



School of Health Sciences

WRITTEN EXAMINATION

Course: **English: Proficiency**

Sub-course: **Grammar and Written Proficiency**

Course code: **EN247G**

Credits for written examination: **3.0**

Date: **May 20, 2024**

Examination time: **14:15-17:30**

Examination responsible: **Stefan Sönnnerhed**

Teachers concerned

Aid at the exam/appendices: **None**

Other

- Instructions
- ☐ Take a new sheet of paper for each teacher.
 - ☐ Take a new sheet of paper when starting a new question.
 - ☒ Write only on one side of the paper.
 - ☐ Write your name and personal ID No. on all pages you hand in.
 - ☒ Use page numbering.
 - ☒ Don't use a red pen.
 - ☐ Mark answered questions with a cross on the cover sheet.

Grade points (grammar part): **Pass/E 45; D 49; C 53; B 60; A 68 (Maximum: 75)**

Examination results should be made public within 18 working days

Good luck!

Total number of pages **8**

EN247G – EXAM in Grammar and Written proficiency

Name: _____ ID no: _____

This exam consists of two parts: grammar and written proficiency. For the **grammar part**, you answer a number of questions concerning standard grammar in the English language. Please write your answers here in the test form. The maximum score in this part is 75 points with 45 points required for a passing grade (E). Note that all given answers must be clearly written. When in doubt—in terms of the clarity of the answer—no point(s) will be awarded.

For the **written proficiency** part—where you write an essay on one out of three topics—your grade will be based on correctness, vocabulary, and style. Paragraphing and sentence structure are also included here.

You have to pass both the grammar and the proficiency part at the same exam. The results of the two parts will be brought together into an overall result according to the ECTS grading scale (A–F). When the grade difference between the two parts is one or three steps, the grammar part will be regarded as more important.

Stefan

Your score: _____ points (grammar part)

GRAMMAR		PROFICIENCY		OVERALL	
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GRAMMAR

A. Language register

1. What kind of language register is usually used for: (3 points)

- a) Business letters _____
- b) Diaries _____
- c) Technical writing _____

B. Sentences and clauses

2. Identify the five different clause elements in this sentence by writing the names of the clause elements and the parts of the sentence they consist of on the blank lines. (5 points)

Last week, she bought a new coffee machine.

3. What kind of sentence problem is there in the sentence below: run-on sentence, comma splice, sentence fragment? Rewrite the sentence in the correct form by changing the phrase, removing one or more words, or adding a part. (3 points)

They sold their old car, they bought three bikes.

C. Punctuation and capital letters

4. Which punctuation mark should you use in the following cases? Write the name of the punctuation mark on the blank lines. (4 points)

- a) After a salutation when using a person's first name (Dear Mary_) _____
- b) After a direct question (How was your weekend_) _____
- c) After an introductory adverbial (When he turned ten years old_) _____
- d) To indicate a quote (_I have a dream that one day_) _____

5. Which is the correct form of the noun "hand" and "hands" in the phrase: *The president needs to shake hand/hands with many people*? Explain why. (3 points)

D. Nouns and articles

6. Are the words below (usually) countable or uncountable nouns? Write C for countable and U for uncountable. (6 points) *IMPORTANT NOTE: For this question, incorrect answers will result in minus points whereas no answer (a blank line) results in 0 points.*

a) chair	_____	d) snow	_____
b) furniture	_____	e) snowman	_____
c) homework	_____	f) woman	_____

7. What are the plural forms of the following singular nouns? (6 points)

a) aircraft	_____
b) cactus	_____
c) duck	_____
d) sheep	_____
e) spaceship	_____
f) woman	_____

8. Although "coffee" is usually an uncountable noun, it's still possible to say "I'll buy three coffees." Explain why. (2 points)

9. Article or no article. Choose between **a / an / the** / - (= no article) and insert that article (or "-" if no article should be used) on the blank lines. (6 points)

- a) Austria is _____ old country with a long tradition and rich history.
b) For a lot of people, _____ music is a passion.
c) George W. Bush _____ president at the time of 9-11.
d) It was _____ honor to see you and talk to you!
e) There's an article about dinosaurs in _____ *Washington Post*. (=A newspaper in the US)
f) Why didn't you go to _____ Central Park when you were in New York?

