very few rules.
  - C. districts choose their own jockeys for the race.
  - D. jockeys ride their own horses in the race.
- 27. In paragraph two, them refers to the**
- A. districts.
  - B. jockeys.
  - C. horses.
  - D. customs.
- 28. In paragraph four, the author states that**
- A. all the riders are friendly with each other.
  - B. injuries can happen regularly.
  - C. the race should be stopped.
  - D. animal lovers have no reason to oppose the race.
- 29. In paragraph five, the author suggests that people should not**
- A. arrive on the afternoon of the race.
  - B. bring their own food and drink.
  - C. bring a sun hat.
  - D. come with small children.
- 30. The writer suggests that The Palio is**
- A. an event which he is happy to recommend.
  - B. the most important horse race in Italy.
  - C. too dangerous and must be changed.
  - D. too expensive for most people.

**Remember to transfer your answers to the optical mark form.**

## **ESB B2 Level 1 Reading (Part Two)**

**You are going to read an article about McDonald's, the fast food chain. For questions 31 – 35, choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.**

### **McDonald's: Past and Present**

McDonald's is the world's biggest burger chain and the familiar golden M sign can be found in almost every country in the world. So, how did this giant business start and will its future be as successful as its past?

In the 1930s, two brothers, Richard and Maurice McDonald, left their hometown of New York and went to Hollywood. They had no ambition to become movie stars but they thought Hollywood was a good place to make money. They set up a business selling snacks to the employees of the film companies: the cameramen, the technicians, the make-up artists, etc. They operated from a mobile van with a very limited menu of hamburgers, French fries, soft drinks and apple pie, all served as quickly as possible. This proved to be very popular with the customers. Their formula of speed and simplicity was so successful that, in 1948, the brothers opened a restaurant, the first of many. From then onwards, the McDonald's chain spread all over America and gradually into the wider world. In 1974, the first McDonald's restaurants reached Britain and they can now be found in nearly every town in the country.

For over 70 years, McDonald's got bigger and bigger but all this suddenly changed in 2013. Since then, there has been a significant fall in worldwide sales with a 3.3% drop in annual profits. 40% of McDonald's restaurants are in America, its massive home market, and it is here that the crisis is particularly bad. Many younger Americans prefer other food outlets which promote a 'green' image by focusing on organic food and locally sourced products. The fact that McDonald's hamburgers were recently voted as 'the worst in America' hasn't helped at all!

McDonald's management admit that they have a lot of work to do to persuade customers that their products are environmentally friendly and of good quality. Apart from quality issues, the two essential ingredients of a fast food outlet are speed and low prices, but the public have complained that the service at McDonald's is much slower than before and the prices are high. In fact, the statistics show that McDonald's prices have risen less rapidly than those of other fast food chains, but the queues are certainly longer. Perhaps this is because there is a bigger choice of things to eat than when the McDonald brothers started out so long ago! In addition, customers are now much more aware of green issues and healthy eating and the Big Mac along with other items on the McDonald's menu are often described as 'junk food'. It is not easy for the company to overcome negative publicity such as this!

It is expected that McDonald's will continue to lose its market share and become much smaller, but there is no suggestion that the company will actually go out of business and it will continue to dominate the fast food market for many years to come. The big M is not going to disappear!

Adapted from: T.Bowen (2014) *Guardian News and Media*. First published in The Observer, 26/10/14.



- 31. The McDonald brothers went to Hollywood because they**  
A. wanted to open a restaurant.  
B. were unemployed in New York.  
C. hoped to get work in the film industry.  
D. thought they could do well there.
- 32. The success of the first McDonald's business was based on**  
A. support from the Hollywood stars.  
B. offering a wide and varied menu.  
C. giving customers what they wanted.  
D. the high quality of the food.
- 33. The McDonald's business has**  
A. not been successful for a long time.  
B. more outlets in the USA than abroad.  
C. some problems to face now.  
D. no significant competitors.
- 34. McDonald's has received negative publicity because**  
A. the food is believed to be unhealthy.  
B. there is not enough choice.  
C. the prices have doubled.  
D. they make too much profit.
- 35. According to the text, in the future, McDonald's will**  
A. recover its share of the market.  
B. not be as big as it is now.  
C. disappear in the next few years.  
D. completely change its business.

