



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 18, 2024**

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	
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GRAMMAR

A. Language register

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

- a) Articles _____
- b) Personal emails _____
- c) Professional emails _____

B. Sentences and clauses

2. Identify the four 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. (4 points)

At the end of the rainbow, you can find a pot of gold.

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)

Spanish people often eat paella, French people seem to prefer crepe.

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 (Best regards_) _____
- b) After a direct question (Are you coming tomorrow_) _____
- c) To introduce a short quotation (The queen said_ "Let them eat cake!") _____
- d) To indicate a range (Read pages 6_16 for next time) _____

5. What's the grammatical difference between "work" (=job) and "work" (=a book, song or piece of art)? Explain. (3 points)

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) advice | _____ | d) information | _____ |
| b) fish | _____ | e) moon | _____ |
| c) homework | _____ | f) traffic | _____ |

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

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| a) aircraft | _____ |
| b) crocodile | _____ |
| c) ox | _____ |
| d) series | _____ |
| e) Taiwanese ¹ | _____ |
| f) woman | _____ |

¹ "Taiwanese" here refers to the people—not the language.

8. The noun "people" is countable but usually only used in the plural. However, in some cases it can be a singular noun. 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) Arta is the manager of _____ Villa Fernando in Tirana. (=A hotel in Albania)
- b) Can I borrow your copy of _____ *Washington Post*. (=A newspaper in the US)
- c) He's _____ honorable man.
- d) I visited the Statue of Liberty and _____ Central Park when I was in New York.
- e) Sara loves _____ music by Mozart.
- f) She's _____ young doctor who treats patients very well.

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) actively _____
- b) difficult _____
- c) fun _____
- d) pregnant _____
- e) worn _____

F. Pronouns, numbers, conjunctions, and prepositions

11. Is it correct to use “who” in the sentence: *The person who I met was nice*? What’s grammatically the difference between “who” and “whom” and how has this changed with time? (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) **616** / **Six hundred sixteen** people came to the lecture.
- b) Around **48** / **forty-eight** % of all Swedish people taking their first driver’s license test pass the test.
- c) He bought three roses and **23** / **twenty-three** tulips for her birthday.
- d) She has **12** / **twelve** very close friends.

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

- a) Congrats dear friend _____ winning the first gold coin.
- b) It was early _____ the morning.
- c) She lives _____ 24 Thorp Street.
- d) There’s a tiger mosquito _____ the ceiling.

G. Verbs

14. Which verb form ("is" or "are") is correct in the following phrase: *The commercial success of these programs is / are the driving force behind a sharp rise in dolphin captures from the wild?* And why is it relatively easy to make a mistake here also for an educated native speaker of English? (3 points)

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

- a) break _____
- b) dream _____
- c) grow _____
- d) rise _____
- 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) Don't stop **to be** / **being** yourself—everyone is unique.
- b) Eve tried **to make** / **making** Adam eat an apple.
- c) He finished **to eat** / **eating** the cake before the others came.
- d) She hoped **to win** / **winning** first prize—a trip to Hawaii.
- e) They quit **to smoke** / **smoking** when they learned about the dangers.
- f) We've come the end of the course. 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** waiting for a chance to see Billie Eilish in Sweden.
- b) Either our neighbor or the postal worker **has** / **have** emptied the mailbox. (Use the proximity rule)
- c) Her friend as well as her sister **is** / **are** ready for the birthday party.
- d) The number of sold electric cars **has** / **have** gone down in the past year.
- e) The police **is** / **are** investigating the case carefully.
- f) Their furniture **has** / **have** to be thrown away after the fire.

H. Tenses

18. Simone Biles is known as the GOAT. But which is grammatically correct: *Simone Biles won Olympic Gold in Paris this summer.* or *Simone Biles has won Olympic Gold in Paris this summer.* Or are both possible? Explain your answer. (2 points)²



² Simone Arianne Biles Owens OLY (née Biles; born March 14, 1997) is an American artistic gymnast. Her 11 Olympic medals and 30 World Championship medals make her the most decorated gymnast in history. She is widely regarded as the greatest gymnast of all time and one of the greatest Olympians of all time. (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. 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. 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.

3. Shopping online or in a store

Shopping today has changed greatly compared to some years ago. Online shopping seems to grow more and more while physical stores in downtown areas may struggle for their survival. On the other hand, shopping malls with convenient—and free—parking also seem to take over from the traditional stores in the city center. What is your opinion about shopping, for yourself and in general? Buying things you need online, going to a mall, or walking around in small shops in the downtown area? Discuss your views, and also add your thoughts about what shopping will be like in the future if you want to. Discuss.

Good luck ☺

Stefan