

**NOCN ESOL International Listening
Level B2 Independent User Paper AA
Sample Examination Mark Scheme**

NOCN USE ONLY	
Question	Answer
1.1	B
1.2	A
1.3	C
1.4	B
1.5	C
1.6	A
1.7	B
1.8	C
1.9	A
1.10	D
2.1.1	C
2.1.2	A
2.1.3	C
2.1.4	C
2.1.5	A
2.2.1	C
2.2.2	A
2.2.3	B
2.2.4	D
2.2.5	A
3.1.1	C
3.1.2	A
3.1.3	B
3.1.4	D
3.1.5	B
3.2.1	C
3.2.2	C
3.2.3	D
3.2.4	B
3.2.5	B
Total	30

**ESOL International
Sample English Listening Examination**

Level B2 Independent User

Texts to be used with the examination

The texts are to be recorded and sent to the centre on a disk prior to the examination.

Instructions are written in underlined italics and should not be recorded.

The recording must be played to learners in full from start to finish.

**NOCN ESOL International Listening
Level B2 Independent User Paper AA
Sample Examination Recordings**



This is the NOCN ESOL International Independent User Level B2 Listening examination.

Please check that your name and other details are on your mark sheet.

The invigilator will have explained how to fill in the mark sheet.

Do not write on your examination paper.

The Listening examination will now begin.

**NOCN ESOL International Listening
Level B2 Independent User Paper AA
Sample Examination Recordings**



Part 1

You will hear ten sentences.

Read the replies on your examination paper. You have two minutes to read the replies on your examination paper.

Pause for two minutes

Listen to the sentences. You will hear the sentences in full twice. Choose the best reply for the situation. Then you will have two minutes to check your answers.

Record the sentences (three seconds between each sentence)

1. Is this music loud enough?
2. He asked me how much they paid me.
3. The party was a great success!
4. (Excitedly) Your favourite cousin is coming in just two days!
5. Are you going for a picnic tomorrow?
6. Can you smoke in public places in your country?
7. You look a bit pale today.
8. You need to make a decision.
9. You'd better take an umbrella.
10. That was the worst meal I have ever had.

Pause for five seconds after the first reading

Now listen to the sentences again.

Record the sentences again

Now check your answers. You have two minutes to check your answers.

Pause for two minutes after the second reading

Part 2 – Conversations

You will hear two conversations. Read the questions and answers on your examination paper for both conversations. You have two minutes to read them.

Pause for two minutes

Listen to Conversation 1. You will hear the conversation twice. Answer the questions. Then you have two minutes to check the answers.

Record the conversation

Dr - Good afternoon, Mr Smith. How can I help you today?

Mr S - Good afternoon, Dr Nelson. It's my daughter Emma. She doesn't feel very well.

D - What seems to be the problem?

M - She was sick most of the night last night and she had a high temperature.

D - Does she have any other symptoms? Dizziness, cough?

M - Yes, she complained of a headache.

D - Could it be something she ate, like food poisoning?

M - I don't think so; we all had the same meal.

D - Lie down on the bed, young lady, so I can check your tummy. **(Pause)** She has got a stomach bug.

M - What do I need to do?

D-You need to give her plenty to drink to make sure she is not dehydrated. In a couple of days she'll be as right as rain.

M - And what about her temperature?

D - Paracetamol should be fine. Have you got any at home?

M - I don't think we have.

D - I'll give you a prescription. If the symptoms persist, please do come back. And try not to worry.

M - Thank you very much, doctor.

D - You are welcome.

**NOCN ESOL International Listening
Level B2 Independent User Paper AA
Sample Examination Recordings**



Pause for five seconds after the first reading

Now listen to the conversation again.

Record the conversation again

Now check your answers. You have two minutes to check your answers.

Pause for two minutes after the second reading

Part 2 – Conversations

Listen to Conversation 2. You will hear the conversation twice. Answer the questions. Then you have two minutes to check the answers.

Record the conversation – the interviewer is male and Sue Jones is female

(Interviewer) We are going to talk to Sue Jones who became a professional tennis player at 13 and, in a career spanning 17 years, won 22 Grand Slam singles titles. In 1988 she became the first woman to achieve the Golden Slam by winning all four Grand Slam singles titles and Olympic gold. She is married to Jim Nolan, has two children and lives in France. She runs the charity Children for Tomorrow.

