



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: **May13, 2026**

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

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 | |
|----------------|--|--------------------|--|----------------|--|

GRAMMAR

A. Language register

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

- a) Articles _____
- b) Diaries _____
- c) Letters of complaint _____

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)

The Easter Bunny gave her a chocolate egg. She was grateful.

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)

Because I forgot my key.

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 (Dear Mr. Obama_) _____
- b) After a direct question (Are you hungry_, she asked) _____
- c) To indicate irony (The _honest_ thief stole my car) _____
- d) To indicate a range (Read pages 39_63 for next week) _____

D. Nouns and articles

5. Why can a word like “tea” 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) advice | _____ | d) mail | _____ |
| b) furniture | _____ | e) needle | _____ |
| c) homework | _____ | f) work (=job) | _____ |

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

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| a) aircraft | _____ |
| b) airplane | _____ |
| c) ox | _____ |
| d) series | _____ |
| e) Vietnamese ¹ | _____ |
| f) woman | _____ |

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

8. The noun "cactus" has two plural forms: Which are they and 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 W. Bush was _____ president when September 11 happened.
- b) If you go to New York, don't forget to visit _____ Central Park.
- c) Mozart was _____ great composer.
- d) She's _____ actress.
- e) Sophia often reads _____ *Washington Post*. (=A newspaper in the US)
- f) Welcome to stay at _____ Sheraton when you're in Stockholm.

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) hard-working _____
- d) pregnant _____
- e) sung _____

F. Pronouns, numbers, conjunctions, and prepositions

11. What's the difference between a woman and a girl? Explain carefully (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) 53,212 / **Fifty-three thousand two hundred twelve** people saw the game.
- b) Around 23 / **twenty-three** % of the population in Switzerland has French as their first language.
- c) He has two cats and 21 / **twenty-one** rabbits.
- d) She has 3 / **three** bikes.

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

- a) Congrats _____ becoming a mother.
- b) Don't forget to lock the door _____ leaving the house.
- c) There's a spider _____ the ceiling.
- d) They moved to _____ 4 King's Road.

G. Verbs

14. Explain the meaning of the proximity rule. (3 points)

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

- a) bring _____
- b) catch _____
- c) dream _____
- d) read _____
- e) swear _____

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) Amanda helped her daughter **to learn / learning** how to swim.
- b) Felicia can't help **to dream / dreaming** of winning the Eurovision.
- c) I like **to play / playing** poker.
- d) She decided **to spend / spending** more money on charity next year.
- e) They denied **to steal / stealing** the car.
- f) You're probably looking forward **to pass / to passing** this exam.

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** going back home soon.
- b) Either our neighbors or the mailman **has** / **have** emptied the mailbox. (Use the proximity rule)
- c) Her brother or her sister **has** / **have** taken the car.
- d) Sweden **was** / **were** the favorite to win last year's Eurovision.
- e) The number of people taking part in the marathon **was** / **were** more than 10,000.
- f) The police **is** / **are** not going to be able to solve the crime.

H. Tenses

18. Which is correct: "Michael Jackson wrote "Billie Jean" or "Michael Jackson has written "Billie Jean"? Or are both possible? Explain your answer. (2 points)²

² Michael Joseph Jackson (August 29, 1958 – June 25, 2009) was an American singer, songwriter, dancer, and philanthropist. Dubbed the "King of Pop", he is widely regarded as one of the most culturally significant figures of the 20th century. (From 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. Gender and toys

Starting from an early age, many children get some toys that supposedly are either for girls or for boys (of course many toys are played with by both boys and girls). You're most certainly more likely to find miniature cars in a boy's room and dolls in a girl's room. But what is the reason for that and is it really relevant and reasonable that children play with certain toys based on their gender? What kind of toys did you have as a child and what kind would you like to give your future children? What about apps and games? 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. The ultimate decision (?)

In the short story "June 2001: —and the Moon Be Still As Bright" we read about an imaginary mission to Mars. However, it's a fact that there's now a real mission called Mars One in the pipeline. The drawback for people going on this mission is that there's no technology to bring them back to Earth again. What do you think of this kind of mission? Is it important research or just a publicity stunt? Is there any other kind of "luxury" research and technology you would like to see instead? Would you go on this mission to Mars if you had the chance? Why/Why not? Discuss.

Good luck 😊

Stefan