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# English - End of First Semester Test Specifications

Grades 7-8-9

2022-2023



## English Test Specifications for Grade (7)

Strand		No. of Items	Standards	Item Types	Types of Texts/ Writing Prompts	DOK Level	Score Points	Total
<b>Listening (one audio)</b>		4	L1.1, L2.1, L2.3,	4 SR x 2	Dialogue / monologue / interview / conversation	1 = DOK 2 3 = DOK 1	8	<b>50</b>
<b>Speaking</b>	Oral		S1.1, S1.2, S2.2, S2.5, S5.1	CR	Language functions covered in modules 1 - 4	DOK 3	4	
	(Language Functions)	2		2 SR x 1		DOK 2	2	
<b>Reading</b>	Reading Comprehension	6	R1.1, R2.1, R2.2, R4.1	2 SR x 2 4 CR x 2	narrative / article / blog/biography	4 = DOK 1 2 = DOK 2	12	
	Vocabulary	6	N / A	2 SR x 2 4 FIG x 1	All key words covered vocabulary sections (1, 2, 3 & 4)	1/2	8	
<b>Writing</b>	Grammar	4	N / A	2 SR x 2 2 CR x 2	All grammar topics covered in Modules (1, 2, 3 & 4)	2	8	
	Writing Prompts	1	W1.1, W1.3, W1.4 W2.1, W2.2, W 2.3	1 CR	Topics covered in modules (1, 2,3 & 4) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A description of a person</li> <li>• An email to a friend about first experience</li> <li>• A description of a city or town</li> <li>• A story</li> </ul>	3	8	
<b>Total</b>		<b>23</b>						



## English Test Specifications for Grade (8)

Strand	No. of Items	Standards	Item Types	Types of Texts/ Writing Prompts	DOK Level	Score Points	Total
<b>Listening (one audio)</b>	4	L1.1, L2.1	4 SR x 2	Monologue/Dialogue / interview / radio broadcast/ conversation	1 = DOK 2 3 = DOK 1	8	<b>50</b>
<b>Speaking</b>	Oral	S1.1, S2.2, S2.4, S3.1	CR	Language functions covered in modules 1 - 4	DOK 3	4	
	(Language Functions)		2		2 SR x 1	2 = DOK 2	
<b>Reading</b>	Reading Comprehension	R1.1, R2.1, R2.2, R4.1	2 SR x 2 4 CR x 2	Narrative / blog / biography /article	4 = DOK 1 2 = DOK 2	12	
	Vocabulary	N / A	2 SR x 2 4 FIG x 1	All key words covered in vocabulary sections (1, 2, 3 & 4)	1/2	8	
<b>Writing</b>	Grammar	N / A	2 SR x 2 2 CR x 2	All grammar topics covered in modules (1, 2, 3 & 4)	2	8	
	Writing Prompts	W1.1, W1.4, W2.1, W2.2, W 2.3,	1 CR	Topics covered in modules (1, 2, 3 & 4) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A blog post presenting yourself</li> <li>• A description of a place</li> <li>• An email giving news</li> <li>• A story</li> </ul>	3	8	
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>						



### English Test Specifications for Grade (9)

Strand		No. of Items	Standards	Item Types	Types of Texts/ Writing Prompts	DOK Level	Score Points	Total
Listening (one audio)		4	L1.1, L2.1, L2.2	4 SR x 2	Monologue / Dialogue / interview / radio programme / conversation	1 = DOK 2 3 = DOK 1	8	50
Speaking	Oral		S1.1, S1.2, S2.2, S2.3, S2.4	CR	Language functions in Modules 1 - 5	DOK 3	4	
	(Language Functions)	2		2 SR x 1		DOK 2	2	
Reading	Reading Comprehension	6	R1.1, R2.1, R2.2, R4.1	2 SR x 2 4 CR x 2	Narrative / website / article	4 = DOK 1 2 = DOK 2	12	
	Vocabulary	6	N / A	2 SR x 2 4 FIG x 1	All key words covered in vocabulary sections (1,2,3,4 & 5)	1/2	8	
Writing	Grammar	4	N / A	2 SR x 2 2 CR x 2	All grammar topics covered in modules (1, 2, 3, 4 & 5)	2	8	
	Writing Prompts	1	W1.1, W1.3, W2.1, W 2.2, W2.3	1 CR	Topics covered in modules (1,2,3 & 5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A post about an event you attended</li> <li>• A description of a person you admire</li> <li>• An informal email / letter giving news</li> <li>• A description of a place</li> </ul>	3	8	
<b>Total</b>		<b>23</b>						



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

- The test should address the key standards stated in the modules covered in the 1st semester overviews.  
(Grades 7 & 8): modules (1 ,2, 3, 4) - Grade 9: modules (1 ,2, 3, 4, 5)
- Question types allowed are SRs (selected response) and CRs (constructed response).
- DOK levels must be maintained as prescribed in the specification charts.
- Language Functions, Vocabulary & Grammar items need to simulate the items of the textbooks.
- Enrichment materials 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 - Three standards, including the one on the main idea (L1.1).
- The 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 TC.

**Speaking Section**

- Speaking items should be taken from the language functions handled in the target modules.
- The oral (ongoing assessment) 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 (DOK 2) from the text.
- If the CR reading item addresses **ONLY ONE** piece of information, it will be given a zero OR two.
- If the CR reading item includes **TWO** requirements, each will be scored one.
- The word count of the text should be as follows: G.7 (150 – 200) G.8 (200-250) G.9 (250-300).
- Vocabulary items should be taken from the vocab sections handled in the modules (one item from each module).

#### Writing Section

- Grammar items should be taken from the key topics handled in the target modules (1-2 topics from each module).
- Each CR grammar item should have 2 requirements or could be divided into 2 sub items each scored 1.
- 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. (Topics handled in Modules 1, 2, 3 & 4 (for grades 7 & 8), and modules 1,2,3 & 5 (for grade 9) - Module 4 (writing a summary of a newspaper article is excluded).
- 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.