

LANGUAGECERT IESOL
Communicator B2
Practice Paper 1

Part one

Number one. Number one.

- M: What's the problem?
F: I can't decide where to go on holiday.
M: Why don't you go where you go every year?

Number two. Number two.

- F: Do you think you could help me with this report?
M: I'm afraid I'm a bit busy at the moment.
F: It'll only take a few minutes.

Number three. Number three.

- F: Have you finished with that book of mine yet?
M: Oh, I really need to talk to you about that.
F: What's the problem then?

Number four. Number four.

- M: What do you think you're doing?
F: I'm just having a look round.
M: But you're not allowed in here.

Number five. Number five.

- F: There she is. That's Monica
M: I don't think I know her.
F: But you do. You met her last year.

Number six. Number six.

- M: So where do I sign?
F: You don't need to; as long as I have your details.
M: But don't I need to sign the contract?

Number seven. Number seven.

- F: So, when do you leave?
M: In about two weeks. I can't wait.
F: I know it's exciting, but I'm very concerned.

Part two

Conversation One

- M: What do you think of Noel's new girlfriend, Jenny?
F: She seems very nice, John, and they certainly seem to get on well together.
M: I'm just a bit worried that they don't seem to spend much time together. They don't really have the same interests at all.
F: Well in some ways don't you think that's a good thing? They like each other but they also have their own lives.
M: Yes I suppose you're right. With his last girlfriend they always did the same things together, they were never apart.
F: And they always did what she wanted, never what he wanted. Eventually it was just too much for him.
M: Yes, perhaps you're right. It's better if two people are a little bit independent. Sometimes it's good to have a break and do something on your own, and then come back together.
F: I'm sure they'll be fine. But it's early days yet.

Conversation Two

- F Oh, hi, I've just been to the new supermarket; it's fantastic, and so cheap.
M Yes, I went last week. It certainly seems to have everything you need.
F Oh I think the town has needed something like this for a long time.
M In a way, yes, but I worry about the small shops in the High Street. They're already suffering.
F Yes, I suppose it depends on what you want. Quite honestly, I don't have time to go from one shop to another, and the parking is so difficult, especially on Saturdays.
M I agree with you about the parking, and not just on Saturdays. Something has to be done about that, and the town is starting to lose its character.
F Yes, I heard that the butcher's shop is closing soon. I suppose that's because supermarket shopping is so easy.
M Well it had to happen sooner or later, I suppose. It's such a shame though.

Conversation Three

- M Hello, police.
F Hello. I can't find my hotel. Can you help please?
M You can't find your hotel?
F Yeah, it's called the Wallington Hotel and I've been driving around for hours and I've had to pull over and I just don't know what to do next.
M Right, madam. You've called the police emergency number. Now this is not really an emergency call, is it?
F No it's not, no, so what can I do
M Well, is there someone on the street that you can ask for directions or have you got a map? It's not an emergency call.
F No, it isn't. I'm sorry. I've asked several people, I'm sorry. I couldn't think what else to do. Sorry.

Part three

All right, here we are in the library. During regular class days the library is open from seven thirty am to seven pm and from eight to twelve midday on Saturday. It's closed on Sundays. Only students with identification cards will be allowed to use the library. Your identity cards are required at all times and must be given to the person in charge of the control desk each time you enter the library. Lending of IDs to other students is strictly prohibited and if you are caught doing that your library privileges will be suspended. If you lose your ID, report it immediately to the Office of the Registrar. Don't confuse IDs with library cards. Only students with library cards will be allowed to borrow books. If you lose your library card, report it and it'll be replaced after a week from the date of application. Now, we have different categories of books here. Reserve books can be borrowed for use inside the library for two hours and may be renewed for another hour unless other students need them. You can also check them out overnight after four pm, but they need to be back before nine am the following morning, unless it's a Sunday. Then there's the general circulation books; you can take these home for a week and then renew them for another week, that is unless other students have reserved them. Reference books, such as encyclopaedias, dictionaries, and atlases, they cannot be taken out of the library. Magazines and newspapers are not to be taken out of the library either. If you should lose a book, report it immediately to the librarian. I'm sorry, but it'll be your responsibility to replace or pay for any loss and there's a fine from the time the book was reported lost up to the time it is replaced. So make sure you don't lose a book. It goes without saying that any deliberate damage to books is strictly prohibited and if you are discovered doing this, you will be dismissed from college. Now let's move on to some general conduct rules. Silence should be observed at all times. Of course there's no eating or smoking inside the library. And please throw unwanted paper into the recycling bins provided. Don't leave books on the table after using them. Remember, the library is a place for studying and research, not for chatting with your friends or playing games. This applies to computer use. The library computers are only for research of educational materials and emails. There is a time limit of thirty minutes per user. See the librarian if you need a computer for longer than this and if you need anything printed. And one more thing. During preparation of test papers by teachers, one of the computer units will be reserved for the High School Faculty.

Part four

- M Fran, I watched this programme the other day about office and business life fifty years ago. My goodness, it's amazing how much things have changed.
- F Well of course, Jim. There were no computers in those days were there?
- M No, that's what I noticed first of all. Everything looks so different with people working at desks with pens and paper. But what's even more noticeable is the movement around the office. People going to filing cabinets, people walking around carrying papers and files. And the noise was different, too.
- F Well they had the typing pool.
- M What's that?
- F You see! Even you don't remember. I remember my mother worked in one. The typing pool is where all the typists used to sit and type the letters from the company. No emails in those days.
- M No, I know that. Nowadays people do their own typing anyway. But the interesting thing is that people finished work and then left their work at the office. That was it. Once they got home, nobody could bother them, except on the telephone.
- F Yes, I know. It seems that nowadays, we're always at work. People can email us or even send us work on our smartphones or PDAs, or whatever they're called these days.
- M What's it stand for?
- F Personal Digital Assistant, I think.
- M Wow! You know a lot about these things.
- F Well, I live with someone who is always using his, don't I?
- M Oh, yes. I'm afraid I have no choice. It's company policy. We have to be in contact all the time. These days it takes a moment to win or lose a contract in a moment so it's part of my work contract.
- F Yes, but I do think it means it's so much more difficult to separate work from social life these days and it must have an effect on family life.
- M Yes, I know. But just think, now you can find any information you need so quickly. Years ago you had to spend days writing letters to people to get some important information. Now it's all on the Internet.
- F Yes, I know.
- M And that's why you have to be ready for anything.
- F Yes, I suppose that before, you wrote a letter for some information and then could sit back and not do anything until you received a reply. Now you can send an email, or look on the Internet and get anything instantly. But there's so much more pressure on everyone.
- M But on the other hand, remember how much easier things are now. All that paper in files and the way offices used to store information; for example pay records, that sort of thing. Now it's all done automatically.
- F Yes, I suppose so. There are good things and bad things about the world we live in.
- M And of course lots of businesses are based on the Internet. I know someone who used to sell antiques in an antique market in London. Now he sells everything through the Internet. So his business has changed completely.
- F You know it's interesting you saying that, because I have a friend who stopped working when she had her children, but she was always a good businesswoman and she also liked making her own jewellery. She started selling the jewellery on the Internet and now has a staff of five people making jewellery all day because she sells so much.
- M I can believe it. That's why it's so important to have a good website. Mmmm...now that would be a good business to be in.
- F Oh you can forget that. You've got enough business to do without thinking about another one.