



**Ministry of Education and Higher Education**  
**Educational Supervision Department-English Language Section**

# **END OF SECOND SEMESTER EXAMS**

## **ENGLISH TEST SPECIFICATIONS**

**Grades 7 - 8**

**2020-2021**



Ministry of Education and Higher Education  
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Grade 7

Strands	No. items	Standards	Item Types	Types of texts/writing prompts	DOK Level	Score Points	Total
Listening	(1 long audio) <b>3</b>	L1.1 / 2.1 / 2.2 2.3/2.4	3 SRs items 3x2= 6	-Conversation -Podcast -Interview Monologue	2=DOK 1 1=DOK2	<b>6</b>	<b>50</b>
Speaking	Oral	S1.1/1.2/2.3/ 2.4/5.1	Oral (ongoing)	Topics covered in modules 5, 6, 7 & 8	3	<b>6</b>	
	Language functions <b>2</b>		2 SRs X 2 =4	The language functions (communication)	1/2	<b>4</b>	
Reading	Reading Comprehension (1 text) <b>6</b>	R1.1/2.1/2.2/4.1	3 SRs X2= 6 3 CRs X2= 6	1 passage (Informational Article- Web page- Advertisements)	4=DOK 1 2=DOK2	<b>12</b>	<b>50</b>
	Vocabulary <b>5</b>	NA	1 SRs X 2= 2 4 FIGs X1= 4	All Key words covered in modules 5-6-7 & 8	1/2	<b>6</b>	
Writing	Grammar <b>3</b>	NA	1 SRs X 2= 2 2 CRs X2= 4	All Grammar points covered in modules 5-6-7 & 8	1/2	<b>6</b>	<b>50</b>
	Writing Prompt <b>1</b>	W1.1 /1.2/ 1.6/ 2.1/ 2.2 / 2.3	1 WP	Prompts related to topics covered in modules 7-8 * email about rules & obligations and giving advice- * a description of a film	3	<b>10</b>	
<b>Number of items</b>	<b>20</b>						



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Grade 8

Strands	No. items	Standards	Item Types	Types of texts/writing prompts	DOK Level	Score Points	Total
Listening	(1 long audio) <b>3</b>	L1.1, L2.1, L2.3, L2.4	3 SRs items 3x2= 6	-Conversation -Radio talk-Interview Monologue	2=DOK 1 1=DOK2	<b>6</b>	<b>50</b>
Speaking	Oral	S1.1, S1.2, S2.3, S2.4, S2.5, S3.1, S5.1	Oral (ongoing)	Topics covered in modules 5, 6, 7 & 8	3	<b>6</b>	
	Language functions <b>2</b>		2 SRs X 2 =4	Language Functions (communication)	1/2	<b>4</b>	
Reading	Reading Comprehension (1 text) <b>6</b>	R1.1, R2.1, R2.2, R4.1	3 SRs X2= 6 3 CRs X2= 6	1 passage: narrative, informational, article, leaflet	4=DOK 1 2=DOK2	<b>12</b>	<b>50</b>
	Vocabulary <b>5</b>	NA	1 SRs X 2= 2 4 FIGs X1= 4	All Key words covered in modules 5-6-7 & 8	1/2	<b>6</b>	
Writing	Grammar <b>3</b>	NA	1 SRs X 2= 2 2 CRs X2= 4	All Grammar points covered in modules 5-6-7 & 8	1/2	<b>6</b>	<b>50</b>
	Writing Prompt <b>1</b>	W1.5, W1.6, W2.1, W2.2, W2.3	1 WP	Prompts related to topics covered in modules 7-8 *A blog post expressing an opinion. *A description of a process	3	<b>10</b>	
<b>Number of items</b>	<b>20</b>						



## General Remarks:

- The test must be built on the test specifications
- The test should address the standards mentioned in the Test Specifications. **Grades: 7 & 8 = modules (5-6-7 & 8)**
- Question types allowed are SRs (selected response) and CRs (constructed response).
- A balance of DOK levels must be maintained throughout the test.
- The test map is replaced with the new “Teacher’s Copy” – ( TC), which includes standards, DOK and the model answers. Make sure not to add the standards nor the DOK to the “Student’s Copy” – (SC).
- Language Functions, Vocabulary & Grammar items need to simulate the items of the textbooks.
- Copying and pasting from the course book into the test is Not Acceptable.

## Listening Section:

- L1.1 should be included in the test.
- Students should listen to the audio TWICE.
- The audio must be around 2-3 minutes long.
- The listening audio must be clear with a moderate pace and accent.
- Students should be given some time **(two to three minutes)** to read the items before they start listening. After the second listening, students should be given some time **(two minutes)** to finalize their answers.

## Reading Section:

- R 1.1 should be included in the test.
- Don’t penalize the student’s response in the reading **CR** items section for any mistakes in writing mechanics (structure, spelling or punctuation).
- **CR** items in the reading section should use **only** the following Wh-question words **(when-where-what-who-how-why)** and should ask for information **stated (DOK 1)** or **indicated (DOK 2)** in the text.
- CR answers **SHOULD** be phrases **OR** sentences **NOT ONLY** single words or dates.
- The word count of the text must be strictly as follows: **G.7 (150-200) G.8 (200-250)**



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**Speaking Section:**

- The oral (Ongoing assessment) must be assessed according to the Rubric provided by the MOE.
- Speaking can be assessed during the speaking/round up and revision lessons in classrooms or via TEAMS.
- The language functions section must test students' ability to communicate in different situations. It must not be confused with grammar.

**Writing Section**

- Topics covered in modules 7 & 8.
- Students must be given 2 writing prompts, from which they are to choose only one to write on.
- Students **SHOULD** organize their responses in separate paragraphs (2 – 3 paragraphs).
- Prompts must not be identical to the ones in the resources, though they must be of the same type and ideas.
- Grading of writing response must be based on the writing rubrics provided.

**Test Style:**

- The font-size must be Calibri 14.
- Closely follow the test template issued by the English Supervision Department Office.
- Leave enough space between the items. (4 to 5 items on each page)
- The SR items should have 4 choices, placed vertically.
- The score for each section should be placed in the student's test paper.
- If the choices are single words with acute difference in length, they are organized lengthwise. If not; alphabetically.