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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/<br>writing prompts                | DOK Level         | Score Points | Total     |
|------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|-------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Listening              | (1 short audio)<br>4                   | 4 SRs                       | L1.1 / L2.1                     | Conversation<br>Extracts from TV programs<br>Talks     | 3=DOK 1<br>1=DOK2 | 4            | <b>30</b> |
| Speaking               | Oral                                   | Oral                        | S1.1/ S1.2/ S2.2/ S5.1          | Topics covered in modules 1 and 2                      | 3                 | 4            |           |
|                        | Language functions<br>2                | 2 SRs X 1 =2                |                                 | Language Functions (communication)                     | 1/2               | 2            |           |
| Reading                | Reading Comprehension<br>(1 text)<br>6 | 3 SRs X1= 3<br>3 CRs X1= 3  | R1.1/ R2.1/ R2.2/ R4.1/         | Articles<br>Biography                                  | 1/2               | 6            |           |
|                        | Vocabulary<br>4                        | 1SR X 1= 1<br>3FIGs X1=3    | NA                              | Vocab items covered in the vocab sections ,modules 1-2 | 1/2               | 4            |           |
| Writing                | Grammar<br>4                           | 2 SRs X 1= 2<br>2 CRs X1= 2 | NA                              | Grammar points covered in modules 1-2                  | 2                 | 4            |           |
|                        | Writing Prompt<br>1                    | 1 CR                        | W1.3/ W1.4/ W2.1/<br>W2.2/ W2.3 | description of a person<br>email about an experience   | 3                 | 6            |           |
| <b>Number of items</b> | <b>21</b>                              |                             |                                 |  |                   |              |           |

## Grade 8

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

## Grade 9

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

## 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.