
ES3C25 – VTCT (ITEC) Level 3 Certificate in ESOL International (C2)

Sample Assessment Material - Pack AA

Exam Paper

Instructions

- Use black ink.
- Answer all questions, all of which are held in the exam paper booklet.
- Use the VTCT Theory Examination Answer Sheet to record your answers for the multiple choice questions (MCQ), which are identified by four circles on the examination paper.
- Use the VTCT Writing Booklet provided for the writing section.
- Do all rough work in this book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Advice

- Ask any questions before the examination starts.
- Please read each question carefully before answering.



Listening Part One – 7 marks

Listen to a conversation, then select the correct answer for questions 1-7 by choosing from A), B) or C).

You will hear the conversation **twice**.

For each sentence or question, place **a black mark** over the correct answer on your answer sheet.

1.	Why did Andrew leave his previous job?
A	He has more benefits in his new job.
B	His former company was too far away from the city.
C	The new company is located in a good area.
2.	What does Andrew mention about his new job?
A	He settled into his new role quickly.
B	The building has a lot of amenities.
C	The offices are very spacious.
3.	What does Andrew say about commuting to work?
A	He finds it a nuisance.
B	It's much quicker now.
C	Public transport is unreliable.
4.	What is Andrew's current position?
A	Analyst.
B	Insurance clerk.
C	Programmer.

5.	What do they both say about the current work environment?
A	Employees have to stay up to date.
B	It can be very rewarding.
C	There is too much pressure to be the best.
6.	Which of the these is a benefit of Andrew's job?
A	Health insurance.
B	More in-house training.
C	More paid leave.
7.	Sara is contemplating changing jobs because she
A	is interested in working with social media.
B	is ready to try working somewhere different.
C	wants to work in marketing now.

Part Two – 7 marks

Listen to an interview, then select the correct answer for questions 8-14 by choosing from A), B) or C).

You will hear the interview **twice**.

For each sentence or question, place **a black mark** over the correct answer on your answer sheet.

8.	What does George Carter say about the generation gap?
A	It's a reasonably recent occurrence.
B	It's due to a constantly changing society.
C	It's related to how people communicate.
9.	What is one reason the generation gap has become more apparent?
A	People have more leisure time with their families now.
B	Young people have less respect for elders now.
C	Young people tend to move around more these days.
10.	According to George Carter, individual opinions are mainly formed
A	by the older generation.
B	during childhood.
C	throughout people's lives.
11.	The interviewer expresses surprise that
A	the different generations agree about technology and music.
B	the different generations agree on subjects that are quite controversial.
C	the topics the different generations disagree on have created a gap.

12.	George says political attitudes
A	are an area of agreement.
B	are disagreed on less often than technology and music.
C	often depend on race.
13.	The interviewer's view on handling workplace conflict is that it must be
A	demanding.
B	interesting.
C	satisfying.
14.	What systems do companies have to ease generational conflict?
A	Different generations working separately.
B	Training sessions on how to communicate.
C	Using different means to keep in contact.

Part Three - 10 marks

Listen to a broadcast, then select the correct answer to questions 15-24 by choosing from A), B) or C).

You will hear the broadcast twice.

For each sentence or question, place a **black mark** over the correct answer on your answer sheet.

15.	What does the speaker say about fresh water?
A	Agriculture needs very little of it.
B	Climate change increases rainfall.
C	The majority of it is unobtainable.
16.	What does the speaker say about the UK?
A	Climate problems have affected some regions.
B	It is notorious for wet weather.
C	Only half of its rainfall was used for farming.
17.	What type of land is the Scottish farm using?
A	Inferior quality land.
B	Natural saltmarshes.
C	Very dry land.
18.	Halophytes can be used to make
A	a type of salt.
B	natural fuel.
C	types of fabrics.

19.	What is a benefit of halophytes?
A	They help to protect rainforests.
B	They improve the quality of the soil.
C	They lower carbon levels.
20.	Who traditionally bought halophytes?
A	A well-known food store.
B	Health food outlets.
C	Mainly high-class restaurants.
21.	The halophyte called samphire
A	has become much more popular.
B	is becoming more expensive.
C	is readily available everywhere.
22.	How do halophyte farms compare with traditional farming land?
A	The crops are easier to harvest.
B	They can be costly to run.
C	They yield more crops.
23.	How does the speaker describe the halophyte farms?
A	Difficult to operate.
B	Financially feasible.
C	Slow to construct.

