

ESOL Skills for Life – Level 1

Marked learner work

Below are two examples of candidate responses to the ESOL Skills for Life Level 1 writing test followed by the marks and rationales from the marker.

All names and personal data have been changed or removed.

Candidate 1

Level 1 – Writing

**Planning section**

For this exam you must show you know how to plan your writing. Use this section to plan your answer to one or two of the tasks in this exam paper. Remember, you **must** plan at least one answer in this box.

Use this box to plan your answers.

- TASK 2: "GREAT FOOD NEAR THE COLLEGE"
- INTRODUCTION: Localisation
  - PARAGRAPH 1: • Description of those restaurant: FAST FOOD
    - Advantages / Disadvantages
    - Suggestions & ~~Example~~
  - PARAGRAPH 2: • Description of restaurant: WORLD'S RESTAURANT
    - Advantages / Disadvantages
    - Suggestions
  - PARAGRAPH 3: • Description of restaurant: HEALTHY FOOD
    - Advantages / Disadvantages
    - Suggestions
  - EXAMPLE OF ONE GREAT RESTAURANT
  - CONCLUSION / RECOMMENDATION

Level 1 – Writing

**Task 1**

Your local council wants to make improvements to public transport in your area. They want to know what improvements the residents would like. Complete the form below.

Write about 150 words in total for the form.

<b>Survey on public transport improvements</b>
Name: Gail Stone
Postcode: AN 306 AN
Please give a brief description of the public transport options in your area.
<p>I'm living in the small town near Ashford. There is only one public transport and this is the bus. If you want to go in Ashford you can take the bus 2 or 2A. It's one hour and <sup>to know</sup> the <sup>Ⓢ</sup>timetable of the bus is easy because it's only one bus per hour!</p> <p>If you are student you can have a reduction. You have to buy a "membercard" on internet so you get your studentcard and the price of one way will be cheaper. For one adult, ticket return costs 11£.40, it's not really expensive. You can get your ticket online with the application on your mobilephone. It's very practice and fonctionnel.</p> <p>There is an another bus. It's the bus 12 and you can go to Maidstone. It's the same thing of the bus 2 or 2a: one way is one hour and the price is 12£.80 for return.</p> <p>The great thing of the bus is the <del>facilities</del> be accessibility because they are many stops in my town.</p>
NB The form continues overleaf

Ⓢ timetable

Level 1 – Writing

What improvements would you most like the council to make?

The bus is a good public transport in my opinion. Everybody can take the bus like children, PMR or old people. It's not very expensive generally. Despite of those elements, it's a very long time! So if you work you can't take the bus all the time because sometimes bus is late because of the traffic or something else. Maybe if there are more bus it will be better for everyone and much people catch the bus. So there will have less car on the road. For that, we can create a carpark near the town, people dropped their car in this carpark and catch the bus to go in the town or city. It's a real good plane but it cost a lot of money and investissment.

Signature:

Date:

Level 1 – Writing

**Task 2**

Write an article for your teacher about places where you can eat near your college. Describe those places, say what you think of them and make suggestions on how they could improve.

Write about 250 words.

"GREAT FOOD NEAR THE COLLEGE"

Many restaurants are available near my college, in Ashford. The city centre is really near and you can walk unless ten minutes. So it's easy to have a good time with your friend during the lunchtime. ~~But many places~~ You can go in different restaurant each day because there are so ~~many~~ restaurants, so you can choose in depend on your mood.

First of all if you would like to eat quickly, fast food is a good option like McDonald's or Quick or KFC. You can order directly on your phone with the application and after take your meal or if you don't want to order on your phone you can go in this restaurant ordering, waiting and eating on this place/area or outside. But the food is not healthy so you can't go every day, even if it's cheaper. ~~So there are~~ and very quick. You can eat burgers, fries, ~~roasted~~ chicken, wing chicken, ice cream, ... and drink cola, limonade, coffee, ... You have choice but ~~not every~~ you have to take care of your body.

