# ESL Placement Practice Test B2 – Test 2

Name: Class: Date: Score: / 36

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Read each question carefully and choose the one best answer (A, B, C or D).

## Part 1: Reading Skills – School Letter

*Read the letter from a school principal. Then answer questions 1–6.*

**Subject: Changes to Afternoon Pickup at Maple Grove Elementary**

Dear Families,

Starting Monday, October 7, we will be changing the way students are picked up at the end of the school day. Over the past few weeks, the line of cars on Oak Street has grown so long that it has been blocking traffic and, more importantly, creating unsafe conditions for children who walk home.

Under the new system, families who drive will enter the parking lot from Cedar Avenue only. Each family will receive a numbered card to display on the dashboard. Staff members will call out the numbers, and students will be brought to the cars in groups of five. Please stay in your vehicle at all times; teachers will help younger children with their seat belts.

Students who walk or ride bikes will leave through the front doors on Oak Street at 2:50 p.m., ten minutes before the car line begins. Students who take the bus will not notice any difference.

If someone other than a parent will be picking up your child, you must let the front office know in writing by noon that day. Without a note, we will not be able to release your child.

We appreciate your patience as we all get used to this change.

Sincerely,

Dr. Angela Reyes, Principal

1. Which of the following best summarizes the letter?
   **A** The school will close its parking lot on Cedar Avenue.
   **B** Students will no longer be allowed to walk home from school.
   **C** The school is introducing a new procedure to make afternoon pickup safer.
   **D** The school day will end ten minutes earlier than before.

2. According to the letter, what problem led to the change?
   **A** Cars waiting on Oak Street were blocking traffic and putting walkers at risk.
   **B** Parents were complaining that the buses arrived late.
   **C** Children were often losing their numbered cards.
   **D** Teachers did not have enough time to help with seat belts.

3. What should families who drive do when they arrive at school?
   **A** Park on Oak Street and wait at the front doors.
   **B** Call the front office to give their number.
   **C** Walk into the parking lot to find their child.
   **D** Enter from Cedar Avenue, show their card and stay in the car.

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4. Which students will experience no change in their afternoon routine?
   **A** Students who walk home
   **B** Students who take the bus
   **C** Students who ride bikes
   **D** Students whose parents drive

5. In paragraph 4, the word "release" is closest in meaning to _____.
   **A** record **B** punish **C** allow to leave **D** remind

6. Ben's grandmother is going to pick him up on Thursday. What must his parents do?
   **A** Send a written message to the front office before 12:00 p.m. on Thursday.
   **B** Give the grandmother Ben's numbered card and nothing else.
   **C** Phone Ben's teacher at 2:50 p.m. on Thursday.
   **D** Ask the grandmother to wait for Ben at the front doors.

## Part 2: Reading Skills – Workplace Memo

*Read the memo from a company's Human Resources department. Then answer questions 7–12.*

**To: All Full-Time Staff**

From: Human Resources

Re: Expanded Education Benefit

We are pleased to announce that, beginning January 1, our tuition assistance program will cover up to $3,000 per year, up from $1,500. The increase reflects our commitment to helping employees build skills that benefit both their careers and the company.

To qualify, you must have worked here full-time for at least six months and be in good standing. Courses must be taken at an accredited college or university and must relate to your current position or to a role you could realistically move into here. Certificate programs, including those offered online, are also eligible.

Before you enroll, submit a request form to your manager, who will forward it to HR. Requests submitted after a course has started cannot be considered. Once you finish the course, send us your final grade and receipt. We will reimburse 100 percent of tuition for a grade of B or higher and 75 percent for a C. Courses with lower grades are not covered.

Please note that employees who leave the company within one year of receiving assistance may be asked to repay part of the amount.

7. What has changed about the tuition assistance program?
   **A** It is now open to part-time employees.
   **B** The maximum yearly amount has doubled.
   **C** Online courses are no longer accepted.
   **D** Employees no longer need their manager's approval.

8. Which employee is most likely eligible for assistance?
   **A** A part-time cashier who wants to study nursing
   **B** A full-time employee who was hired four months ago
   **C** A full-time accountant with two years at the company taking an online certificate in data analysis
   **D** A full-time employee with five years at the company taking a painting class for fun

9. When should an employee submit the request form?
   **A** Before the course begins
   **B** On the first day of the course
   **C** After receiving a final grade
   **D** Within one year of finishing the course

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10. Jordan took a $1,000 course and received a C. How much will the company pay?
    **A** $0 **B** $1,000 **C** $500 **D** $750

11. In paragraph 2, the phrase "in good standing" most likely means _____.
    **A** able to stand for long periods at work
    **B** having a satisfactory record with the employer
    **C** holding a senior position in the company
    **D** living close to the office

12. Why might the company ask an employee to pay back some of the money?
    **A** The employee took a course at an accredited university.
    **B** The employee received a grade of B.
    **C** The employee quit the company less than a year after receiving assistance.
    **D** The employee sent the receipt to HR.

