

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



الإمارات العربية المتحدة
وزارة التربية والتعليم

English Language Assessment Development Unit

Specifications for the 2016-17 Term 3 Mid-Term Exams

Grades 4-12



Grade 4

Domain	Text Length / Genre	Question layout	Format	Marks Awarded
Writing	Students write 50 - 60 words of descriptive text on a topic accessible to the student. Topics from Unit 9	Bullet point 1; write-in space for student's response. Bullet point 2; write-in space for student's response. Bullet point 3; write-in space for student's response.	15 minutes Paper-based test available on SIS. Print in full colour	16 marks (Based on rubric)

Grade 5

Domain	Text Length / Genre	Question layout	Format	Marks Awarded
Writing	Students write 60-70 words of descriptive text on a topic accessible to the student. Topics from Unit 9	Outline task format; three bullet points for instruction; word count. One or two pictures for referencing in text.	20 minutes Paper-based test available on SIS. Print in full colour	16 marks (Based on rubric)



Grade 6

Domain	Text Length / Genre	Question layout	Format	Marks Awarded
Writing	Students write 70-80 words of descriptive text about a specific job. Topics from Unit 10	Outline task format; three bullet points for instruction; word count.	20 minutes Paper-based test available on SIS. Print in full colour	16 marks (Based on rubric)

Grade 7

Domain	Text Length / Genre	Question layout	Format	Marks Awarded
Writing	Students write an 80-100 word informative letter. Topics from Unit 10	Outline task format; three bullet points for instruction; word count.	30 minutes Paper-based test available on SIS. Print in full colour	16 marks (Based on rubric)

Grade 8 / Grade 7 Elite Stream

Domain	Text Length / Genre	Question layout	Format	Marks Awarded
Writing	Students write 100-120 words of descriptive text on a topic accessible to the student. Topics from Unit 10	Outline task format; three bullet points for instruction; word count.	30 minutes Paper-based test available on SIS. Print in full colour	16 marks (Based on rubric)



Grade 9

Domain	Text Length / Genre	Question layout	Format	Marks Awarded
Writing	Students write a 130-150 word response essay on a scenario provided Topics from Unit 10	Outline task format; instructions with three bullet points; word count	40 minutes Paper-based test available on SIS. Print in full colour	16 marks (Based on rubric)

Grade 10

Domain	Text Length / Genre	Question layout	Format	Marks Awarded
Writing	Students write a 150-170 word agree or disagree essay from a provided statement Topics from Unit 5	Outline task format; instructions with three bullet points; word count	40 minutes Paper-based test available on SIS. Print in full colour	16 marks (Based on rubric)



Grade 11 General

Domain	Text Length / Genre	Question layout	Format	Marks Awarded
Writing	Students write a 160-180 word essay based on a graph/chart and their own opinions. Topics from Unit 3	Outline task format; instructions with three bullet points; word count Graph/chart provided for students to make reference to	40 minutes Paper-based test available on SIS. Print in full colour	16 marks (Based on rubric)

Grade 11 Advanced

Domain	Text Length / Genre	Question format	Format	Marks Awarded
Writing	Students write a 160-180 word essay based on some notes and their own opinions. Topics from Unit 5	Outline task format; instructions with three bullet points; word count Notes for the students to summarise in their essay.	40 minutes Paper-based test available on SIS. Print in full colour	16 marks (Based on rubric)



Grade 12 General

Domain	Text Length / Genre	Question Types / Sub-skills	Format	Marks Awarded
Writing	Students write a 180-200 word essay based on a graph/chart and their own opinions. Topics from Unit 8	Question format: Outline task format; instructions with three bullet points; word count Graph for the students to summarise in their essay.	40 minutes Paper-based test available on SIS. Print in full colour	16 marks (Based on rubric)

Grade 12 Advanced

Domain	Text Length / Genre	Question Types / Sub-skills	Format	Marks Awarded
Writing	Students write a 180-200 word essay based on two pictures and two short informational texts, including their own ideas. Topics from Unit 10	Question format: Outline task format; instructions with three bullet points; word count Pictures and information for students to reference / summarise	40 minutes Paper-based test available on SIS. Print in full colour	16 marks (Based on rubric)