24.	How does the speaker feel about the future of halophytes?
A	Ambiguous.
B	Defensive.
C	Idealistic.

SAMPLE



READING – 24 MARKS

Part One - 8 marks

Read the text below and then select the correct answer to questions 25-32 by choosing from A), B), or C).

Fill in the space on your answer sheet with a **black pen only**.

There is only **one correct answer** for each number.

For each sentence or question, place **a black mark** over the correct answer on your answer sheet.

SAMPLE

<p>1.</p>	<p>It's not uncommon to hear parents protest against the amount of time their children spend online. This is particularly true when it comes to gaming. Yet young people also despair of their parents' attitude towards gaming. They take exception to the fact that parents are unable to recognise how gaming may help them. Parents dismiss the fact that gaming is important to young people and actually offers a number of benefits.</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>What youngsters want is for parents to actually try and find out why they enjoy gaming and recognise that it does involve interaction with friends and other people. The appeal for many of the young, in their own words, is the fact that it is a way to unwind after school and a good form of escapism from every day anxieties. They meet people from all over the world who have a similar interest. It is easier to build relationships this way as people can be more anonymous and dispense with small talk. Overall, all young people feel playing video games helps them deal better with demanding situations and negative emotions and that it has a positive impact on their mental health.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Are the older generation justified in their concerns? It is undeniable that anything taken to excess will usually becoming damaging so moderation seems to be the key here. One frequent objection often raised to gaming is the fact that it can make players antisocial. Yet as mentioned, a communal aspect to gaming does exist as some games involve cooperating with other players and talking with them through text or voice chat. Another criticism is the fact that it's harmful for eyesight but one study found that people who play games are able to see more detail, especially in the periphery of their eyesight. Promoting a sedentary lifestyle is a further complaint but the rise of Virtual Reality games is changing this as they involve moving around.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Research conducted on gaming and gamers has also yielded a range of results. Gaming can improve some cognitive abilities – especially visuospatial skills and concentration. Visuospatial ability is the ability to recognize and remember objects and the relations between those objects. This skill can be essential for everyday tasks such as driving, finding your way around, or making sense of a map or objects around you. A common research finding from multiple studies has shown that gaming improves problem-solving skills. Games have also been proven to improve the ability to multitask. Many games force players to perform several tasks at the same time – especially in action games.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>A particularly unforeseen outcome of one research study is that a by-product of gaming is an improvement in literacy skills and creativity. Children who participated in the survey said they read lots of content about video games including books, reviews, blogs, in-game communications and fan fiction. In line with other studies which refute the idea of gaming being an isolating activity, 76% of those who took part in the study talk to their friends about gaming and feel this can help build better group connections.</p>

25	What is the main message of the first paragraph?
A	Adults and children very rarely agree.
B	Children feel misunderstood by their parents.
C	Children spend insufficient time on homework.
26	Which word or phrase could best replace “protest against” in the first paragraph?
A	concur with
B	criticise
C	falsify
27	What does the writer believe about gaming?
A	Adults should be worried about it.
B	It often leads to addiction.
C	Some restraint needs to be shown.
28	The purpose of the third paragraph is to
A	challenge common objections to gaming.
B	criticise the attitude of the older generation.
C	summarise frequent criticisms of gaming.
29	What is a benefit of gaming according to research?
A	An ability for faster decision-making.
B	An aptitude for doing different things simultaneously.
C	An enhanced memory function.

30	What is the writer's attitude towards some of the research findings?
A	Neutral.
B	Satisfied.
C	Surprised.
31	Which word could replace "refute" in paragraph 5?
A	alleviate
B	concede
C	contradict
32	What is the most appropriate title for this text?
A	Gaming: Is it really so bad for you?
B	How do generational perceptions of gaming differ?
C	Is the image of gaming under threat?

Part Two – 8 marks

Read the text below and then select the correct answer to questions 33-40 by choosing from A), B), or C).

Fill in the space on your answer sheet with a **black pen only**.

There is only **one correct answer** for each number.

For each sentence or question, place **a black mark** over the correct answer on your answer sheet.

