

Illinois Licensure Testing System

STUDY GUIDE

Foreign Language:
Arabic (137)

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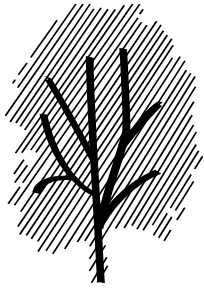
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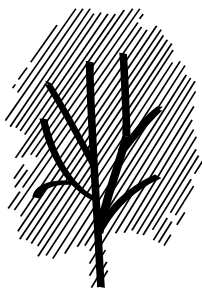
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General Information About the Illinois Licensure Testing System

The first section of the study guide is available in a separate PDF file. Click the link below to view or print this section.

[General Information About the Illinois Licensure Testing System](#)



Field-Specific Information

- **Test Subareas and Objectives**
- **Practice Constructed-Response Assignments**
- **Explanation of the Test Score Report**

INTRODUCTION

The content tests are designed to assess a candidate's knowledge of content in the specific teaching, school service personnel, or administrative field in which licensure is sought. The tests are based on current and relevant expectations for teacher preparation students and for teachers in Illinois as defined by the Illinois Content Area Standards for Educators. This study guide is designed to focus your preparation by helping you become familiar with the format and content to be covered on the tests.

This section includes a list of test subareas and objectives, sample test directions, practice constructed-response assignments, performance characteristics and scoring scales, an explanation of the scoring process for the constructed-response assignments, and a score report explanation.

TEST SUBAREAS AND OBJECTIVES

The content covered by the test is organized into subareas. You will find a list of subareas at the beginning of the list of test objectives. Within each subarea, the content is further defined by a set of objectives. Each objective comprises two major parts:

1. the *objective statement*, which broadly defines the knowledge and skills that an entry-level educator needs to know; and
2. the *descriptive statements*, which describe in greater detail the types of knowledge and skills covered by the test objective.

The test objectives are broad, conceptual, and meaningful statements, written in language that reflects the skills, knowledge, and understanding that an entry-level teacher needs in order to teach effectively in an Illinois classroom. A test consists of test questions that measure an examinee's mastery of these test objectives.

Below is an example of a test objective statement and its accompanying descriptive statements for the Elementary/Middle Grades test.

Objective Statement

Understand word analysis strategies and vocabulary development and how to use effective, developmentally appropriate approaches to promote students' word analysis and vocabulary skills.

Descriptive Statements

- Demonstrate knowledge of phonics and its role in decoding; of ways to assess students' phonic skills; and of effective instructional strategies, activities, and materials for promoting students' phonetic analysis skills.
- Demonstrate knowledge of word analysis strategies, including syllabication, morphology (e.g., use of affixes and roots), and context clues; of ways to assess students' use of word analysis strategies; and of effective instructional strategies, activities, and materials for promoting students' word analysis and contextual analysis skills.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the role of vocabulary development in reading; of ways to assess students' vocabulary development; and of effective instructional strategies, activities, and materials for promoting students' vocabulary development.

Listening Comprehension
Reading and Vocabulary
Language Structures
Cultural Knowledge
Language Acquisition
Written Expression
Oral Expression

SUBAREA I—LISTENING COMPREHENSION

0001 Demonstrate a general understanding of oral communication in Modern Standard Arabic.

For example:

- Demonstrate comprehension of oral and audio presentations unsupported by visual aids.
- Demonstrate an understanding of questions or comments likely to be encountered in a social or formal situation.
- Demonstrate an understanding of requests for information.

0002 Derive essential information from oral messages in Modern Standard Arabic.

For example:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the main idea or details in an oral message.
- Demonstrate an understanding of a sequence of steps described in a set of oral directions.
- Demonstrate an understanding of a stated cause or effect of a situation described in an oral message.

0003 Infer meaning from oral messages in Modern Standard Arabic.

For example:

- Assess the tone, mood, or point of view of one or more speakers.
- Analyze a relationship (e.g., cause-and-effect), implied but not stated, in an oral message.
- Analyze the social or cultural context of a spoken exchange or oral message.
- Analyze the relationship between two speakers.

SUBAREA II—READING AND VOCABULARY

0004 Demonstrate a general understanding of written passages, including electronic texts, written in Modern Standard Arabic.

For example:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the main message of written materials without the help of visual representations.
- Demonstrate an understanding of key vocabulary in written materials without the help of visual representations.

0005 Demonstrate an understanding of the literal content of a variety of authentic materials written in Modern Standard Arabic.

For example:

- Identify the stated main idea of a passage.
- Identify significant details of a passage.
- Recognize a sequence of events in a passage.
- Recognize a cause-and-effect relationship stated in a passage.

0006 Apply skills of inference and analysis to a variety of authentic materials written in Modern Standard Arabic.

For example:

- Infer setting, character, or mood from information provided in a passage.
- Determine implied cause-and-effect relationships in a passage.
- Infer an author's assumptions, purpose, or point of view in a passage.

SUBAREA III—LANGUAGE STRUCTURES

0007 Transform sentences or passages in Modern Standard Arabic according to given instructions.

For example:

- Transform the tense or mood of a sentence or passage.
- Transform an affirmative statement or question to a negative one or vice versa.
- Transform the subject of a sentence from singular to dual or plural or vice versa where subject and predicate agreement are evident.
- Combine two or more sentences into one sentence that preserves the meaning of the original sentences.