## Part 3: Sentence Meaning

*Choose the sentence that has the same meaning as the original, or the word that best completes the meaning of the sentence.*

13. Marcus is very _____; he always arrives on time and finishes his work by the deadline.
    **A** sensitive **B** generous **C** curious **D** reliable

14. "I'll look into the problem with your account." Which sentence has the same meaning?
    **A** I'll investigate the problem with your account.
    **B** I'll ignore the problem with your account.
    **C** I'll look at your account and then close it.
    **D** I'll create a new problem with your account.

15. "The grocery store ran out of milk this morning." Which sentence has the same meaning?
    **A** The store sold milk outside this morning.
    **B** The store got a large delivery of milk this morning.
    **C** The store had no milk left this morning.
    **D** Someone ran out of the store with milk this morning.

16. "You'd better bring a jacket tonight." Which sentence has the same meaning?
    **A** You brought a better jacket than me tonight.
    **B** It's a good idea to bring a jacket tonight.
    **C** You had a jacket with you last night.
    **D** It isn't necessary to bring a jacket tonight.

17. "Jenna really takes after her father." Which sentence has the same meaning?
    **A** Jenna takes care of her father every day.
    **B** Jenna follows her father wherever he goes.
    **C** Jenna was born after her father moved away.
    **D** Jenna is very similar to her father.

18. The job offer was very _____, so Priya accepted it right away.
    **A** tempting **B** tempted **C** attempt **D** temptation

19. After months of training, Daniel finally _____ his goal of running a marathon.
    **A** succeeded **B** managed **C** achieved **D** won

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20. "We had no choice but to cancel the trip." Which sentence has the same meaning?
    **A** We chose not to cancel the trip.
    **B** We were forced to cancel the trip.
    **C** We had several options, so we canceled the trip.
    **D** We canceled the trip, but we could have gone.

21. "It's no use complaining to the manager." Which sentence has the same meaning?
    **A** Complaining to the manager won't help.
    **B** The manager doesn't use the complaint form.
    **C** You should complain to the manager more often.
    **D** The manager is complaining about nothing.

22. "The report was supposed to be finished by Friday." Which sentence has the same meaning?
    **A** Someone guessed that the report was finished on Friday.
    **B** The report was finished early, on Friday morning.
    **C** Everyone was surprised that the report was finished on Friday.
    **D** The report was expected to be finished by Friday, but probably wasn't.

23. "Should you need any help, call the front desk." Which sentence has the same meaning?
    **A** You should help the people at the front desk.
    **B** You must call the front desk immediately.
    **C** If you need any help, call the front desk.
    **D** Call the front desk to ask if you need help.

24. "No sooner had we sat down than the fire alarm went off." Which sentence has the same meaning?
    **A** We sat down a long time after the fire alarm went off.
    **B** The fire alarm went off immediately after we sat down.
    **C** We didn't sit down because the fire alarm was off.
    **D** The fire alarm went off before we arrived.

## Part 4: Language Use

*Choose the correct form to complete the sentence, or the answer that is grammatically correct.*

25. "How long _____ in Denver?" "Since 2019."
    **A** do you live **B** have you lived **C** are you living **D** did you live

26. If it _____ tomorrow, we'll have the picnic indoors.
    **A** rains **B** will rain **C** would rain **D** rained

27. This is the most interesting class I _____.
    **A** ever take **B** had ever take **C** have ever taken **D** am ever taking

28. Choose the sentence with no grammatical mistakes.
    **A** Could you give me some advices about choosing a college?
    **B** Could you give me an advice about choosing a college?
    **C** Could you give me a few advices about choosing a college?
    **D** Could you give me some advice about choosing a college?

29. The package _____ to the wrong address yesterday.
    **A** was delivered **B** delivered **C** has delivered **D** was delivering

30. At the interview, the manager asked me where _____.
    **A** did I live **B** do I live **C** I lived **D** I do live

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31. My phone battery is almost dead. It needs _____.

