

## **BURLINGTON IELTS GENERAL TRAINING VOLUME 1 TEST 2**

### **SECTION 1 QUESTIONS 1–14**

*Read the text below and answer Questions 1–8*

#### **NEWS FROM NORTHPORT COUNCIL**

As part of our commitment to keeping all Northport residents up to date on what's happening in the local area, we've produced this information sheet. For a summary of the information in Welsh, Hindi, or Urdu, contact [info@northportcouncil.gov](mailto:info@northportcouncil.gov). If you would like to comment on any of the information contained in this information sheet, you can attend one of the regular public meetings to express your thoughts directly to councillors, or you can email the council at the same address.

#### **PLANNED MAINTENANCE**

We continue to invest in the local road network. Major roadworks are planned on the A771 between May and October of this year. Although this will cause some disruption to local residents, the end result will improve traffic flow in the area. We will aim to do as much of the work outside rush hour as we can, but please be aware that there will be some delays, so plan your journey accordingly.

Another current project, which is nearing its end, is the pedestrianisation of Winbourne Road. This will create a safe space for people to walk and shop along Winbourne Road, while also allowing access to Ridgeway Park via Lincoln Avenue. We would like to thank residents for their patience during this project, which has taken around six months longer than originally planned. We apologise for this delay which was due to factors beyond our control.

#### **EMPTYING YOUR BINS**

In an attempt to save the council money, we recently went from one rubbish collection per week to one per fortnight. Although this move achieved its aim, local people have made their opposition to it clear. Therefore, we will be going back to the system as it was before the start of the year. However, we ask residents to try to produce as little waste as possible to help our efforts to be sustainable. Buying vegetables loose rather than in plastic packaging, for example, is just one way in which you can help.

#### **RIDGEWAY PARK**

The council is currently considering extending Ridgeway Park into the area along the river. This large area of land, which used to house a local factory, needs to be cleaned and landscaped in order to provide a bigger green space for local people. Incorporating a football pitch, a flower garden, and a picnic area, this space will provide useful facilities that Ridgeway Park currently lacks. The plans can be viewed online together with a video explaining the development. Before a final decision is made, residents are invited to comment on the plans. Further details can be found on the council website.

## Questions 1–8

Do the following statements agree with the information given in the text?

In boxes 1–8 on your answer sheet, write

**TRUE** if the statement agrees with the information

**FALSE** if the statement contradicts the information

**NOT GIVEN** if there is no information on this

- 1 You can read some of this information in other languages.
- 2 It is possible to meet officials in person to give your opinion.
- 3 After the roadworks are completed, the A771 will be safer.
- 4 The project on Winbourne Road is finishing on time.
- 5 Collecting rubbish once per fortnight saved money for the council.
- 6 The council would like people to have a healthier diet.
- 7 The council are thinking of moving Ridgeway Park to a new area.
- 8 Right now, Ridgeway Park has a flower garden and a picnic area.

Read the advertisements below and answer Questions 9–14.

### A JONESBOROUGH MUSEUM

**Admission: £10 per person, discounts for under-12s, senior citizens, disabled people, and people on benefits**

- ★ Find out about local and national history!
- ★ Get hands-on with our interactive exhibits in the nature section!
- ★ Find out what daily life was like for Romans in the area in our special Roman Jonesborough exhibition!
- ★ Relax and get refreshments in the Explorers Café!
- ★ Younger visitors can follow the Spy Trail and tick off the things they see in our free activity booklet!

### B OCEAN LIFE

**Admission: £26 per person, under-5s free**

Do you dare to get up close and personal with a shark? Or how about feeding a stingray? We've got it all at Ocean Life! On your journey, you'll see fish and other sea creatures from all over the world divided into separate zones: the Deep Sea, the Tropical Ocean and the Shoreline. Our Sea Tunnel is one thing you won't want to miss as it passes directly through one of our largest tanks, and you'll have sharks swimming right over your head! Ocean Life is educational too, and our guides will explain what you're looking at and how important it is to care for these creatures in the wild. Please note that due to the nature of some of the exhibits, not all areas are accessible by wheelchair. Please ask a guide for further details.

## C LOUIS CHEVALIER'S WAXWORKS

Admission: £23 Mon-Thurs & Sun, £27 Fri-Sat; children under 7, 20% discount

Get your camera ready for all those selfies you'll take with our wax celebrities! At Louis Chevalier's all our models look just like the real thing, and when you put those images on social media, all your friends will wonder where you've been! Unlike traditional waxworks where the models are behind ropes, we encourage you to touch and pose with our models and be amazed at just how lifelike they are! Why not get a Combination Ticket and visit us and Ocean Life for one great price of £40? Check terms and conditions online.

## D GRIMALDI'S CIRCUS

**Shows every day at 2pm and 7pm, £12 entry, or £42 for a family of four**

**AMAZING DISPLAYS! INCREDIBLE ACROBATS! FUNNY CLOWNS!**

- ★ The Lee Sisters, China's most popular acrobatic duo!
- ★ The Ringside Dancers, with their amazing display based on popular children's characters!
- ★ BoBo the Clown and his 'helper' Tiny Tom!

