

English for Life: Reading (A2)

Unit	Topic	Key phrases	Language	Reading tips	Practising reading skills
1	Meeting and greeting	Hello! My name's Marianna and I'm from Brazil. / Send me a message if you want to chat. / Hi Mariana. I saw your post on EnglishClub. / My name is Ava and I love talking in English too!	Chat abbreviations	Keep a vocabulary notebook / Note down any new words / Try and learn some new words each day / Test yourself by re-reading texts to see if you know all the new words	Comprehension questions / Unjumble the phrases / True or false questions / Complete the sentences / Complete your profile
2	Staying in touch	Taking my driving test today. Again! / Thx everyone for my birthday messages. Have a great day! / Baby Anna born last night at 3am. / Congratulations Mary and John! / Hi Kim, Guess what ... / How are you? / See you soon.	Reading emails from friends / Using social networking sites	Reading for particular information / Skim the text / Stop when you find important sections	Match the words to the meanings / Complete the table / True or false questions / Comment on the sample posts / Read the email and answer questions / Reply to the sample email
3	Making plans	Hi Sophia, r u free 2 day 4 coffee and chat? :) L X / Sorry Leila, busy 2day. : (What abt 2 mro? / Morning is ok. Where do u want 2 meet? / Come to my hse. 2 tired 2 go out! :)	Informal emails / Text-speak smileys / the present continuous and 'going to'	Reading numerals in text messages / Numerals can be used to mean words or parts of words / '2' can mean 'two', 'to' or 'too' / 'l8' means 'late'	Match the text and the abbreviations / Comprehension questions / True or false questions / Complete the table / Complete the sentences using the present continuous or 'going to'
4	Understanding opinions	New film from #LeahPotts When Night Comes, is now showing at cinemas. / @WRCNewsCorp Breaking news: President of the United States. / @HarperCollins Latest edition of Collins East Learning English.	Vocabulary used in Twitter / Reading opinions in blogs	Using Twitter to practise reading / Follow English-speaking celebrities you admire / For example @BarackObama, @ladygaga, @TheBritishMonarchy	Complete the sentences / Comprehension questions / True or false questions / Complete the lists / Match the words to their meanings / Choose a title for the blog
5	Registering at a language school	At EME Language Schools we offer a wide variety of different courses. / Come and make new friends and practise your English! / Available at all six levels. / Extra help with your spoken English! / All levels.	Common abbreviations / Reading adverts and notice boards		Comprehension exercise / True and false questions / Match words and meanings / Complete the registration form
6	Arriving at a hotel	We hope you enjoy your stay! / Here is some information to help you to get the most out of your visit. / All visitors have access to the gym. / You can get a drink from the minibar in your room. / On the hearing the alarm leave the building immediately. / The windiest day will be Friday.	Reading about a hotel / Understanding notices / Reading the weather forecast		Comprehension questions / Fill in the gaps / Choose the correct answer / Match the words to the meanings / True and false exercise
7	Sightseeing	We went on a tour of New York. / The guide showed us the most famous places in the city. / We loved the view from The Rockefeller Center.	American English and British English	Using search engines / Write as many key words as possible / Scan results and focus on key words / Only read relevant results	Complete the sentences / Choose the best title / Comprehension questions / Match the words to the meanings / Underline the correct answer
8	Going shopping	Closing down sale. Everything must go! / New stock now in! / Massive price reductions. / Free wi-fi spot. / We accept the following methods of payment. / Cash and all major credit cards.	Reading signs in shop windows / Buying something in a shop	Read wherever you are / Practise reading signs and notices / Look up any new words / Write them in your vocabulary notebook	Comprehension exercises / Complete the sentences / Read the signs and choose the answers / Write them in your mistakes / Comprehension questions
9	Eating out	I'm planning a romantic meal with my wife. / I love pizza - Italian food is my favourite. / I'm eating out with my kids. / Chicken wings are served with spicy mayonnaise dip. / Service is not included.	American English and British English / Reading the menu / Deciding where to eat / Adjectives to describe food		Match the restaurant with the food / Comprehension questions / Complete the menu / True or false exercise / Complete the sentences / Match the sentences
10	Going to the cinema	An excellent Danish drama about passion and politics. / The special effects are terrific, as is the cast. / Could you confirm that the information on the ticket is correct?	Review language / Checking film times online / Buying your ticket online	Looking for particular information / Don't read every word / Scan the text for the information you need / Read relevant information carefully	Match the films to the descriptions / Comprehension questions / Underline the correct words / True and false questions / Complete the sentences / Circle the mistakes
11	Getting medical help	We are closed on Saturdays and Sundays. / In medical emergency call ... / To register, you must complete a health questionnaire. / Emergency appointments are for people who need urgent help.	Going to the doctor / Going to the pharmacy / -ache words	Using a dictionary / Try to understand the gist of text without a dictionary / Look up new words later / Try to guess the meaning of new words from the rest of the sentence	Match the words to the meanings / Comprehension questions / Choose the correct meaning of the words / True and false exercises /
12	Flying	Economy class passengers can check in two bags up to 20kg. / Charge for overweight baggage: £50. / Passengers are NOT allowed to check in any dangerous materials. / Please place all your things on the conveyor belt. / Remove all coats and jackets and place in a tray.	Checking in / Going through security / Boarding the plane	Headings and bullet points can help to find important information / Always read airport security notices carefully / Check for changes to air travel rules before you fly	Comprehension questions / Match the words to the meanings / Number the sentences in the correct order / True and false exercises
13	Catching a train	Do not leave your baggage unattended at any time. / You must buy a ticket before you board the train. / Buses will replace trains leaving from Birmingham New Street. / Journey times may be extended by up to 50 minutes.	Checking train information online / Understanding notices at a station / Abbreviations / 'between' and 'via' / Understanding signs on a train	Reading long notices / Skim them for key information / Read all relevant information carefully	Match the words to the meanings / Comprehension questions / True or false exercise / Find the correct words in the sample signs

