



HIPPO 2023 SEMI-FINAL ROUND READING TEST

CEFR **B1**
HIPPO CATEGORY **HIPPO 3**

Candidate Number _____

Date of Birth _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANDIDATES:

Do NOT turn over the page until instructed.

Answer all the questions.

Use only black or blue PEN.

Dictionaries are not allowed.

Remember to transfer your answers onto the answer sheet.

Time allowed:

Reading 40 minutes

GATEHOUSE
AWARDS





Reading Task 1

Read the text and circle the best option to complete each gap – a, b, c, or d.

History of plastic

Plastic is really useful and we use **0)** every day. But what happens after we throw it away is **1)** a big problem for our planet. It's thought that more than five trillion pieces of plastic are in the world's oceans and it **2)** take years for it to break down.

Plastic is **3)** in lots of things we use, from clothing to crisp packets, bottles and buckets. Making things from plastic is popular **4)** there are many different types of it, and it can be made into all sorts of shapes, colours and sizes. Plastics are man-made and can be **5)** from natural materials like coal and oil.

The first synthetic plastic - plastic made totally from man-made materials - was **6)** over 100 years ago. It was called Bakelite and was invented by Belgian chemist Leo Baekeland in the early 1900s. Many think Bakelite was the **7)** of plastics as we know them today.

People can pretty much do **8)** they want with plastic. It can be coloured or clear, thick or thin, strong or weak. This means that a lot of different things can be made from it. If you look around your home or school, you'll **9)** most things have plastic in them, **10)** your pencil case, games consoles, and even clothing.

- Example:** a) it b) them c) that d) those
1. a) responding to b) solving c) causing d) dealing with
 2. a) would b) should c) must d) can
 3. a) present b) urgent c) forbidden d) permanent
 4. a) moreover b) however c) because d) even though
 5. a) given b) produced c) protected d) performed
 6. a) operated b) installed c) imagined d) created
 7. a) change b) beginning c) highlight d) recipe
 8. a) whatever b) which c) however d) little
 9. a) watch b) tell c) find d) report
 10. a) rarely b) regarding c) according to d) including

(10 marks)



Reading Task 2

Read the text and answer the questions below. Circle the correct option, a, b, c, or d.

Ray Kroc and McDonald's Restaurants

Raymond (Ray) Albert Kroc was a very rich businessman when he died in 1984. But he had not always been successful. Ray was born in Illinois, USA, in 1902, to parents who didn't earn a lot of money. He attended school in Oak Park, near Chicago, and achieved good grades. However, Ray never completed high school. He left school at fifteen to become a driver for the Red Cross in World War One. He lied about his age to be allowed to join, but the war ended before he could be sent to Europe.

Para. 2

Not long after the war had finished, Ray became a jazz piano player. He played in some famous music bands. He got married at the age of twenty. Then he began working for the Lily Tulip Cup, a small but fairly successful company which sold paper cups. Ray kept trying new things, GAP) _____. For example, he attempted to sell land in the southern state of Florida, but the business failed.

Ray went back to being a salesman for the Lily Tulip Cup Company. He was responsible for product sales in the central United States. His life improved when he started a small business that sold restaurant equipment. He sold a machine that could mix five milkshakes at the same time! In 1954, Ray discovered that a small restaurant was using eight of his mixers. The business was owned by two brothers, Mac and Dick McDonald. He went there to talk to the owners and found that the restaurant was doing really well selling only hamburgers, French fries and drinks.

At first, Ray focused on increasing the sales of his mixers to more restaurants. But then, he realised that restaurants could benefit from mass production of their food – just like in a factory. So, he talked to the McDonald brothers about starting a few restaurants together, and they agreed.

Ray Kroc was fifty-two years old when he opened his first two McDonalds restaurants - an age when many people start thinking about retiring from work. Soon he began to understand that the big money was made selling hamburgers, not mixers. He quickly sold the mixer company and invested the money in more McDonald's restaurants. In 1960, Mr. Kroc bought the legal rights to the restaurants from the McDonald brothers. By then, there were over two hundred McDonald's restaurants. They became known as 'fast food' restaurants.

Para.6

Fast food restaurants spread quickly in the United States because of franchising. Franchising means selling the legal right to run a restaurant to an independent businessperson. Today, many people want to own a McDonald's restaurant, but only a few are accepted by the main business (the parent company), so it's not GAP) _____ to get a franchise. Each restaurant buys its equipment at low cost from the parent company. The restaurants also give the main company about ten percent of the money they earn in sales.



Para. 7

Ray came up with three main GAP) _____ for running McDonald's restaurants. He stated that every restaurant must offer "quality, service and cleanliness." Nowadays, people lucky enough to get a franchise must complete a programme at a training centre called Hamburger University. They learn how to cook and serve the food, and how to keep the building clean.

In later years, Ray started the Kroc Foundation, a private organisation that gives money to help others. He also opened a number of centres that offer support to families of children who suffer from serious illnesses. They are called Ronald McDonald houses.

Para. 9

Many people admire Ray Kroc for his company's success and the work he did to help those who are not fortunate in life. GAP) _____, some people are not impressed with the way McDonald's treats young members of staff, and the low salaries it pays them. Moreover, health experts still point out that McDonald's food contains too much fat and salt.

Example: This text is

- a) a history of McDonalds.
- b) a news article.
- c) an academic essay.
- d) a short story.

