



LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT ENGLISH LANGUAGE ENTRANCE TEST (WRITTEN)

AIM

To assess the written English Language proficiency of the candidates for placement purpose in the institution. A student who passes this test should have the basic foundation in English to be able to survive in a course which uses English as the medium of instruction.

OBJECTIVES OF ENGLISH ENTRANCE TEST (WRITTEN)

Candidates should be able to:

- (i) use accurately their knowledge of grammar and sentence structures
- (ii) read a variety of texts accurately
- (iii) select, evaluate and interpret information from the reading texts
- (iv) to read and predict meaning
- (v) derive meaning from context, knowledge of grammatical structures, knowledge of vocabulary
- (vi) spell and use accurately the grammatical structures and vocabulary in a given context/passage
- (vii) use different styles of writing to fulfil the task requirement
- (viii) choose a vocabulary, style and register which is suited to the purpose and audience in the writing task
- (ix) write in Standard English

Students are given 2 hours to complete the test which is made up of four sections. This includes reading time. The four sections will be set as follows:

Section I – Structures (20 marks)

Section II – Reading Text 1 (10 marks)
Reading Text 2 (10 marks)

Section III – Cloze Passage (20 marks)

Section IV – Writing (20 marks)

Section I will contain 20 multiple-choice questions testing knowledge of grammar and sentence structures. The first 10 questions test usage in a given passage. The next 10 questions test discrete grammar items.

Section II will contain questions that test ability to read and understand different types of extended passages of 350-500 words. There are two reading passages with 10 multiple-choice questions each, testing comprehension of the passage. One passage has a functional purpose, e.g. a police report or a letter ordering goods, and the other has a general academic purpose e.g. a text describing or explaining something.

Section III will consist of a passage with 40 gaps/blanks which students have to fill. This tests their overall proficiency in English. It gives a good indication of students' ability to read and predict meaning, to derive meaning from context, knowledge of grammatical structures, knowledge of vocabulary, etc.

Section IV will require students to write a continuous text of about 150 - 200 words. The task is generally for a practical function, for example, comparing two objects, instructing someone how to do something or go somewhere, explaining a process or phenomenon, writing home about life in Singapore, etc. Generally, guidelines are given (in the form of diagrams or notes) so that the students have the necessary information to complete the writing task.

Refer to Appendix A for the Specimen Paper (Written)



LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT ENGLISH LANGUAGE ENTRANCE TEST (ORAL)

AIM

To assess the oral English Language proficiency of the candidates for placement purpose in the institution. A student who passes this test should have the basic foundation in English to be able to survive in a course which uses English as the medium of instruction.

OBJECTIVES OF ENGLISH ENTRANCE TEST (ORAL)

Candidates should be able to:

- (i) read silently a given passage to prepare for the theme and topic of conversation
- (ii) listen and understand the questions asked and respond accordingly to the theme and topic of the passage
- (iii) express himself/herself clearly and coherently in a conversation using appropriate vocabulary and language structures
- (iv) discuss issues that arise from the conversation with the examiner

Only students from the People's Republic of China are required to sit for the Oral Test. The candidates will be given 10 minutes each to read a passage which will be used as the theme and topic of conversation.

Refer to Appendix B for the Specimen Paper (Oral)