0008 Complete sentences in Modern Standard Arabic with grammatically correct words or phrases.

For example:

- Recognize nouns, adjectives, or pronouns appropriate for a given context.
- Recognize verb forms or phrases appropriate for a given context.
- Recognize the appropriate connecting word or phrase to complete a sentence.

0009 Demonstrate the ability to organize, analyze, and explain to students the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Arabic.

For example:

- Select revisions to correct use of tenses, forms, or constructions.
- Organize parts of speech into grammatically and syntactically correct sentences.
- Demonstrate the ability to analyze the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Arabic.

SUBAREA IV—CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE

0010 Demonstrate an understanding of the practices (e.g., common customs, patterns of daily life) and perspectives of Arab culture.

For example:

- Demonstrate an understanding of characteristic features of daily life in Arab culture.
- Identify culturally acceptable behaviors in Arab culture in a variety of contexts.

0011 Demonstrate an understanding of the products (e.g., literature, music, visual art, dance, architecture, technology) and perspectives of Arab culture.

For example:

- Identify major movements, writers, and works in Arabic literature and understand their cultural significance.
- Demonstrate an understanding of characteristic forms and elements of the arts in Arab culture and their cultural significance.
- Recognize major scientific and technological achievements of Arab culture and understand their cultural significance.

0012 Demonstrate an understanding of the history and geography of Arab culture.

For example:

- Identify key historical events and turning points in Arab culture.
- Identify diverse historical figures (e.g., scientists, mathematicians, inventors) in Arab culture.
- Demonstrate knowledge of natural geographic features (e.g., climate, location, natural resources) of regions associated with Arab culture.

SUBAREA V—LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

0013 Understand processes involved in second-language acquisition.

For example:

- Demonstrate knowledge of language development and the role of language learning as it pertains to second-language acquisition.
- Demonstrate knowledge of second-language acquisition and the approaches, methodologies, and strategies that promote second-language acquisition.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the ways students' native language, prior knowledge, and educational background influence second-language acquisition.
- Demonstrate knowledge of instructional strategies for developing students' communicative skills in a second language and ways to adjust instruction to facilitate optimal learning for all students.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of various classroom activities for developing students' communicative skills in a second language.

SUBAREA VI—WRITTEN EXPRESSION

0014 Use Modern Standard Arabic to present in writing information, concepts, and ideas for a variety of purposes to different audiences.

For example:

- Write expository pieces that include description, definition, and analysis for a variety of situations.
- Write an account describing the reasoning behind a personal or professional decision.
- Write a letter that is appropriate in style and formality level for a given audience, purpose, and occasion.

SUBAREA VII—ORAL EXPRESSION

0015 In response to a prompt, construct connected oral discourse in Modern Standard Arabic that communicates a message effectively and that demonstrates command of a range of vocabulary, idiomatic expressions, and simple and complex language structures.

For example:

- Narrate events or actions in tenses and formality levels appropriate to the task.
- Discuss advantages and disadvantages of an idea or proposed course of action.
- Respond to a hypothetical situation by explaining events, narrating events, or requesting assistance.

PRACTICE CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ASSIGNMENTS AND DESCRIPTION OF TASKS

OVERVIEW

There will be seven sections of the test as follows.

- Listening Comprehension—requires listening to a taped passage in the target language and providing a written response in either the target language or English
- Reading and Vocabulary—requires reading a passage in the target language and providing a written response in either the target language or English
- Language Structures—requires reading several passages in the target language and providing written responses

All written responses in this section are to be written in the target language.

- Cultural Knowledge—requires responding to an assignment that is presented in English by providing a written response in either the target language or English
- Language Acquisition—requires responding to an assignment that is presented in English by providing a written response in either the target language or English
- Written Expression—requires responding to an assignment that is presented in English by providing a written response in the target language
- Oral Expression—requires responding to an assignment that is presented in English by providing an oral response in the target language that will be audiotaped

Responses to the first six assignments must be written in the appropriate answer document as indicated in the test directions. Responses that are written in the test booklet will not be scored.

In the directions for each section, you will be instructed to read each constructed-response assignment carefully before you begin and to think about how to organize your responses. You may use space provided in the test booklet to make notes, prepare an outline, or write a first draft. Your final responses must be your original work, written or spoken in your own words, and not copied or paraphrased from some other work.

Assignments are intended to assess content-area knowledge and skills. Responses are therefore scored on the basis of the degree of understanding of the subject matter demonstrated in them. However, responses must be communicated clearly enough to permit a valid judgment of examinees' subject-matter knowledge and skills. Responses are scored according to a set of performance characteristics. The performance characteristics for each constructed-response assignment are provided in the test directions for each section.

LISTENING COMPREHENSION ASSIGNMENT SECTION

This section includes the following:

- A description of the task and expected response
- Sample test directions for the listening comprehension assignment
- A practice listening comprehension assignment
- The performance characteristics and scoring scale

On the actual test, examinees will be given a different listening comprehension assignment from the one provided as a sample in this study guide.

DESCRIPTION OF THE LISTENING COMPREHENSION ASSIGNMENT TASK AND EXPECTED RESPONSE

In this section of the test, you will listen twice to a taped sample of speech in the target language and answer a comprehension question. The taped speech may be an extended public announcement, a selection from a radio program, an excerpt from a conversation, or some other example of speech encountered in a realistic context. The question will require you to do one or more of the following tasks:

- summarize an explicit message;
- draw one or more inferences (e.g., the relationship among the speakers in a dialogue, the setting in which a message is communicated); or
- recall one or more details.