11. Why didn't Ray finish high school?

- a) Because of the grades he received.
- b) Because he needed to help his parents.
- c) Because he wanted to take part in the war.
- d) Because he was sent to Europe.

12. In paragraph 2, the best phrase to complete the gap is

- a) therefore
- b) however
- c) otherwise
- d) typically

13. Ray did NOT do very well when he worked

- a) selling land.
- b) as a musician.
- c) selling paper cups.
- d) as a band manager.



14. What was the first product Ray's own business successfully sold?

- a) mixers
- b) fast food
- c) paper cups
- d) milkshakes

15. How did Ray first hear about the McDonald brothers?

- a) He worked at their restaurant.
- b) He had a meal at their restaurant.
- c) He sold equipment to their restaurant.
- d) He read a good review about their business.

16. Why did Ray sell the kitchen equipment company?

- a) He needed the money to buy the first restaurant.
- b) He didn't want to keep losing money.
- c) He wanted to make more money.
- d) He planned to retire early.

17. In paragraph 6, the best word to complete the gap is

- a) complicated
- b) expensive
- c) slow
- d) easy

18. Which of the following is true about McDonald franchises nowadays?

- a) They are no longer popular as a business model.
- b) All of them are accepted by the parent company.
- c) They share the earnings equally with the parent company.
- d) They sometimes buy equipment from the parent company.

19. In paragraph 7, the best word to complete the gap is

- a) options
- b) excuses
- c) subjects
- d) rules

20. Who attends Hamburger University?

- a) Only the chefs who work at McDonald.
- b) Staff who need to improve at their job.
- c) People who are opening a new restaurant.
- d) All employees of McDonald restaurants.



21. In paragraph 9, the best word to complete the gap is:

- a) On the other hand
- b) In conclusion
- c) Wherever possible
- d) Just about

22. What does the text say about Ray Kroc's work as a businessman?

- a) There are both good and bad things about it.
- b) His work with young employees was impressive.
- c) He worked very closely with health experts.
- d) He should have done more work to help the poor.

(12 marks)



Reading Task 3

- A) Read the three texts and answer the questions below by indicating which text each question relates to: A, B, or C.

Text A, London Zoo

London Zoo was set up in 1828 and is one of the oldest zoos not just in England, but in the whole world. At first, it was only used as a place for scientists, where they could work on studies about animals and nature. After some time, in about 1874, London Zoo opened to the public. Nowadays, it has the largest collection of different animals in the UK. There are over 19,000 animals and hundreds of different animal types living there.

During the summer, they run the so called 'Zoo Lates'. During these sessions, visitors can see the animals with just adults around rather than children. If you want to spend longer than just a day at London Zoo, it is also GAP) _____ to stay overnight. There are cabins for hire all year round for visitors to sleep in. Of course, this service is offered for an additional fee, but you'll get dinner, breakfast, and an extra tour of the zoo too, which, in my opinion, makes it great value!

Text B, Longleat Safari and Adventure Park

Longleat Safari and Adventure Park was opened in 1966. It stands out as one of the best zoos in England, as you can go on safari among the animals and really get up close. You can feed the animals yourself too.

Longleat is a great activity even on a cold or rainy day, as you get to just stay in your car and drive around. Longleat is known as the UK's number one safari park. Last time I visited with my family, our car GAP) _____ just outside the monkey section, which was awful. We made it out, a few hours later, as staff eventually called for help and our car was removed and taken to a nearby garage. So make sure that your car is in good working order before you book your tickets!

TEXT C, Port Lympne Reserve

I am a huge fan of Port Lympne Reserve, which first opened its doors to visitors in 1976. It's more of a safari experience than a zoo: the visitors get to see the animals in natural surroundings, enjoying the nature.

Port Lympne Reserve aims to give you a taste of the real African safari experience as much as possible with safari jeeps to take you through different areas. The staff are caring and have a lot of knowledge about the work they do. They will tell you all about how the GAP 1) _____ has linked up with wildlife projects in Africa, and how they work together to support each other. But remember, feeding the animals is GAP 2) _____ - you can't even get small bags of animal treats at the shop, unlike at some other attractions. They are very strict about this rule!

The Port Lympne Reserve has an incredible hotel you can stay at, and a fancy restaurant too. They also offer overnight stays in safari tents and even tree houses, which are a big attraction for the younger visitors!



Which text does the following?

Example	Describes an attraction in London.	A
23.	Says that the attraction is good to visit in any weather.	-----
24.	Praises the people who work at the attraction.	-----
25.	Says that the attraction offers events for grown-ups only.	-----
26.	Includes a description of a negative experience.	-----
27.	Describes the oldest of the three attractions.	-----
28.	Describes an attraction without any visitor accommodation on site.	-----
29.	Describes an attraction which was not open to visitors when it started.	-----
30.	Says that the attraction offers various types of accommodation.	-----

B) Now answer the following questions by circling the correct option.

31. In Text A, the best option to complete the gap is

- a) typical
- b) possible
- c) unlikely
- d) available

32. In Text B, the best option to complete the gap is

- a) broke out
- b) broke into
- c) broke down
- d) broke up

33. In Text C, the best word to complete the first gap is

- a) safari
- b) experience
- c) reserve
- d) nature



34. In Text C, the best word to complete the second gap is

- a) uncommon
- b) discouraged
- c) limited
- d) forbidden

(12 marks)

END OF READING ASSESSMENT.