



الإستشارات التربوية والتطوير المهني
Educational Consulting & Professional Development

***Al-Erfan Test for Non Native
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Blueprint
For non-Arabic Speakers
Final grade is on 10

General observations:

- ✓ Questions range from the most difficult to the least difficult, according to the tests levels.
- ✓ All the questions are related to candidates' everyday life.
- ✓ The focus is on standard Arabic language.
- ✓ Respecting the intellectual property of all used material is a requirement.
- ✓ All the terms cited below must be matched to candidates' level
- ✓ Sub-sections are not necessary in all the test's questions
- ✓ The effective test duration is two hours and thirty minutes
- ✓ The virtual time allocated for each question can be different from the actual time used by the candidate in the answers.





المركز الوطني للتطوير المهني والتعليمي
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Skills and their contents	The number of items	Duration	Percentage
<p>The first skill: listening, multiple choice question (4 choices) <i>NB. The time duration of most of the recordings (video or audio), do not go beyond 2 min, except for some creative texts.</i></p> <p>The aim behind this skill is to answer questions related to recorded textual understanding, taken from everyday life composed of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recorded conversations, news reports, commercial ads, invitations, recorded mobile messages • Presentation, speech, documentary, radio documentary, poetry <p>Listening time length (20 min) To summarize a section from: (TV program, camera recording, or a movie) in the form of sections from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversation, lecture, documentary (all the clips 'time duration cannot exceed 15 min) • Shot broadcasted documents (news footage, poll, flyers) listening time length: 8 min • It aims at test listening accuracy to directives and instructions. <p>Identifying meanings of audio clips expressions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To differentiate between the candidate's own understanding and the verbal expression stated in an audio clip. • To extract conversational meaning and point of views between two or more speakers in an audio clip (con, neutral, and pro...etc.) • To know the type of an audio speech (orbital, narrative, descriptive, expository, authoritarian) • To title a video or an audio clip • To figure out the text's tone (happy, sad, exclamatory, ironic. etc.) • To distinguish between reality and fiction in an audio texts. <p>Recording time 15 min.</p>	15	30 min	20%
<p>The second skill: readings comprehension, to measure candidates' skill to understand a text (multiple choice questions):</p>	5	35min	20%

To answer specific questions related to written texts
based on everyday life themes.



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding the meaning of a narrative text about the new inventions. - Figuring out a debatable textual point - Understanding an official document related to authoritative commands or administrative circles. - Summarizing (in 200-300 words) narrative and explanatory texts. - Summarizing the content of a text - Filling in the texts' blanks - Rearranging the scattered phrases of text. - Determining the type of a media text that takes into consideration the journalistic writing techniques (news report, an initial letter in a particular subject, accident description). - Determining the main idea of short written texts. - Determining the meaning of metaphorical structures tolerating more than one meaning, based on the textual understanding. - Knowing the general meaning of a paragraph. - Determining the general meaning of a text in one sentence. - Titling a text. - Being capable of arguing some ideas from the text. - Identifying the writer's opinion or positionality. <p>Measuring the quick reading skill through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extracting from the text number, dates, or names... - Determining the text type. 			
<p>The third skill: writing (separate questions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Filling out printed forms, applications, or a blank check. - Writing short descriptive messages about personal experiences. - Writing: invitations, reply to "thank you" messages, apologies, requests, news, or congratulations letters. - Writing greeting or congratulation cards - Writing texts reflecting the candidates' position from special issues related to public affairs (to participating in discussions about a particular topic, critiquing articles, the formulation of administrative decisions supported by evidences and arguments, the emphasis of a positionality about public interest topics..etc.) It is possible that we provide the 	4	45 min	20%

opinion within the question and



<p>give arguments as multiple-choice questions and it is up to the candidate to choose the right argument.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Giving erroneous sentences, and asking the candidate to find the mistakes or/and correct them. - Finding or/ and correcting misspelled words. - Rearranging scattered phrases of a letter or a text. - Putting given linking words in the correct place within a text (as it is presented in test's samples provided by Dr.El Hannach) - Putting story events in their logical order. - Summarizing, in 300-350 words, short written documents. - Writing an argumentative text starting from the content of given texts. - Writing official texts that takes into consideration the speaker and the addressee (administrative report, recommendations, commercial ads,... etc) - Completing the composition about a given narrative text. - Punctuation marks - Questions without answers 			
<p>The fourth skill: Oral expression (immediate questions from the test committee based on one choice)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A conversation with the test committee about private or public subject - The exchange of information with third parties in classical Arabic - Speaking about scientific subjects - Reading prose or poetry - Defending one's viewpoint versus the document's point of view. - Delivering an oral presentation based on different written documents, followed by an interview with the test committee. 	2	15 min (+ preparation time 10 min)	20%