**A** to charge **B** charging **C** charge **D** charged

32. The new software, _____ was installed last week, has already crashed twice.

**A** that **B** what **C** it **D** which

33. We've been discussing this for weeks. It's time we _____ a decision about the budget.

**A** made **B** make **C** will make **D** have made

34. Which part of this sentence is incorrect? "The manager, who has worked here for ten years, know every employee by name."

**A** who has worked **B** for ten years **C** know **D** by name

35. By next June, Carlos _____ at the company for ten years.

**A** will work **B** will have been working
**C** is working **D** has worked

36. Had I known about the sale, I _____ more groceries.

**A** would buy **B** will have bought **C** had bought **D** would have bought

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# Answer key – ESL Placement Practice Test B2 – Test 2

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 C | 2 A | 3 D | 4 B | 5 C | 6 A | 7 B | 8 C | 9 A | 10 D |
| 11 B | 12 C | 13 D | 14 A | 15 C | 16 B | 17 D | 18 A | 19 C | 20 B |
| 21 A | 22 D | 23 C | 24 B | 25 B | 26 A | 27 C | 28 D | 29 A | 30 C |
| 31 B | 32 D | 33 A | 34 C | 35 B | 36 D | | | | |

## Explanations

1. **C** – The whole letter describes a new pickup system designed to solve a safety problem.
2. **A** – Paragraph 1 says the long line of cars was blocking traffic and creating unsafe conditions for children who walk.
3. **D** – Paragraph 2 says drivers enter from Cedar Avenue, display a card and stay in their vehicle.
4. **B** – The letter says students who take the bus will not notice any difference.
5. **C** – Here "release" means letting the child leave school with that person.
6. **A** – Anyone other than a parent needs a written note to the front office by noon that day.
7. **B** – The amount has increased from $1,500 to $3,000, which is double.
8. **C** – The accountant works full-time, has more than six months of service, and is taking a job-related certificate.
9. **A** – The memo says requests submitted after a course has started cannot be considered.
10. **D** – A grade of C is reimbursed at 75 percent, and 75 percent of $1,000 is $750.
11. **B** – "In good standing" means having no serious problems in your record.
12. **C** – The last paragraph says people who leave within one year may have to repay part of the amount.
13. **D** – A person who is always on time and meets deadlines is reliable.
14. **A** – "Look into" means to investigate or examine something.
15. **C** – "Run out of" means to use or sell all of something so none is left.
16. **B** – "You'd better" (you had better) gives strong advice about the present or future.
17. **D** – "Take after" means to resemble an older family member in looks or personality.
18. **A** – An adjective ending in -ing describes the thing that causes the feeling, here the attractive offer.
19. **C** – We say "achieve a goal"; "succeed" needs "in" and "manage" needs "to" + verb.
20. **B** – "Have no choice but to" means there was no other possible option.
21. **A** – "It's no use + -ing" means that an action is pointless.
22. **D** – "Was supposed to" describes an expectation or plan that often did not happen.
23. **C** – "Should you need" is a formal way of saying "If you need".
24. **B** – "No sooner ... than" shows that the second action happened right after the first.
25. **B** – The present perfect is used with "since" for a situation that started in the past and continues now.
26. **A** – In the first conditional, the if-clause uses the present simple.
27. **C** – A superlative with "ever" is normally followed by the present perfect.
28. **D** – "Advice" is uncountable, so it has no plural and cannot take "an".
29. **A** – The package did not do the action, so the past simple passive is needed with "yesterday".
30. **C** – In a reported question, the word order is subject + verb and the tense moves back.
31. **B** – "Need + -ing" has a passive meaning: the phone needs to be charged.
32. **D** – A non-defining relative clause between commas uses "which" for things, not "that".
33. **A** – "It's time + subject" is followed by the past simple to talk about the present.
34. **C** – The subject "the manager" is singular, so the verb should be "knows".
35. **B** – The future perfect continuous shows the duration of an action up to a point in the future.
36. **D** – "Had I known" is an inverted third conditional, so the result clause uses "would have" + past participle.

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**Notes for teachers:** Give students about 45 minutes and no dictionary. A score of 29 or more (about 80%) suggests the learner is secure at B2, 22–28 suggests a solid B1+/developing B2, and lower scores point to placement at B1. The sentence-meaning section targets common confusions with phrasal verbs, idioms and formal structures (should + subject, no sooner), while the language-use section checks tense choice, passives, reported questions and conditionals. Review wrong answers with students and ask them to rewrite the original sentences in their own words as a follow-up.

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