



COVID 19 Pandemic

Reading Test **EXAMPLE**

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Student

Time: *Approximately 1hour*

Two types of lesson

Lesson#1: [Easy] ***** [B2/C1]

1. Predict the content of the text & write down the key terms & ideas.
2. Read the text. Check words & meanings with a dictionary.
3. Answer the questions.
4. Check your answers (pass mark is 70%).

Lesson #2: [Hard] ***** [C1]

1. Read text – no dictionary.
2. Answer the questions.
3. Check your answers (pass mark is 70%).

Teacher

Two types of lesson

Lesson#1: [easy] ***** [B2/C1]

1. Distribute **text 1 (without reference words underlined)** a week before the test. Students read, check vocabulary & meanings.
2. Test day. Distribute **text 2 (with reference words underlined)** & the **questions** (no dictionary or notes).
3. Set 1 hour to read the text & answer the questions.
4. Take in & correct or go through answers in class (pass mark is 70%).
5. Extra activity. Students write the *summary (add 30 minutes to the test).

Lesson #2: [hard] ***** [C1]

1. Test day. Distribute **text 2 (with reference words underlined)** & the **questions**.
2. Set 1 hour to read the text & answer the questions.
3. Take in & correct or go through answers in class (pass mark is 70%).
4. Extra activity. Students write the *summary (add 30 minutes to the test).

*Summary writing: <https://www.academic-englishuk.com/summary>

COVID 19 Pandemic (Text 1)

By J Greenwood (2021)

1. In 2020, the world dealt with a situation unprecedented in modern times: the Covid-19 pandemic. Covid-19 [redacted] a group of viruses that includes Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East [redacted] of which [redacted] globe in the recent past. Symptoms of these diseases range from relatively mild; including loss of [redacted] and muscle ache, to more severe consequences such as respiratory issues, organ failure and even death (Menni et al., [redacted] differently depending on their age, ethnicity and physical fitness. The fact that many people who [redacted] is one of the key contributing factors to its rapid spread around the globe.

2. The origins of Covid-19 are a widely debated issue. Bolsen et al. (2020) outline two [redacted] attention:

- 1) 'Its origins are "[redacted] transmitted "naturally" from bats to humans, possibly from a food market in Wuhan, China' and
- 2) '... a conspiracy theory [redacted] and leaked, deliberately or accidentally, from a research laboratory in Wuhan, China'.

Commentators on the [redacted] have come from live animals stored in the food market, whose parasites spread from the animals to humans. This usually happens when [redacted] the virus comes [redacted], and the virus mutates and enters a human cell (Morens et al., 2020). Critics of the first theory point to the fact that [redacted] being so contagious and deadly, it is more likely to have been deliberately engineered in a lab, with [redacted] as [redacted] (Gertz, 2020). The real origins of the Covid-19 pandemic may never be known, but the speed with which [redacted] is undeniable.

3. The first cases on Covid-19 were [redacted] on December 8th, 2019 (Pan et al., 2020). It was only on 3rd January, 2020 that Chinese officials provided information to the World [redacted] the ' [redacted] an unknown cause' (WHO, 2020). It has been argued that this late alert from Chinese officials is one [redacted]. By 21st January, [redacted] case, and by 31st January, the first two cases of Covid-19 had been confirmed in the UK. The subsequent [redacted] February, there [redacted] in 56 countries globally, and 2,874 deaths due to Covid-19 (Kantis et al., 2020). These numbers continued to rise, but at [redacted]. A nation's response to the [redacted] impact on the number of cases, and subsequently [redacted] would record.

4. Countries' responses to the pandemic differed widely. In China, the city of Wuhan was

placed under strict [redacted] asked to remain at home and only go out for essential reasons such as grocery shopping and [redacted] out of Wuhan [redacted] stopped and roads were blockaded (Cyranoski, 2020). These 'lockdowns' as they became known, [redacted] in other countries, such as the UK. It was not until 23rd March that authorities in the UK took similar measures, [redacted] confirmed cases across the UK (Kantis et al., 2020). Whilst it is not certain how effective [redacted] Covid-19, some [redacted] combination of travel bans, minimising social contact by shutting down institutions, and [redacted] in reducing the spread.

5. Looking forward, one key question is whether it be possible to completely control COVID 19 and its mutations. Most countries are [redacted] than before; [redacted] stocks of personal protective equipment (PPE) and financial support for businesses are in place. However, [redacted] are incredibly high [redacted] and business bankruptcy. Vaccines have also been developed to inoculate the world against [redacted] and Janssen are three [redacted] developed these. In the UK, vaccination using the Pfizer vaccine began on 17th December, 2020. The [redacted] of the population in 2021, starting with more vulnerable groups. Everyone in the UK is hoping that the [redacted], the key [redacted] vaccines be enough?