E. Adjectives and adverbs

10. Compare the following adjectives and adverbs: the positive–the comparative–the superlative. If an adjective/adverb for logical reasons can't be compared, just write "can't compare." (5 points)

- a) enormously _____
b) fast _____
c) pregnant _____
d) silly _____
e) worn _____

F. Pronouns, numbers, conjunctions, and prepositions

11. What's the difference between having "few friends" and "a few friends"? Which of the two expressions means more friends than the other? (2 points)

12. Should the numbers in the phrases below (in standard writing) be spelled out or written as numerals? Choose one of the two alternatives (in bold type) on either side of the slash symbol by circling or underlining the right alternative. (4 points) *IMPORTANT NOTE: For this question, incorrect answers will result in minus points whereas no answer results in 0 points.*

- a) 1,213 / **One thousand two hundred thirteen** tickets to the show were sold.
- b) Around **25** / **twenty-five** % of the people in the world are Muslim.
- c) Eve picked one apple and **20** / **twenty** grapes to give Adam.
- d) She has **6** / **six** best friends.

13. Fill out the blanks with the correct prepositions. (4 points)

- a) Congrats _____ winning first prize!
- b) He has worked there _____ 2007.
- c) It was early _____ the morning.
- d) The library is _____ Book Street.

G. Verbs

14. What's the (grammatical and logical) difference between: *She has lived in Bangkok for ten months* and *She lived in Bangkok for ten months*? (3 points)

15. Give the simple past and the present perfect form of the following verbs (two words on each line). (5 points)

- a) bear _____
- b) dream _____
- c) eat _____
- d) ride _____
- e) take _____

16. Choose the correct verb complement (=the second verb) in the verb phrases below. (6 points)
IMPORTANT NOTE: For this question, incorrect answers will result in minus points whereas no answer results in 0 points.

- a) Ariana enjoys **to sing / singing** "thank u next."
- b) He hopes **to go / going** on vacation to Mexico this year.
- c) Her cat hates **to go / going** by car.
- d) She decided to quit **to drink / drinking** coffee in the afternoon.
- e) They avoided **to drive / driving** when the snow started falling.
- f) We're all looking forward **to have / to having** a summer filled with sunshine.

Subject-verb agreement

17. Decide whether the verb phrases should be in the singular or the plural in the sentences below. Underline or circle the correct form of the verb—written in bold type in the singular before the slash symbol and the plural after it. (6 points) *IMPORTANT NOTE: For this question, incorrect answers will result in minus points whereas no answer (a blank line) results in 0 points.*

- a) Either some dogs or a wolf **has** / **have** eaten the chicken. (Use the proximity rule here)
- b) Finland and Sweden **has** / **have** joined NATO.
- c) The number of tourists from Germany **has** / **have** increased a lot in recent years.
- d) The police **has** / **have** solved the murder case.
- e) The star player as well as the goalkeeper **was** / **were** injured in the warm-up.
- f) Their furniture **was** / **were** delivered yesterday morning.

H. Tenses

18. Why is it incorrect to say “William Shakespeare wrote many dramas”? (2 points)¹



¹ William Shakespeare (c. 23 April 1564 – 23 April 1616) was an English playwright, poet, and actor. He is widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language and the world's pre-eminent dramatist (Wikipedia)

PROFICIENCY

For the proficiency part, you write an essay of 350–450 words on one of the topics below. State the number of words you have used at the end of your essay.

Make sure your grammar, vocabulary, spelling, use of capital and lowercase letters, and punctuation are as correct as possible. Grading is to a great extent based on correctness. However, it is not solely the number of errors—or lack of errors—that will decide a grade; vocabulary, variation, style, and structure are also important. Furthermore, think about the word limit.

1. Electricity – Nuclear or fossil?

We need electricity for almost everything we do: to charge our phones, cook dinner, cool or heat our homes—you name it. But electricity doesn't come from nowhere; we need to produce it. Wind power, solar energy, and other alternative sources won't cover all our needs for a long time; we still have to rely also on fossil fuels and/or nuclear power. Which is worse, nuclear or fossil, and which is the better alternative the way you see it? Discuss.

2. Online anonymity

With social media on many different devices, comments of various kinds are only a click with the thumb away. Generally it's positive but also too often negative—even hostile and threatening. What can we do? More laws and regulations? On the one hand, we don't want the government to be able to track us online. On the other hand, we want to be safe. How do you think we best can protect people who are or may become victims of online harassment and hatred—celebs and ordinary people? How can we enforce those age limits that in fact exist? How can social media companies play a more active role? Discuss.

3. Our animals

Dogs and cats as well as many other pets and farm animals have for thousands of years adapted to living with humans. Most people treat their animals well, and pets and farm animals seem to be happy with the lives they have, from tail-wagging dogs to mooing cows. But some animals are kept in captivity or at least controlled by humans for different reasons: to "act" in spectacular shows, to be easy targets for game hunting—or to save an endangered species. Where do we draw the line between what right people have to use animals for our own purposes? And how can we regulate that? Discuss.

Good luck ☺

Stefan