An excellent response would demonstrate thorough comprehension of literal content. The examinee would accurately infer information implied by the sample of spoken language, including correctly characterizing tone when tone is a factor in comprehension. Because this exercise is designed to test your listening skill and not your writing ability, you may write your answer in either the target language or English. You should choose the language that is more familiar to you.

SAMPLE TEST DIRECTIONS FOR THE LISTENING COMPREHENSION ASSIGNMENT

DIRECTIONS FOR SECTION ONE LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Section One of this test consists of a listening comprehension exercise that involves listening to a recorded excerpt and then responding in writing to an assignment presented in your test booklet. The exercise will begin with directions that will be read aloud on the recording. They are also printed in your test booklet. Listen carefully to the recording and follow along in your test booklet. The passage will be read twice. **Your response may be written in either the target language or English.** Write your response on page 3 of the answer document under "Section One." *Your score will be based solely on the response you write on page 3 of the answer document.*

Your response will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria. Please take the next 30 seconds to familiarize yourself with these criteria.

- **LISTENING COMPREHENSION:** accuracy and completeness in comprehending the literal content of a spoken passage
- **LISTENING INFERENCE:** demonstrated ability to infer information implied in a spoken passage, including subtleties such as tone

Once the recording has begun, it cannot be stopped, nor can any part of it be replayed. Therefore, listen carefully. If you have any questions or if you cannot hear this recording clearly, please raise your hand now.

Turn the page and continue with Section One.

PRACTICE LISTENING COMPREHENSION ASSIGNMENT

(You will read in the test booklet and hear:)

This is a listening comprehension exercise. You will hear a monologue. After you have heard the monologue twice, you will respond in writing to the assignment written in your test booklet. Your response may be written in either Modern Standard Arabic or English. Before you hear the monologue, you will be given 30 seconds to study the assignment. Begin studying the assignment now.

(You will read in the test booklet:)

Write a response of a few sentences in which you:

- characterize the program described in the monologue;
- identify two guests who will be featured on the program; and
- describe the most likely audience of the program.

Listen carefully to the following monologue. After you have heard the monologue twice, respond in writing to the assignment.

(You will hear:)

المجلة المنوعة رحلة إذاعية يومية تأتيكم كل صباح للأُم والأب ولأفراد الأسرة والمجتمع. تحمل في طياتها أخبار الوطن وقضايا الناس مصحوبة بالأغاني المعبّرة والموسيقى الحالمة.

المجلة المنوعة تنقلكم عبر أثير راديو الأمل من الماضي مروراً بالحاضر مستشرفةً المستقبل. ونبدأ برنامجنا هذا بالتحية الصباحية لوطننا الجميل ولشعبنا الحبيب ونتمنى لكل مستمعي راديو الأمل نهراً سعيداً وموفقاً ونبدأ برنامجنا هذا اليوم بموضوع السلامة على الطرق حيث نتمنى لكل سائقينا الأعراء السلامة واتخاذ الحذر في هذا الطقس الماطر. أعزائي المستمعين نحن في انتظار مشاركتكم معنا في إذاعة الأمل. ونحن نرحب بمساهماتكم المتنوعة. ونود أن نلفت انتباهكم أعزائي المستمعين بأننا سوف نستضيف حضرة المقدم أنور سعد من قسم شرطة المرور وهو مستعد للإجابة على أسئلتكم. مستمعينا الكرام نحن في انتظار مكالماتكم على أرقام هواتفنا المتعددة ورسائلكم عبر البريد الإلكتروني.

مستمعينا الأعراء، في مجلتنا المنوعة لهذا اليوم تم تحضير العديد من الفقرات المنوعة ومنها أننا سنستضيف خبيرة البشرية د. سهى عرفة، والطبّاح إياد حسن وسننهي حلقتنا بحظك لهذا اليوم مع العالم الفلكي عيسى مراد. تابعوا معنا هذا البرنامج صبيحة كل يوم من الساعة الثامنة والنصف وحتى العاشرة. مني سمر ومن جميع أفراد أسرة هذا البرنامج لكم أطيب التحية.



FOR YOUR REFERENCE ONLY—This constructed-response item is written to assess understanding of Subarea I, "Listening Comprehension," which consists of the objectives listed below.

Demonstrate a general understanding of oral communication in Modern Standard Arabic.

Derive essential information from oral messages in Modern Standard Arabic.

Infer meaning from oral messages in Modern Standard Arabic.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS FOR THE LISTENING COMPREHENSION ASSIGNMENT

Candidate responses are scored holistically based on the extent to which the response reflects a command of the skills included in the following performance characteristics.

Listening Comprehension	accuracy and completeness in comprehending the literal content of a spoken passage
Listening Inference	demonstrated ability to infer information implied in a spoken passage, including subtleties such as tone

SCORING SCALE FOR THE LISTENING COMPREHENSION ASSIGNMENT

The four points of the scoring scale correspond to varying degrees of performance. The following statements describe typical responses at each score point.

Score Point	Score Point Description
4	<p>The "4" response reflects a strong command of the performance characteristics for the listening comprehension assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate demonstrates thorough comprehension of the literal content of a sample of spoken language. The candidate accurately infers implied information, including correctly characterizing tone when it is a factor in comprehension.
3	<p>The "3" response reflects a general command of the performance characteristics for the listening comprehension assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate demonstrates a general comprehension of the literal content, though some details may be misunderstood or missed. The candidate shows some ability to infer implied information, though some subtleties may be misinterpreted or missed.
2	<p>The "2" response reflects a limited command of the performance characteristics for the listening comprehension assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate shows partial comprehension of the literal content, discerning the main idea but failing to understand significant supporting ideas and details, or vice versa. The candidate shows little or no ability to infer information or discern tone.
1	<p>The "1" response reflects a lack of command of the performance characteristics for the listening comprehension assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate fails to demonstrate understanding of any significant ideas, showing comprehension only of isolated words and phrases. The candidate fails to infer information or discern tone.
U	The response is unscorable because it is unrelated to the assigned topic, illegible, not written in the required language, not of sufficient length to score, or merely a repetition of the assignment.
B	There is no response to the assignment.

