



Write your name

ESB B1 Entry Level 3 Reading (Part One)

You are going to read a text about a trip to Rome.

For questions 21 – 24, match the headings below (A – F) with the paragraphs.

There is ONE heading which you do not need. The first heading has been done as an example.

A Trip to Rome

Example: F. The City of Love

Last month I spent four days in Rome with my husband and little boy. It was our fifth wedding anniversary so we wanted to relax, enjoy the food and spend time together. It was the perfect place for couples; although the city was busy, loud and full of traffic, it was beautiful and had the most romantic atmosphere. I had never been to the city before but my husband had travelled there when he was a student many years ago, and he knew that I would like it. He was right.

21.

After we checked into our hotel, we went for a short walk to the famous Roman monument, the Colosseum. I had only seen this on the internet and on TV so seeing it in front of me was spectacular. My little boy was more excited about getting an ice cream though! Rome is such an ancient city, with buildings and structures thousands of years old, as well as pretty fountains and squares. It is very crowded but that is only because it is so fascinating.

22.

We were in Rome in spring so it was a pleasant temperature: warm and sunny but not too hot. It must be extremely difficult to walk around the city streets in the summer time, when it can be very humid and reach 30 degrees or more. July is the hottest month but August is almost as hot and many shops close during this month. Local people go on their holiday to the coast where it is much cooler. I would say spring or autumn would be the best time to visit.

23.

Everyone knows that Italians love fashion and Rome has some of the best designer clothing shops in Italy. I could not afford to buy anything there but I enjoyed having a look in the windows! I preferred the street markets, which were the best places to get traditional Italian products, art, clothes and antiques, all at excellent prices. My favourite was Porta Potese Market. It only opens on Sunday mornings but is Rome's largest street market. We bought my son a lovely little handmade toy there, which reminds him of our trip.

24.

If you live in Europe, Rome is the perfect place for a short break, all year round. I think you really need at least three or four days to see everything, but even a weekend there can be enjoyable. I would recommend planning the trip though, especially if you do not have much time. My advice is to buy tickets for the tourist attractions online. We forgot to do this and frequently had to stand in long queues! Despite the crowds, Rome is a city you should not miss!

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| A What's the Weather Like? | B A Good Place for Souvenirs |
| C A City with a Lot of History | D Popular with Tourists |
| E Preparation is Important | F Example: The City of Love |

For questions 25 – 30, decide whether the sentences below are TRUE (T) or FALSE (F), according to the text.

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|--|--------------|
| 25. This was the writer's first time in Rome. | True / False |
| 26. The trip was to celebrate her birthday. | True / False |
| 27. Her son was very interested in the architecture. | True / False |
| 28. In August the shops stay open later than usual. | True / False |
| 29. She did not buy any designer clothes. | True / False |
| 30. They often had to wait for a long time to buy tickets. | True / False |