



UNIVERSITAT ROVIRA I VIRGILI
Servei Lingüístic

B1

Reading paper

Nom: _____

Cognoms: _____

DNI: _____

Important

- Write your name, surname, and identity card number or passport number in the spaces provided above.
- Answer all the questions in blue or black pen.
- All questions carry one mark.
- You have 60 minutes to complete both reading exercises (that's to say, about 30 minutes for each exercise).
- At the end of the exam, please hand in this **Reading paper** and any notes you may have taken on a separate sheet of paper.

Reading One

Read the descriptions on the opposite page of eight food festivals and decide which festival (letters A-H) would be the most suitable for each person or group of people (numbers 1-7). There is one festival nobody goes to. Write the letter in the box next to the names of the people.

1.

John and Anne	
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John and Anne and their two teenage children don't have much money, but they would like to spend a special weekend in October. They want to offer their children some educational entertainment related to food.

2.

Mark	
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Mark and four of his friends are university students. They have a few days off in October. They would like to spend a weekend in a big city, going to music concerts and tasting and learning about beer.

3.

Nina and Peter	
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Nina and Peter are nutritionists who love cooking. They are writing a book about food and culture. They are interested in discovering new recipes that appeal to specific religious communities and people who do not drink alcohol.

4.

Sarah	
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Sarah used to be a reporter for the National Geographic. She has travelled around the world and loves experimenting with exotic foods. She is planning to take her young daughter to a food festival where she can also find entertaining activities.

5.

Brian	
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Up till now Brian, who is a fishmonger and loves seafood, has never left Brighton but this summer he has decided that he would like to find out more about food festivals around the UK which also provide exciting contests.

6.

Harry and Sheila	
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Harry and Sheila would like to celebrate their wedding anniversary staying in a special romantic place. They enjoy tasting meat dishes and would like to receive cookery lessons.

7.

Eric	
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Eric is a young chef in the making. He is open to innovative and original ideas. His future plans include opening a restaurant that reproduces vampire film sets.

A. Northern Ireland Oyster Festival

There'll be a gourmet market, with products from more than 50 Northern Irish producers of oysters, mussels and lobsters, plus cookery demos. The main attraction is the World Oyster Eating Championship. First, competitors try to eat 30 native oysters as quickly as possible (record: 22.01 seconds). Then top eaters swallow as many oysters as they can in three minutes. Last year the winner managed an impressive 233.

- 3-8 September, free.

C. Abergavenny, Monmouthshire

Wales's best food festival has 250 exhibitors, five venues, 50 ticketed events, and a Festival Fringe. This year sees some intriguing tutored tastings: one simply called Blood, focusing on black pudding and other blood products; and one dedicated to the Bloody Mary (there are also lots of non-blood-related events). Food walks and talks include a chat with a chef from Fäviken, a tiny restaurant on the edge of the Arctic circle in Sweden.

- 21-22 September, prices from £6.50

E. Loch Lomond, Scotland

In this festival cookery lessons are offered, which include local and Indian cuisine; tasting sessions cover sausages, pies, beer and whisky; and suppliers include a smokery and a venison farm. Up the west bank of the loch is Arrochar, where there's a lovely pub with rooms with views to Loch Long (doubles from £85).

- 14-15 September, free.

G. Dartmouth, Devon

Big-name chefs showing off their skills at this festival include Mitch Tonks, Mark Hix and Thomasina Miers. Seafood will take centre stage, with fish nights and seafood lunches. Other food events include a pudding and pie street party and a "spaghetti opera", and there'll be a host of workshops and talks, including a lesson in food photography. Drink events will include a Plymouth Gin masterclass and a mixology session.

- 25-27 October, main festival free, some events are ticketed.

B. Liverpool festival

Local restaurants, bars and cafes have stalls offering tasting plates or full meals. There will also be a food market, a chocolate garden and an insect-eating area. Grilled ants anyone? A beer festival will include 100 types of beers and 10 ciders; master classes and a cocktail competition are offered. Under-14s get in free and can try cookery sessions and foodie games.

