

# IELTSFEVER GENERAL READING TEST 48

## SECTION 1 Questions 1 - 14

### Questions 1 – 7

There are 5 advertisements **A – E** on the next page.

Answer the questions below by writing the letters of the appropriate advertisements in boxes **1 – 7** on your answer sheet.

- 1 Which advertisement says people can buy a used computer?
- 2 Which advertisement says that there are special offers available?
- 3 Which advertisement offers training on computer programming?
- 4 Which advertisement is for hiring someone?
- 5 Which advertisement offers a service to improve Internet speed?
- 6 Which advertisement has a service to install a computer?
- 7 Which advertisement says that further details are available online?

**A**

**KENTON COMPUTERS**  
**KENTON'S BIGGEST STOCKIST OF COMPUTERS AND ACCESSORIES**

Kenton Computers is the area's most prestigious outlet for buying a new computer. We sell all types of desktop and laptop computers for individual and company requirements. We also offer a complete set-up service to ensure that your purchase is used to its optimum potential.

We are also the area's specialist for gamers. Whether you're just starting out or have been gaming for years, we'll have a gaming PC and game selection to suit your level and budget.

*Sale on now - 25% off all sales of new computers*

**B**

**Kenton Computer Repair Service**

*Come to us for all your computer repair needs.*

- 20 years' experience; no fix, no fee
- Repairs
- Upgrades and updates
- Servicing
- 2nd hand sales
- Virus removal
- Desktops, laptops, PC's, Macs

38 Railway Road, Kenton  
Tel 08462 859 823

**C**

**Magna Computer Training Services**

Here at Magna, we have 15 years of experience teaching people how to use computers. This can range from teaching people to use a computer for the first time to programming courses that can lead to a professional qualification and a job. Check our online brochure for details of all our courses and fees.

[www.magnatraining.com](http://www.magnatraining.com)

**D**

**Situation Vacant**

Well-known high street insurance company requires a top performing computer programmer and technician to oversee upgrades to various branches around the country. Travel conditions, pay and other benefits will be outstanding for the right candidate. Experience and references are essential. Call David Johnson on 07770 692132 for details.

**E**

**Internet Supermarket**

*Want to get online or get a better connection?*

*Is your home Wi-Fi up to the job?*

We'll show you how to beat slow connections with a new AC router and how your home's plug sockets can boost your signal with our *Powerage* technology.

We can offer you contracts with all the largest Internet providers. Drop in and tell us your requirements and we will fix you up with the best contract for your situation.

49 Longford Street, Kenton  
Tel 08462 589472

**Questions 8 - 14**

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

In boxes **8 – 14** 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*

- 8 It takes three days to complete the Beginner Diving Course at the Atlantis Dive Centre.
- 9 Reduced fees are possible if a large group books together.
- 10 Beginner divers must produce proof of identity when enrolling in a course.
- 11 Doing the recreational diver medical at the Atlantis Dive Centre involves a small extra charge.
- 12 The Atlantis Dive Centre only teaches diving to beginners.
- 13 Children between 16 and 18 can do the course if accompanied by a parent.
- 14 The Beginner Diving Course can be completed in several different countries.

**Atlantis Dive Centre**  
**Become a Scuba Diver!**

Take our Beginner Diver Certificate in our fully equipped dive centre, located next to the warm waters of the Pacific Ocean. The Beginner Diver Certificate takes place over three days and comprises theory tuition, confined training dives in our own swimming pool at our centre and four open water dives in the Ocean with an instructor. Once you have passed your Beginner Diver Certificate, you can dive independently at any dive centre around the world. The Beginner Diver Certificate costs AUS\$600. This fee must be paid before the start of the course.

We only run the Beginner Diver Certificate with a minimum of five learner divers, but we can offer the course with three divers on payment of a supplement of AUS\$300 per learner diver. For parties of six or more, we can offer attractive discounts.