READING AND VOCABULARY ASSIGNMENT SECTION

This section includes the following:

- A description of the task and expected response
- Sample test directions for the reading and vocabulary assignment
- A practice reading and vocabulary assignment
- The performance characteristics and scoring scale

On the actual test, examinees will be given a different reading and vocabulary assignment from the one provided as a sample in this study guide.

DESCRIPTION OF THE READING AND VOCABULARY ASSIGNMENT TASK AND EXPECTED RESPONSE

In this section of the test, you will read text and answer a comprehension question about it. The text may be drawn from a newspaper story, a magazine article, a travel guidebook, a literary work, or some other text in the target language. The question will direct you to do one or more of the following tasks:

- summarize information stated in the text;
- make an inference from it (e.g., the writer's implied attitude toward the subject, or the relationship between two or more fictional characters); or
- recall one or more details.

An excellent response would demonstrate thorough and accurate understanding of the literal content of the passage, including virtually all significant details. The examinee would accurately infer information implied in the passage, even if it is subtly conveyed in the text. Because this exercise is designed to test your reading skill and not your writing ability, you may write your answer in either the target language or English. You should choose the language that is more familiar to you.

SAMPLE TEST DIRECTIONS FOR THE READING AND VOCABULARY ASSIGNMENT

DIRECTIONS FOR SECTION TWO READING AND VOCABULARY

Section Two of this test consists of a reading and vocabulary exercise that involves reading a brief passage and then responding in writing to an assignment presented after the passage in your test booklet. **Your response may be written in either the target language or English.** Write your response on page 5 of the answer document under "Section Two." *Your score will be based solely on the response you write on page 5 of the answer document.*

Your response will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

- **READING COMPREHENSION:** accuracy and completeness in comprehending the literal content of a written passage
- **READING INFERENCE:** demonstrated ability to infer information implied in a written passage, including subtleties such as tone

Turn the page and continue with Section Two.

PRACTICE READING AND VOCABULARY ASSIGNMENT

Read the passage below. Then prepare a written response to the assignment that follows. Write your response on page 5 of the answer document. Your response may be written in either Modern Standard Arabic or English.

برع الحسن بن الهيثم والمعروف باسم "Alhazen" أو الخازن في مجالات بحثية عديدة أهمها الفلسفة والعلوم الطبيعية. ولعل من أهم إسهاماته في العلوم الطبيعية هو ما قدّمه في مجال علم البصريات. وضع ابن الهيثم كتاباً في علم الضوء أسماه (المناظر) حيث عالج فيه قضايا متنوعة تتعلق بطبيعة الضوء وبعض الظواهر المصاحبة له كظاهرتي الانعكاس والانكسار. فمن خلال استخدامه للطريقة العلمية في الملاحظة والبحث والتجريب والاستدلال، استطاع ابن الهيثم أن يفسر آلية عمل العين كعضو للإبصار يعمل على استقبال الأشعة الضوئية المنعكسة عن الأجسام وبهذا فقد فنّد الاعتقادات والنظريات السابقة التي زعمت بأن العين هي التي تقوم بإرسال الأشعة الضوئية تجاه الأجسام فتحدث بذلك الرؤية وتتحقق عملية الإبصار.

ومن هذا المنطلق يمكن القول بأن إسهامات ابن الهيثم في دراسة علم البصريات أدّت إلى إحداث نقلة نوعية في فهمنا لطبيعة الضوء، إذ أشار إلى أن الضوء ينتقل في خطوط مستقيمة وأنه ذو طبيعة مادية وإلا لما كان لينعكس عن الأجسام التي يسقط عليها وبين أن عملية الانعكاس هذه تتأثر بطبيعة السطح الذي يسقط عليه الضوء فإن كان السطح صقيلاً أو أملس ارتد عنه الضوء بانتظام أمّا إن كان السطح غير صقيلاً أو خشناً فإن الضوء المرتد سيتفرق ويتشتت وبهذا فإن ارتداده لن يكون منتظماً كما في الحالة الأولى. كما وأشار ابن الهيثم إلى أن سرعة مرور الضوء في الأجسام الشفافة تختلف باختلاف درجة شفافية الجسم الذي ينفذ الضوء من خلاله، فكلما ازدادت شفافية الجسم ازدادت سرعة مرور الضوء من خلاله وكلما قلت شفافية الجسم قلت سرعة نفاذ الضوء من خلاله.

لذلك يمكن القول بأن إسهامات ابن الهيثم في دراسة علم الضوء والبصريات شكّلت الأساس النظري والتجريبي الذي اعتمدت عليه كثير من العلوم الطبيعية في تطوّرها وعلى وجه الخصوص علم الفلك وعلم البصريات.

Write a response of a few sentences in which you:

- identify the field of study to which Alhazen contributed;
- explain one cause-and-effect relationship in the passage; and
- characterize the author's opinion about Alhazen.



