

ONGOING EVALUATION IN BASIC EDUCATION

NUMBER OF TESTS, DURATION, COMPONENTS AND SCALE

Each **term**, learners are tested in compliance with the following specifications:

7 TH FORM				8 TH & 9 TH FORMS			
FIRST TERM		SECOND & THIRD TERMS		EACH TERM			
speaking	at least 1	10	speaking	at least 1	10	speaking	at least 1
project work	at least 1	10	project work	at least 1	10	project work	at least 1
a one-hour	language	14	a one-hour	language	14	a one-hour	listening
mid-term test	spelling	06	mid-term test	listening	06	mid-term test	language
a one-hour	language	15	a one-hour	reading	05	a one-hour	reading
end-of-term test	writing	05	end-of-term test	language	10	end-of-term test	language
				writing	05		writing

COMPONENTS SPECIFICATIONS

1. The oral component :

a) **The speaking test:** test takers are tested orally on the acquisitions of the previous lesson at least once a term and the test will be communicative in nature. Their performance is marked out of ten.

b) **Project work:** test takers are allotted a mark out of ten for the outcome of the project work they undertake and /or the process followed.

The final end-of-term mark is the sum of the two marks specified above.

2. The spelling component:

It consists of two exercises requiring the test taker to:

a) Write the missing words in a text read by the teacher.

b) Write figures or numbers in letters

3. The language component:

It consists of 3 or 4 exercises testing the assimilation of lexical and grammatical acquisitions in an essentially integrated manner and requiring the test taker to:

- a) Fill in a gapped paragraph with **(5 or 6 items)** words provided in a box including two distractors.
- b) Tick / Underline / Circle the right options in a gapped paragraph with three options per item. **(5 or 6 items)**
- c) Provide the right tense or form of bracketed words.
- d) Match sentence parts to get a coherent paragraph. (with 8th and 9th formers)
- e) Match utterances in a short dialogue with the right functions provided in a list **including one extra option.**
- f) Tick / Circle / Underline the right option in multiple choice questions relative to the function of each utterance underlined in a short dialogue.
- g) Match sentence parts to get correct sentences. (Only with 7th formers)
- h) Reorder 3 or 4 sentence parts to get correct sentences. (Only with 7th formers)

With all three levels, the test taker gets half a mark for each correct answer.

4. The reading comprehension component :

It consists of one linear text, a linear text and a non-linear one, or two complementary texts totalling 100, 150 and 200 words respectively for the 7th, 8th and 9th forms. The linear texts are authentic or semi-authentic and extracted from various sources: novels, magazines, newspapers, brochures... Non-linear texts can be charts, notes, tickets, menus, notices, timetables... The linguistic as well as the semantic content of these texts should be appropriate to the targeted level. To demonstrate comprehension of the content of the text and its organization, the test taker is required to:

- a) Match paragraphs with the appropriate titles, main ideas or visuals.
- b) Provide justified answers to Yes / No questions, the justification being retrieved from the text or worded by the test taker.
- c) Write short answers to WH questions.
- d) Answer one or two reference questions.
- e) Transfer information by completing a table, a diagram, a list or a chart. **(2 items)**
- f) Complete a sentence or a paragraph with information retrieved from the text, the information being a word, a phrase, a clause, a date, a figure... **(2 items)**
- g) Complete a sentence or a paragraph with one's own words or phrases when the information is not explicitly stated in the text.
- h) Select the appropriate option in multiple choice questions related to the title or main idea of a text or the meaning of a given word.
- i) Provide equivalents of new words or expressions underlined in the text.
- j) Identify the topic sentence of a text or a paragraph when that is appropriate.
- k) Tick / Underline / Circle the right option in multiple choice questions about the function of a given statement.
- l) Pick out a statement expressing a given function.
- m) Identify true or false statements. **(2 items)**
- n) Express reaction to the content of the text or the characters or people involved

The test taker gets one mark for each correct answer.

5. The listening comprehension component:

It consists of a monologue, a dialogue, a conversation, a speech or a presentation totalling 100, 150 and 200 words respectively for the 7th, 8th and 9th forms. The linguistic as well as the semantic content of these oral texts should be appropriate to the targeted level. To demonstrate comprehension of the content of the passage and its organization, test takers are required to:

- a) Identify the speaker(s)
- b) Identify the relationship between the speakers.
- c) Give justified answers to Yes / No questions, the justification being retrieved from the text or worded by the test taker.
- d) Write short answers to WH questions, including inference questions.
- e) Transfer information by completing a table, a diagram, a list or a chart.
- f) Complete a sentence or a paragraph with one's own words or phrases.
- g) Select the appropriate option in multiple choice questions related to the main idea of the text or specific words or ideas in the text.
- h) Infer attitudes and moods.
- i) Express reaction to the content of the text or the characters or people involved.

The test taker is allotted one mark for each correct answer to the above specified comprehension questions.

In addition to the comprehension questions, the test taker is required to

- a) Tick the right option in multiple choice questions about the function of a given statement.
- b) Find out the function of a given statement.

One mark is allotted to the appropriate answer to either of the above questions.

Pronunciation is tested through questions requiring the test taker to:

- a) Circle the word(s) he / she hears (minimal pairs)
- b) Listen to a section of the text and identify words having (a) specified sound(s) or stress

The test taker is allotted half a mark for each correct answer to the above specified pronunciation questions.

Spelling is tested through a question requiring the test taker to:

- Complete a gapped section of the text as s/he listens to the recorded material.

Half a mark is allotted to each correct answer.

The use of recorded material is recommended.

6. The writing component:

Ability to write is tested through **one single** assignment requiring the test taker to

- a/ Write a narrative text.
- b/ Write an argumentative text.
- c) Write a descriptive text.
- d/ write instructions or directions.
- e) Write an internet post, an e-mail, a short article or a letter.

- The suggested topic should interest and motivate the test takers.
- In the instructions, the audience, the purpose, the context and the text length and type (genre) should be specified.

The following evaluation criteria should be indicated on the test paper:

- a) Adherence to task and content adequacy.**
- b) Lexical appropriacy and grammar accuracy**
- c) Mechanical accuracy (punctuation, capitalization and spelling).**