SAMPLE

<p>1.</p>	<p>Animal-assisted therapy (AAT) is a therapeutic intervention that is used to enhance and complement the benefits of traditional medicine or therapy. It is rooted in the human-animal bond that can develop between patients and animals. Animals can provide a sense of calm, comfort, or safety and divert attention away from a stressful situation and towards one that provides enjoyment. A therapy plan is provided which will involve doing activities with an animal and an animal handler. Dogs are most commonly used but also cats, horses, rabbits and even dolphins.</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>This bond may help with a variety of mental health conditions including stress, anxiety and addiction, as well as emotional and behavioural problems in children, by improving mood and well-being, increasing social interactions, stabilising emotions and improving communication. Some forms of AAT can sometimes improve other conditions, such as epilepsy, pain, recovery after an operation or a major stroke, or any other condition that causes a person to lose mobility skills. The therapy assists by increasing movement and activity through walks or play and generally encourages exercise.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Not everybody is a likely candidate for this particular intervention, for example anyone who fears animals or is allergic to them. In some cases, a patient can become very attached to the animal. Over a longer period of time this feeling could lead to possessiveness or actually decrease a person's satisfaction with therapy.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Undoubtedly the notion that interacting with animals can help to heal issues is appealing, particularly for those of us who love pets. But how effective is AAT? A review of the literature finds plenty of studies where animal-assisted therapy has helped with a number of different conditions. On the other hand, many existing studies of the treatment are flawed in terms of methodology. For example, there is little evidence that the improvements seen in animal therapy studies are due to the presence of the animal, as opposed to interacting with the animal's sympathetic handler. Among the most common weaknesses are: insufficient numbers of subjects and a lack of written records spelling out the treatment procedures which is important for standardisation and replication. There is also a tendency to put a favourable perspective on negative results (e.g., "While interacting with the therapy dogs did not actually decrease the patients' symptoms, the participants reported that they enjoyed interacting with the animals.")</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Another major issue with the literature on animal-assisted therapy is something known as the "file drawer effect." This is the tendency for research that finds positive results to be published whereas studies in which treatments do not work are rarely published. As a result, published findings are heavily biased toward one position. This is common in most fields, so not only are more rigorous clinical trials needed to assess the efficacy of animal-assisted therapy, but also a change in approach so that all studies are published regardless of the findings.</p>

33.	What does the writer initially say about animal-assisted therapy?
A	It can be used to replace conventional medicine.
B	It focuses on distraction techniques.
C	It involves the use of land-based animals.
34.	The main message of the second paragraph is that AAT
A	improves psychological and physical well-being.
B	is less effective for those who are inactive.
C	is more appropriate for treating children.
35.	What is a potential problem with AAT?
A	Patients can become too emotionally involved.
B	Patients can develop allergies to their animal.
C	The animal may not get on with the patient.
36.	How does the writer feel about AAT?
A	It's a controversial treatment.
B	It's an attractive concept.
C	It's been proven to be effective.
37.	Which word could best replace "flawed" in the fourth paragraph?
A	dishonest
B	inaccurate
C	protected

38.	What issue regarding research on AAT is mentioned?
A	Not enough studies have been carried out.
B	The methods are not scientific enough.
C	There are too many conflicting results.
39.	What does the writer say about negative results?
A	It is a common phenomenon in AAT research.
B	They are not objective enough.
C	They are often presented positively.
40.	What does the writer conclude?
A	The file drawer effect does have some benefits.
B	The file drawer effect is not commonly observed in other disciplines.
C	There needs to be a shift in researcher attitude.

Part Three – 8 marks

Read the text below and then select the correct answer to questions 41-48 by choosing from A), B), C) or D).

Fill in the space on your answer sheet with a **black pen only**.

There is only **one correct answer** for each number.

For each sentence or question, place **a black mark** over the correct answer on your answer sheet.

