

# ESOL Skills for Life (QCF)

---

## Level 1 – Reading

### Sample 2



Time allowed: 60 minutes

Please answer **all** questions. Circle your answers in pen, **not** pencil, **on the separate answer sheet**.  
You may **not** use dictionaries. You may **not** use correction fluid.

**Task 1**

Questions 1-6 test your ability to read a text quickly for the general idea, and to scan it for key words and phrases. You are advised to read the questions **before** you read the text.

**Questions 1-4**

The text on page 3 has six paragraphs. Each paragraph has a purpose. Choose the letter of the paragraph which best matches the purposes below. Circle the letter **on your answer sheet**. You do not need to use all of the paragraphs.

Example: *to describe what affects sport participation* ..... A .....

1. to describe sports habits over time ..... ..
2. to summarise which people don't do much sport ..... ..
3. to compare gender differences in sport choice ..... ..
4. to describe which groups of people participate in sport ..... ..

**Questions 5-6**

Choose the letter of the best answer and circle it **on your answer sheet**.

5. According to the text, 20% of people last year
  - A reduced their sporting activities
  - B didn't do any physical exercise
  - C increased their physical activities
6. The writer
  - A believes sport is good for health
  - B thinks everybody should do sport
  - C gives no opinion on sport and health

## Adults and sport

### Paragraph A

A recent study shows that there are many factors which influence people's sporting habits. These are age, gender, financial circumstances, ethnicity, health, available free time and their responsibilities. Other factors include whether people played sport as a child and how near they live to sports facilities.

### Paragraph B

Participation in sport is often higher among younger people, car owners, students and those with a higher income. Managers, for example, usually take part in sport more frequently than those in other jobs, and people in full-time employment are more likely to cycle for recreation than others.

### Paragraph C

The most popular sports differ according to whether the participant is male or female. Equal numbers of men and women walk for leisure and relaxation; and both males and females enjoy swimming and cycling. However, while women tend to be mainly interested in swimming and the gym, male interest is spread across a range of different activities.

### Paragraph D

Time, expense and health problems are the most common reasons for not taking up a sport. For example, many people say they are too busy to exercise or they can't afford a gym membership. Last year, 20% of people did not take part in any sporting activities over a long period of time.

### Paragraph E

Those most likely not to participate in any sporting activities at all are people who are over seventy-five years old, those who live in remote areas, people who are unwell or who are too busy with work or spending time with their families.

### Paragraph F

Although there have been some changes in the last few years, sports participation rates have remained mostly unchanged. While the number of people taking part in sport has not changed overall, in the last two years, the number of people cycling has increased, as has the number of people running.

**Task 2****Questions 7-10**

Five sentences are missing from the text on page 5. Look at the following six sentences and decide which one best fits each gap. Circle the letter of your answer **on your answer sheet**. There is an example (A). There is one sentence you do not need.

- A ~~The British Institute of Graphologists state that an Italian, Camillo Baldi, was the first to publish research on the subject in 1622.~~
- B In medicine it is not used to heal the patient but to discover what is wrong.
- C There is less disagreement about who first used the word graphology.
- D There are other less common uses of graphology.
- E Graphology will be used increasingly in the future.
- F Nowadays graphology is used for a range of purposes.

**Questions 11-13**

Choose the letter of the best answer and circle it **on your answer sheet**.

11. According to paragraph one
- A the words that a person writes are an important factor in graphology
  - B graphology works better in some languages than it does in others
  - C graphology is used to analyse characteristics and not emotional states
12. According to paragraph four
- A companies ask people who are looking for a job to write part of the form by hand
  - B companies choose applicants who have handwritten their application forms
  - C companies select employees who are good at solving problems
13. According to paragraph eight
- A everyone believes in the value of graphology tests
  - B graphology tests are proved to be inaccurate
  - C companies and individuals still want to use graphologists

**Questions 14-16**

Choose the letter of the answer which best matches the meaning of each word as it is used in the text. Circle the letter **on your answer sheet**.