All learner divers must complete a recreational diver medical. This can be done at our centre and is included within the Beginner Diver Certificate fee. If your medical is done elsewhere, you **MUST** bring your certificate of diving health **BEFORE** you begin.

Although we specialise in training new scuba divers, we run monthly advanced courses that cater for more experienced divers who wish to learn new skills and gain more advanced diving certification.

One great way to learn diving is to use the new referral system. We can teach you all the theory and give you your confined water dives at our centre, and then you can choose to do your four open water dives at any recognised diving centre anywhere in the world. You tell us where you want to go and we'll send your chosen centre all the required paperwork.

## SECTION 2 Questions 15 – 27

### Questions 15 – 21

Complete the summary below.

Write **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS** from the text for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes **15 - 21** on your answer sheet.

#### *Basic Advice for an Interview*

Being late for an interview shows bad planning, bad (15) \_\_\_\_\_, a lack of respect, and it gives a bad first impression. Plan your journey - use the Internet and make some notes. Try to be 10 - 15 mins early, but don't come too early!

An interview should be a (16) \_\_\_\_\_, so prepare lots of questions on the company and its (17) \_\_\_\_\_. Do more than just research the interviewing company's website. Know what the different (18) \_\_\_\_\_ of the company are and how you'll be a part of them.

Whatever your reasons for wanting a new job are, don't criticise your previous employer - you don't want to be seen as a (19) \_\_\_\_\_.

Because getting a good job is a very (20) \_\_\_\_\_ process, it's important to (21) \_\_\_\_\_ and show you're passionate about the job and the company.

## Basic Advice for an Interview

### 1 Don't Be Late

I know this advice may sound trivial and something that you already know, but it still happens. You can never predict what might make you late. It could be just public transport problems, but most of the time arriving late is because you didn't plan properly. Running late not only suggests poor time management skills, but shows a lack of respect for the company. Arriving late is an excellent way to give your interviewer a bad first impression and we all know how important first impressions are. Plan your journey as well as possible, even by checking the public transport website the night before if you have to. Jump on the Internet and figure out exactly where your interview is and make note of a couple of reference points so that you don't get flustered if you get lost. Budget your time so that you make it to the interview at least ten to fifteen minutes early. While it's good to arrive early, don't get there 3 hours early or you'll come across as nervous and well, a bit weird.

### 2 Ask Questions

A lot of candidates tend to think that an interview is the process of being asked questions. This is far from the truth. Interviews ought to be a discussion, so you should be ready with your own questions too. A good interviewer will usually allow for enough time to let you ask as many questions as you want at the end of the discussion. Therefore, prepare questions on the topics you're interested in. Ask questions about the company and their products. You don't want to show a complete lack of knowledge of what the company does; you want to show an interest. Hiring managers will assume that you have investigated their organisation's website, so expand the scope of your research efforts. Try to understand what the organisation's goals are in the short, medium and long term and how the projects you'll work on will contribute.

### 3 Don't Bad-Mouth Previous Employers

Some people apply for a new job because they're searching for a new challenge, or because they want a higher salary, and others because their employer sucks. Regardless of what your reason is (but in particular if it's the latter), don't ever say bad things about your current or previous employers in an interview. The interviewer will be listening to your answers and thinking about what it would be like to work with you. You may come across as a complainer and the interviewer may even wonder what will happen once you'll leave their company.

### 4 Be Enthusiastic

The job market is highly competitive and for every good position, there are usually a large number of candidates. If you've done well enough to make it to the interview, don't give the impression that you're bored with the interview, or the company. Smile and show you're enjoying everything. Employers want to hire people who are passionate about their job and interested in their company.

**Questions 22 - 27**

Do the following statements agree with the views of the writer of the text?