I - Sue, when were you happiest?

S - My happiness lives in the present. It's my life this morning, this evening, with Jim, my kids.

I - What is your greatest fear?

S - That the world we are passing on to our children is not the world we hoped for, for them.

I - Which living person do you most admire, and why?

S - The man I know the best: Jim.

I - Property aside, what's the most expensive thing you've bought?

S - The first racket I used in a pro match at 16 and the one from my last game – the bookends of my career.

I - What is your most treasured possession?

S - My memory.

I - If you had three wishes what would you do?

S - Eradicate the effects of war. Then eradicate war. Then eradicate the reason for war.

I - What would be your fancy dress costume of choice?

S - Catwoman. Cher. Björk. Halloween at our house is intense.

I - What was the best kiss of your life?

S - The kiss of a parent, the kiss of your husband, the kiss of your child: you receive them in that order in life, and they each make you feel alive in a different way.

I - Who would you invite to your dream dinner party?

S - My five best friends – I love those girls so much!

I - Which words or phrases do you most overuse?

S - "Next question."

**NOCN ESOL International Listening
Level B2 Independent User Paper AA
Sample Examination Recordings**



I - How do you relax?

S - I find more peace in the rumble of our busy lives than in a quiet house.

I - How would you like to be remembered?

S - As a happy, caring mother and wife.

I - Where would you most like to be right now?

S - Around the kitchen table with Jim, the kids, their friends, our families. It's noisy, fun and carefree, and there's not another place I'd rather be.

I - Thank you very much, Sue.

Pause for five seconds after the first reading

Now listen to the conversation again.

Record the conversation again

Now check your answers. You have two minutes to check your answers.

Pause for two minutes after the second reading

Part 3 – Broadcasts

You will hear two broadcasts. Read the questions and answers on your examination paper for both broadcasts. You have two minutes to read them.

Pause for two minutes

Listen to Broadcast 1. You will hear the broadcast twice. Answer the questions. Then you have two minutes to check the answers.

Record the broadcast

Health Anxiety

Most of us worry about our health from time to time. But for some people, this worry never goes away and becomes a problem in itself.

Health anxiety (hypochondria) is obsessive worrying about your health, usually to the point where it causes great distress and affects your ability to function properly.

Some people with health anxiety have unexplained physical symptoms, such as chest pain or headaches, which they assume are signs of serious disease despite the doctor's reassurance.

Others may just be permanently anxious about their future health, worrying about things like 'What if I get cancer or heart disease?'

What causes health anxiety?

There are many reasons why someone worries too much about their health.

You may be going through a particularly stressful period of your life. There may have been illness or death in your family, or another family member may have worried a lot about your health when you were young.

Personality can play a role; you may be vulnerable to health anxiety because you are a worrier generally. You may find it difficult to handle emotions and conflicts, and make everything seem like a catastrophe when faced with problems in your life.

Sometimes, health anxiety can be a symptom of a mental illness, such as depression or anxiety disorder, which needs recognizing and treating in its own right.

**NOCN ESOL International Listening
Level B2 Independent User Paper AA
Sample Examination Recordings**



Pause for five seconds after the first reading

Now listen to the broadcast again.

Record the broadcast again

Now check your answers. You have two minutes to check your answers.

Pause for two minutes after the second reading

Part 3 – Broadcasts

Listen to Broadcast 2. You will hear the broadcast twice. Answer the questions. Then you have two minutes to check the answers.

Record the broadcast

Alnwick hosts society wedding

Hundreds of people had lined the street leading up to the church in Alnwick. They had to be quick to get their photos of William and Harry. The princes arrived at a brisk pace, which was partly because they had to keep up with the groom, Thomas van Straubenzee, going for a date he couldn't be late for.

Some of the crowd's loudest 'oo's and 'aa's were reserved for the bridesmaids. And then came the bride, Lady Mellissa Percy, Duke of Northumberland's second daughter.

The well-wishers said: 'We like to come out and support our families.'

'It's just a lovely atmosphere. Everybody's come out to wish them well. It's just like the Jubilee all over again.'

The weather wasn't quite so kind when the new husband and wife left the church but that didn't stop the smiles. The Duke of Cambridge, without his wife Kate, who is due to give birth next month, had travelled to New Zealand with the groom during his gap year before university. Prince Harry might be third in line to the throne, but he was far back in the queue for the lift to the reception. Alnwick has come to the standstill for this society wedding of the year.

