

B2 Level Examination

This examination aims to test candidates on their English language competence at B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

The examination comprises a Reading Section, a Use of Language Section and a Writing Section. Listening and speaking skills are not tested.

The overall descriptors of the B2 level of the CEFR have been used to guide the content and level of the examination. The descriptors are as follows:

- *Can understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics.*
- *Can read with a large degree of independence, adapting style and speed of reading to different texts and purposes, and using appropriate reference sources selectively.*
- *Has a broad active reading vocabulary.*
- *Can produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.*

Summary of the Format of the B2 Level Examination

| Section | Total points | No. of questions | No. of Tasks | Tasks | Format | Description | Points |
|-----------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|--------|---|---|--------|
| Reading | 16 | 10 | 2 | Task 1 | 1 text 5 questions | Narrative, descriptive or discursive text | |
| | | | | | Question 1 multiple choice, 4 answer choices | Tests understanding of the general idea of the text | 1 |
| | | | | | Questions 2-4 open ended questions | Test understanding a text in detail Candidates should give short answers | 6 |
| | | | | | Question 5 multiple choice, 4 answer choices | Tests guessing the meaning of a word or phrase from context | 1 |
| | | | | Task 2 | 4 texts 5 questions | 4 advertisements, reviews, descriptions, etc | |
| | | | | | Question 6 multiple choice, 4 answer choices | Tests understanding of the general idea of the texts | 1 |
| | | | | | Questions 7-9 open ended questions | Test ability to find specific information in texts. Candidates should give short answers | 6 |
| | | | | | Question 10 multiple choice, 4 answer choices | Tests guessing the meaning of a word or phrase from context | 1 |
| Use of Language | 16 | 9 | 4 | Task 1 | Questions 11-16 multiple choice, 4 answer choices | Each question tests ability to choose the correct vocabulary item to complete a gap in a sentence | 6 |
| | | | | Task 2 | Question 17 word building | Tests ability to complete a gap in a sentence using the correct grammatical form of the word given | 3 |
| | | | | Task 3 | Question 18 transformation | Tests ability to complete a sentence using the appropriate grammar so that it means the same as the sentence given. | 3 |
| | | | | Task 4 | Question 19 open cloze test | Tests ability to decide the appropriate word to complete gaps in a text in terms of grammar, vocabulary, and linking words. No answers are provided. The text has four gaps. | 4 |
| Writing | 8 | 1 | 1 | Task | Question 20 writing a text | Tests ability to write a cohesive and coherent text . Candidates choose 1 writing option from a choice of two. The options may be a discursive text, a formal email, or a description. Candidates write 150-180 words. | 8 |