FOR YOUR REFERENCE ONLY—*This constructed-response item is written to assess understanding of Subarea II, "Reading and Vocabulary," which consists of the objectives listed below.*

Demonstrate a general understanding of written passages, including electronic texts, written in Modern Standard Arabic.

Demonstrate an understanding of the literal content of a variety of authentic materials written in Modern Standard Arabic.

Apply skills of inference and analysis to a variety of authentic materials written in Modern Standard Arabic.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS FOR THE READING AND VOCABULARY ASSIGNMENT

Candidate responses are scored holistically based on the extent to which the response reflects a command of the skills included in the following performance characteristics.

Reading Comprehension	accuracy and completeness in comprehending the literal content of a written passage
Reading Inference	demonstrated ability to infer information implied in a written passage, including subtleties such as tone

SCORING SCALE FOR THE READING AND VOCABULARY ASSIGNMENT

The four points of the scoring scale correspond to varying degrees of performance. The following statements describe typical responses at each score point.

Score Point	Score Point Description
4	<p>The "4" response reflects a strong command of the performance characteristics for the reading comprehension assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate demonstrates thorough comprehension of the literal content of a sample of written language. The candidate accurately infers implied information, including correctly characterizing tone when it is a factor in comprehension.
3	<p>The "3" response reflects a general command of the performance characteristics for the reading comprehension assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate demonstrates a general comprehension of the literal content, though some details may be misunderstood or missed. The candidate shows some ability to infer implied information, though some subtleties may be misinterpreted or missed.
2	<p>The "2" response reflects a limited command of the performance characteristics for the reading comprehension assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate shows partial comprehension of the literal content, discerning the main idea but failing to understand significant supporting ideas and details, or vice versa. The candidate shows little or no ability to infer information or discern tone.
1	<p>The "1" response reflects a lack of command of the performance characteristics for the reading comprehension assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate fails to demonstrate understanding of any significant ideas, showing comprehension only of isolated words and phrases. The candidate fails to infer information or discern tone.
U	The response is unscorable because it is unrelated to the assigned topic, illegible, not written in the required language, not of sufficient length to score, or merely a repetition of the assignment.
B	There is no response to the assignment.

LANGUAGE STRUCTURES ASSIGNMENT SECTION

This section includes the following:

- A description of the task and expected response
- Sample test directions for the language structures assignment
- A practice language structures assignment
- The performance characteristics and scoring scale

On the actual test, examinees will be given a different language structures assignment from the one provided as a sample in this study guide.

DESCRIPTION OF THE LANGUAGE STRUCTURES ASSIGNMENT TASK AND EXPECTED RESPONSE

This section of the test consists of three exercises that require you to demonstrate your command of the grammatical structure of the language. The first exercise is a cloze passage with a number of blanks to be filled in according to specific directions. The words or phrases to be supplied may include verb forms, pronouns, modifiers requiring agreement, inflected noun forms, or other important elements of syntax and usage. The second exercise involves transformation of one or more sentences according to specific directions: for example, from one tense or voice to another, from singular to plural, or from an informal to a formal language style. The third exercise requires you to rewrite in correct form one or more sentences containing grammatical errors. In the scoring of this section of the test, all grammatically correct answers consistent with the directions will be accepted.

SAMPLE TEST DIRECTIONS FOR THE LANGUAGE STRUCTURES ASSIGNMENT

DIRECTIONS FOR SECTION THREE LANGUAGE STRUCTURES

Section Three of this test consists of one exercise with three parts (Parts A, B, and C), each of which requires you to demonstrate your command of the grammatical structure of the target language. Directions are provided before each part. Write your responses in the spaces provided on pages 7–8 of the answer document.

Be sure to write your response to each part in the correct section of the answer document. Responses that are written in the wrong section or written in this test booklet **WILL NOT** be scored.

Your responses will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

- **GRAMMAR:** Part A (1–16)—supplying the grammatically correct term
- **TRANSFORMATION:** Part B (17–20)—making a specified transformation
- **CORRECTION:** Part C (21–24)—correcting errors

Turn the page and continue with Section Three.

PRACTICE LANGUAGE STRUCTURES ASSIGNMENT

Follow the directions for each of the three parts (Parts A, B, and C) below.

Part A (1–16)

Complete the passage by providing for each of the numbered spaces in the passage the Modern Standard Arabic words or word segments that are grammatically correct and appropriate in the context. Write each response to Part A on page 7 of the answer document on the line that corresponds to the numbered space in the passage. Responses written in this test booklet will NOT be scored.

الزيتون وزيت الزيتون

تُعتبر 1 الزيتون 2 الأشجار المعمرة 3 تنتشر في حوض البحر الأبيض 4 . ومن البلاد 5

اشتهرت 6 إسبانيا وإيطاليا واليونان وتونس وبلاد الشام. لقد رغب سكان 7 المنطقة بزراعة هذه

الشجرة نظراً لتحملها للحر وللبرد صيفاً و 8 ولسهولة خدمتها وللاستعمالات العديدة والقيمة للزيت

المستخلص من ثمارها. 9 زيت الزيتون في إعداد كثير من الأطعمة و 10 مفيد للجلد ويصنع 11

الصابون. كما ويقوم بدعم اقتصاد كثير من 12 التي تقوم بزراعة 13 لذا 14 في المثل الشعبي: "الزيت

عماد البيت" وقيل أيضاً: "البيت 15 فيه زيت 16 يجوع أهله".

Part B (17–20)

Rewrite each sentence below, transforming it according to the directions. Write your responses to Part B on page 8 of the answer document. Before each response, write the corresponding number (17–20) from your test booklet. Responses written in this test booklet will NOT be scored.