**Remember to transfer your answers to the optical mark form.**



**ESB B2 Level 1 Use of English (Part Two)**

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

46. I can't \_\_\_\_\_ thinking that we made a mistake.  
A. give C. help  
B. want D. like
47. Can you wait a minute while I \_\_\_\_\_ to the post office?  
A. visit C. jump  
B. go D. enter
48. We left the shop \_\_\_\_\_ we realised that it was closing.  
A. while C. once  
B. until D. for
49. I usually like to go shopping \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. off my own C. in my own  
B. of my own D. on my own
50. Please don't \_\_\_\_\_. I really need to talk to you!  
A. hang on C. hang out  
B. hang up D. hang off
51. John speaks German and he \_\_\_\_\_ goes to Germany regularly.  
A. also C. as well  
B. too D. in addition
52. The train has been \_\_\_\_\_ by bad weather.  
A. delayed C. held on  
B. put off D. late
53. I'm not sure \_\_\_\_\_ to go or not.  
A. unless C. if  
B. when D. whether
54. My alarm went \_\_\_\_\_ at seven o'clock this morning.  
A. off C. of  
B. on D. out
55. This hotel is so \_\_\_\_\_; it has two hundred bedrooms.  
A. thin C. narrow  
B. huge D. wide

Remember to transfer your answers to the optical mark form.

## **ESB B2 Level 1 Use of English (Part Three)**

**For questions 56 – 65, read the text and for each gap choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.**

### **Stealing Brings Bad Luck!**

The ancient city of Pompeii near Naples, Italy, receives hundreds of thousands of tourists every year. It is one of Italy's top tourist (56) \_\_\_\_\_. Most tourists leave the 2,000-year-old site with photos and happy (57) \_\_\_\_\_, but some visitors take more. They take small historic objects from the city such as stones or mosaic tiles. (58) \_\_\_\_\_, many of these people are now regretting their actions. They say, since bringing them home, the objects (59) \_\_\_\_\_ their lives with bad luck. A (60) \_\_\_\_\_ manager at Pompeii said he had received hundreds of letters from across the world from people returning what they (61) \_\_\_\_\_. Many people apologised and wrote stories about their bad luck.

The same manager, Mr Osanna, told reporters about some of the stories he had read. One man from Latin America explained that his life was full of traumas after he got home from Italy with a small stone (62) \_\_\_\_\_ his pocket. A man from Spain returned five packages containing stolen items, including a small statue (63) \_\_\_\_\_ went missing in 1987. The writer complained that the statue had brought bad luck to his entire family. Mr Osanna is thinking about setting up a (64) \_\_\_\_\_ of all the letters he has received. He explained that the letters might be more fascinating than the objects. He said: "It's not that the stolen pieces are (65) \_\_\_\_\_ or highly interesting but certainly the letters are!"

Adapted from: <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1510/151017-pompeii.html#ixzz3p36J06dj>

<b>56.</b>	A. attractions B. stays	C. favourites D. visits
<b>57.</b>	A. memories B. remembers	C. souvenirs D. presents
<b>58.</b>	A. Sometimes B. Moreover	C. However D. Meanwhile
<b>59.</b>	A. are filling B. filled	C. have filled D. fill
<b>60.</b>	A. senior B. important	C. ancient D. experienced
<b>61.</b>	A. could have taken B. would have taken	C. has taken D. had taken
<b>62.</b>	A. at B. through	C. on D. in
<b>63.</b>	A. that B. what	C. whose D. who
<b>64.</b>	A. vision B. choice	C. display D. sight
<b>65.</b>	A. worth B. valuable	C. costing D. luxurious

**Remember to transfer your answers to the optical mark form.**



**ESB B2 Level 1 Use of English (Part Four)**

For questions 66 – 70, complete the gaps by choosing the correct answer A, B or C.

66. I can sleep \_\_\_\_\_ when I'm warm and cosy.  
A. comfortable                      B. comfort                      C. comfortably
67. Studying late at night before an exam is not \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. wisdom                      B. wise                      C. wisely
68. She was full of \_\_\_\_\_ on Christmas morning.  
A. excited                      B. excitedly                      C. excitement
69. I would like you to \_\_\_\_\_ what you mean.  
A. explain                      B. explanation                      C. explanatory
70. They need to work more \_\_\_\_\_ in order to meet the deadline.  
A. rapid                      B. rapidly                      C. rapidity

Remember to transfer your answers to the optical mark form.

ESB B2 Sample 2

15



## **B2 Level 1 Writing**

Choose **ONE** of the following options. Write between 180 – 200 words in English. **USE THE SEPARATE WRITING ANSWER BOOKLET.**

1. Write an **email** to your English friend inviting him/her to an end-of-year school party. Tell your friend when and where the party will be, what is going to happen at the party and any other useful information.
2. Write a **story** about a day that changed someone's life. Begin the story with the line: "*James thought it was going to be just an ordinary day...*" Continue the story.

- 
3. Write an **essay** saying what you like most about the place where you live and suggest what could be done to make it better.

**END OF PAPER**