



Ascentis

ESOL Skills for Life

First Name	Surname	Date of Birth
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Centre Name

Reading
Level 1
 Guide Time: 80 minutes

Assessment Criteria	Tick if achieved
1.1	
1.2	
1.3	
1.4	
2.1	
3.1	

SAMPLE (2)

Instructions

- You must use a pen - black or blue ink.
- Dictionaries may not be used.
- There are 4 tasks to be completed. Answer all questions.

Pass mark	12
	<hr/> 18
Mark	

	Date Task Completed	Assessor		IQA
Task 1	Name			
	Signature			
	Date			
Task 2	Name			
	Signature			
	Date			
Task 3	Name			
	Signature			
	Date			
Task 4	Name			
	Signature			
	Date			

Text 1

Revitalising the River

By Sue Grimshaw

The Mighty Colorado River does an unusual thing when it gets south of Arizona. It dies!

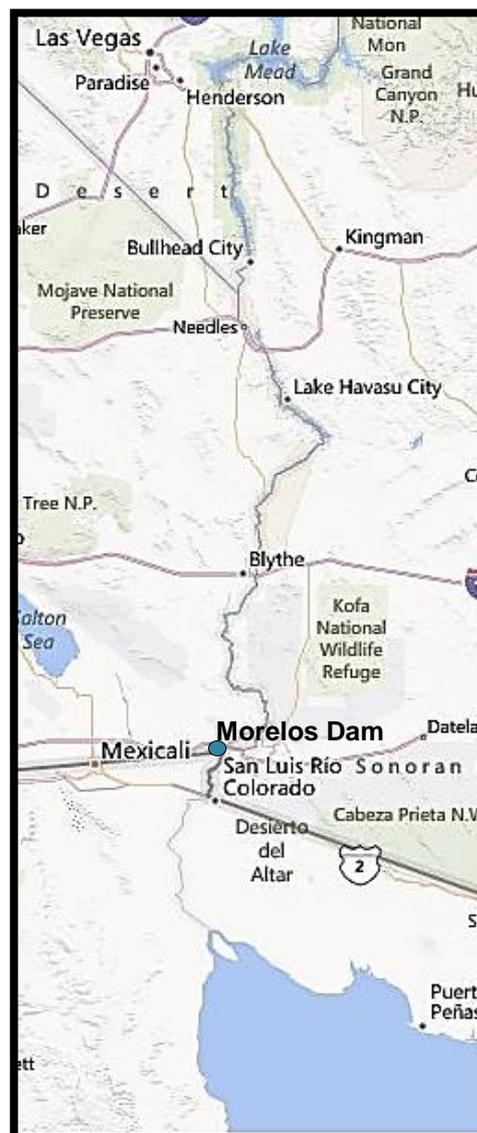
A large volume of water was released from Lake Mead in Nevada last week in an experiment to irrigate the dry area south of the border between the USA and Mexico.

The water will travel the 320 miles from Lake Mead near Las Vegas to the Morelos Dam in Mexico to provide extra water for drought-stricken farmers downstream to grow their crops. At the moment, the Morelos Dam diverts nearly all of the river water into an aqueduct to supply water to the houses and fields of nearby Tijuana. Therefore, south of the dam, the river channel is bone dry for the 75 mile journey to the Colorado River delta in the Gulf of California. It is hoped that the extra water from Lake Mead will solve the drought problem.

The 'pulse' of extra water started slowly when engineers opened the gates at the Morelos Dam. They let out about 20 cubic metres of water per second and, over the next few days, over 120 cubic metres per second will rush through the dam. Over the eight weeks of the project, an estimated 130 billion litres will be released overall. Enough to supply 210,000 average homes for one year!

Experts from both the USA and Mexico hope that the experiment will be a success. However, many believe it will be unlikely that much water will actually reach the Gulf of California and will just soak into the soil or be left standing in the river channel.

It is the only release planned so far. At the end of the pilot, government officials will decide whether the 'pulses' have been a success.



Task 1 (Guide time 20 minutes)

Read Text 1 and answer questions 1–4.

Your answers must be based on the information in the text.

