

# Pre-Interview Language Evaluation Task

to English Teaching Center in San Francisco, CELTA Course

Please print out this form from your browser, complete (**print and type**) and sign the Application and send it by mail or fax to:

**IPSA**  
**224 Datura Street, Suite 1100**  
**West Palm Beach, FL 33401**  
**Fax: (561) 629-5983**

**You can also scan the task and send it by e-mail to: [admissions@studyabroadinternational.com](mailto:admissions@studyabroadinternational.com)**

Please complete this task carefully, writing your answers in the spaces provided. Remember that your answers will largely determine whether or not you qualify for an interview with one of our CELTA trainers. Please also be sure to initial and sign the declaration.

To enable us to accurately assess your language awareness and needs, please:

- **write by hand**
- spend a maximum of ninety minutes on completing the language evaluation task
- do not consult a dictionary or grammar book.
- **work alone**

## **DECLARATION**

**Please read the following conditions carefully. Initial each section, and sign and date the final statement. Thank you.**

1. The school / IPSA reserves the right to reject any application without explanation. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Acceptance of an application does not constitute the reservation of a place on a course. A place is only considered reserved once the Enrollment Agreement has been signed and returned to the school with the relevant deposit. \_\_\_\_\_
3. The Certificate course is very intensive. Participants should be in a sufficiently good state of mental and physical health to be able to perform effectively during the course. \_\_\_\_\_

I understand and accept the conditions stated above.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## **SECTION A: Vocabulary**

Choose any **four** of the following words/expressions and for each of them.

- a. write a simple definition
- b. describe a situation a teacher could use to illustrate its meaning and usage
- c. write an example sentence
- d. explain what problems learners might have with this word or phrase (think about the meaning and well as the form of these words/expressions)

**embarrassed**

**borrow**

**police**

**get along with**

**mice**

**however**

***Here's an example:*** word: library

*Definition: a room or building containing books that you can read or borrow.*

*Situation when we can use this: When University students talk about the books they have to read for their studies. They are often expensive books, so the students don't want to spend a lot of money and buy them.*

*Example sentence: "We could go to the university library and borrow the books."*

*Students might find this difficult because... they may confuse the word with 'bookstore', not realizing that they cannot buy books in a library, they can only borrow them.*

1) \_\_\_\_\_

Definition:

Situation when we can use this:

Example sentence:

Students might find this difficult because...

2) \_\_\_\_\_

Definition:

Situation when we can use this:

Example sentence:

Students might find this difficult because...

3) \_\_\_\_\_

Definition:

Situation when we can use this:

Example sentence:

Students might find this difficult because...

4) \_\_\_\_\_

Definition:

Situation when we can use this:

Example sentence:

Students might find this difficult because...

## **SECTION B: Grammar**

### **(B1) Differences in meaning**

In the following pairs of sentences, the underlined item has a different meaning in each sentence, i.e. the speaker is using it for different purposes. For each pair, explain the differences in meaning.

**Here's an example:**

a) I could be late for work tomorrow.

b) I could swim by the time I was three.

*Answer: In a) the speaker uses **could** to indicate the **possibility** that he/she will arrive late.*

*In b) the speaker uses **could** to indicate an **ability** he/she had in the past.*

1. a) Jennifer lived in Sydney for two years.

b) Jennifer has lived in Sydney for two years.

2. a) They left hours ago. They should be home by now.

b) You should quit smoking if you want to be healthier.

3. a) I'm leaving — have a good day!

b) I'm leaving for Paris on Monday.

### **(B2) Error Correction**

Each of the sentences below contains an error or inappropriate use of language. How would you **explain** these mistakes to an adult language learner? Keep the explanation simple, but feel free to use some grammar terminology, e.g. noun, verb, tense, preposition, etc.

**Here's an example:**

sample sentence:

*I enjoy living in San Francisco, but next week I'm coming back to my country.*

Correction:

*I enjoy living in San Francisco, but next week I'm going back to my country.*

Explanation: *Since the speaker is currently in San Francisco and the direction of movement is away from their location, they should use the verb "go," not "come."*

1. (Friend to friend): "Would you be so kind as to lend me your pen?"

Correction:

Explanation:

2. "I have visited New York two years ago."

Correction:

Explanation:

3. "What does she look like? She looks like very pretty."

Correction:

Explanation:

4. "I must to go to the dentist tomorrow."

Correction:

Explanation:

**(B3) Form**

Please complete the following sentences, making sure that they are grammatically correct.

I would be surprised if \_\_\_\_\_.

If she is late, I \_\_\_\_\_.

If \_\_\_\_\_, I would have gone to the party.

## SECTION C: Pronunciation

### (C1) Stress

Decide how the following words are normally pronounced. Then, mark the syllable which takes the main emphasis (or 'stress'), by underlining it.

**EXAMPLE:** hospital

guarantee    speculation    retreat    balance    (an) increase    (to) increase

### (C2) Individual sounds

Regular verbs end with –ed when used in the past simple tense. Group these verbs according to the way we pronounce the –ed ending:

Group A:            pronounced as [t]            **e.g.** worked

Group B:            pronounced as [d]            **e.g.** groaned

Group C:            pronounced as [ɪd]            **e.g.** studied

lifted            =    \_\_\_\_\_

liked            =    \_\_\_\_\_

stayed            =    \_\_\_\_\_

decided            =    \_\_\_\_\_

lived            =    \_\_\_\_\_

visited            =    \_\_\_\_\_

contined            =    \_\_\_\_\_

walked            =    \_\_\_\_\_

Can you identify a pattern?

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