



School of Health and Education

## WRITTEN EXAMINATION

Course: **English: Academic Writing**

Sub-course: **Supervised written examination**

Course code: **EN244G**

Credits for written examination: **3.0**

Date: **June 1, 2024**

Examination time: **9:15-12:30**

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: **Pass/E 48; D 52; C 58; B 64; A 72 (Maximum: 80)**

**Examination results should be made public within 18 working days**

*Good luck!*

Total number of pages **8**

**EN244G**

**Exam: Academic Writing, 3 credits**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

This exam includes mostly theoretical questions about important aspects of writing, in particular academic writing, but also a practical question where you summarize a text. However, all questions make up one whole, and your grade for the exam will be based on the total number of points.

The maximum number of points for each question is stated within parentheses after the question. In questions that include more than one element/answer, the points awarded may be anywhere on the scale from 0 points to the maximum number of points for that question depending on the quality of the answer.

Write clearly, and allow time for going through your answers at the end of the exam.

Good luck ☺

*Stefan*

Some of the examples in the questions come from the following websites:

- <https://www.k12reader.com/worksheet/identify-the-topic-sentence/view/>
- [https://www.teach-nology.com/worksheets/language\\_arts/paragraphre/parare6.pdf](https://www.teach-nology.com/worksheets/language_arts/paragraphre/parare6.pdf)

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|------------------------------|-----------|
| Maximum points for the exam: | <b>80</b> |
| A                            | <b>72</b> |
| B                            | <b>64</b> |
| C                            | <b>58</b> |
| D                            | <b>52</b> |
| E                            | <b>48</b> |

## QUESTIONS

1. **Topic sentence and supporting sentences.** Below you find four sentences that could make up (a part of) a paragraph. Which of the four sentences is the topic sentence and which are the supporting sentences? Mark by writing **T** for topic sentence and **S** for supporting sentences. The sentences are presented in alphabetical order (and slightly modified for this exam). **Note:** An incorrect answer will result in one minus point (-1), whereas leaving the blank line will give 0 points. (4 points)

a) It turns out that poetry isn't oldfashioned; it's as modern as the latest hit song! \_\_\_\_\_

b) Just like many written poems, many song lyrics use rhythm, rhyme, and literary imagery. \_\_\_\_\_

c) Many people think poetry is old-fashioned and uninteresting. \_\_\_\_\_

d) They don't realize that every time they hear a song sung, they are hearing poetry. \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Topic sentence.** Below you find sentences that could be used as supporting sentences in a paragraph. Make up a reasonable/possible topic sentence that indicates what the paragraph is about, and write your topic sentence on the blank lines below. This paragraph is slightly modified for the exam. (4 points)

Crocodiles are grayish green, and they have a triangular snout. Alligators like fresh water, and they have a rounded snout. The fourth tooth is exposed on a crocodile when their mouth is closed but only the first three teeth in an alligator.

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3. **Coherence.** Below you find two examples of vague or incorrect pronoun coherence. The use of pronouns here makes the meaning either incorrect or unclear. Underline or circle the word(s) you want to change in order to make these sentences coherent, and rewrite those words—or the whole phrases—on the blank lines and explain why the two sentences are vague/incorrect and need to be changed. Note that since you have no context, several answers are possible. (8 points)

- a) In the café, there was an umbrella someone left there by mistake. Hopefully, he will come back and pick it up later.
- b) The zoo only had two wild animals: a tiger and a lion. One day it escaped from the zoo and ran into the forest. The zoo never found it.

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4. **Transition signals.** Choose the transition signal among the alternatives in parentheses that would best show how the different parts of the sentences are related. Answer by writing the correct transition signal on the blank line. The sentences come from *Longman Academic Writing Series 4*. (6 points)

- a) I love my brother \_\_\_\_\_ (*although / besides / however / in contrast*) we disagree about almost everything.
- b) Mangoes are a very common fruit; \_\_\_\_\_ (*however / indeed / nevertheless / still*), people eat more mangoes than any other fruit in the world.
- c) Millions of people go on diets every year; \_\_\_\_\_ (*besides / despite / however / in addition*), very few succeed in losing weight.

5. **Clauses.** Which of the following clauses are independent (=main) clauses and which are dependent clauses? Answer by writing IND for independent or DEP for dependent on the blank lines. **Note:** An incorrect answer will result in a minus point (-1) whereas leaving the blank line will give 0 points. (6 points)

- a) And I totally agree with you \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Because it always rains in Sweden \_\_\_\_\_
- c) She forgot \_\_\_\_\_
- d) When did you come back? \_\_\_\_\_
- e) When people get together \_\_\_\_\_
- f) You're gonna make it! \_\_\_\_\_

6. **Parallelism.** The following sentences include problems with parallelism. Improve those sentences by writing your own version of the same text on the blank lines. (6 points)

- a) After school, we bought two cups of coffee and cinnamon rolls.