Pause for five seconds after the first reading

Now listen to the broadcast again.

Record the broadcast again

Now check your answers. You have two minutes to check your answers.

Pause for two minutes after the second reading

That is the end of the Listening examination. Please check your mark sheet is completed correctly. Put your pens down.

End of Examination

**NOCN ESOL International Listening
Level B2 Independent User Paper AA
Sample Examination Recordings**



NOCN
The Quadrant
Parkway Business Centre
99 Parkway Avenue
Sheffield
S9 4WG
UK

E-mail: nocn@nocn.org.uk

Tel: +44 (0) 114 2270500
Fax: +44 (0) 114 2270501

**NOCN ESOL International Reading
Level B2 Independent User Paper AA
Sample Examination Mark Scheme**

NOCN USE ONLY	
Question	Answer
1	B
2	C
3	D
4	A
5	C
6	C
7	B
8	A
9	D
10	A
11	A
12	B
13	C
14	B
15	B
16	A
17	C
18	A
19	D
20	B
21	A
22	D
23	C
24	B
25	D
26	C
27	B
28	A
29	C
30	C
Total	30

**NOCN ESOL International Writing
Level B2 Independent User
Sample Writing Mark Scheme**



The learner will be required to produce two pieces of writing, one formal and one informal.

At the B2 level the learner will be asked to write between 100-200 words for each piece of writing. Learners are not allowed to use dictionaries. Time allowed is 1 hour.

For each text a learner is awarded:

Marks	4-5	3-2	1	0
Range	Learner demonstrates a wide use of vocabulary, using a wide variety of adjectives and conjunctions relevant to the level.	Learner demonstrates some use of vocabulary with some adjectives and conjunctions.	Learner demonstrates limited use of appropriate vocabulary using occasional adjectives and conjunctions.	Learner does not produce a legible text. No adjectives or conjunctions used.
Accuracy and Grammar	Learner produces texts using appropriate tenses and word order. Some complex structures are used correctly. Present, past and future tenses should be used accurately throughout with only one or two minor errors which do not impede comprehension.	Learner produces text where some errors in structure and tenses occur, however they do not impede general comprehension.	Learner produces text with many errors in tenses and word order which occasionally impede comprehension.	Learner does not produce a comprehensible text.
Format	Learner recognises the difference between formal and informal situations which is maintained throughout the text. Paragraphs are used to structure the text throughout. The conventional features of common text types are used correctly.	Learner demonstrates awareness of formal and informal situations but this is not always maintained throughout. Paragraphs will be used but these are not always effective in structuring the information. Some of the conventional features of common text types are used correctly.	Learner demonstrates limited awareness of formal and informal situation. Paragraphs are not used effectively. Errors are widely made in the use of features of common text types.	Learner does not produce a text with a format appropriate to the context. Paragraphs are not used at all. Features of common text types are not used.
Content	Learner demonstrates a thorough awareness of content relevant to the assessment task. The learner discusses at least two areas in depth. Ideas are linked coherently.	Learner demonstrates some awareness of content relevant to the assessment task. At least two areas are discussed although this may be limited in depth and ideas may not be linked coherently.	Learner demonstrates limited awareness of content or only covers one area. Ideas are not linked coherently.	Learner does not produce text relevant to the context of the task.

**NOCN ESOL International
Level B2 Independent User
Sample Speaking Examination Sheet**



Learner Name _____

Learner Registration Number _____ Examination Date _____

Centre Name _____ Centre Number _____

Interlocutor Name _____ Interlocutor Signature _____

Part 1 - Personal information

A learner should be awarded one mark for every accurate response. Grammar and pronunciation is not assessed at this stage. One or two errors are permitted which could be self-corrected or do not impede comprehension.

Total marks for Part 1 is 9.

Question	Number of marks	Learner response	Learner Score
1. How long have they been learning English?	1	e.g. I have been learning English for _ years	
2. Describe three members of family or friends	3	e.g. My mother's name is __ and she is __years old. She is tall	
3. What is your favourite food and how do you make it?	1	e.g. I like curry. I put meat/vegetables and spices in a pan and cook for _ minutes/hours.	
4. What did you do yesterday?	1	e.g. I went shopping with my friend and I watched TV.	
5. Three things you enjoy doing in your free time	3	e.g. I like dancing. I enjoy spending time with my family.	
Total Marks			

**NOCN ESOL International
Level B2 Independent User
Sample Speaking Examination Sheet**

Part 2 - Responding to the situation/ general use of English in formal and informal environments

The purpose is to differentiate between formal/informal register, to assess accuracy and grammar appropriate for Level B2 and assess learner's pronunciation.

