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Ministry of Education and Higher Education

Educational Supervision Office-English Department

MID OF FIRST SEMESTER ENGLISH TEST SPECIFICATIONS 2021-2022

Grades 7 - 8 - 9

Grade 7

Strands	No of items	Item Types	Standards	Type of audio/texts/ writing prompts	DOK Level	Score Points	Total
Listening	(1 short audio) 4	4 SRs	L1.1 / L2.1	Conversation Extracts from TV programs Talks	3=DOK 1 1=DOK2	4	30
Speaking	Oral	Oral	S1.1/ S1.2/ S2.2/ S5.1	Topics covered in modules 1 and 2	3	4	
	Language functions 2	2 SRs X 1 =2		Language Functions (communication)	1/2	2	
Reading	Reading Comprehension (1 text) 6	3 SRs X1= 3 3 CRs X1= 3	R1.1/ R2.1/ R2.2/ R4.1/	Articles Biography	1/2	6	
	Vocabulary 4	1SR X 1= 1 3FIGs X1=3	NA	Vocab items covered in the vocab sections ,modules 1-2	1/2	4	
Writing	Grammar 4	2 SRs X 1= 2 2 CRs X1= 2	NA	Grammar points covered in modules 1-2	2	4	
	Writing Prompt 1	1 CR	W1.3/ W1.4/ W2.1/ W2.2/ W2.3	description of a person email about an experience	3	6	
Number of items	21						

Grade 8

Strands	No. items	Item Type	Standards	Type of audio/texts/ writing prompts	DOK Level	Score points	Total
Listening	(1 audio) 4	4 SR	L 1.1/ L2.1/ L2.2	Conversations Talks	3=DOK1 1=DOK2	4	30
Speaking	Oral	Oral	S 1.1/ S2.2/ S2.4/ S3.1	Topics covered in modules 1-2	3	4	
	Language functions 2	2 SRs X 1 = 2		Language Functions (communication)	1/2	2	
Reading	Reading Comprehension (1 text) 6	3 SRs X1= 3 3 CRs X1= 3	R1.1/ R2.1/ R2.2/ R4.1	Articles Advertisements Biography	1/2	6	
	Vocabulary 4	1 SR X 1= 1 3 FIGs X1=3	NA	Vocab items covered in the vocab sections ,modules 1-2	1/2	4	
Writing	Grammar 4	2 SR X 1=2 2 CR X 1=2	NA	Grammar points covered in modules 1-2	2	4	
	Writing prompt 1	1 CR	W1.1 / W1.4/ W2.1/ W2.2/ W2.3	Writing a Blog Post A description of a place	3	6	
Number of items	21						

Grade 9

Strands	No. items	Item Type	Standards	Type of audio/texts/ writing prompts	DOK Level	Score points	Total
Listening	(1 audio) 4	4 SR	L1.1, L2.1, L2.2	Conversations Radio programs	3=DOK1 1=DOK2	4	30
Speaking	Oral	Oral	S1.1, S2.2, S2.3, S2.4	Topics covered in modules 1-2	3	4	
	Language functions 2	2 SRs X 1 = 2		Language Functions (Communication)	1/2	2	
Reading	Reading Comprehension (1 text) 6	3 SRs X1= 3 3 CRs X1= 3	R1.1, R2.1, R2.2, R4.1	Articles Website Advertisements	1/2	6	
	Vocabulary 4	1 SR X 1= 1 3 FIGs X1=3	NA	Vocab items covered in the vocab sections, modules 1-2	1/2	4	
Writing	Grammar 4	2 SR X 1=2 2 CR X 1=2	NA	Grammar points covered in modules 1-2	2	4	
	Writing prompt 1	1 CR	W1.1, W1.3, W2.1, W2.2, W2.3	*a post about an event * a description of a person	3	6	
Number of items	21						

General Remarks

The test must be built on the test specifications

- The test should address the standards mentioned in the modules covered in the mid of 1st semester overviews.
Grades: 7 ,8, & 9 = modules (1-2)
- 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 and the DOK to the “Student’s Copy – SC”.
- Language Functions, Vocabulary & Grammar items should simulate the items of the textbooks.

Listening Section:

- 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.
- Students should be given time **(two to three minutes)** to read the items before they start listening. After the second listening, students should be given time **(two minutes)** to finalize their answers.

Reading Section:

- 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 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.
- CR answers **SHOULD** address **ONLY ONE** piece of information to be given a zero OR one. **(NO HALVES)**
- The word count of the text must be strictly as follows: **G.7 (100-150) G.8 (150-200) G.9 (200-250)**

Speaking Section:

- The oral (speaking assessment) must be assessed according to the rubric provided.

Writing Section

- Students must be given 2 writing prompts, from which they are to choose only one.
- Students **SHOULD** organize their responses in separate paragraphs.
- 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 rubrics provided.

Test Style:

- The font-size must be Calibri 14.
- Closely follow the test template issued by the English Supervision Department Office for the 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 in the student's test paper.
- Copying and pasting from the course book into the test is **Not** Acceptable.
- If the choices are single words with acute difference in length, they are organized lengthwise. If not; alphabetically.