(17) Rewrite the sentence below using the future tense (المستقبل).

انتظرَ المزارعُ فصلَ الشتاءِ بشغفٍ.

(18) Rewrite the sentence below using the active voice (مبني للمعلوم).

دُعِيَ المحامونَ للتشاورِ في القضيةِ قبلَ انتهاءِ الجلسةِ.

(19) Rewrite the sentence below using a feminine subject (صيغة المؤنث).

كتبَ الشاعرُ قصيدةً جديدةً فيها معانٍ من واقعِ تجربته الشخصيةِ.

(20) Combine the following two sentences into a single sentence. Be sure to preserve the meaning of the original sentences.

نجحَ الطالبُ في الإمتحانِ. درسَ الطالبُ بجدٍ و اجتهادٍ.

Part C (21–24)

Rewrite the sentences that follow, correcting all errors but retaining the original meaning. Write your responses to Part C on page 8 of the answer document. Before each response, write the corresponding number (21–24) from your test booklet. Responses written in this test booklet will NOT be scored.

(21) كان الوقت متأخر فسارع الطالبين إلى إنهاء العمل.

(22) حضر التلاميذ المجتهدين حفل التكريم التي نظمتها المدرسة.

(23) ينجم عن التصرفات غير مسؤولة من بعض سائقين السيارات حوادث مرورية خطيرة.

(24) كل فتاة بأبوها معجبة وكل فتى بأبوه معجب أيضاً.



FOR YOUR REFERENCE ONLY—This constructed-response item is written to assess understanding of Subarea III, "Language Structures," which consists of the objectives listed below.

Transform sentences or passages in Modern Standard Arabic according to given instructions.

Complete sentences in Modern Standard Arabic with grammatically correct words or phrases.

Demonstrate the ability to organize, analyze, and explain to students the linguistic structures of Modern Standard Arabic.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS FOR THE LANGUAGE STRUCTURES ASSIGNMENT

Grammatical tasks related to *language structures* in scoring consist of:

Grammar	Part A (1–16)—supplying the grammatically correct term
Transformation	Part B (17–20)—making a specified transformation
Correction	Part C (21–24)—correcting errors

Note: Examinees will be scored on the number of grammatical items they handle successfully, out of a total of 24.

SCORING SCALE FOR THE LANGUAGE STRUCTURES ASSIGNMENT

The examinee's response for the item is correct if, and only if, it is described by the following:

Part	Description of Correct Response
Part A (Items 1–16)	Correct—the examinee's response is grammatically correct and appropriate within the context of the presented statement (i.e., the response satisfies all of the target language's rules of grammar demanded by the instructions and intended by the context of the statement).
Part B (Items 17–20)	Correct—the examinee's response correctly transforms the sentence or passage as instructed (i.e., the response follows all applicable grammatical rules of the target language and accurately supplies a transformed word, phrase, or clause construction as directed).
Part C (Items 21–24)	Correct—the examinee's response acceptably corrects the syntactic or linguistic errors found in the passage (i.e., the response has located and corrected the errors of language structure found within the passage and has retained the original meaning).

The examinee's response for the item is not correct if it is described by the following:

Part	Description of Incorrect Response
Parts A, B, C (Items 1–24)	Not correct—the examinee's response does not accurately follow the target language's rules of grammar or the response is incomplete.

Score Point	Score Point Description
4	20 to 24 tasks handled correctly
3	15 to 19 tasks handled correctly
2	10 to 14 tasks handled correctly
1	0 to 9 tasks handled correctly
U	Unscorable—the candidate's response is illegible.
B	Blank—there is no response to the assignment.

CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE ASSIGNMENT SECTION

This section includes the following:

- A description of the task and expected response
- Sample test directions for the cultural knowledge assignment
- A practice cultural knowledge assignment
- The performance characteristics and scoring scale

On the actual test, examinees will be given a different cultural knowledge assignment from the one provided as a sample in this study guide.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE ASSIGNMENT TASK AND EXPECTED RESPONSE

In this section of the test, you will be asked to discuss a specific aspect of the culture associated with the language being tested. The topic may be a major historical figure; a significant event or period; a well-known artist, work of art, or artistic movement; an important geographical feature; or a cultural phenomenon or institution. The question will require you to:

- identify the topic; and
- explain in a few sentences why the given person, event, work, movement, geographical feature, or institution is important to the culture.

An excellent response will provide both accurate basic information (e.g., placing a historical figure in the correct period or correctly locating a geographical feature) and a thorough and accurate explanation of the relationship of the topic to the development of a national or regional culture. Because this exercise is designed to test your cultural knowledge and not your writing ability, you may write your answer in either the target language or English. You should choose the language that is more familiar to you.

SAMPLE TEST DIRECTIONS FOR THE CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE ASSIGNMENT

DIRECTIONS FOR SECTION FOUR CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE

Section Four of this test consists of a cultural knowledge assignment presented in your test booklet. **Your response may be written in either the target language or English.** Write your response on pages 9–10 of the answer document under "Section Four." *Your score will be based solely on the response you write on pages 9–10 of the answer document.*

Your response to the assignment will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

- **IDENTIFICATION:** accuracy and completeness in identification of the figure, feature, event, institution, work of art, issue, etc., that is the topic of the assignment
- **CULTURAL CONTEXT:** ability to describe the appropriate cultural context of the topic (e.g., historical period, belief system, geographic location)
- **CULTURAL ISSUES:** clarity, accuracy, and thoroughness in relating the topic to broad movements or issues in the target culture

Turn the page and continue with Section Four.

