

Elementary Level Written Exam Sample Tasks

Writing Task

Last month you ordered a Mace notebook (order number 60335/02) from IT Online Ltd which arrived yesterday. However, you are not completely satisfied with it and have the following issues:

- it was delivered only yesterday (on the Internet 1 week delivery was stated),
- the adapter is missing,
- the helpdesk of the company is not available

Write an email of complaint and say what problems you have and what you would like the company to do.

Write about 110-120 words. Include appropriate headings, a greeting and closing formula.

Reading Task

Making a Solar Water Heater

Solar water heaters are devices that use energy from the sun to heat water. Solar water heating is used around the world.

The solar water heater described here is based on a design developed some years ago in Afghanistan. Since then, it has been built and used in many countries. It can heat seventy liters of water to sixty degrees Celsius. It can do this between sunrise and noon on a clear day with an average outside temperature of thirty-two degrees Celsius. There are two parts to the solar water heater. One part is made of a sheet of metal painted black. This metal surface, placed in contact with the water, will heat the water. Black-painted surfaces that receive the sun's heat become hotter than surfaces of any other color.

The black metal plate is called a collector. There are several kinds of metal sheets that can be used for the collector. Metal sheets that have raised sections will work very well. These corrugated sheets often are used to make the roofs of houses.

Once the water is heated, it is kept hot with material called insulation. This allows the water to stay warm for a long time.

The second part of the solar water heater holds the water for the system. This storage tank can be a container that holds about one hundred liters. Two rubber pipes are attached to the water storage tank. One pipe lets water flow into the system. The other lets water flow out.

When the water heater is working correctly, water will flow from the storage tank to the collector and back again. You can use the hot water at the top of the tank for washing and cleaning. You can change the flow of water so that the temperature is hot or warm

as desired.

This solar water heater is easy to build and operate. It will last about two years before the rubber pipes need to be replaced.

There is also something else you will need to make the solar water heater work -- the sun. As you might expect, the heater will heat water only on sunny days.

You can get more information about projects like solar water heaters from Enterprise Works. This nonprofit group works to fight poverty in many countries.

Source: VOA Special English Development Report

Answer the following questions true (T) or false (F).

1	Solar water heaters are used for heating houses.	
2	These devices are in use in Afghanistan only.	
3	The heater designed in Afghanistan can heat 60 litres of water to 70 degrees Celsius.	
4	The amount of hot water the device produces depends on the weather.	
5	The surface of the collector is black because this colour has the best heat absorbing quality.	
6	It is advantageous if the surface of the collector is flat.	
7	The water storage tank is insulated.	
8	The water goes into and out of the system through plastic pipes.	
9	The temperature of the water can not be controlled.	
10	The pipes wear out in a couple of years.	

Listening Comprehension

Listen to a report about a traffic jam in China and fill in the missing information in the table below. You will hear the report twice.

You can access the audio from the following link:

http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1008/100824-traffic_jams.mp3

The traffic jam lasted	1
The jam started because of	2
The length of the line of cars is	3
Cars have problems with:	4
	5
The number of policemen attending to the jam is	6
There are more and more traffic problems in China because	7
The drivers can go to the toilet in	8
So that drivers don't get bored, they	9
One driver complained of missing	10

Answer key

Reading comprehension: 1.F 2.F 3.F 4.T 5.T 6.F 7.T 8.F 9.F 10.T

Listening 1. 10 days 2. roadworks 3. 100 km 4-5. overheating and breaking down 6. 400 7. more people are buying cars/people are richer 8. the nearest cafe 9. play board games / cards 10. his daughter's birthday.