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<p>The fifth skill: understanding the skills and the structure of the language (multiple choice) the test includes all language areas:</p> <p>The first: language general issues Sentences, styles (conditional, interrogation, warnings, temptation, exclamation, praise and criticism, ...etc), vocabulary (drainage), semantics, lexicon, punctuation, spelling, regular expressions, idioms, presentations, specialised library, language roots, dictionary search, generation of specialized terminology.</p> <p>The second: determining the linguistic stock through semantic composition: Asking questions in less than one paragraph, and ask the candidate to find out one root for the entries.</p> <p>The third: linking between a numbers of meanings. Many words are placed in front of the candidates and they are asked to place each one of them next to its synonym.</p>	20	35min	20%
Total: Five skills	46	160min	100%

Additional test's clarifications

1- Video and audio understanding

The aim behind this section is to assess the candidate's abilities in:

- Reiterating basic information related to daily life communication.
- Understanding simple expressions turning around usual daily topics explained through letters, expressions, meetings, phone speeches, or any other video or audio recordings.
- Identifying the main subject of conversation between different parties.
- Understanding the main axes of interventions turning among family members, job colleagues, or university friends.
- Understanding the main ideas in different types of topics (metaphorical or real, private or public) that can be found in each one's, private, social, or professional, life.
- Following up with interventions and detecting the contained idioms within the broadcasted interview.
- Understanding all types of discourses expressed in normal or quick tone.

2- Mastering Arabic language

- The main objective behind this section is to assess the candidate's formal and informal language acquisition.
- Questions are related to communicative position linked to the Arabic context.



3- Reading comprehension

This section aims at assessing the candidate's abilities to:

- Reproduce the information presented in the given text, used in daily life communication (short messages about friendships, and professional relations)
- Reproduction of general and detailed information existing in commercial Ads, flyers, restaurant menu, and schedules...etc)
- Reproduce detailed information about people, facts, and every day events.
- Reproduce accurate and detailed information existing in the given texts.
- Understand the writer's position in the text or the article.
- Understand complex or abstract literary or specific writings.

Texts are taken from regular publications.

4- Oral expression

- The interviews are recorded, and sent to the evaluation committee, that in turn evaluates the candidates.

The candidates are evaluated according to the ability to communicate, and interact with the asked questions, and they are supposed to:

- Describe places (houses, work place ...) or describe people.
- Speak about one's own life, as well as one's professional, academic life.
- Speak about one's own experiences, and about one's lived events, and about one's future, and current projects.
- Explain projects or ideas, express points of views about specific topics, show movies or a book summary, as well as express their one's points of view about them.
- Deliver detailed and organized presentation about a complex topic and extract results from them.

5- Writing

- Editing short messages (40 words)
- Editing a private letter related to candidates' daily life problems' and solutions (60 words).
- Summarizing candidate's own experiences, stories, and points of view (80 words)
- Editing explanatory texts stating the candidates' points of views by providing the right arguments (100 words).
- Comparing between two points of view about general topics (between 100 and 125 words).
- Paraphrasing texts' main ideas, and expressing argumentative points of view (about 100 words).

6- Criteria of evaluation

Candidates are evaluated through their ability to:

- Respect the question content, and provide only the required elements.
- Communicate in clear, precise and correct language
- Respect of the chronicle order, and organization of the ideas.
- Defend their ideas and provide the right arguments.
- Make use of the pertinent glossary and terminology according to the topic.

- Prove that they can make use of complex expressions.



- Master summary skill.
- Paraphrase
- Extract the meaning from video, audio, and written text.
- Master language structure by using it in a correct way.
- Making use of professional language in work places.
- Speak fluently under different circumstances.
- Extract the meaning of written and spoken texts.
- Edit well-structured and correct texts
- Being able to write clear, organized and correct texts.
- Make correct use of the logical connectors in spoken and written texts.
- Use correct linguistic techniques in spoken and written language.