14. In paragraph five, **debatable** means
- A uncertain
  - B unbelievable
  - C unhelpful
15. In paragraph six, **effective** means
- A useless
  - B active
  - C suitable
16. In paragraph seven, **likelihood** means
- A chances
  - B effects
  - C risks

## The uses of graphology

### Paragraph one

Graphology is the analysis of a person's handwriting. It can tell you about someone's personality or even how that person was feeling when they wrote the text. It does not matter what they write or what language they write in, though it is less effective with some written languages.

### Paragraph two

          **A (Example)**          . However, some researchers claim the first publication was by a Spanish psychologist in the 16th century. He carried out an analysis of children's handwriting in order to learn about their personalities.

### Paragraph three

          **7.**          . It was a Frenchman, Jean Hyppolyte Michon, who came up with the word. 'Graphology' comes from the Greek term meaning the study of writing. A more recent name for it is 'graphoanalysis', though some graphoanalysts argue that there is a difference between the two.

### Paragraph four

          **8.**          . Its most common use is in choosing suitable employees. Many application forms specify that a section must be completed in the applicant's own handwriting. This is used to identify characteristics like the applicant's ability to solve problems.

### Paragraph five

          **9.**          . These include its use for medical purposes and for tests to see how like-minded couples are. How effective the results of both of these uses are is **debatable**. Some people have said that the tests might be unreliable and may be a waste of time.

### Paragraph six

          **10.**          . Graphologists do not claim that they can diagnose all illnesses. However, they believe graphology can be an **effective** tool for identifying problems a person might have with using their muscles.

### Paragraph seven

Some people use graphologists to make sure they will get on with the person they would like to marry. The graphologist looks at a sample from both people in the relationship and comments on the **likelihood** of the relationship lasting.

### Paragraph eight

There are many people who are doubtful about the use of graphology. However, the fact that it has stood the test of time suggests that there must be some truth to it. If there was not, we would not have so many companies and individuals seeking the services of graphologists.

**Task 3**

Texts A-E on pages 8-10 are all related to each other. You need to use all five texts to answer the following questions.

**Questions 17-19**

There are five texts, A-E. Decide which text matches each of the purposes below and circle the letter of the text **on your answer sheet**. One of the texts does not have a purpose listed below.

Example: to give health and safety instructions ..... A

17. to invite someone for a job interview .....
18. to advertise a job in a supermarket .....
19. to give personal details and contact information .....

**Questions 20-21**

Choose the letter of the best answer and circle it **on your answer sheet**.

20. Which text is mainly instructional?

- A text A
- B text B
- C text C

21. Which text is the most informal?

- A text C
- B text D
- C text E

**Questions 22-27**

Look through all of the texts to find the answer to the questions below. Choose the letter of the best answer and circle it **on your answer sheet**.

22. The purpose of the picture in text A is to

- A demonstrate the correct position when lifting goods
- B to give an illustration of different types of packages
- C to warn staff of the dangers of lifting heavy goods

23. Joma Ibrahim

- A has worked in a warehouse in Iran
- B has passed at least one English exam
- C is not able to drive a car in the UK

24. The HR manager of Wilson's Supermarket is called

- A Bill Stanford
- B Marta Czerwinska
- C Jane Swinton

- 25.** The Warehouse Operative job involves
- A doing paperwork
  - B driving a van
  - C ordering products
- 26.** Why did Joma leave his job at Gregson's Electronics?
- A he left Iran and came to the UK
  - B he wanted to learn more English
  - C he preferred to do voluntary work
- 27.** To work as a Warehouse Operative at Wilson's Supermarket you must
- A be able to use a computer
  - B have previous experience
  - C have qualifications in Maths

**Questions 28-30**

Choose the letter of the best answer and circle it **on your answer sheet**.