Skills	3 marks	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks	Score
Register	A learner is awarded 3 marks when clear distinction between formal and informal situation is made throughout.	A learner is awarded 2 marks when distinction between formal and informal situations is not maintained throughout.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when a distinction between formal/informal situation is only attempted.	0 marks - a learner does not recognise formal/informal register.	
Accuracy	A learner is awarded 3 marks when grammatical structures are used correctly- correct tense and word order are applied. One or two minor errors are allowed as long as meaning is not impeded.	A learner is awarded 2 marks when minor mistakes occur not impeding the overall meaning.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when accuracy largely impedes the meaning.	0 marks - a learner does not apply correct tense or word order as appropriate to the situation.	
Pronunciation	A learner is awarded 3 marks when using clear stress, pronunciation and intonation.	A learner is awarded 2 marks when pronunciation does not impede the clarity.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when the speech is not clear, largely impeding the meaning.	0 marks - learner's speech is unclear and incomprehensible.	
Effective communication	A learner is awarded 3 marks for clarity of interaction with some fluency evident.	A learner is awarded 2 points when effective communication is achieved with some clarification. Some noticeable long pauses.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when effective communication is attempted but not fully achieved. Lack of fluency apparent.	0 marks - a learner does not communicate effectively.	
Total Marks	/12				

**NOCN ESOL International
Level B2 Independent User
Sample Speaking Examination Sheet**

Part 3 - Discussion

The purpose of Part 3 is to demonstrate comprehension and fluency of speaking with an application of accurate grammar and pronunciation.

Skill	3 marks	2 marks	1 mark	0 mark	Score
Use of vocabulary	Uses a wide range of vocabulary appropriate to the context including good expression of feelings and opinion.	Uses some vocabulary appropriate to the context with limited ability to use vocab to persuade or express key points in an argument.	Uses only limited range of vocabulary is used which does not allow the learner to develop ideas and opinions.	0 mark s- no conversation has been attempted.	
Accuracy and grammar	A learner is awarded 3 marks when grammatical structures are used correctly- correct tense and word order are applied. One or two minor errors are allowed as long as meaning is not impeded.	A learner is awarded 2 marks when minor mistakes occur not impeding the overall meaning.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when accuracy largely impedes the meaning.	A learner does not apply correct tense or word order as appropriate to the situation.	
Pronunciation	Uses clear stress, pronunciation and intonation in connected speech.	Pronunciation does not impede the clarity.	Speech is not clear, largely impeding the meaning.	0 marks - learner's speech is unclear and incomprehensible.	

**NOCN ESOL International
Level B2 Independent User
Sample Speaking Examination Sheet**



Listening and responding	Fluency and interaction is maintained throughout the task. The learner will demonstrate turn taking conventions including dealing with interruptions.	Some repetition and requesting clarification evident. Inappropriate phrases may be used to interrupt or to ask for information.	Limited comprehension demonstrated during the interaction. Stilted conversation with long pauses.	0 marks- a learner cannot maintain a conversation.	
Total Marks	/12				

NOCN Use ONLY

Total marks for paper	
Percentage mark	
Grade	

**NOCN ESOL International
Level B2 Independent User Sample Paper AA
Speaking Individual Mark Sheet**



Learner Name _____

Learner Registration Number _____ Examination Date _____

Centre Name _____ Centre Number _____

Interlocutor Name _____ Interlocutor Signature _____

Question	Maximum marks	Learner response	Learner Score
1. How long have they been learning English?	1 mark		
2. Describe three members of family or friends	3 marks		
3. Favourite food and how made	1 mark		
4. What did you do yesterday?	1 mark		
5. Three things you enjoy in free time	3 marks		

Part 2

Part 3

Skill	Maximum	Learner score	Skill	Maximum	Learner Score
Register	3		Use of Vocab	3	
Accuracy	3		Accuracy and Grammar	3	
Pronunciation	3		Pronunciation	3	
Effective communication	3		Listening and Responding	3	

Total marks for paper	
Percentage mark	
Grade	Pass / Fail