

READING TEST

SECTION 1

Questions 1–16

You should spend about 20 minutes on Questions 1–16, which are based on the two texts below.

How you are covered by the law when buying online

The law gives you rights when you buy goods or services without face-to-face contact.

It covers:

- online shopping
- television shopping, e.g. from shopping channels
- mail order shopping, e.g. from a catalogue
- shopping by phone and fax

The law says that:

- you must be given clear information about the goods or services before you buy
- you must get written confirmation of this information after you have made your purchase
- there is usually a 'cooling-off' period where you can cancel your order for any reason
- you can get a refund if items aren't delivered on the agreed delivery date
- If no delivery date is given, you can get a refund if items aren't delivered within 30 days of placing your order.

The usual rules that apply to shopping in person also apply to distance selling. So items must be:

- as described
- of satisfactory quality
- fit for purpose

Cooling-off period

If you buy something without face-to-face contact, you will usually have a 'cooling off' period of seven working days. It lets you cancel the order for any reason and get your money back. If you decide to cancel your order within the 'cooling off' period, you must tell the trader in writing. You don't have this cancellation right:

- when a new service starts immediately, e.g. paying for access to a website
- if the item is personalised or made to order
- if the item is perishable, e.g. food or flowers
- for publications such as the daily press and periodicals
- where the security seal has been broken on a CD, DVD or computer software
- if you buy something from an online auction like eBay – this is known as a private sale

Questions 1–10

Do the following statements agree with the information given in the text?

In boxes 1–10 on your answer sheet, write

TRUE if the statement agrees with the information

FALSE if the statement contradicts the information

NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

- 1 The same law applies to things you buy on the phone and things you buy on the Internet.
- 2 The person who sells you something online should write to you about it.
- 3 You can ask for your money back if things you've bought online don't arrive on time.

- 4 The seller has to give a delivery date for things you buy online.
- 5 Different rules about the quality of products apply when you buy in person.
- 6 The 'cooling-off' period only applies to face-to-face purchases.
- 7 The length of the 'cooling off' period is normally fixed.
- 8 You need to have a good reason for cancelling an order in the 'cooling-off' period.
- 9 You must inform the seller of your reason for cancelling an order.
- 10 The 'cooling-off' period applies to fresh goods and newspapers.

Questions 11–16.

The text on page 106 has six sections, A–F.

Choose the correct heading for sections A–F from the list of headings below.

Write the correct number (i–ix) in boxes 11–16 on your answer sheet.

List of Headings

- i When will the payment be taken?
- ii What if I get charged for something I didn't order?
- iii Do I have to send things back?
- iv What if I have damaged the packaging?
- v What if I saw the goods in a shop, then bought them on the shop's website?
- vi Who pays for sending things back?
- vii What happens if you don't have a credit card?
- viii Can I get my money back?
- ix What if I need to try things out?

- 11 Section A
- 12 Section B
- 13 Section C
- 14 Section D
- 15 Section E
- 16 Section F

Buying things online: the 'cooling off' period

- A Under the distance selling regulations, you are quite within your rights to change your mind at any time, return the goods and get a full refund including any delivery charges you have paid. This must happen within 30 days from cancellation, whether or not the goods have been sent back. Any related credit agreements will also cease to exist.
- B You may be required to bear the cost of returning the goods, but only if this was made clear when you agreed to buy them. If the goods are faulty, then under the separate Sale of Goods laws, the supplier will always be responsible for the cost of returning them.
- C In all other cases, your only obligations are to make the goods available for collection and to take reasonable care of them while they are in your possession. This is called a duty of care, and it lasts for a period of twenty-one days. Where you have agreed to return the goods, your duty of care continues until you do this and could be for as long as six months.
- D Under a distance selling contract, a supplier cannot make refunds subject to the goods being returned unopened in their original packaging. One of the principles of the distance selling regulations is to give you a chance to examine the goods at home, not having had a chance to do so in the shop. It would be impossible for you to do this without opening the box or bag and making sure it's what you wanted.
- E Also, you need to ensure that things are of good quality and work properly. Having said this, you will still be under a duty to take reasonable care of the goods while in your possession, and may be subject to certain instructions such as not to wear shoes outdoors, or remove hygiene seals.
- F However, for goods and services paid for specifically in a distance selling context, you are automatically protected against fraudulent use of your payment card – whether this is a credit or debit card. So if you see that you have paid for goods you didn't buy, you can ask the card company for the money back.

SECTION 2

Questions 17–27

You should spend about 20 minutes on Questions 17–27, which are based on the text below.

An Archaeological Discovery in Australia

To the archaeologists, the site by the Jordan River, on the outskirts of present-day Hobart, capital of the Australian island state of Tasmania, did not look particularly promising. But when they began digging, they uncovered an extraordinary treasure trove: millions of artefacts, representing the oldest evidence of human habitation in the southern hemisphere.

