



ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

END OF SECOND SEMESTER ENGLISH EXAMS (TEST SPECIFICATIONS)

Grades 7- 8

2022-2023



Grade 7

Strands		No. Items	Standards	Item Types	Types of texts/ writing prompt	DOK Level	Score Points	Total
Listening		6	L1.1, L2.1, L2.2, L2.3, L2.4	6 SR items 6X1= 6	One Script (Podcast, Conversation, Interview, Monologue)	1 / 2	6	50 marks
Speaking	Oral	1	S1.1, S1.2, S2.3, S2.4, S5.1	CR oral	Topics covered in (Modules 5-8)	3	4	
	Language Functions	3		3 SR X 2 = 6	Same as in the resources	2	6	
Reading	Reading Comprehension (one text)	6	R1.1, R2.1, R2.2, R4.1	2 SR X 2 = 4 4 CR X 2 = 8	Webpage, Article, Advertisement	1 / 2	12	
	Vocabulary	6	N / A	2 SR X 1 = 2 4 FIG X 1 = 4	Words covered in the ‘vocabulary sections’ (Modules 5-8)	1	6	
Writing	Grammar	6	N / A	2 SR X 1 = 2 4 CR X 1 = 4	Grammar covered in the ‘grammar sections’ (Modules 5-8)	2	6	
	Writing Prompt	1	W1.1, W1.2, W1.5, W1.6 W2.1, W2.2, W2.3	1 CR X 10= 10	- An email accepting or refusing an invitation - An email giving news -An email giving advice -A description of a film	3	10	
Number of items		29	Total Points			SR: 20 points CR: 30 points		



Grade 8

Strands		No. Items	Standards	Item Types	Types of texts/ writing prompt	DOK Level	Score Points	Total
Listening		6	L1.1, L2.1, L2.3	6 SR items 6X1= 6	One Script (Conversation, Interview, Monologue)	1 / 2	6	50 marks
Speaking	Oral	1	S1.1, S1.2, S2.3, S2.4, S2.5, S3.1, S5.1	CR oral	Topics covered in (Modules 5-8)	3	4	
	Language Functions	3		3 SR X 2 = 6	Same as in the resources	2	6	
Reading	Reading Comprehension (one text)	6	R1.1, R2.1, R2.2, R4.1	2 SR X 2 = 4 4 CR X 2 = 8	Narrative, Web page, Leaflet, Article	1 / 2	12	
	Vocabulary	6	N / A	2 SR X 1 = 2 4 CR FIG X 1 = 4	Words covered in the ‘vocabulary sections’ (Modules 5-8)	1	6	
Writing	Grammar	6	N / A	2 SR X 1 = 2 4 CR X 1 = 4	Grammar covered in the ‘grammar sections’ (Modules 5-8)	2	6	
	Writing Prompt	1	W1.2, W1.5, W1.4 W1.6, W2.1, W2.2, W2.3	1 CR X 10= 10	- An email asking for or responding to suggestions - A description of an event -A blog post expressing an opinion -A description of a process	3	10	
Number of items		29	Total Points			SR: 20 points CR: 30 points		



General Remarks: Tests must be built on the test specifications.

- The test should address the key standards stated in the modules covered in the 2nd semester overviews.
(Grades 7 & 8: modules (5-8))
- Question types allowed are SR (selected response) and CR (constructed response).
- DOK levels must be maintained as prescribed in the specification charts.
- Language Functions, Vocabulary & Grammar items should simulate the items of the textbooks.
- Enrichment materials are not to be included in the test.
- Copying and pasting from the resource (Portal to English), or the Test CD into the test is Not Acceptable.

Listening Section

- Listening items should cover at least TWO standards, including the one on the main idea (L1.1).
- Students should listen to the audio TWICE.
- The audio must be around 2 minutes long.
- The listening audio must be clear with a moderate pace.
- Allow Students some time (2 to 3 minutes) to read the items before they start listening.
- Listening source / hyperlink must be mentioned in the answer key.

Speaking Section

- Speaking items should be taken from the language functions handled in all modules.
- The oral Exam must be assessed according to the speaking rubric.



Reading Section:

- Reading items should cover at least THREE standards, including the one on the main idea (R1.1).
- Don't penalize the student's response in the reading CR items section for any of the writing mechanics (structure, spelling or punctuation).
- CR items in reading section should use only Wh-question words (when-where-what-who-how-why-which) and should ask for information stated (DOK 1) or inferred from the text (DOK 2).
- The word count of the text should be as follows: G.7 (150 – 200) G.8 (200-250).
- Vocabulary items should be taken from the 'vocabulary sections' handled in all modules.

Writing Section

- Grammar items should be taken from the key topics handled in all modules.
- Students SHOULD organize their responses in separate paragraphs (2 - 3 short paragraphs): Students will be penalized for NOT using PRAGRAPHING.
- Students are given 2 writing prompts to choose only one.
- Prompts **must not be identical** to the ones in the resources, though they must be of the same type.
- Grading of writing response must be based on the writing rubric provided.



Test Style:

- The font-size must be Calibri 14 in all test questions.
- Closely follow the test template issued by the English Supervision Department Office for this purpose.
- 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 on the student's test paper.
- If the choices are single words with acute difference in length, they are organized lengthwise. If not; alphabetically.

Abbreviation Key

SR	Selected response
CR	Constructed response
FIG	Fill in the gaps
WP	Writing prompt
DOK	Depth of Knowledge