

INTERNATIONAL VOCATIONAL ENGLISH EXAMINATIONS

Content & Overview

PART/TIMING	EXAMINATION CONTENT	EXAMINATION FOCUS & PREPARATION
PART 1 Listening <i>(approx. 10 minutes)</i>	10 short situational dialogues each followed by three statements (A-C); the candidate chooses the correct one.	<p>Candidates should be able to understand opinion, disagreement/agreement, specific information, purpose and inferences made. They should also be able to relate what was heard to the correct statement, since it will not be a direct quote from the script.</p> <p>Candidates should read the statements before listening and look for key words in the statements. Also, candidates can think of possible contexts for the statements and should listen for the real meanings of the sentences while being aware of mismatches and distractors.</p>
PART 2 Knowledge of Linguistic Means <i>(20 minutes)</i>	18 multiple choice sentences A sentence where the one word or short phrase has been removed with a multiple choice option (A-D) to complete it.	<p>Candidates should be able to demonstrate their understanding of lexis. Different types of words are tested. Some have a similar meaning, others ask for the candidate to know the exact meaning of the word. It is possible that a preposition or adverb can determine which the correct word is. Candidates should also be aware of collocations related to the specific vocation as well as phrasal verbs.</p> <p>Candidates need to read the whole sentence before they decide on the correct option. They should pay attention to prepositions or adverbs within the sentence as they can determine which the correct option is.</p>
PART 3 Knowledge of Language Functions <i>(15 minutes)</i>	16 questions A two-part dialogue; the second has two options to complete the exchange.	<p>Candidates should be able to understand functional language. The task asks for the candidate to determine the natural response and they should focus on what information is given or sought after in the statement in order to make the correct choice. The functions are related to the specific vocation, e.g. asking for directions, making enquiries, talking about a timetable or stating a problem, and candidates should be aware of everyday situational dialogues which express a particular purpose.</p>
PART 4 Reading <i>(10 minutes)</i>	Three factual texts in formal or informal style Texts A-B are followed by two multiple choice questions each (A-C); Text C is followed by two statements and the candidate chooses true, false or doesn't say (T, F, DS) according to the text (60-100 words per text).	<p>Candidates should be able to understand the meaning of written English at text level.</p> <p>Texts A-B: The task focuses on the ability to understand content and text development, as well as main ideas or general attitude expressed. The questions are in the order of the text. The candidate should demonstrate understanding of text references e.g. pronouns or the absence of a subject, and to find examples and hidden meaning. The candidate should focus on the location of the information relevant to the question before choosing the answer.</p> <p>Text C: The candidate is expected to locate the specific information given in the statement and to determine whether the statement is true or false. If the information is not mentioned, then the candidate should choose "doesn't say". The task asks for the candidate to understand paraphrasing, gist, opinion and attitude as well as specific detail. It is important to reject the incorrect statements and to avoid information in the text which is similar and can distract the candidate from finding the answer required.</p>
PART 5 Writing <i>(5 minutes)</i>	A text (100-200 words) likely to be encountered in candidates' field of study (letter, email, memo, postcard, essay, report, etc.) from which five headings, sentences, phrases or words have been removed and placed in a jumbled order, together with an extra option as a distractor, before the text.	<p>Candidates should be able to demonstrate their understanding of writing task types and functional writing in the English language, as required in their field of study.</p> <p>Candidates need to familiarize themselves with various types of writing texts and understand the tone and writer's purpose.</p>