

Information ISE II (B2)

Reading & Writing

Task 3 - Reading into Writing

150-180 words

Task 4 - Writing

150-180 words

Styles: Descriptive / Discursive / Argumentative essay, Article (magazine or online), Informal email or letter, Formal email or letter, Review

Task 1 - Reading

- 1 text
- 500 words
- 15 questions

Task 2 - Reading

- 4 texts
- 500 words
- 15 questions

Time 2 horas

Speaking & Listening

Topic: 4 min **Collaborative** 4 min **Conversation** 2 min **Listening:** 8 min

Language Functions

- Initiating and maintaining the conversation
- Expressing and expanding ideas and opinions
- Highlighting advantages and disadvantages
- Speculating
- Giving advice
- Expressing agreement and disagreement
- Eliciting further information
- Establishing common ground

Subject Areas

- Society and living standards*
- Personal values and ideals*
- The world of work*
- Natural environmental concerns*
- Public figures past and present*
- Education
- National customs
- Village and city life
- National and local produce and products
- Early memories
- Pollution and recycling

*Possible conversation themes in the Speaking exam

Suggested Grammar

- Second and third conditionals
- Simple passive
- Used to
- Relative clauses
- Modals and phrases used to give advice and make suggestions, eg should/ought to, could, you'd better
- Modals and phrases used to express possibility and uncertainty, eg may, might, I'm not sure
- Discourse connectors, eg because of, due to
- Present perfect continuous tense
- Past perfect tense
- Reported speech
- Linking expressions, eg even though, in spite of, although

Candidate Profile

Reading

- Read with a large degree of independence, adapting style and speed of reading to different texts and purposes, using appropriate reference sources selectively
- Scan quickly through long and complex texts, locating relevant details
- Quickly identify the content and relevance of news items, articles and reports on a wide range of topics, deciding whether closer study is worthwhile
- Obtain information, ideas and opinions from specialised sources within his or her field
- Use a variety of strategies to achieve comprehension, including reading for main points and checking comprehension by using contextual clues
- Summarise a range of factual and imaginative texts,

- commenting on and discussing contrasting points of view and the main themes
- Use a broad active reading vocabulary, but may experience some difficulty with unusual expressions
- Understand articles and reports concerned with contemporary problems in which the writers adopt particular stances or viewpoints
- Paraphrase and summarise ideas, opinions, arguments and discussion
- Able to read across several texts and demonstrate a range of reading skills including skimming, scanning, reading for gist and detail, and inferring and summarising.
- Identify connections and themes between four texts in task 2
- Identify content from the texts that is relevant to task 3
- Synthesise the information in task 2 to produce a coherent response to suit the purpose for writing

Writing

- Synthesise and evaluate information and arguments from a number of sources
- Express news and views effectively in writing and relate to the views of others
- Write clear, detailed texts on a variety of subjects related to his or her interests, following established conventions of the text type concerned
- Write clear, detailed descriptions of real or imaginary events and experiences, marking the relationship between ideas in clear, connected text

- Write an essay or report that develops an argument systematically, gives reasons and relevant details, and highlights key points
- Explain the advantages and disadvantages of various options
- Evaluate different ideas or solutions to a problem
- Summarise a range of factual and imaginative texts, eg news items, interviews or documentaries
- Discuss and contrast points of view, arguments and the main themes
- Summarise the plot and sequence of events in a film or play.

Speaking

- Initiate, maintain and end discourse appropriately in unprepared one-to-one conversations, using effective turn-taking
- Engage and participate in extended conversation on most general topics
- Communicate spontaneously with good language control without much sign of having to restrict what he or she wants to say
- Use a level of formality appropriate to the circumstances
- Use language fluently, accurately and effectively on a wide range of general, academic, vocational or leisure topics, demonstrating the relationships between ideas
- Interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity with a native speaker without creating communication difficulties
- Highlight the personal significance of events and experiences
- Explain views clearly by providing relevant explanations and arguments

- Convey degrees of emotion and highlight the personal significance of events and experiences
- Outline a topical issue or a problem clearly, speculating about causes or consequences, and weighing advantages and disadvantages of different approaches
- Give clear, detailed descriptions on a wide range of subjects of interest, expanding and supporting ideas with subsidiary points and relevant examples
- Develop a clear argument, expanding and supporting his or her points of view at some length with subsidiary points and relevant examples
- Intervene appropriately in discussion, exploiting appropriate language to do so
- Ask follow-up questions to check that he or she has understood what a speaker intended to say, and clarify ambiguous points
- Paraphrase to cover gaps in vocabulary and structure.

Listening

- Understand standard spoken language on both familiar and unfamiliar topics from personal, social, academic or vocational life
- Understand the main ideas of complex speech in standard English on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions
- Understand extended speech and complex lines of argument on familiar topics signposted by explicit markers
- Understand recordings in standard English from social, professional or academic life

- Identify information content, and speaker's viewpoints, attitudes, mood and tone
- Understand most recorded audio material delivered in standard English
- Use a variety of strategies to achieve comprehension, including listening for main points, and checking comprehension by using contextual clues
- Understand a clearly structured lecture on a familiar subject and take notes on points he or she considers important
- Summarise extracts from news items, interviews or documentaries containing opinions, argument and discussion.