



UNIVERSITY
OF SKÖVDE

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: **October 24, 2025**

Examination time: **8:15-11:30**

Examination responsible: **Stefan Sönnhered**

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 in 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	

GRAMMAR

A. Language register

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

- a) Articles _____
- b) Diaries and journals _____
- c) Professional emails _____

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)

Hopefully, he'll give her a nice Christmas gift.

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

I play piano, she plays guitar.

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 (Hi Thais_) _____

b) After a direct question (Are you very hungry_) _____

c) To indicate missing letters in a contraction (It_s great with exams) _____

d) To separate two words in a noun phrase (A four_year old) _____

D. Nouns and articles

5. Why can a word like “cheese” sometimes be countable although it’s mostly uncountable? Explain. (2 points)

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) adventure _____ d) moon _____
b) furniture _____ e) sun _____
c) homework _____ f) work (=job) _____

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

a) aircraft _____
b) helicopter _____
c) ox _____
d) series _____
e) Taiwanese¹ _____
f) woman _____

¹ “Taiwanese” here refers to the people—not the language.

8. The noun "cactus" has two plural forms: "cacti" and "cactuses." Why? Explain. (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) George H. W. Bush was _____ president at the time of the fall of the Berlin Wall.
- b) Have you ever visited _____ Central Park in New York?
- c) I stayed at _____ The Bee Hostel in Amsterdam.
- d) Jonna Sundling is _____ awesome skier.
- e) Marta loves _____ art by Picasso.
- f) They read it in _____ *Washington Post*. (=A newspaper in the US)

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) expensive _____
- b) fun _____
- c) handsome _____
- d) pregnant _____
- e) sold _____

F. Pronouns, numbers, conjunctions, and prepositions

11. What pronoun can we use (and do we usually use today) when we don't know the gender of a person?
And what is the reflexive pronoun based on that word? (3 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) **1,997** / One thousand nine hundred ninety-seven people saw the movie.
- b) Around **52** / **fifty-two** % of the population in Mexico is female.
- c) He has two bikes and **21** / **twenty-one** helmets.
- d) She has **12** / **twelve** Hello Kitty figures.

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

- a) Congrats _____ your birthday.
- b) It's crazy that Covid-19 already started almost five years _____.
- c) She lives _____ 18 Spa Street.
- d) She was born _____ December 26.

G. Verbs

14. While “and” and “as well as” may logically seem to be synonyms, they’re grammatically different. Explain how and use a sentence or two sentences to explain. (3 points)

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

a) catch _____

b) dream _____

c) drive _____

d) pay _____

e) win _____

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) Ben made his kids **fall** / **falling** asleep with his lullaby.

b) I hope **to go** / **going** to Switzerland next year.

c) I started **to play** / **playing** guitar when I was sixteen.

d) She stopped **to spend** / **spending** money on candy last year.

e) They denied **to have** / **having** had a coffee without paying for it.

f) This is it. But I’m looking forward **to see** / **to seeing** many of you in Period 5.

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) A number of people **is** / **are** coming to Dalarna in summer. Rightly so!
- b) Either our neighbors or the dog **has** / **have** eaten the steak. (Use the proximity rule)
- c) Her mom or her sister **has** / **have** baked this cake.
- d) Spain **is** / **are** going to win with this solid lead after Aitana's two goals.
- e) The number of people watching the Women's Euro **was** / **were** more than 650,000.
- f) The police **is** / **are** going to arrest the killer.

H. Tenses

18. Which is correct: “Anne Frank has written the most famous diary ever” or “Anne Frank wrote the most famous diary ever”? Or are both possible? Explain your answer. (2 points)²

² Annelies Marie Frank (German: ['anə(l)i:s ma'bi:) 'fʁaŋk] ①, Dutch: [,ɑnə'lɪs ma:'ri 'frɑŋk, 'ɑnə 'frɑŋk]; born 12 June 1929 – died c. February or March 1945) was a German-born Jewish girl and diarist who perished in the Holocaust. She gained worldwide fame posthumously for keeping a diary documenting her life in hiding during the German occupation of the Netherlands. In the diary, she regularly described her family's everyday life in their hiding place in an Amsterdam attic from 1942 until their arrest in 1944.

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. Equal rights or women's rights?

Although we're slowly moving in the direction of a more equal world—we're still not there. Men get better paid, do less household work, and are more often than women selected for powerful positions in companies, organizations, and governments. Men also, in some cultures, take it upon themselves to decide about abortions, dress codes, and other matters that mainly (or physically) concern women. What are the main problems regarding equal rights and women's rights today the way you see it? In your home country and globally. How can we as a society best ensure that gender is a biological thing only? Feel free to add your own experiences or those of people you know. Discuss.

2. Holidays and important events

In one calendar year, we have several holidays and other important—or not so important—events that we can celebrate. Some may be very meaningful to us while others may be celebrated without us even knowing why. Or even totally ignored. At the same time, the world is changing with people moving from one culture to another for many different reasons. Do you think we should remove/add holidays and important events in our local calendars to reflect the new world we live in? What holidays/events that you have in your country/culture could be removed and/or what should be added? Discuss.

3. School—learning and grading

What and how we learn in school has varied over the years. And it also varies from one culture to another. Sometimes learning facts by heart, sometimes learning how to find the answer in different kinds of texts or other media, sometimes learning (or practicing) how to express our views. There's also the difference between answering short questions in an exam or writing long answers—maybe even of a more analytical kind. Furthermore, we have both individual and group work as well as written and oral tests. What way of learning do you consider being the best—at least in most cases? And what kind of grading is most fair and correct? Discuss.

Good luck ☺

Stefan