SAMPLE

1.	Globally, an estimated 92 million tonnes of textile waste is generated each year, and this figure will rocket to more than 134 million tonnes by 2030, if clothing manufacturing and consumer habits continue in their current vein.
2.	So, a Finnish start-up business is trying to transform how we make clothes. The firm, Infinited Fiber, has invested in technology which transforms textiles that would otherwise be incinerated or sent to landfills, into a new clothing fibre. The science involved in producing the fibre has actually been around since the 1980s, but it's only rapid technological advancements in the last few years that have finally made mass production a more realistic prospect.
3.	The fibre produced by Infinited Fiber, called Infinna, is a textile fibre which has the appearance and texture of cotton and it's already in use with many big corporations and clothing brands. The product is produced through a complicated, multi-step process which begins by shredding old textiles and removing all the synthetic dyes and materials. The process ends with a new fibre, which has been regenerated from the old, extracted fibre. This finished fibre can then simply be utilised in traditional production processes used by High Street brands to replace synthetic and cotton fibres, creating everything from dresses to jeans.
4.	Infinited Fiber is tied into a wider vision in Finland, which wants to become Europe's leading recycling economy, with a focus on reusing and saving resources. Several other Finnish start-ups are looking at ways to produce new textile fibres on a big scale, while also cutting down on harmful emissions and chemicals as are other countries such as Sweden.
5.	But experts say there are a range of challenges facing these new fibre brands as they develop their expansions. For example, the clothing manufacturing sector has, until recently, been slower than many other industries at embracing sustainability, which could set the tone for a slower transformation than companies like Infinited Fiber are anticipating. Simply putting more sustainable fibres into the multibillion-dollar fashion industry won't be enough to combat climate change, if we keep creating and purchasing clothes at the rate we currently do. There is really no sustainable development unless the global natural resource consumption is radically decreased to a level that fits within sustainable boundaries.
6.	However, the companies remain optimistic and believe that if investment continues, the recycled fibres could become mainstream within ten to fifteen years which would no doubt make some inroads on sustainability.

41.	The language in the first paragraph is designed to make the reader feel
A	alarmed.
B	wary.
C	withdrawn.
42.	The writer says the company Infinited Fiber
A	can mass produce new clothes.
B	have created a recycled fibre.
C	started developing their business in the 1980s.
43.	Infinna is
A	incompatible with artificial dyes.
B	made from the cleaned fibre of old clothes.
C	often generated from cotton.
44.	What is the main message of the fourth paragraph?
A	Europe emphasises economical production processes.
B	The Finnish aim to be European fashion industry leaders.
C	The Finnish are focused on sustainable clothes manufacturing.
45.	Why does the writer believe there will be little impact on climate change?
A	Fashion manufacturing lacks funds for environmentally-friendly practices.
B	Overall, too many clothes are still produced and sold.
C	The clothes production sector is reluctant to work with companies like Infinited Fiber.

46.	The writer thinks the companies' attitude is?
A	Fairly misguided.
B	Not completely unjustified.
C	Quite pessimistic.
47.	What word could replace "embracing" in paragraph 5?
A	incorporating
B	maintaining
C	repudiating
48.	What is the most appropriate title for this text?
A	A New Player in Designer Fashion
B	New Possibilities for Sustainable Fashion
C	The Intractable Problems of Fast Fashion



WRITING – 24 MARKS

There are 12 marks available for Part One and 12 marks available for Part Two.

Part One – 12 marks

Choose **ONE** of the following tasks between A, B, C and D.

Write a **formal** response in the correct format for the type of text. Please pay attention to the required word count for your text.

For your chosen **ONE** option, you must write between **250 and 350 words**.

Write clearly and use a **black pen only**.

SAMPLE

Option A – You regularly read and post on a student website. The website has asked you to write an article about the education system in your country.

Include in your article:

- What you consider to be the benefits of the education system
- What the disadvantages are
- How these issues could be improved
- How education might develop in the future

Option B - A book website has asked readers to send in reviews of a book. You decide to write a review.

Include in your review:

- A brief summary of the plot/what the book is about
- Why you wanted to read this book
- The strengths and weaknesses of the book
- How it compares to other books of the same genre

Option C - You have read an online article about how social media changes a person's communication skills. You decide to write an article in reply presenting your views on this matter.

Include in your article:

- Whether you believe social media affects people's communication skills
- The impact of this behaviour on both individuals and society
- How face-to-face communication differs from online communication
- The ways that means of communication may develop

Option D - Your place of work/study wants ideas on how it can be more environmentally-friendly. You decide to submit a proposal with your suggestions.

Include in your proposal:

- Why an environmentally-friendly work/study place is so important
- What environmental problems you have noticed in your work/study place
- Suggest how these issues could be resolved
- Suggest how other colleagues/students can get involved

Part Two – 12 marks

Write an informal response in the correct format for the type of text.

Please pay attention to the required word count for your text.

You must write between **250 and 350 words**.

Write clearly and use a **black pen only**.

You live in the countryside near a large lake which attracts a lot of visitors. Rubbish is starting to build up and you and some friends are organising a Clear Up Day, collecting the rubbish. Email a friend to encourage them to join you.

Include in your email:

- Why the rubbish is becoming an issue for the community
- Why you have decided to get involved
- What your group plans to do on the day
- How it will benefit the local area

END OF EXAM

SAMPLE