Secondly if you would like to discover country's food, you can go in the world's restaurant like turkish restaurant, italian restaurant or french restaurants like cafe rouge in the centre of the city. These restaurants have <sup>some</sup> waitress, so you can seat, choose your

Turn over page

page 5

Level 1 – Writing

meal and wait for that. You need a time to eat in the kind of this restaurant. Then, you can discover and taste what you like. After that, you can say what you <sup>have</sup> thought of this restaurant on the social network like Facebook, Instagram or Tripadvisor! Therefore you can give a good mark if you ~~liked~~ enjoyed your meal.

Finally if you would like to eat fresh food you can go in the healthy restaurant.

Normally you can see which product is vegan or gluten free. Nowadays many restaurants open and be careful of that because many customers want to know what there is in their plate. You ~~can~~ choose your food and take a coffee or tea with that and stay in this place or ~~order~~ take away. It's very simple and if it's not to busy, very quick.

There is a really nice healthy restaurant in Ashford near the Mall. It's in a little place and the restaurant has a beautiful merchanding with a nice table in front of this restaurant "Tea or Coffee". It has a great mark on Tripadvisor and make delicious Mocha! All products are fresh and homemade. You can eat healthy more easily. Nevertheless it's very expensive but the food is so delicious. You can drink some incredible smoothies during the summer! It shall be a great time with you friend.

In conclusion, many restaurants are open in Ashford and it's really easy to choose what you would like to eat. I recommend you to go in a nice restaurant with the logo Tripadvisor and check on the website before.

Level 1 – Writing

**Task 3**

Your college has computer courses in the evenings. Write an email to the head teacher explaining why this would be a problem for you and suggesting an alternative.

Write about 150 words in your email.

To: college@email.com

Subject: Computer course

Dear Sir,

to pay my futur...

I am writing to inform you about the computer courses.

I really would like to come but all your courses are in the evening and my schedule ~~are~~ is very busy. I am student, so every day I am going in the college and after that, in the evening, I take care about the children. I do this job to earn some money for my futur<sup>e</sup> courses in a good university.

I explain ~~one~~ of my ~~type~~ day my typical day ~~and~~ you can understand my request, I think: I wake up at 6:00 am to go at the college at 8:00 am. I finish at 3:00 pm and I come back with the bus. At 5:00 pm. I go at the nursery to keep two children: ~~the little girl~~ there are twins and they are 2 years old. They are so kind even if they ask a lot of energy to take care of them! They We come back on their house and we play together. I give

Level 1 – Writing

them their meal in the evening and their bath. After I read two books, one of each, and I wait for their parents. They come back home around 9 pm generally.

That's why, I can't go on the computer courses during the week. I would be grateful if we can find an alternative.

Do you think it will be possible to have some courses on Saturday morning? I ask to consider my request.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have <sup>further</sup> more questions.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

✍

Yours faithfully,

Gail Stone.

Level 1 – Writing

**Task 4**

You are moving to a new home. Write an email to a friend requesting help with the move and suggesting what you could do to celebrate.

Write about 80 words in your email.

To: friend@email.net
Subject: New home

Dear Ines,

I got your email in this morning and I'm very happy for you, for your new job!

~~I have some~~ I'm preparing I'm doing my <sup>luggage</sup> ~~package~~ to move in my new apartment. I'm so exciting! Are you available on this week-end to help me? I have lots of thing to do and I don't have a time! Always like that!

Do you think it's a good idea if I organize a very big party in my new ~~confer~~ nice home? We will drink cocktails, eat "canapé" and delicious cake with a good music. We ~~will~~ sing a lot of! But we have to be carefull of the noise because I would like to be appreciate ~~by my new~~ in this new building!

If you need more details, please feel free to get mail me!

Speak to you soon!