## E JONESBOROUGH CASTLE

**Admission: free, although a donation to the Castle Fund is welcome; donation boxes at the castle entrance**

Dating from the end of the 15th century, Jonesborough Castle sits high above the town of Jonesborough, with great views over three counties!

Although the castle is now in ruins, it is still good fun to explore, although we ask all visitors to be particularly careful on the castle walls and to respect the 'no go' areas where visitors are not allowed. These areas are clearly marked with red tape and signs.

Enjoy a picnic in the castle courtyard, or play a ball game in the castle grounds. Remember to bring your own refreshments as there are no facilities in the castle.

### Questions 9–14

Look at the five tourist attractions, **A–E**, on the previous page.

For which attraction are the following statements true?

Write the correct letter, **A–E**, in boxes 9–14 on your answer sheet

**NB** You may use any letter more than once.

- 9 The attraction has limited access for some disabled people.
- 10 The attraction advises you to provide your own food and drink.
- 11 The attraction allows very young visitors to enter for no charge.
- 12 The attraction offers a discount for a family ticket.
- 13 You can visit TWO attractions with just one ticket.
- 14 The attraction contains some prohibited areas.

## **SECTION 2 QUESTIONS 15–27**

*Read the text below and answer Questions 15–21.*

### **CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT**

This document is to be read as part of your contract with ValueMart Ltd.

#### **WORKING HOURS**

The usual working hours for any ValueMart shop are 7am–11pm, seven days a week, although individual employees are not expected to work the entire period. It is estimated that most employees will work a minimum of fifteen and a maximum of thirty-six hours in any one week, although there may be opportunities to work overtime beyond that if your manager considers it appropriate. Please note that the minimum figure is an estimate and ValueMart does not guarantee that shifts will be available for every employee, although we will do our best to accommodate individual needs.

#### **COMPENSATION**

While we are legally obliged to pay the national minimum wage, as part of ValueMart's commitment to social equality we actually pay the national living wage, which is higher. Overtime is paid at a rate of 1.5 times the national living wage, but please note that only overtime authorised in writing will be eligible. Your wage statement each week will show a calculation based on the hours you have worked and any deductions made for uniform, meals in the staff canteen, etc.

Please note that the usual means of payment is by bank transfer. There are no mechanisms in place to pay wages in cash, and we ask employees not to request this from managers since they are unable to approve such requests. Please also be advised that you will work one week in hand, meaning that you will be paid for your first week's work at the end of your second week of employment. This is compulsory for all employees.

#### **DRESS CODE**

All employees are expected to wear the uniform provided. Any replacement uniform which is a result of loss or damage by the employee will be charged at full price (list available). Shoes, which are not provided, should be black with low heels, and must be comfortable to wear for long periods. Sports shoes are not allowed. Employees with particular needs should contact their manager.

Questions 15–21

Complete the notes below.

Choose **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** from the text for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes 15–21 on your answer sheet.

### Working Hours

- Maximum of 36 hours work in **15** .....
- Overtime possible if it is **16** .....
- Minimum number of hours is only **17** .....

### Compensation

- Overtime must be approved **18** .....
- Wages cannot be paid **19** .....

### Dress Code

- Employees pay **20** ..... for lost uniform.
- Employees can't wear **21** .....

Read the text below and answer Questions 22–27.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATIONS

We are very proud of our health and safety record, and we ask all employees to read and follow these regulations to keep us all safe at work.

### Risk Assessments

A formal risk assessment must be carried out on all projects. This is designed to identify any potential risks to staff, including but not limited to working at height, operating machinery, and lifting heavy loads. All risks must be listed together with planned steps to minimise the risk. For example, ensuring that all staff receive appropriate training can go a long way towards addressing the risk of injury from lifting heavy loads. Be aware that risk assessment is an on-going process and all risk assessment documentation should be updated on at least a weekly basis. Although the primary responsibility for risk assessment lies with the Project Manager, we ask all employees to be aware of risks and to inform the PM of any potential threats to health and safety that they observe.

### Safe Practices

Hard hats must be worn in all areas of the factory at all times. Please note that bump caps, which are essentially strengthened baseball caps, are not an acceptable substitute for hard hats. Although they may protect you from accidental bumps, they offer little protection against moving objects or machine parts.

Long hair can pose a hazard due to the risk of it being trapped in moving machinery. All employees with hair below the collar, or with a beard longer than 6 cm, are required to wear a safety net. If in doubt, check with your manager.

All areas must be kept tidy. Not only does equipment that isn't properly stored present a trip hazard, it may also prevent emergency access in the event of a fire. Keep your work area tidy and well organised during your shift, and at the end of your shift, ensure that all equipment is back in its proper place. If, at the start of a shift, you notice that equipment has not been stored correctly, please inform a member of management.

*Questions 22–27*

*Choose the correct letter, **A**, **B**, **C** or **D**.*

*Write the correct letter in boxes 22–27 on your answer sheet.*

**22** One of the dangers mentioned which a risk assessment should identify is

- A** low ceilings doors.
- B** sharp objects.
- C** employees being unfit.
- D** moving heavy things

**23** During a project, the Project Manager should

- A** make sure all staff have safety certificates.
- B** tell employees not to lift heavy objects.
- C** keep the risk assessment documents up to date.
- D** check on progress once every seven days.