14	Taking a bus	The M3 bus will not run - it's been cancelled. / The next M7 bus is due in 14 minutes. / There are some delays on Route 7 today. / You can also buy tickets before getting on the bus. / Peak rate applies on weekdays from 7am to 7pm.	Finding out about the next bus / Understanding notices at the bus stop / Reading signs on the bus	Reading a * / An asterix in a text means that there is note below giving additional information / If there is more than one note then additional * are used	Complete the sentences / Comprehension questions / Choose the correct meanings / True or false exercises / Fill the gaps / Match signs to their meaning
15	Travelling by car	Exit airport and turn left onto ... / Continue straight for 2.4 miles. / Road Works 1 Mile Detour. / Do Not Block Driveway 24-Hour Access Required. / Resident Parking Only.	Following directions / Understanding road signs / Compass points	Always read directions carefully before you begin a journey / Use a map to help understand the text / N, E, S, W are used to abbreviate compass points	Comprehension questions / Match the words to the meanings / Complete the sentences / Match the signs to their meanings
16	Travelling on foot	Danger! Electrical hazard. / No pedestrian access. / Bike Lane Look Both Ways. / Keep Out Private Property. / Dogs must be kept on a lead. / Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.	Using an app / Understanding signs and notices / Must and mustn't	Use smartphone apps to practise your English reading when you are on the move	Match the words to their meanings / Comprehension questions / Complete the sentences / Read the signs and choose the best answer / True and false exercises
17	Newspapers	US President to visit China. / Roadside bomb kills 14. / E-reader revolution for Africa. / Schools in developing countries try digital books.	Headlines / Reading newspaper headlines	Reading English-language news online / Read a news story in your own language first / Then read the story on an English-language news site	Choose what each article is about / Read the article and write a headline / Match the phrases / Complete the sentences / Choose the best summary / True and false exercise / Choose the best answer
18	Magazines	Up close with ... Messi. / Read Jason Cowley's rare interview with Lionel Messi, the world's best footballer. / Football is a game. I'm trying to have fun. / So, overall, how does it feel to be Lionel Messi?	Reading headlines and straplines / Reading magazine articles / New speaker, new line	Topic sentences / Often the first sentence of a paragraph summarizes the rest / Read the first line of each paragraph to get the general idea of a text	Comprehension questions / Choose the best topic sentences / Match the beginnings to the ends of the sentences / Match the words to their meanings
19	Music and TV	I really enjoy funny TV shows that make me laugh. / I want some new ideas about home improvements. / I've heard that they are going to release a new version of <i>Good Grace</i> . / I want to watch some music videos.	Finding out about new music / Choosing what to watch on TV / Shortened forms	Reading song lyrics is a great way to practise you reading and improve your vocabulary	Choose the best description / Comprehension questions / Match the beginnings to the ends / Choose the correct TV programme
20	Following instructions	Press the on-off button to turn on the camera. / Press the playback button to view the photo. / Make sure the batteries are fully charged. / I tried to insert the batteries in the camera but they were the wrong way around.	Following step-by-step instructions / Troubleshooting / 're' at the start of words	Read instructions quickly at first to get a general overview / Then read each section carefully / Look closely at any accompanying pictures	Fill in the diagram / Match the verbs to the meanings / True or false exercises / Write the headings in the correct place / Complete the sentences using the correct verb / Read the problem and choose the best advice