For more than 40,000 years, the river bank was an important meeting place for Tasmanian Aboriginal people, who converged on a broad floodplain to trade goods and hold ceremonies. The spot was still being used as late as 1828, twenty-five years after Europeans first colonised the island. 'It has the potential to give us a glimpse into an unknown part of world history and the spread of Homo sapiens across the Earth,' said Rob Paton, who led the dig.

The dig was ordered after Aboriginal groups voiced concerns about plans to construct a bridge across the Jordan, as part of a new four-lane highway. Archaeologists were astounded by what came to light. Although Dr Paton's report describes the site as being of 'extremely high scientific significance', the Tasmanian government is resisting pressure to reroute the bypass road, claiming that the bridge will not destroy or disturb it. Opponents, however, point to concrete pylons which will be sunk into the grassy flood plain and plans to create a massive infill of rocks.

While the site is of international significance, it has particular meaning for Tasmanian Aborigines, whose heritage and history were virtually wiped out during the process of European settlement. Much of the Jordan valley was home to Aboriginal people, and three major tribal groups congregated regularly on the flood plain through the millennia: wild cherries were the main thing to be gathered in the area, which also offered plentiful river life as well as abundant kangaroos and wallabies for meat.

Michael Mansell, legal director of the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre, said: 'That's a place that really strikes at our heart, and is about our identity, our past and our future. When you stand down by that levee, you can feel the presence of our ancestors, of the old people and the children.' Archaeologists say the site could rewrite Aboriginal history in Tasmania and Australia.

Digging eight test pits, they found 1,440 artefacts – including tools and spear tips – and concluded that three million objects lie buried. 'They're stone artefacts, they're used for day-to-day living, cutting and sharpening,' Dr Paton said. 'It's that day-to-day stuff that really is rarely found. To get a snapshot of what life was like 40,000 years ago is quite unique, not just for Australia but for hunter-gatherer sites anywhere in the world.'

With approval for the bridge expected to be granted soon, conservationists and Aboriginal groups have appealed to the federal government to intervene. One local politician has called for the site to be National Heritage listed.

Across the island, little trace remains of ancient indigenous culture. Coastal rubbish pits date back only 5,000–6,000 years, and inland caves were occupied about 14,000 years ago. Consequently, the riverbank site, where an estimated 300–400 people are believed to have converged regularly, is a real find.

Questions 17–20

Choose the correct letter, **A**, **B**, **C** or **D**.

Write your answers in boxes 17–20 on your answer sheet.

- 17 How did the archaeologists feel at the beginning of the dig?
A excited to have located the site
B optimistic about the likely results
C unimpressed by the appearance of the site
D unsure how long it would take to find anything
- 18 What is significant about the results of the dig?
A how many objects were unearthed
B what the age of the objects tells us
C what the type of objects found suggests
D the fact that similar objects are still in use
- 19 The dig took place because
A the archaeologists thought the site might soon be damaged.
B the local government wanted to change the route of a road.
C local people were worried about a construction project.
D Dr Paton was determined to lead it himself.
- 20 There is debate about whether
A the site has real scientific significance.
B the new road will really damage the site.
C the use of concrete pylons is really necessary.
D the local rock will support a large road bridge.

Questions 21–25

Complete the sentences below.

Choose **NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS** from the passage for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes 21–25 on your answer sheet.

Most of the objects found were made from **21**
As well as hunting and fishing, Aboriginal peoples used to pick **22** for food.
A total of **23** objects has been dug up so far.
Tools used for **24** and keeping things sharp have been found.
It has been suggested that the site be listed as having **25** status

Questions 26–27

What has been found elsewhere in Tasmania?

Write the correct two letters **A–E** in boxes 26–27 on your answer sheet.

- A** things that were thrown away by ancient people
B places where ancient people lived
C places where ancient people met
D structures which ancient people built
E places where ancient people dumped things
- 26
- 27

SECTION 3

Questions 28–40

You should spend about 20 minutes on Questions 28–40, which are based on the text below.

Even in his nineties, the German mountaineer Anderl Heckmair was still a popular guest at climbing events around the world. He would sit with a twinkle in his eye as young climbers introduced themselves, eager to shake hands with the man who led the first ascent of the north face of the mountain called The Eiger.

Heckmair had seen it all. His brilliant 1938 climb with three companions up the Eiger, notorious for its rock falls and sudden, violent storms, is still regarded as one of the greatest expressions of mountaineering skill in history. Reinhold Messner, perhaps the most celebrated living climber, thought the three-day ascent ‘a work of art’.

Quite what Heckmair would have made of Dani Arnold is another question. In April 2011, Arnold climbed Heckmair’s route in just 2 hours 28 minutes, a jaw-dropping record that stunned the Alpine climbing scene. The scale of Arnold’s effort, two years in the planning, is mind-boggling. The psychological pressure on such a gloomy mountain wall, passing landmarks such as ‘Death Bivouac’ is obvious. A lot has changed since 1938, but the Eiger is still a dangerous place – even for a roped climber. Yet, for speed, Arnold climbed without anything to catch him if he fell. One loose handhold or falling stone and he would be dead – but he had to push such thoughts from his mind. ‘I didn’t even think for a moment about falling,’ he says.