- 28. remove** (text A) means
- A lift up
  - B leave out
  - C take away
- 29. punctual** (text B) means
- A honest
  - B on time
  - C available
- 30. willing to do** (text E) means
- A positive about doing something
  - B worried about doing something
  - C confident about doing something

## Text A

## Wilson's Supermarket: Health and Safety Manual

### Chapter 4: Lifting

#### Safety: Lifting and shelf stacking in supermarkets

Follow these tips to ensure your safety when lifting, moving and stacking items in Wilson's Supermarket:

- Plan the lift – make sure you know where you are supposed to take the items, whether you will need to **remove** objects so you have a clear path and if you will need help. Consider using machinery if the load is very heavy or large.
- Stand in a steady position – your feet should be apart. Put one leg slightly forward as this will help you keep your balance.
- Think about your clothing – don't wear tight clothing which might affect your movements. Make sure your shoes are suitable and cover your toes.
- Get a good hold – try to hug the load close to your body instead of just holding the item in your hands.
- Starting the lift – bend your back, hips and knees a little and keep the load close to your body. Avoid twisting the body or leaning to the side and keep your shoulders straight.
- Moving – turn by moving the feet rather than moving your body, keep your head up, look ahead and move smoothly, not in sharp movements.



## Text B

### Warehouse Operative required

– Excellent pay and conditions –

– City centre location –

Wilson's Supermarket in Bowfield requires a Warehouse Operative to start immediately.

#### Duties

You will perform a variety of duties. You will lift products manually and use lifting equipment. You must move products from the van to the warehouse and occasionally onto the shop floor. You will make sure documentation is correct and maintain a clean and safe working environment.

#### Experience and Skills

Previous experience of working in a warehouse is desired but not essential, as full training is given. You must have basic IT skills and be able to use a PC and word-processing software. You need to be physically fit and healthy. Only **punctual**, flexible and hard-working applicants should apply.

#### Benefits

We pay a good hourly rate of pay. There is free staff parking, discounts on products in the supermarket and opportunities for promotion within the company.

If you are interested in the position, please send your CV to Bill Standford (General Manager), Wilson's Supermarket, 17 High Street, Bowfield, BW4 7TH.



## Text C

## Curriculum Vitae

**Name:** Joma Ibrahim

**Gender:** Male

**Date of birth:** 15/06/92

**Address:** 67 Bridge St  
Bowfield  
BW3 6XY

**Mobile:** 07679 852423

### Education:

2013 – present Bowfield F E College  
1997 – 2008 G F High School, Tehran, Iran

### Qualifications

IT diploma Level 1  
ESOL Level 1 Speaking & Listening  
ESOL Entry 3 Reading & Writing  
ESOL & Maths Entry 3  
High school diploma

### Experience

2013 – present Voluntary work, charity shop, Bowfield – shop assistant  
2012 – 2013 Warehouse Assistant, Gregson's Electronics, Bowfield – lifting, doing paperwork  
2008 – 2012 Shop Assistant (family business), Tehran – lifting, packing, serving customers

### Skills and qualities

- Literate and numerate
- Driving licence
- Physically fit
- Computer skills
- Languages: English, Farsi, Arabic

**Reference:** Tasha Jones (ESOL Teacher)  
Bowfield FE College  
Bowfield  
BW1 7GD

**Text D**

Wilson's Supermarket  
17 High Street  
Bowfield  
BW4 7TH

11th April 2015  
67 Bridge St  
Bowfield  
BW3 6XY

Dear Mr Ibrahim,

Thank you very much for sending your CV in application for the position of Warehouse Operative at Wilson's Supermarket. I would like to discuss this with you further and am inviting you to attend an interview.

Your interview is at 9.15am on Friday 8th May 2015 with the HR Manager, Mrs Jane Swinton. When you arrive, please go to the Customer Services Desk at the front of the store and a member of staff will accompany you to the office. The interview will last about 30 minutes.

Please bring your certificates, identification and proof of address. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Marta Czerwinka  
(Administration Assistant)

**Text E****Interview Notes**

**Name:** Joma Ibrahim

**Interview date:** 08/05/15

**Position applied for:** Warehouse Operative

**Interviewer:** Jane Swinton

**Comments:**

Joma has a nice, friendly manner. He was on time for the interview. He speaks English fluently and is studying part-time at college. He has good computer skills. Joma says he is happy to work overtime if necessary, which is a real plus. He has had limited experience of working in a warehouse - he left his last job to concentrate on learning English (which is noticeable!). He is keen to learn and willing to do training. He is currently doing voluntary work so is available to start immediately!

**Action:** I have contacted Ms Jones at Bowfield FE College and requested a reference.