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- b) She likes playing guitar, singing karaoke, and to dance flamenco.

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- c) They taught their dog to speak, sitting, and rolling.

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7. **Sentences.** What kind of sentences are the ones below? Choose between *simple sentences*, *compound sentences*, *complex sentences*, and *compound-complex sentences*. Answer by writing what kind of sentence it is on the blank lines. You can use a shortened form of the word or write at the bottom of the page. Note that the same sentence type may appear more than once here, and not all types are necessarily included. (4 points)

- a) How are you doing now? \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Running is cheap, while riding is expensive. \_\_\_\_\_
- c) She bought flowers, then went to her friend, and they had dinner together. \_\_\_\_\_
- d) They planned to buy Taylor tickets, but the tickets were sold out. \_\_\_\_\_

8. **Fragments, run-on sentences, comma splices, choppy sentences, and stringy sentences.** Answer by stating what kind of sentence problem there is in each of the questions below. Then correct the sentences by using a different sentence construction, adding/changing punctuation, and/or adding or removing words to make the sentences grammatically correct. (12 points)

- a) After they sold their car.

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- b) She plays soccer. She plays very well. Her dream is to play for the national team. Hopefully, her dream will come true one day. She really deserves that.

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- c) They travel a lot, they really like that.

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9. **Passive voice.** Turn the following sentences written in the active voice into the passive voice. Only include the agent when/if it's needed. (6 points)

a) Cindy painted this beautiful picture.

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b) Romeo didn't get an invitation to Juliet's party.

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c) The post office doesn't deliver mail on Saturdays.

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10. **References.** Write the references the way they should be written in *References* or *Works Cited* to the following imagined source in an academic text. Use the style guide of your choice. Underline details that should be written in italics on a computer. (4 points)

A book with the facts below.

Title: The Kite Runner  
Author: Khaled Hosseini  
Name of publisher: Riverhead Books  
Year of publication: 2003  
Media: Print

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## SUMMARY

11. **Summary.** Summarize the following excerpt from the article “Northern lights dazzle over UK, Europe and across the hemisphere” (*The Guardian*, May 11, 2024). Your summary should be on 100–125 words and may include a maximum of two short quotes. A few words are explained on the next page. (20 points)

### Northern lights dazzle over UK, Europe and across the hemisphere

#### **Aurora borealis sightings further south than usual from Ireland and Britain to Czech Republic and Germany as solar storm hits Earth’s atmosphere**

The aurora borealis has lit up the night sky with rare sightings across the UK, Europe and the northern hemisphere.

[...]

Met Office spokesman Stephen Dixon said on Friday: “Although the shorter nights will limit the visibility window, there’s a good chance to see the aurora, particularly on Friday night and especially in Scotland, Ireland and parts of northern England and Wales.

“There could even be visibility further south if you have the right equipment.

“Those conditions could continue on Saturday night but we still have to work out some details on where exactly that will be.”

Dixon said the combination of clear skies and enhanced activity from the sun reaching Earth would improve the chances of seeing the display.

“I feel like I am having a religious experience – or an alien abduction. Not sure which,” science teacher David Boyce tweeted from England. Another user shared a photo and said Edinburgh in Scotland felt like “a different planet tonight”.

Aurora displays occur when charged particles collide with gases in the Earth’s atmosphere around the magnetic poles.

In the northern hemisphere, most of this activity takes place within a band known as the aurora oval, covering latitudes between 60 and 75 degrees. When activity is strong, this expands to cover a greater area – which is why displays can be occasionally seen further south.

In the US, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Noaa) issued a rare severe geomagnetic storm warning on Friday. It alerted operators of power plants and spacecraft in orbit to take precautions. Noaa said the storm could produce northern lights as far south as Alabama and northern California.



[...]

Steenburgh<sup>1</sup> and his colleagues said the best aurora views might come from phone cameras, which were better at capturing light than the naked eye.

Vocabulary (most definitions taken from Oxford Learners' Dictionaries: American English)

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| ▪ Aurora borealis | the Latin name for Norther lights   |
| ▪ hemisphere      | one half of the earth, especially the half above or below the equator   |
| ▪ latitude        | the distance of a place north or south of the equator (= the line around the world dividing north and south), measured in degrees |
| ▪ geomagnetism    | the study of the magnetic characteristics of the earth  |
| ▪ orbit           | a curved path followed by a planet or an object as it moves around another planet, star, moon, etc.                               |

Article accessed on May 13, 2024 from:

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/article/2024/may/11/northern-lights-dazzle-over-uk-and-europe>

Good luck!

*Stefan*

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<sup>1</sup> Rob Steenburgh, a scientist with NOAA's space weather centre (mentioned earlier in this article)