PRACTICE CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE ASSIGNMENT

The following is a cultural understanding assignment. Write your response to the assignment on pages 9–10 of the answer document.

As in many cultures, the family plays an essential role in Arab culture. In a response of approximately 100 to 200 words, explain one significant aspect of the family in Arab culture and describe how this aspect of the family is reflected in the practices and perspectives of Arab culture. Your response may be written in either Modern Standard Arabic or English and will be evaluated on the basis of your cultural knowledge, not your writing ability. However, your ideas must be communicated clearly enough to permit an assessment.



FOR YOUR REFERENCE ONLY—*This constructed-response item is written to assess understanding of Subarea IV, "Cultural Knowledge," which consists of the objectives listed below.*

Demonstrate an understanding of the practices (e.g., common customs, patterns of daily life) and perspectives of Arab culture.

Demonstrate an understanding of the products (e.g., literature, music, visual art, dance, architecture, technology) and perspectives of Arab culture.

Demonstrate an understanding of the history and geography of Arab culture.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS FOR THE CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE ASSIGNMENT

Candidate responses are scored holistically based on the extent to which the response reflects a command of the knowledge and skills included in the following performance characteristics.

Identification	accuracy and completeness in identification of the figure, feature, event, institution, work of art, issue, etc., that is the topic of the assignment
Cultural Context	ability to describe the appropriate cultural context of the topic (e.g., historical period, belief system, geographic location)
Cultural Issues	clarity, accuracy, and thoroughness in relating the topic to broad movements or issues in the target culture

SCORING SCALE FOR THE CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE ASSIGNMENT

The four points of the scoring scale correspond to varying degrees of performance. The following statements describe typical responses at each score point.

Score Point	Score Point Description
4	<p>The "4" response reflects a strong command of the performance characteristics for the cultural knowledge assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate accurately and fully identifies the figure, feature, event, institution, work of art, issue, etc., that is the topic of the assignment. The candidate describes the appropriate cultural context of the topic. The candidate provides a thorough and accurate explanation of the relationship of the topic to the target culture.
3	<p>The "3" response reflects a general command of the performance characteristics for the cultural knowledge assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate identifies the figure, feature, event, institution, work of art, issue, etc., that is the topic of the assignment. The candidate generally provides accurate information regarding cultural context. The candidate provides some explanation of the relationship of the topic to the target culture, with only minor factual errors, if any.
2	<p>The "2" response reflects a limited command of the performance characteristics for the cultural knowledge assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate provides minimal information to identify the figure, feature, event, institution, work of art, issue, etc., that is the topic of the assignment. The candidate provides little information on the cultural context of the topic. The candidate provides an inadequate explanation of the relationship of the topic to the target culture.
1	<p>The "1" response reflects a lack of command of the performance characteristics for the cultural knowledge assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate fails to identify the figure, feature, event, institution, work of art, issue, etc., that is the topic of the assignment. The candidate does not place the topic in the appropriate cultural context. The candidate fails to explain the relationship of the topic to the target culture or reveals a significant misunderstanding of cultural trends or issues.
U	The response is unscorable because it is unrelated to the assigned topic, illegible, not written in the required language, not of sufficient length to score, or merely a repetition of the assignment.
B	There is no response to the assignment.

LANGUAGE ACQUISITION ASSIGNMENT SECTION

This section includes the following:

- A description of the task and expected response
- Sample test directions for the language acquisition assignment
- A practice language acquisition assignment
- The performance characteristics and scoring scale

On the actual test, examinees will be given a different language acquisition assignment from the one provided as a sample in this study guide.

DESCRIPTION OF THE LANGUAGE ACQUISITION ASSIGNMENT TASK AND EXPECTED RESPONSE

For this section of the test, you will be asked to write about a specific aspect of language acquisition. The topic may include identifying an instructional approach or strategy to address a given problem, such as how to introduce a new linguistic concept in the target language or help students correct linguistic errors they are making in the target language. The question will require you to:

- identify the grade level of the students about whom you will be writing;
- identify how the given problem is likely to be manifest in students at that grade level; and
- explain in a few sentences the instructional approach or strategy you suggest to address the given problem and why that approach or strategy would be effective.

An excellent response would provide accurate information about the given problem and how it affects students at the grade level you have chosen to discuss. It should also include a succinct but thorough description of the approach or strategy you suggest to address the problem and the reasons why you feel the approach would be effective. Because this exercise is designed to test your knowledge of language acquisition and not your writing ability, you may write your answer in either the target language or English. You should choose the language that is more familiar to you.

SAMPLE TEST DIRECTIONS FOR THE LANGUAGE ACQUISITION ASSIGNMENT

DIRECTIONS FOR SECTION FIVE LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

Section Five of this test consists of a language acquisition exercise that involves responding to an assignment presented in your test booklet. **Your response may be written in either the target language or in English.** Write your response on pages 11–12 of the answer document under "Section Five." *Your score will be based solely on the response you write on pages 11–12 of the answer document.*

Your response to the written assignment will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

- **PURPOSE:** the extent to which the response achieves the purpose of the assignment
- **SUBJECT-MATTER KNOWLEDGE:** accuracy and appropriateness in the application of the subject-matter knowledge
- **SUPPORT:** quality and relevance of supporting details
- **RATIONALE:** soundness of argument and degree of understanding of the subject matter

The language acquisition exercise is intended to assess subject-matter knowledge and skills. Your response must be communicated clearly enough to permit valid judgment of the evaluation criteria by scorers. Your response should be written for an audience of educators in this field. Your response should be your original work, written in your own words, and not copied or paraphrased from some other work.