775 words

Reference List

Bolsen, T., Palm, R. & Kingsland, J.T. 2020, "Framing the Origins of COVID-19", *Science communication*, vol. 42, no. 5, pp. 562-585.

Cyranoski, D. 2020, "What China's coronavirus response can teach the rest of the world", *Nature (London)*, vol. [redacted].

Gertz B. (2020, January 26). Coronavirus may have originated in lab linked to China's biowarfare program. *The Washington Times*. [online]

Kantis, C., Kiernan, S. & Bardi, J. 2020 "Updated: Timeline of the Coronavirus", *ThinkGlobalHealth*, [Online] <https://www.thinkglobalhealth.org/article/updated-timeline-coronavirus>

Menni, C., Sudre, C.H., Steves, C.J., Ourselin, S. & Spector, T.D. 2020, "[redacted] will save lives", *The Lancet (British edition)*, vol. 395, no. 10241, pp. e107-e108.

Morens, D.M., Breman, J.G., Calisher, C.H., Doherty, P.C., Hahn, B.H., Keusch, G.T., Kramer, L.D., LeDuc, J.W., Monath, T.P. & Taubenberger, J.K. 2020, "[redacted] *The American journal of tropical medicine and hygiene*, vol. 103, no. 3, pp. 955-959.

Pan, A., Liu, L., Wang, C., Guo, H., Hao, X., Wang, Q., Huang, J., He, N., Yu, H., Lin, X., Wei, S. & Wu, T. 2020, "Association of Public Health Interventions with the Epidemiology of the COVID-19 Outbreak in Wuhan, China", *JAMA* : [redacted]

WHO, 2020, "Timeline: WHO's Covid-19 Response" [online] <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/interactive-timeline/>

+TEXT 2 INCLUDED IN PAID VERSION

Comprehension Questions

1. Headings – choose a subheading for each paragraph – one title is not needed

1	D	A	The source
2		B	[REDACTED]
3		C	The new laws
4		D	[REDACTED]
5		E	The control
		F	[REDACTED]

___ / 4

2. True / False / Not Given – one question per paragraph

		T / F / NG
Paragraph 1		
i.	The virus that has [REDACTED] new type of virus.	
Paragraph 2		
ii.	Bolsen et al. (2020) suggest the 'zootonic' [REDACTED] of the virus is more plausible.	
Paragraph 3		
iii.	It took less than a [REDACTED] the virus to the WHO once they had confirmed cases.	
Paragraph 4		
iv.	If the UK had gone [REDACTED] confirmed cases would have been lower.	
Paragraph 5		
v.	Most countries are [REDACTED]	

___ / 5

3. Open answer questions

Paragraph 1

What are two [REDACTED] group?

i)	
ii)	

___ / 2

Paragraph 2

Which of the two [redacted] does the author believe is correct?

i)	
----	--

___ / 1

Paragraph 3

What determines the [redacted] in a country?

i)	
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___ / 1

Paragraph 4

When did [redacted] a 'lockdown'?

China	
UK	

___ / 2

Paragraph 5

Name to [redacted] pandemic.

i)	
ii)	

___ / 2

4. Reference Words

Explain what these reference words connect to: (underlined in the text)

Paragraph	Word	Connection
1	<i>their</i>	<i>Answer: people</i>
1	its	
2	[redacted]	
2	it	
3	[redacted]	
4	Similar measures	
5	[redacted]	

___ / 6

5. Author's stance?

The author believes [redacted] pandemic.	
Yes	No [choose one]
Why?	

___ / 2

6. Vocabulary

Key language – search for the word in the paragraph that means:

Paragraph	Explanation	Word
1	Never done or known before.	Answer: Unprecedented
1	Relating to or [redacted] used to breathe.	
2	The point(s) or place(s) where something begins, arises, or is derived.	
2	[redacted] nature.	
3	Essentially different in kind; not able to be compared.	
4	The [redacted] surrounded by soldiers or police to stop people from going in or out.	
4	To control or limit something that is not wanted.	
5	Treat with [redacted] against a disease.	
5	Exposed [redacted] harmed.	

___ / 8

Overall Total: ___ / 33

Comprehension Questions **ANSWERS**

1. **Headings** – choose a subheading for each paragraph – one title is not needed

1	D	A	The source
2	A	B	The strategies to curb the spread

ALL ANSWERS INCLUDED IN PAID VERSION...