



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: **December 1, 2023**

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—you will be graded for correctness, vocabulary, and style. Note that paragraphing and sentence structure are 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) articles \_\_\_\_\_
- b) letters of complaint \_\_\_\_\_
- 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)

*Early in the morning, she saw a rainbow. It was beautiful.*

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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)

*Which is why he never wants to work as a mechanic again.*

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## 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 complimentary close (Regards\_) 

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- b) After an indirect question (He asked what time it is\_) 

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- c) To indicate irony (This \_honest\_ stole my car) 

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- d) To indicate possession (This is my sister\_s car) 

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5. Rewrite the following sentence and correct word written in lowercase letters to capital as well as the other way around. Write on the blank lines below. (3 points)

*For thanksgiving, i decided to buy a Turkey. Not the country but the bird. And we cooked a great meal and served everything on our best china which we bought on vacation in beijing, china, last year. It was a great time when we also learned quite a bit about world war II in this part of the World.*

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#### 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) bedroom        | _____ | d) traffic          | _____ |
| b) furniture      | _____ | e) work (art, book) | _____ |
| c) tourist office | _____ | f) work (job)       | _____ |

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

- |             |       |
|-------------|-------|
| a) aircraft | _____ |
| b) analysis | _____ |
| c) moose    | _____ |
| d) series   | _____ |
| e) sheep    | _____ |
| f) wife     | _____ |

8. Most nouns are, in their generic sense, used without the definite article. One such noun is "music." But in some cases the definite article must be used. Explain when/why. (3 points)

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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) Don't know if it's true, but it said so in \_\_\_\_\_ *Guardian* (a UK newspaper).  
b) He's \_\_\_\_\_ great politician who cares about people.  
c) His mom as \_\_\_\_\_ astronaut.  
d) If you visit London, don't forget to go to \_\_\_\_\_ Hyde Park.  
e) They find \_\_\_\_\_ art to be their biggest interest.  
f) When people have nothing to say, they can at least talk about \_\_\_\_\_ weather.

### 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) eager \_\_\_\_\_  
b) full \_\_\_\_\_  
c) lucky \_\_\_\_\_  
d) politely \_\_\_\_\_  
e) worn \_\_\_\_\_

**F. Pronouns, numbers, conjunctions, and prepositions**

11. What's the, in standard and neutral/official English, difference between a girl and a woman as well as a boy and a man? (2 points)

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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) **1,201** / **One thousand two hundred and one** people took the test.
- b) Statistically, women make up around **49** / **forty-nine** percent of all people in the world.
- c) There were 247 monkeys at the zoo but only and **3** / **three** gorillas.
- d) The US women's team has won **4** / **four** World Cups in soccer.

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

- a) Congratulations \_\_\_\_\_ passing the exam.
- b) He lives \_\_\_\_\_ 88 Main Street.
- c) It was late \_\_\_\_\_ the afternoon before he came home.
- d) They're really good \_\_\_\_\_ playing squash.



### G. Verbs

14. Almost all verbs are either regular (the vast majority) or irregular. Irregular verbs tend to be very old. Give examples of at least two verbs that can be both regular and irregular. Explain also in which kind of English the regular form is predominant. (2 points)

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

- a) catch \_\_\_\_\_
- b) forgive \_\_\_\_\_
- c) grow \_\_\_\_\_
- d) ride \_\_\_\_\_
- e) wear \_\_\_\_\_

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) He avoided **to talk** / **talking** about his failures.
- b) Jane forgot **to bring** / **bringing** her ID to the exam.
- c) Our neighbors refused **to paint** / **painting** their side of the fence.
- d) She claimed **to have** / **having** an officially accepted diploma.
- e) They risked **to get** / **getting** a speeding ticket.
- f) Welcome back to more English courses. I'm looking forward **to meet** / **to meeting** you again.

### 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) Every year, a number of people **has** / **have** forgotten to do their taxes on time.
- b) His brother or his sister **is** / **are** going to book a trip to Norway.
- c) The number of wild cats here **is** / **are** really high.
- d) The police **is** / **are** in charge of all the investigation.
- e) The president as well as the prime minister **was** / **were** charged with corruption.
- f) The scissors **is** / **are** not sharp enough.

### H. Tag questions

18. Complete the following clauses with a suitable tag question. (2 points)

- a) He never spends much money, \_\_\_\_\_?
- b) They play tennis, \_\_\_\_\_?



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PROFICIENCY

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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.

**1. Animals and humans**

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.

**2. Eating habits and our bodies**

We are becoming taller and taller and also becoming physically grown-up at an earlier age than ever before. Our hands and our feet are getting bigger. At the same time, we eat fast food, easy-to-cook microwaved food, and sometimes skip meals altogether. Are our eating habits examples of progress—proved by the growth of our bodies—or not? Is there a danger that we will forget how to cook nutritious food by ourselves or are we in a better position food-wise than our grandparents? Discuss.

**3. Stars and money**

Most of us will most likely have to settle for a job with a decent pay but without the money and the glamour that some successful athletes and artists enjoy. And some stars may even make as much money in a year—or even a month—than what the rest of us do in a lifetime. At the same time, you may say that they deserve all the money they get because of their very special talent or skills. Or that they face much more pressure than other people and should be compensated for that. Do you think it’s right or wrong that some athletes and artists make much more money than ordinary people? Discuss.

Good luck 😊

*Stefan*