Gail

Candidate 1 marks and rationale

Assessment criteria	Mark	Rationale	
<b>Whole paper – plan text</b>			
1.1	Plan text for a specific purpose	4	Extremely detailed plan that facilitates developing a clearly structured answer, despite the lack of actual content detail
<b>Task 1 – form</b>			
2.1	Produce content appropriate to purpose	3	Some of the level of detail is unnecessary Some irrelevance but otherwise good
2.4	Use grammar correctly	1	There are no examples of grammatical structures of L1 (some E3 conditionals have been attempted but even these are not successful) Very basic errors cause some difficulty to the reader
2.5	Use punctuation correctly	2	Very basic punctuation is acceptable Apostrophes have been attempted, though inappropriately for omission in this formal document Several letters are permanently capitalised ('R', 'E') £ used incorrectly Commas attempted, though not always accurately used Quotation marks used acceptably
2.6	Spell words accurately	1	Vocabulary is very basic for the most part, and where an attempt at lexis suited to the level or task has been made it is almost always unsuccessful ('very practice and fonctionnel') Spelling of basic familiar vocabulary is rather acceptable but this criterion is inappropriately completed as many noun phrases have been run together and spelling accuracy at the targeted level is very limited ('membercard', 'studentcard', 'mobilephone', 'carpark')
3.1	Complete a form with open and closed responses correctly	3	The form is completed appropriately and the main communicative aims are achieved, however, the description is not always clear
<b>Task 2 – report or article</b>			
2.1	Produce content appropriate to purpose	3	Largely relevant and appropriate content but candidate has missed off the suggestions on how the places could improve
2.2	Use appropriate language for a given task	3	The tone is mostly neutral, but the language doesn't always match this ('therefore', 'nevertheless' are over formal)
2.3	Structure text in a logical sequence for purpose	3	The logical structure of the article is fairly consistent for the most part Sequencing markers are present but are slightly basic (Firstatall, secondly etc) The article appears to finish near 'Finally' but then begins again in a slightly different vein. The candidate then returns to another local restaurant two paragraphs later

Assessment criteria	Mark	Rationale
2.4 Use grammar correctly	1	Constructions are very basic for the most part, including repetitive use of 'I can...' Where more complex sentences are attempted they are incomprehensible ('You can order directly...or you can go in this restaurant ordering waiting and eating on this place/area or outside')
2.5 Use punctuation correctly	2	An attempt can be seen at using a range of punctuation, for example quotation marks, apostrophes, commas, ellipsis and exclamation marks but these are not always appropriate Candidate uses capital letters for all 'R's and 'E's making the script slightly difficult to read
2.6 Spell words accurately	2	One or two examples of suitable lexis can be identified ('vegan', 'gluten free', 'smoothies') Basic spelling is mostly accurate There is not a wide range of L1 lexis suited to the task and there are several errors when appropriate lexis has been attempted ('the city centre is really near and you can walk unless ten minutes'; 'application')
<b>Task 3 – formal letter or email</b>		
2.1 Produce content appropriate to purpose	2	The content is only minimally relevant to the audience and purpose, with lots of extraneous detail being included
2.2 Use appropriate language for a given task	2	There are one or two examples of language suited to a formal letter towards the end Most language is too informal ('I really would like to come...')
2.3 Structure text in a logical sequence for purpose	3	The format is suitable The paragraphing partially helps to provide structure but it could be improved More linguistic markers could have helped show the relationship between ideas. This would result in a higher mark being awarded.
2.4 Use grammar correctly	1	Attempts to demonstrate ability to use Level 1 grammar are incomplete Only basic structures have been attempted Many basic errors
2.5 Use punctuation correctly	2	Very basic punctuation acceptable Two colons have been used though not completely appropriately A question mark has been used but this direct question is not entirely appropriate A full stop after 'pm' gives the impression that this is the end of the sentence All 'R's and 'E's have been capitalised

Assessment criteria	Mark	Rationale
2.6 Spell words accurately	1	A lot of lexical choices make understanding quite difficult in places (at first it's hard to tell if she's a nanny or the children are her own; 'I read two books, one of each' is very confusing) Very few collocations and basic phrasal verbs inaccurate ('I take care about the children') Lexis not task-appropriate because she has inappropriately chosen to describe her job in some detail
<b>Task 4 – informal email</b>		
2.1 Produce content appropriate to purpose	4	Content well judged - the right level of detail included
2.2 Use appropriate language for a given task	3	Lots of exclamations suggest an informal tone (but these are somewhat overdone) Language structures are largely appropriately informal, including short sentences ('Always like that!') and contracted forms Slightly over-formal in places ('If you need more details, please feel free to mail me') Not a particularly wide range of informal language or other indicators such as emoticons etc

Candidate 1 achieves a total score of 46 out of 80 and fails the Writing exam.