ESL Reading Comprehension Sample Test

The reading comprehension test will evaluate your ability to understand written Standard American English.

Read the paragraph about the emporium in Galveston.

Shoppers enter the emporium, which is on the ground floor, through the original 14-foot doors. You can eat a sandwich inside while sitting on a wooden seat at an umbrella-covered table, or you can buy meats and cheeses by the pound for a picnic on the beach. There is also a wide selection of Texas foods, beers, chocolates, books, baskets, and specialty coffees and teas. A wine room features Texas, U.S., and international wines.

Adapted from Ann Gallaway, "A Present from the Past." ©1994 by Texas Highways.

1. In the passage, what does the highlighted word "emporium" mean?
   A. Store
   ☑ B. Beach
   ☐ C. Bar
   ☐ D. Hotel

2. What can you buy at the emporium?
   ☑ A. 14-foot doors
   ☐ B. Wooden seats
   ☑ C. Meats and cheeses
   ☐ D. Ground floors
ESL Listening Comprehension Sample Test

The listening comprehension test will evaluate your ability to understand spoken Standard American English.

Listen to the taped information from a college.

[Recording]

Thank you for calling T-R-A-I-L, or TRAIL, the taped registration and information line. The TRAIL system operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If you want information about classes offered by the college, press 1. If you want to register for specific classes, press 2 and follow the instructions. You will have 15 minutes to register. You must confirm your registration by pressing the zero key before you hang up or the computer won’t accept your registration. If you have any questions, call the registration office at 555-4933. Press 1 for information or 2 to register now.

1. What is the TRAIL system used for?

☐ A. To go to classes
☒ B. To get information and register for classes
☐ C. To speak to someone at the Registration Office
☐ D. To get your grades

2. What will happen if you do NOT confirm your registration?

☐ A. You will have to pay more.
☐ B. The computer will change your registration.
☐ C. You will need to take more classes.
☒ D. The computer will not accept your registration.

ESL Grammar/Usage Sample Test

The grammar/usage test will evaluate your knowledge of grammar and punctuation in Standard American English.

TEACHER: In addition to your textbooks, there are a couple of other materials you need to buy for this course. Because you will be writing weekly (1) ________, I want you to have a notebook that you can (2) _____________ to me every Friday. Make sure that the size is 8 1/2 by 11, not a smaller one. You also need a set of index cards. You will be taking notes on books that you will read, and you will write your notes on these cards. One set (3) _____________. Any questions?

1. ☑ A. journals;
   B. journals,
   ☑ C. journals
   ☐ D. journals.

2. ☑ A. turn up
   ☐ B. turn on
   ☐ C. turn down
   ☑ D. turn in

3. ☑ A. should be enough
   ☐ B. should have been enough
   ☐ C. should enough
   ☐ D. should been enough