In boxes **22 - 27** on your answer sheet write:

- YES**                    *if the statement agrees with the writer's views*
- NO**                      *if the statement doesn't agree with the writer's views*
- NOT GIVEN**        *if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this*

- 22 As they're outside normal working hours, overtime rates can fall below rates for the minimum wage.
- 23 Contracts can force employees to do overtime.
- 24 Employers have the right to stop any worker from doing overtime, regardless of contractual details.
- 25 Workers cannot work part-time in government industries.
- 26 Workers who have signed up for overtime must cancel their agreement in writing if they change their minds.
- 27 Sixteen-year-old workers must not work longer than a 40-hour week, even if they ask for overtime.

### Working Overtime - Official Advice for Employees

Employers don't have to pay workers for overtime. However, employees' average pay for the total hours worked mustn't fall below the National Minimum Wage. An employee's employment contract should usually include details of any overtime pay rates and how they're worked out.

Employees only have to work overtime if their contract says so. If it's not in the contract, an employee can agree to work longer, but this agreement must be in writing and signed by the employee. Unless an employee's contract guarantees them overtime, their employer can stop them from working it. However, their employer can't discriminate against anyone, e.g. by stopping some employees from working overtime while letting others do so.

Unless it says differently in a part-time worker's employment contract, their employer will usually only pay overtime if they work:

- \* longer hours than set out in the employment contract
- \* more than the normal working hours of full-time staff and full-time staff would get extra pay for working these hours
- \* unsocial hours (eg late at night), for which full-time staff would get more pay

Normally, most workers do not have to work on average more than forty-eight hours per week unless they agree. Even if they do agree, they have the right to opt out at any time by giving notice. The average working week is calculated by taking the average over a seventeen week reference period. Workers who wish to opt out must give notice in writing of at least seven days. A longer period of notice may be agreed by the employer, but it can be no longer than three months.

Young people (sixteen and seventeen year olds) cannot work more than forty hours per week and they can not opt out.



## SECTION 3 Questions 28 - 40

Read the following passage and answer Questions 28 – 40.

### The History and Production of Lipstick

Most people know that lipstick has been around for quite a while, but it is less well known that it has been in use for more than four thousand years. Lip and facial paints go back even further, being used for various purposes and not only by women, but also men. Hunters applied facial and lip paint as means of camouflage. Priests and religion-related officials used it to worship their gods and honour their beliefs, and lots of people have used it to enhance their appearance to attract the opposite sex, which is still common today. Cosmetics, specifically lipstick, have captivated mankind since prehistoric times, mostly due to their ability to support people's individuality, improve their appearance and hence boost their confidence.

It is difficult to determine exactly who invented lipstick, but it is believed that the plant and fruit juices applied by men and women of ancient civilizations were the predecessors of the lipstick we know today. Not only favoured due to their appearance-enhancing properties, these juices have also always been used for medicinal purposes. Because lip tissue lacks the pigment melanin, responsible for skin colour and the protection from ultraviolet rays, lipstick can protect the sensitive skin of lips from dry winds, moisture and sun. From 2000 BC to 100 AD, ancient Mesopotamia and Egypt were the centres for cosmetics to develop, amongst others lipsticks and lip balms. It was at this time that carmine became a main ingredient of lipstick. This pigment is made from crushed insects and is still used today. Only wealthy women, such as the legendary pharaoh, Cleopatra, had access to these expensive cosmetics.

During the European Middle Ages, lipstick experienced its lowest point in terms of popularity. Wars, poor living and health conditions, as well as little to no advancements in the arts and sciences eliminated lipstick from the minds of many people, who focused primarily on the procurement of food and other survival essentials. Although cosmetics in France still retained popularity during the Middle Ages with the moneyed classes, it was only during the nineteenth century that they truly became publicly popular and accessible again. It was then that, due to industrial and technological advancements, French cosmetologists began the production of lipstick for commercial sales, which allowed the popularity of lipstick to reappear. New inventions, such as innovative colours, shine formulas as well as flavoured lipstick became the trends and adapted to the ever-changing fashion moods, which still rule the development of new lipsticks today.