**24** Employees are not allowed to wear bump caps at work because they

- A** don't protect against some risks.
- B** make minor accidents more likely.
- C** are too hard to be comfortable at work.
- D** are too informal for the workplace.

**25** Workers with long hair or a long beard should

- A** get it cut as soon as possible.
- B** give an explanation to a senior employee.
- C** wear something over it.
- D** only work in certain areas.

**26** Equipment which is not stored properly may

- A** cause fires.
- B** delay help.
- C** become damaged.
- D** increase costs.

**27** When you start work, you should tell a manager if

- A** your equipment is not where it should be.
- B** you see another worker doing something wrong.
- C** you notice any of your equipment is missing.
- D** you need any particular piece of equipment.



## SECTION 3 QUESTIONS 28–40

Read the text below and answer Questions 28–40.

### SIDE HUSTLES AND PASSIVE INCOME

It used to be so simple. You found a career that paid well enough, stuck with it, and enjoyed the rewards of security, a decent standard of living, and, if you were lucky enough, a gradual rise through the ranks. No more. The trend towards creating a portfolio career involving either a main job plus a few side projects, often termed ‘side hustles’ or comprised entirely of a set of side hustles (already in evidence for some time) was turbo-charged by the COVID-19 pandemic. Not only was the comfort blanket of security revealed for the illusion it was, the folly of putting all your eggs in one basket was exposed as vast swathes of the economy shut down overnight. Suddenly, millions of people were forced to re-evaluate their relationship with work, and the result was a massive increase in the number of people seeking a more satisfying working life. For some, this meant turning a hobby into an income stream. If you find yourself forced to stay at home with more time to spend on painting model fantasy gaming figures, let’s say, then it’s a relatively short step to set up an online store and start trying to sell them to enthusiasts around the world. Others decided they wanted to go further in their quest to escape the rat race, in many cases chasing a dream at once age-old in its appeal and contemporary in its manifestation: the dream of passive income.

Passive income is familiar in its traditional forms. Those fortunate enough to own property and rent it out will have money (minus the cost of repairs, maintenance or debt financing) rolling in every month. At least that’s the theory. More than one landlord or landlady has found that the reality doesn’t always live up to the hype, with unruly tenants, late payments, and rent defaults (with associated legal costs) soon taking a big chunk out of the expected revenue. The dividends or other gains resulting from the investment in stocks and shares are other examples of passive income, as are the royalties received by writers, movie-makers, and others in creative industries. So far, so unremarkable. What sets the current trend apart is the multifarious forms the idea can take, ranging from sound business ideas to downright exploitative ones.

One thing many of these ideas have in common is the need to identify a particular niche and the need for the investment of effort in the early stages. Content creation for video-hosting sites is a good example. Find just the right niche and get to just the right audience of the right size, and income can be generated from partnerships and advertising. Something that demands a little less, but which still requires some setting up and managing, is *dropshipping*.

Essentially, dropshipping is a way of becoming an online merchant without ever holding stock or sending out orders. Your e-store sits in the middle between the customer and the supplier, who ultimately fulfils the order. As in many areas, prominent success stories serve to attract people to the idea and to obscure the fact that most entrants to the field make less than spectacular profits.

And then there’s the passive income industry itself, which in some cases borders on being a pyramid scheme. Endless websites offer tips on how to create a passive income stream, often for a fee, with those tips suggesting that you give online classes or create websites, which also give tips and advice on how to create a passive income stream. This empty, circular attempt to drum up money out of thin air highlights some of the dangers inherent in this whole area. Traditional jobs, for all their faults, come with rights that are there to protect the vulnerable from exploitation. This era – where we are all expected to be self-starting entrepreneurs and where the next big score is just around the corner if only you can find the right idea – offers none of that.

Questions 28–33

Do the following statements agree with the claims of the writer in the text?

In boxes 28–33 on your answer sheet, write

- YES**                      if the statement agrees with the claims of the writer  
**NO**                        if the statement contradicts the claims of the writer  
**NOT GIVEN**        if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this

- 28 Side hustles were becoming popular before the COVID-19 pandemic.  
29 People were right to think that a standard career provided security.  
30 Painting model figures is a ridiculous way to try to earn money.  
31 People throughout history have wanted to avoid having to work for a living.  
32 It's unfair that some people make money from owning property.  
33 The ways in which people try to generate passive income are more varied than ever.

Questions 34–40

Answer the questions below using **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS** from the text for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes 34–40 on your answer sheet.

- 34 What type of passive income might be made from producing a book?  
35 What do you need to put into a side hustle in the beginning?  
36 What produces passive income for content creators?  
37 What does a *dropshipper* not need to own?  
38 What can prompt people to think there are high levels of passive income to be made?  
39 What way of cheating people out of money can aspects of the passive income industry be likened to?  
40 What does a regular career offer that a portfolio career generally doesn't?