- 7-8 September, £5 in advance, £6.50 on the door, £9 for both days,

D. Halal food, London

At the world's biggest halal food show, all food is suitable for Muslims and all drinks are alcohol-free – a professional mixologist will be demonstrating halal cocktails. Celebrity chefs cooking in live demos will include MasterChef winner Shelina Permalloo, Cyrus Todiwala of Café Spice Namasté and Michelin-starred Jean Christophe Novelli. The festival will appeal to anyone interested in food.

- 27-29 September, £20

F. Manchester Beer Convention

This festival is aimed at young, modern craft beer drinkers. It is held at Manchester's Victoria Baths and will feature dozens of craft breweries, street food from Guerrilla Eats and live music and performances. Brewers will be serving the beers and answering questions.

- 10-13 October, from £6

H. Arundel, West Sussex

Pretty Arundel is hosting a weekend of foodie events all around town. The free, family-focused activities include apple pressing and street cookery; allotment and orchard visits; bread-making over a fire and bake-off competitions; a secret supper club; and festival menus at local restaurants. At the new Arundel Museum by the river, visitors will be able to taste food cooked to ancient Roman recipes.

- 19-20 October, free

Reading Two

Read the following text and then complete the gaps (8-15) with one of the sentences (A-H) below.

- A** The English appear to be a deeply serious people, which, by and large, they are.
- B** Such enjoyable custom should, to the English way of thinking, be imitated by all peoples.
- C** They are probably the most tolerant race on earth when it comes to the beliefs of others.
- D** ... a titan of literature against whom all the other writers in the world over the past four hundred years have been measured.
- E** They are traditions, and that is enough for them.
- F** This, of course, merely confirms what the English have always secretly suspected – that foreigners cannot take a joke.
- G** It is not their way of doing things at all.
- H** ... for while the first three tended to write about people ...

English stereotypes

Custom and tradition

The English are a deeply nostalgic people and value customs and traditions above almost everything. It does not seem to matter just where traditions have come from or why they have survived. **(8)** _____. The rest of the world accepts and quite enjoys the outward manifestation of this English characteristic. Thousands of people fly into London every year to watch the Changing of the Guard or the State Opening of Parliament. Tradition, to the English, represents continuity, which must be preserved at all costs.

Culture

England is the country of Shakespeare, Milton, Byron and Beatrix Potter. The first is, by common consent, a hero of the human race, **(9)** _____. The second two are worthy names in most literate households. But the work of the fourth is best known to the English; **(10)** _____, Beatrix Potter wrote about animals and the English prefer animals and understand them better.

Religion

The English are not a deeply spiritual race. In English eyes, the Church is made for man and not the other way about. **(11)** _____. Mosques, chapels, synagogues and temples proliferate in England and they cannot understand why the rest of the world feels so passionately about something which is, for them, essentially a diversion.

Queuing

Foreigners look with amazement at the English queue. **(12)** _____. But for the English, queuing is a way of life. Many still consider that one of the few plus points of the last war was the proliferation of queues. There were queues for everything. People would join one and then ask the person in front what the queue was for. And that is the secret of the English queue-mania. A queue is the only place where it is not considered bad manners to talk to a stranger without being introduced.

(13) _____. They are amazed when it is not, and do not take kindly to aliens who fail to recognize a queue when they see one ("There is a queue, you know!").

Sense of humour

(14) _____. This gives added interest to the English sense of humour. For it comes as a surprise to foreigners to find that it exists at all.

Since the English never say what they mean, often the exact opposite, and tend towards reticence and understatement, their humour is partly based on an exaggeration of this trait of their own character. The English love irony and expect others to appreciate it too. In this, they are all too often disappointed as foreigners take offence at what appears to them to be unbearable rudeness. **(15)** _____.