Nowadays, common ingredients of lipstick include wax and oil, which simplify the application process, alcohol, which is used as a solvent to dissolve these ingredients, and finally, pigment, which ensures a wide variety of shades and colours. Some brands even incorporate lead, which can be harmful when ingested. Furthermore, preservatives, antioxidants and fragrance can be added, which is done in order to ensure a longer shelf life. If people want to use their lipstick for a long time, they should store it in the fridge. This prolongs the life of the lipstick in terms of delaying the degrading process of its ingredients.

Lipstick ingredients have been under the spotlight recently, as discoveries by a US consumer group have found traces of lead in several lipsticks exceeding regulations by the Food and Drug Administration. This has led to ingredient lists being required on lipstick packaging, much like is found on food. However, the popularity of lipstick has not suffered. Organic lipstick is now available and lipstick remains in widespread use, which it will presumably continue to do over

the next centuries.

The manufacturing of lipstick has unarguably changed over the last four thousand years, but the basic formula has remained the same, both in terms of ingredients and methods of production. When creating a new lipstick, chemists need to consider the contemporary fashion mood. This also affects how the lipstick is presented to the public and its appearance depends on the requirements of the cosmetics brands.

A carefully monitored procedure is essential in order to enhance the quality and effect of the final lipstick product. Generally, the manufacturing process can be summarised in six stages. In the first stage, the chosen pigment or a combination of pigments is mixed with various types of oils. A three-roll mill then grinds every particle until its size is minimised to at least twenty microns, one micron being one thousandth of a millimetre. In the second stage, the pigment mixture is merged with wax, which is accomplished in a kettle surrounded by steam and powered by a propelled agitator. Then, in order to get rid of 'cold-marks', which are unwanted products of fast cooling, the heated lipstick liquid at around eighty degrees Celsius is poured into vertical split moulds. These usually have temperatures of around thirty-five degrees Celsius. Finally, the lipstick is cooled down, taken out of the moulds and is prepared for flaming, a process that involves exposing the lipstick to an open flame. This ensures the better appearance of the lipstick and enhances its ability to protect itself from external influences such as air, moisture or heat. The product is then ready for packaging and labelling.

www.ieltsfever.com

**Questions 28 - 33**

Complete each sentence with the correct ending (A - K) below.

Write the correct letter (A - K) in answer boxes 28 - 33 on your answer sheet.

- 28 Hunters of prehistoric times applied lip and facial paint to
- 29 The human race has been fascinated by lipstick's ability to
- 30 Lipstick's medicinal usefulness includes its advantage to
- 31 Mesopotamia and Egypt were the first areas to
- 32 Due to industrial progress, French cosmetologists were able to
- 33 Recent discoveries by a US consumer group caused new regulations to

- A ensure that the ingredients dissolve well.
- B enhance personal uniqueness and attractiveness.
- C lead to more success at work.
- D include carmine as one of lipstick's ingredients.
- E shield the skin from harmful external factors, such as natural elements.
- F create a shiny surface on lipstick.
- G melt the lipstick's ingredients completely.
- H eliminate carmine as one of lipstick's ingredients.
- I ensure that they were well concealed in their surrounding environment.
- J draw the public's attention towards lipstick and its components.
- K reintroduce lipstick's widespread use through manufacturing it on a larger scale.

**Questions 34 - 36**

Answer the questions below.

Write **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS** from the text for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes **34 - 36** on your answer sheet.

- 34 In which country in the Middle Ages were cosmetics still commonly used by the rich?
- 35 Where should you keep your lipstick if you want to increase its shelf life?
- 36 On who does the distinct packaging and labelling of new lipsticks depend?

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**Questions 37 - 40**

Label the diagram below. Write **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS** from the text for each answer. Write your answers in boxes **37 - 40** on your answer sheet.

**The Lipstick Manufacturing Process**

