



Developing English Language Skills / English Language Framework Level 4

Sample

Written Examination

This paper contains sections on Language in Use, Reading and Writing.

You may complete the sections in any order.

Time: 2 hours 15 minutes

The maximum mark for this paper is 100.

Any reference material brought into the examination room must be handed to the invigilator before the start of the examination.

All answers must be written in the answer booklet provided. Do NOT write on this paper.

Section A – Language in Use

Answer ALL questions

Marks

Question 1
Grammar – questions

Rearrange the words given to make a question.

Example:

to tell him should go where I

Should I tell him where to go?

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| a) house cooking does the your who in | 1 |
| b) what do time starts you know class | 1 |
| c) got papers many you have how | 1 |
| d) to early you last did bed go night | 1 |
| e) talking what about are you | 1 |
| f) this did know you do who | 1 |

Total 6 Marks

Question 2
Vocabulary – at the airport

Complete the sentences by filling each gap with ONE (1) word. The first letter is given.

Example:

You should c_____ in two hours before your flight.

You should check in two hours before your flight.

- | | |
|---|---|
| a) My baggage a_____ is 20 kilos. | 1 |
| b) The plane is due to t_____ off at 10:45. | 1 |
| c) Wait in the d_____ lounge until your flight is called. | 1 |
| d) You have to show your b_____ pass as you get on the plane. | 1 |
| e) The s_____ checks can take a long time at airports. | 1 |
| f) I didn't declare anything when we passed through c_____. | 1 |

Total 6 Marks

Question 3
Grammar – past modals

Complete the sentence by adding **NO MORE THAN FIVE (5)** words to each gap. You must include the correct form of the words given in capital letters.

Example:

He told me his number but I've forgotten it. I _____ it down. SHOULD WRITE
He told me his number but I've forgotten it. I should have written it down.

- a) It _____ my phone that rang in the cinema. It was on silent. CAN BE 1
- b) John _____ me this morning because he didn't say 'hello'. MIGHT SEE 1
- c) I _____ so many shoes because now I don't have any money. SHOULD BUY 1
- d) The traffic _____ bad because she arrived two hours late. MUST BE 1
- e) You _____ Jackie yesterday because she's on holiday. CAN SEE 1
- f) I _____ you that so many people were coming to the party. OUGHT TELL 1

Total 6 Marks

Question 4
Grammar – adverbs

There are two underlined adverbs in each sentence. Write the correct one.

Example:

I haven't seen much TV late / lately.
lately

- a) He works very hard / hardly and gets good results. 1
- b) We can't see any more patients actually / at the moment because we're full. 1
- c) We're looking for a hotel near / nearly the beach. 1
- d) He's been looking for three months and he still / yet hasn't found a job. 1
- e) I love Australia. I've ever / even been to Tasmania three times. 1
- f) Finally / eventually I'd like to ask if anyone has any questions. 1

Total 6 Marks

Question 5
Grammar – future perfect and continuous

Complete the sentences by putting the verbs in brackets into the *future perfect* tense or *future continuous* tense.

Example:

Don't call me at 1 o'clock because I _____ (have) dinner.

Don't call me at 1 o'clock because I will be having dinner.

- a) We can go out at 8 o'clock because I _____ (finish) work by then. 1
- b) By the end of this week, I _____ (read) two books. 1
- c) At 7 o'clock I _____ (work) out at the gym, so let's meet at 8. 1
- d) They say the population of the city _____ (double) by the end of the decade. 1
- e) It is possible that the oil on earth _____ (run) out before much longer. 1
- f) This time next week, we _____ (sit) by the pool on holiday. 1

Total 6 Marks

Question 6
Vocabulary – weather

Complete the sentences by filling each gap with **ONE (1)** word. The first letter is given.

Example:

There was a f_____ because there had been so much rain.

There was a flood because there had been so much rain.

- a) It is m_____ season, so there is a lot of tropical rain. 1
- b) During a storm, you can hear t_____ and see l_____ in the sky. 2
- c) Our weather is very c_____. One moment it is hot, the next it is cold. 1
- d) Tomorrow will be partly cloudy with some s_____ spells. 1
- e) The lack of rain for months has caused a d_____. 1

Total 6 Marks

Question 7
Grammar – verbs of the senses

There are two underlined forms of the verbs in the sentences. Write the correct one.

Example:

I look like / look as my sister.