1 What is the **main** point of this text?

Tick one box

- a An experiment in water management
- b The problems of Mexican farmers
- c The history and geography of the Colorado River
- d Water is a sacred resource in Mexico

2 Give one text feature which suggests that it is a newspaper article.

3 *“Therefore, south of the dam, the river channel is bone dry for the 75 mile journey to the Colorado River delta in the Gulf of California,”*

What does the phrase **‘bone dry’** mean in this sentence? Tick one box

- a Almost dry
- b Quite dry
- c Extremely dry
- d Never dry

4 What is the **main** purpose of this text?

Tick one box

- a To entertain
- b To inform
- c To warn
- d To debate

Question	Assessment Criteria	Tick if achieved
1	1.1	
2	1.3	
3	1.4	
4	2.1	
Total Marks		/4

Text 2

Jane Austen (1775–1817)

Paragraph 1

Jane Austen was a famous novelist whose romantic fiction stories have become some of the most widely read in English Literature. She was born in Steventon into a large family of six brothers. She also had a sister, Cassandra, who, like Jane, died unmarried.



Paragraph 2

Jane Austen's first novel, *Sense and Sensibility*, was published in 1811. This was followed by *Pride and Prejudice* two years later. There were four further books: *Mansfield Park*, *Emma*, *Northanger Abbey* and *Persuasion*. The latter two, although written earlier in 1803, were not published until after Austen's death in 1817. Jane began a sixth novel, which was eventually titled *Sanditon*, but she died before completing it and it remains unfinished.

Paragraph 3

Pride and Prejudice, Jane Austen's most popular novel, was first published in 1813. The story follows the main character of Elizabeth Bennet, the daughter of a country gentleman, as she faces issues such as manners, morality and marriage in 19th century English society. Elizabeth is the second of five daughters who live near the fictional town of Meryton in Hertfordshire. She meets an eligible bachelor of independent means, Mr Darcy. Handsome, tall and intelligent, his aloof behaviour is seen by many as excessive pride. Throughout the progression of the plot they begin to see each other in a different light. At the end of the book, both overcome their differences and fall in love with each other. They eventually marry to the great delight of Elizabeth's mother.

Paragraph 4

If you would like any further information about Jane Austen and her works, why not join the Jane Austen Community? Visit their website <http://www.janeausten.co.uk> or telephone 01225 630000. Follow them on Twitter, Facebook and other social media.

Task 2 (Guide time 20 minutes)

Read Text 2 and answer questions 1–4.

Your answers must be based on information in the text.

- 1 The text has four paragraphs. Each paragraph has a main topic. Choose the most suitable description for each paragraph.

An introduction to Jane Austen	1
Information about the Jane Austen Society	
Jane Austen's publications	
The plot of a book by Jane Austen	

- 2 Complete the table with names from the text.

The name of a rich unmarried man	
The daughter of a gentleman	
The birthplace of a famous writer	
The title of an unfinished book	

- 3 What type of text is this?

- a Informative
- b Descriptive
- c Persuasive
- d Discursive

Tick one box

- 4 When was *Northanger Abbey* published?

- a 1817
- b 1803
- c 1813
- d 1811

Tick one box

Question	Assessment Criteria	Tick if achieved
1	1.1	
2	1.2	
3	2.1	
4	3.1	
Total marks /4		

Text 3

The Green Project

Cashback for making environmentally friendly changes to your home



What is the Green Project?

The Green Project is a scheme to help the environment and save customers money. Green Project customers will be able to claim cashback from the Government when they make improvements to their homes which will save energy, for example improving insulation or fitting more efficient front doors, windows or boilers.

The amount of cashback you will receive rises with the number of improvements you make. Only one claim for cashback is allowed, but the claim can include a number of different improvements. You must make your applications for cashback before 31st May. You must complete all work and submit cashback vouchers prior to 1st September.

Who can apply?

This cashback programme allows people who own their own homes to make home improvements which will save energy. You may be able to claim for up to 75% of the cost of your home improvements. The more changes you make, the more money you could claim. At this present time the scheme is not available for those in rented accommodation.

How can I claim?

