



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 28, 2025**

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 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	
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GRAMMAR

**A. Language register**

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

- a) Letters of complaint \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Official speeches \_\_\_\_\_
- 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)

*After a few months, he gave his friend the money.*

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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)

*We're ready for a new semester, we always are.*

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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 complete sentence (So many people are waiting\_) 

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- b) After a direct question (Are they waiting already\_) 

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- c) To introduce a list (He took: English, math, and political science) 

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- d) To indicate a range (Study pages 9\_17 for next time) 

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5. Nouns like “bread” and “cheese” are usually uncountable. But in some cases they can become countable. Give examples and explain. (3 points)

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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) afternoon | _____ | d) information | _____ |
| b) furniture | _____ | e) pizza slice | _____ |
| c) homework  | _____ | f) traffic     | _____ |

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

- |                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| a) aircraft             | _____ |
| b) Burmese <sup>1</sup> | _____ |
| c) goose                | _____ |
| d) mouse                | _____ |
| e) series               | _____ |
| f) woman                | _____ |

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<sup>1</sup> “Burmese” here refers to the people—not the language.

8. What's the difference between Miss, Mrs. and Ms.? Which title should you use in most cases today? Explain. (2 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) He's \_\_\_\_\_ amazing singer.
- b) It took as \_\_\_\_\_ hour, or exactly sixty minutes, but now we're here.
- c) It's very close to \_\_\_\_\_ Central Park. You can walk there in five minutes.
- d) They like to go for long walks in \_\_\_\_\_ nature.
- e) We'll probably stay at \_\_\_\_\_ Hilton Gothenburg. (=A hotel)
- f) You don't read \_\_\_\_\_ 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) bottom \_\_\_\_\_
- b) dirty \_\_\_\_\_
- c) mildly \_\_\_\_\_
- d) pregnant \_\_\_\_\_
- e) worn \_\_\_\_\_

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

11. What's the difference between a coordinating conjunction and a subordinating conjunction? Give one example of each and explain the difference. (3 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) 1,234,000 / **One million two hundred thirty-four thousand** people watched the show.
- b) Around **40** / **forty** % of all Americans have a gun at home.
- c) He has two computers and **22** / **twenty-two** flash drives.
- d) They have **52** / **fifty-two** cousins.

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

- a) Congrats \_\_\_\_\_ your win.
- b) It was early \_\_\_\_\_ the morning.
- c) There's a post office \_\_\_\_\_ 35 Letter Street.
- d) There's a spider \_\_\_\_\_ the ceiling.

### G. Verbs

14. A few verbs can be both regular and irregular. Give two examples of such verbs. Also explain among in which group of English-speakers the regular form is most common. (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) bring \_\_\_\_\_  
b) hurt \_\_\_\_\_  
c) seek \_\_\_\_\_  
d) testify \_\_\_\_\_  
e) write \_\_\_\_\_

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) Armenia decided **to open** / **opening** their borders for international tourists.  
b) Could you help **to clean** / **clean** / **cleaning** the dishes?  
c) He can't help **to gamble** / **gambling** on horses.  
d) She stopped **to pick** / **picking** flowers by the road.  
e) They stopped **to drink** / **drinking** last year. Smart!  
f) We're looking forward **to see** / **to seeing** 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) A number of students **is** / **are** waiting for their application results.
- b) Either cows or the goat **has** / **have** eaten all the hay. (Use the proximity rule)
- c) The teacher as well as all the students **is** / **are** taking part in the conference.
- d) The number of people buying an EV **has** / **have** gone down again.
- e) The police **is** / **are** at looking for the thief.
- f) The total price of the company's new coffee machines **was** / **were** \$12,000.

### H. Tenses

18. Which is correct: "Thomas Alva Edison invented many things we use today" or "Thomas Alva Edison has invented many things we use today"?<sup>2</sup> Or are both possible? Explain your answer. (2 points)

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<sup>2</sup> Thomas Alva Edison (February 11, 1847 – October 18, 1931) was an American inventor and businessman.[1][2][3] He developed many devices in fields such as electric power generation, mass communication, sound recording, and motion pictures.. (Wikipedia)



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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. Furthermore, think about the word limit.

**1. Fighting pollution globally**

Pollution of the air that we breathe and the water we need for our daily lives is becoming a health hazard in some parts of the world. At the same time, government policies and increased awareness among ordinary people have led to better air and water quality in other places. But pollution knows no borders, and with political leaders who value business and money more than the environment, we face a difficult struggle. What can be done on a global level to make our planet cleaner and safer? What laws and regulations do you think should be implemented around the globe in order to reduce pollution? Discuss.

**2. 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. What is worse, nuclear or fossil, and which is the better alternative the way you see it? 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*