*I **look like** my sister.*

- | | |
|--|---|
| a) This music <u>sounds as if</u> / <u>sounds</u> great. Who is it? | 1 |
| b) Your jacket <u>feels like</u> / <u>feels</u> leather. Is it? | 1 |
| c) This meat <u>tastes as</u> / <u>tastes like</u> chicken. | 1 |
| d) It <u>smells</u> / <u>smells as if</u> someone is cooking curry. | 1 |
| e) What happened? You <u>look</u> / <u>look as if</u> you've seen a ghost. | 1 |
| f) That guitar <u>sounds</u> / <u>sounds as if</u> acoustic. | 1 |

Total 6 Marks

Question 8
Grammar – contrast and purpose

Complete the sentences by putting ONE (1) word in each gap.

Example:

I put on my jacket so _____ I won't be cold.

*I put on my jacket so **that** I won't be cold.*

- | | |
|---|---|
| a) I passed my exam _____ the fact that I hardly studied at all. | 1 |
| b) I woke up late _____ though I went to bed early. | 1 |
| c) I went to the post office _____ see if my parcel had arrived. | 1 |
| d) Your presentation was good in _____ of your lack of preparation. | 1 |
| e) I went to the police station in _____ to report a crime. | 1 |
| f) I've already put my book in my bag so _____ not to forget it. | 1 |

Total 6 Marks

Section B – Reading
Answer ALL questions

Case Study 1

The woman who remembers everything

Read the text and answer the questions below.

Can you remember exactly what you did, who you saw, and what you said, on any day, at any time ten, 20 or even 30 years ago? Jill Price can. But is it a gift or a curse?

1

Jill Price asks me my date of birth and I tell her: January 24, 1968. 'Okay – 1986 you were 18. I could tell you that on January 24, 1986, I was working in an ice-cream shop, it was a Friday. I had turned 20. We were four days away from the Challenger explosion. I hated my job and Saturday night I went out with Tim and Candace.' She could probably tell me what she ate, what they ordered, and what time she got home.

2

We have met for dinner at a restaurant in Beverly Hills. 'As I sit here with you, it's 6:30 on Wednesday night,' she says. 'Today would have been the 22nd wedding anniversary of Prince Andrew and Fergie. That was also on a Wednesday. It was a friend's birthday and he got some balloons that he didn't want so he gave them to me. And then I went to see a friend of mine who worked at the Hard Rock Cafe.'

3

Jill Price doesn't try to remember these things; she simply isn't able to forget them. She was born in New Jersey on December 30, 1965. When she was eight, she thinks her brain 'snapped' due to the move the family made from New Jersey to California, and she began to remember in great detail. By the time she was 12, she realised she could remember every single day of the previous year. Since 1980, her memory has been near-perfect. Any date she is given from that year onward she can instantly recall.

4

There is a downside to this: painful and unpleasant memories are as vivid as if they had just occurred. Awkward moments from school, battles with her weight, or hurtful comments from her childhood never fade in her memory. 'I can't forget,' she says. Crying helps her to cope with the unhappiness that her memory can cause. 'I cry all the time. Up to ten times a day. I cry in the shower every morning.'

5

Doctors have been studying Jill since 2000. At first, they didn't know how to classify her, and have only recently given a name to her condition – superior autobiographical memory. They have only found three other people in the world who share the condition.

6

No-one else in Jill's family has a memory like hers. Her brother, Michael, is happy not to remember everything. Jill has recently published her memoirs, *The Woman Who Can't Forget*, but Michael hasn't read it yet because there might be things in it he doesn't want to know. When I asked him what he would do if he was the one who had this memory, he answered, 'I would be making a fortune counting cards in Las Vegas.'

(Adapted from English File Intermediate Plus, p. 86)

Question 1

Match the numbers of paragraphs 1 to 6 with the headings (a) to (h) below. You will **not** need TWO (2) headings.

- a) How to improve your memory
- b) The drawbacks
- c) What Jill did 22 years ago
- d) Avoiding a book
- e) My 18th birthday
- f) A rare disorder
- g) Memory without effort
- h) A bump on the head

Total 6 Marks

Question 2

Read the following sentences and write **true** if the view is expressed in the text, **false** if the opposite view is expressed in the text and **not given** if the information is not given in the text.

- a) Jill is related to Tim and Candace. 1
- b) Jill works hard to improve her memory. 1
- c) Jill hated California. 1
- d) Doctors know of less than half a dozen other people with Jill's condition. 1
- e) Michael wishes he had a memory like Jill's. 1

Total 5 Marks

Case Study 2

A nation prepares for the dreaded gaokao

Read the text and answer the question below.