To participate in the cashback scheme offered by the Green Project, you should:

- organise a Green Project Assessor to check your home
- agree a quote from a Green Project service provider
- apply for your cashback voucher (either online or by phone) before starting the improvements
- complete the work within a maximum of three months (or six months for wall insulation)
- receive your cashback payment once the work is complete

Get in touch with the Green Project staff on 0305 666 0408 or email customerservice@greenproject.gov.uk with any queries or for further information.

Task 3 (Guide time 20 minutes)

Read Text 3 and answer questions 1–5.

Your answers must be based on information in the text.

- 1 How can you get cashback for new windows? Put the following points in the correct order.

Arrange a visit from a Green Project Provider	1
Claim the cashback	
Telephone 0300 555 0201 for a voucher	
Finish installing double-glazed windows	

- 2 Which of these language features show that the text contains instructions?

Tick one box

a past tense

b complex sentences

c imperatives

d questions

- 3 *'agree a quote from a Green Project service provider.'*
What does **'quote'** mean in the text?

Tick one box

a a list of materials needed

b a list of work to be done and the price

c a statement from the Green Project provider

d a computer programming language

4 Who would read this text for information?

Tick one box

a local builders

b council tenants

c shop keepers

d homeowners

5 Complete the following sentence.

To get cashback for wall insulation, you must complete the work within

.....

Question	Assessment Criteria	Tick if achieved
1	1.2	
2	1.3	
3	1.4	
4	2.1	
5	3.1	
Total marks		/5

Text 4

What is work-related stress?

Stress can result from a variety of circumstances in either our work life or personal life at any time. Stress is different from pressure. Many people feel pressure on a daily basis. In fact sometimes we need a bit of pressure to motivate us and to perform well. However, work-related stress is different from just feeling under pressure in our job. It occurs when we experience too much pressure, to the extent that work demands become overpowering and we don't feel able to cope.



What causes work-related stress?

There are six areas which are the main causes of work-related stress:

- Amount of management support
- Position in the company
- How changes are made and managed
- Demands of the workplace
- Relationships with other employees
- Level of control an employee has

What obligation does my employer have?

Employers in the UK have a legal 'duty of care' to protect not only the safety, but also the health of all their staff. Employers must assess risks from hazards at work and this also includes work-related stress.

How can I deal with stress?

If you feel you are experiencing stress you should inform management. Management may be able to do something to reduce some of the pressure at work, even if the stress is not related to the work environment but other personal issues. Many employees are reluctant to talk about stress at work due to the stigma attached to it: they believe colleagues may think they are weak. But stress does not show weakness and many people experience it at some time in their lives.

Task 4 (Guide time 20 minutes)

Read Text 4 and answer questions 1–5.

Your answers should be based on information from the text.

1 The best title for this text is

Tick one box

- a The causes of stress
- b Employee stress
- c Coping with stress at home
- d The difference between stress and pressure

2 The following sentence is missing from the text.

'If you report it, your manager must find out the cause of your work-related stress.'

Which paragraph should this line be placed in?

Tick one box

- a Paragraph 1
- b Paragraph 2
- c Paragraph 3
- d Paragraph 4

3 The paragraph headings are in question form. This is because

Tick one box

- a the writer doesn't know the answer.
- b it helps the reader find the answers.
- c it makes the text more serious.
- d it is testing the reader's knowledge.

4 *'Many employees are reluctant to talk about stress at work due to the stigma attached to it'.*

What does the word '**stigma**' mean in this sentence?

- a shame
- b ambiguity
- c dilemma
- d cost

Tick one box

5 According to the text, which of the statements below is true?

- a Getting stressed is usually because of problems at work.
- b Major changes at work can cause stress.
- c Health and safety problems can cause stress.
- d You should delay telling your manager if you are stressed.

Tick one box

END OF ASSESSMENT

Question	Assessment Criteria	Tick if achieved
1	1.1	
2	1.2	
3	1.3	
4	1.4	
5	3.1	
Total marks		/5



Ofqual Accreditation Number

Ascentis Level 1 Certificate in ESOL Skills for Life - 601/4082/3

Ascentis Level 1 Award in ESOL Skills for Life (Reading) - 601/4281/9