Apart from the danger, the athletic demands were huge. The north face itself is a gigantic amphitheatre, 1,600 metres in vertical height. Working every day as a guide in the mountains, the 27-year-old says he didn’t need to do any special training. He had climbed the route several times so knew its secrets. The real challenge was getting his head right for the intense concentration required – he turned back on a couple of earlier attempts because he didn’t feel right.

But Arnold’s Eiger ascent wasn’t the only mind-blowing speed ascent that year. A few months later in August, 22-year-old Andreas Steindl sprinted up the nearby Matterhorn in just 2 hours 57 minutes, starting at Zollhaus, on the outskirts of Zermatt in Switzerland. That’s a vertical gain of 2,915 metres, and while the Matterhorn’s Hornli Ridge, first climbed by Edward Whymper in 1865, is a much easier proposition than the Eiger’s north face, the distance involved is much further.

Most climbers attempting the Matterhorn take the cable car to Schwarzsee, a pretty tarn lake at 2,500 metres much visited by hikers, and then walk a further two hours to the Hornli mountain hut at the foot of the mountain. After a night there, they continue at around 4.30 a.m., with the climb itself taking most parties another six to eight hours. Steindl left Zermatt at 4.05 a.m., using running shoes and ski poles approaching the peak, before switching to boots and crampons. He was on the summit just after 7 a.m.

Putting the mountain off-limits to other members of the public wasn’t an option, so Steindl had to overtake about 90 other climbers on his way to the top, not easy on a steep mountain that claims a dozen lives each year, although he said he was buoyed by their words of support. Arnold faced the same problem on the Eiger, passing 20 roped parties, including fellow guide Simon Anthamatten and his client. Anthamatten was the previous record holder on the Matterhorn. Arnold’s most anxious moments came while passing some climbers at the end of the so-called ‘Traverse of the Gods’, which leads back into the centre of the face, just before the final difficult section. ‘Having all of those people on the route also had advantages,’ Arnold says. ‘They’d made a good path and most of the holds were free of snow. The disadvantages of course were that I’d sometimes have to wait maybe one or two minutes to pass.’ That suggests it might be possible to go even faster, although Arnold says he is finished setting records on the Eiger.

Despite his youth, Steindl is not just a fast climber but a top skier and trail runner too, reflecting the narrowing gap between mountaineering and mountain racing, or 'skyrunning'. Zermatt isn't just famous for the Matterhorn but hosts two of the most prestigious cross-country mountain races in the world: the legendary Patrouille des Glaciers – a high-altitude ski-mountaineering event held in April – and July's Zermatt marathon. One of the team that holds the record for the Patrouille's 53-kilometre course is Florent Troillet, who, along with Anthamatten, held the Matterhorn record until Steindl's effort this summer.

Catalonian skier and ultra-running legend Kilian Jornet, three-time winner of the Ultra-Trail Mont Blanc race, has also shown an interest in speed ascents. He holds the record for the fastest ascent of Kilimanjaro, reaching the summit of Africa's highest peak in 5 hours 22 minutes in 2010. Jornet makes no secret of his admiration for the Italian mountain runner Bruno Brunod. In 1995, Brunod ran from Cervinia, on the Italian side of the Matterhorn, to the summit and back in just 3 hours 14 minutes, a record that really has stood the test of time and one that Jornet would love to add to his tally.

Are climbers in danger of turning the mountains into a race track? 'Climbers have always compared the speed of their ascents,' says Ueli Steck, who held the north face of the Eiger record until Arnold's climb. And though the speed and style of climbing has been transformed, the danger isn't much less than it was in Heckmair's day. 'The more you do it,' says Steck, 'the more things can go wrong.'

Questions 28–34

Complete the table below.

Choose **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER** from the text for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes 28–34 on your answer sheet.

YEAR	NAME OF MOUNTAIN	NAME OF CLIMBER	SPEED OF CLIMB
28	Eiger (north face)	Anderl Heckmair	29
1865	Matterhorn	30	unknown
1995	Matterhorn	31	3 hours 14 minutes
2010	32	Kilian Jornet	5 hours 22 minutes
2011	Eiger (north face)	Dani Arnold	33
34	Matterhorn	Andreas Steindl	2 hours 57 minutes

Questions 35–40

Do the following statements agree with the information given in the text?

In boxes 35–40 on your answer sheet, write

TRUE if the statement agrees with the information

FALSE if the statement contradicts the information

NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

- 35 Heckmair climbed the north face of the Eiger alone.
- 36 Arnold climbed the Eiger without the usual safety equipment.
- 37 Steindl made sure no other climbers were about on the day of his record-breaking climb.
- 38 Simon Anthamatten felt sad when Steindl passed him on the mountain.
- 39 Florent Troillet still holds one climbing record.
- 40 Ueli Steck thinks climbing is safer now than it was in the nineteenth century.