Tomorrow, 6 June 2012, cities throughout China will close roads near schools, prohibit the hooting of car horns, and even change some aeroplane flight paths, so that nine million students can concentrate on the gaokao, the three-day-long national university entrance exam.

University places are scarce in China, and most students are not going to have a chance if they do not do well on the gaokao, a name which means 'high exam' in Mandarin Chinese. The stakes are very high indeed: a place in a top university will almost always lead to a high-paid job after graduation. For millions of Chinese, the exam is an important chance to improve their lives. The pressure on candidates is intense.

We spoke to students who hadn't been out with their friends for many months, and who were studying all the time that they weren't sleeping. And while some cram, others cheat. Each year, candidates are caught with high-tech devices such as wireless earphones, as well as pens and watches with tiny scanners. James Bond would be proud.

Teachers' lives are difficult, too. One gaokao tutor explained her schedule: morning exercises start at 6:10 a.m.; evening classes end at 10 p.m.; students get only one day off a month – and teachers must spend that day marking practice exams.

To prepare for the exam, students memorise past exam papers and try to guess what questions will be asked this year. All candidates answer questions in Chinese, Maths and English, then choose two additional subjects: History, Geography, Physics, Biology, Chemistry or Political Ideology.

Some say the exam tests endurance rather than intelligence. Small reforms were made to the exam a few years ago, but little has changed overall. More and more Chinese students have been moving overseas for university or even secondary school, just to avoid the gaokao. The number of candidates who sit the exam has fallen dramatically in recent years, from 10.2 million in 2009 to nine million in 2012.

However, at the same time, the gaokao is beginning to be more widely recognised abroad. The University of Sydney has said it will accept gaokao scores from Chinese students in place of its own entrance exam. China may not need to reform the gaokao after all – it could reform the rest of the world.

(Adapted from English File Intermediate Plus, p. 100)

Question

Complete the sentences below by filling each gap with **ONE (1) or TWO (2) words, a year or a number** from the text.

- a) A total of _____ students took the exam in 2012. **1**
- b) There is extreme _____ on students to do well in the exam. **1**
- c) Although some candidates study hard to pass, others try to _____ . **1**
- d) Life for the _____ is just as difficult as it is for the students. **1**
- e) Some people believe that the exam doesn't test _____ . **1**

Total 5 Marks

Case Study 3

The great debate

Read the text and answer the question below.

In this article, two people comment on a current issue. This week, the topic is 'edited photos' and joining us are fashion photographer Shannon Atkins and mental-health campaigner Connor Rourke.

Shannon Atkins:

The vast majority of images we see every day are edited in some way because of the demands placed on photographers by the clients. They want their product to be presented in the best way, whether it's a new clothing line, a new perfume or a new car, so people want to go out and buy it. Moreover, consumers themselves want edited photos. Who wants to see celebrities with pimples and a few extra pounds? I edit the unattractive aspects out of my fashion images due to the expectations of both clients and consumers, and I'm not ashamed of that. Besides that, I think my job is to give people images to aspire to, to show them a perfect ideal to aim for. Most people don't want reality. They want dreams.

Connor Rourke:

I'm very concerned about the number of photos we see these days that have been edited. We are surrounded by images that have been altered to make the subject seem more attractive. As a result of this heavy editing, these images present an unrealistic idea of beauty. Furthermore, they imply that we ordinary people with our ordinary lives and ordinary bodies are inadequate. As a consequence, young people, in particular, feel like failures because they will never match the ideal. This can lead to very low self-esteem. In addition to these problems, these images can also make us unhappy with our partners, the people around us, and the lives we lead.

(Adapted from Open Mind Upper Intermediate, p. 133)

Question

Read the following sentences and write **true** if the sentence is true and **false** if the sentence is false.

- a) Shannon Atkins is in favour of editing photos. 1
- b) Shannon believes that people want fantasy. 1
- c) Connor Rourke prefers to see attractive images than realistic ones. 1
- d) Connor Rourke believes edited photos can have very wide-ranging effects. 1

Total 4 Marks

Section C – Writing
You must answer this question

Read the question below and write an answer of between 200 and 250 words.

Some people believe that children should begin school at four years old and have exams every year. Others believe they should begin later and have fewer exams. Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

Total 20 Marks

End of paper