



**Functional Skills – English
Level 1 Reading
Assessment Paper**

Time Allowance 1 hour



2793-004-1

You need

- A pen – black or blue ink
- A dictionary

Candidate Instructions

- Do not open the paper until you are told to do so
- Answer all questions in the space provided
- You may use a dictionary

Information

- Remember to read the texts carefully before you attempt to answer the questions
- There are three tasks. Task A carries 7 marks, task B carries 6 marks and task C carries 8 marks

Candidate Guidance

- You are advised to work through the paper steadily allocating equal amounts of time to each question
- At the end, check you have all your work and put it together with your cover sheet
- If you have used additional sheets make sure your name is written on each sheet and that they are included with your work

THE FOLLOWING DETAILS MUST BE COMPLETED
Centre Name
Surname/Family Name
First Forename
Unique Learner Number (ULN) if known
Date of Birth
Date of Assessment
Candidate Signature

	Examiner use only
Task A mark	
Task B mark	
Task C mark	
Total marks	

Text A

Passport fees

Passport fees are different depending on the type of application and the service you use. The faster services are more expensive. This is a guide to costs and how to pay. You may be able to get a refund if you use Premium or Fast Track services and your passport arrives late.

	By post	Check &Send service*	One-week Fast Track service	One-day Premium service
First adult passport (includes passport interview)	£72	£72	N/A	N/A
Replace a lost, stolen or missing passport	£72	£72	£97	N/A
First child passport and when previously included on a parent's passport	£46	£46	£81	N/A
Replace a lost, stolen or damaged child passport	£46	£46	£81	N/A
Renew or amend an existing adult passport	£72	£72	£97	£114
Renew or amend an existing child passport	£46	£46	£81	£94

How to pay

If you are applying by post, you can pay with:

- cheque
- postal order
- credit card or debit card (complete the instruction within the passport application pack)

Please do not send cash through the post as it can be lost or stolen.

For postal applications make your cheque or postal order payable to 'Identity and Passport Service'.

If you are applying in person at a Regional Passport Office you can pay with:

- credit card or debit card
- personal cheque with cheque guarantee card
- postal order
- cash

Source: www.direct.gov.uk

Task A

You are going on holiday and need to renew your passport. The passport office has provided you with the information in text A. Read this carefully and answer the questions.

Questions on Text A

1 You need to renew your passport quickly as you are going on holiday in a few days time and hadn't realised it was out of date.

(a) Which service should you use?

_____ (1 mark)

(b) How much does this service cost?

_____ (1 mark)

2 What can you do if you use the quick service and your passport arrives late?

_____ (1 marks)

3 Your friend is applying for a passport and tells you he is going to send his payment in cash through the post.

Based on your reading of the text what advice would you give him?

_____ (2 marks)

4 You are visiting the passport office to renew your passport. How can you pay for your passport?

_____ (1 mark)

5 Why do you think the fast track and one-day premium are not available for a first adult passport?

_____ (1 mark)

Task A
Total
marks

Text B

Questions and advice

[Previous question](#) / [Next question](#)

Hi! I have booked my holiday for $3\frac{1}{2}$ weeks time and I need to renew my passport before I go. I have checked with the passport service website and it says that passports should normally be renewed in 3 weeks.

You can pay for a more expensive express service, but it costs quite a lot of money. I don't know whether to chance the normal service and risk not getting my passport back in time or pay the extra money. Does anybody have any advice?

Posted by Mary 08/10/2009 20:38

I was in a similar situation earlier in the year. I booked to go away in July with some friends and decided to risk it. My passport did not arrive in time and I couldn't go on holiday.

When I phoned the passport agency they said there was nothing they could do. The timelines are for guidance only, so you don't get any refund or anything if the passport takes longer than 3 weeks to arrive. I couldn't claim on my travel insurance or anything!!!

My advice would be pay for the express service. It might seem a bit expensive, but it is not as expensive as missing your holiday!!

Posted by Kabir 08/10/2009 21:01

Hi Mary,

I think Kabir was unlucky. The passport service is busier in the summer, when everyone is going away, so that is probably why his passport took a while to come back.

You are going away in October when things are quieter. If anything I think your passport will be back in less time than 3 weeks.

If I were you I would just use the standard service. You can use the money you save to buy some extra ice creams while you are away 😊

Posted by George 09/10/2009 09:46

Task B

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in this margin.
For Examiner
use only

You are a little unsure about which passport service to use and decide to look at a chat page on a holiday company website to see if it helps. Read text B and then answer the questions.

Questions on Task B

- 1 Put the name of the person next to the description that best matches their opinion.

Thinks the standard Passport service is the best option.	(1 mark)
Does not know which type of passport service to use.	(1 mark)

- 2 Who posted their advice on the website most recently?

_____ (1 mark)

- 3 If you were in Mary's position which service would you choose? Give a reason from the text to support your answer

_____ (2 marks)

- 4 According to the text, if Mary did not use the express passport service, on what could she spend her money on?

_____ (1 mark)

Task B
Total
marks

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IDENTITY AND PASSPORT SERVICE (IPS)

The Identity and Passport Service (IPS) believes the new face-to-face passport interviews for adults and the switch to ePassports have improved security. The IPS says there are around 47m British passports being used at the moment, that means 80% of British people have one and a large number of new passports are applied for every year.

When the IPS announced that adults applying for the first time would have an interview the IPS, said this would lead to a big increase in security that would allow them to keep ahead of criminals that try to make fake copies of passports and help them check that everyone who is applying for a passport is who they really say they are.

With 90% of applications coming through the post, and some from abroad, it was easy for criminals to pretend to be someone else, the face-to-face interviews introduced in 2007 have brought that to an end. People can not apply from outside the country anymore because they need to be here in the country for the interview.

Britain is the second biggest issuer of passports in the world after America with around 6.6m passports being issued each year. Before the interviews were introduced it is believed that 10,000 passports were wrongly issued each year. It is now thought this number has been reduced a lot. By improving security we have stopped British passports becoming second-class documents.

However, in some quarters the move is still being treated with suspicion. Some opposition MPs claimed that the scheme was a total waste of time and money. Out of around 200 000 people who were interviewed in the first year, none had their cases thrown out. Millions of pounds has been spent on the scheme.

The campaign against Identity Cards say that the scheme is just a way of trying to build a central database of information on the population as the basis of the planned National Identity Register. A spokesman for the campaign said the interviews were intrusive and asked for unnecessary personal information.

From a personal point of view, the system may cause difficulties and inconvenience to large numbers of passport applicants who can be required to travel up to 70 miles to attend their nearest centre. Single parent Julia Danson, planning her first trip abroad with her two young children said "I've had to pay someone to look after the children whilst I attend the interview as it's 50 miles away. It's an additional cost I could have done without."

Task C

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Questions on Text C

- 1 The title for this text is missing. Make up your own title for the text that reflects what it is about and write it down below

_____ (1 mark)

- 2 Give one person/group of people who are in favour of passport interviews and one against:

In favour: _____

Against: _____ (2 marks)

- 3 Think about the issues discussed in the text. Do you think passport interviews are a good or bad thing?

_____ (1 mark)

Give three reasons to support your answer.

(a) _____

(b) _____

(c) _____ (3 marks)

- 4 Why does the interview stop people applying for new passports from abroad?

_____ (1 mark)

END OF ASSESSMENT

Task C
Total
marks

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