Be sure to write about the assigned topic. Please write legibly. You may not use any reference materials during the test. Remember to review what you have written and make any changes that you think will improve your response.

Turn the page and continue with Section Five.

PRACTICE LANGUAGE ACQUISITION ASSIGNMENT

Use the information below to respond to the assignment that follows. Write your response to this assignment on pages 11–12 of the answer document. Your response may be written in either Modern Standard Arabic or English.

Imagine that you are teaching a beginning Modern Standard Arabic class. All of the students in the class speak English, and most have never studied a second language prior to this class. You are planning a lesson in which you will show your students how their knowledge of their primary language can help them learn to communicate in Modern Standard Arabic.

Using your knowledge of second-language acquisition and language-learning processes, prepare a response in which you:

- identify the grade level of the students in your class;
- identify a way in which your students' knowledge of their primary language can help them learn Modern Standard Arabic;
- describe an instructional strategy that would help the students use their knowledge of their primary language to learn about an aspect of communication in Modern Standard Arabic; and
- explain why the strategy you described would be an effective way to help the students use their knowledge of their primary language to learn about communicating in Modern Standard Arabic.



FOR YOUR REFERENCE ONLY—*This constructed-response item is written to assess understanding of Subarea V, "Language Acquisition," which consists of the objective listed below.*

Understand processes involved in second-language acquisition.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS FOR THE LANGUAGE ACQUISITION ASSIGNMENT

Candidate responses are scored holistically based on the extent to which the response reflects a command of the knowledge and skills included in the following performance characteristics.

Purpose	the extent to which the response achieves the purpose of the assignment
Subject-Matter Knowledge	accuracy and appropriateness in the application of the subject-matter knowledge
Support	quality and relevance of supporting details
Rationale	soundness of argument and degree of understanding of the subject matter

SCORING SCALE FOR THE LANGUAGE ACQUISITION ASSIGNMENT

The four points of the scoring scale correspond to varying degrees of performance. The following statements describe typical responses at each score point.

Score Point	Score Point Description
4	<p>The "4" response reflects a thorough knowledge and understanding of the subject matter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of the assignment is fully achieved. • There is a substantial, accurate, and appropriate application of subject-matter knowledge. • The supporting evidence is sound; there are high-quality, relevant examples. • The response reflects an ably reasoned, comprehensive understanding of the topic.
3	<p>The "3" response reflects a general knowledge and understanding of the subject matter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of the assignment is largely achieved. • There is a generally accurate and appropriate application of subject-matter knowledge. • The supporting evidence is general; there are some relevant examples. • The response reflects a general understanding of the topic; some reasoning is evident.
2	<p>The "2" response reflects a limited knowledge and understanding of the subject matter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of the assignment is partially achieved. • There is a limited, possibly inaccurate or inappropriate, application of subject-matter knowledge. • The supporting evidence is limited; there are few relevant examples. • The response reflects a limited, poorly reasoned understanding of the topic.
1	<p>The "1" response reflects a weak knowledge and understanding of the subject matter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of the assignment is not achieved. • There is little or no appropriate or accurate application of subject-matter knowledge. • The supporting evidence, if present, is weak; there are few or no relevant examples. • The response reflects little or no reasoning about or understanding of the topic.
U	The response is unscorable because it is unrelated to the assigned topic, illegible, not written in the required language, not of sufficient length to score, or merely a repetition of the assignment.
B	There is no response to the assignment.

WRITTEN EXPRESSION ASSIGNMENT SECTION

This section includes the following:

- A description of the task and expected response
- Sample test directions for the written expression assignment
- A practice written expression assignment
- The performance characteristics and scoring scale

On the actual test, examinees will be given a different written expression assignment from the one provided as a sample in this study guide.

DESCRIPTION OF THE WRITTEN EXPRESSION ASSIGNMENT TASK AND EXPECTED RESPONSE

In this section of the test, you will produce a sample of writing in the target language in response to an assignment provided in English. The assignment will describe an imaginary situation and ask you to carry out a writing task arising from the situation (e.g., a letter to a friend narrating an experience described in the assignment). Writing samples will be evaluated on the basis of four major criteria:

- Purpose—the fulfillment of the objective of the assignment in reference to the intended audience, purpose, and occasion
- Organization—the organization, development, and support of ideas
- Vocabulary—the selected vocabulary and idiomatic expressions
- Grammar—the constructed grammatical forms, character formations, and syntactic constructions, including spelling, diacritical marks, and punctuation

An excellent response to the assignment would fully address the assigned topic and develop the topic by extensive elaboration of specific points. The message would be clearly and effectively communicated in a socioculturally appropriate manner. Ideas would be coherently presented and the flow of language would be smooth and varied in well-constructed sentences. The vocabulary used would reflect a broad command of the target language and appropriate use of idiomatic expressions. The excellent response would exhibit control of grammar, avoiding errors in syntax that interrupt communication. The response would be accurate in spelling or character formation and in use of diacritical marks and punctuation.

SAMPLE TEST DIRECTIONS FOR THE WRITTEN EXPRESSION ASSIGNMENT

DIRECTIONS FOR SECTION SIX WRITTEN EXPRESSION

Section Six of this test consists of a written expression assignment. The assignment appears on the following page. A list of suggestions is provided to help direct your response to the assignment. It is not necessary that you cover every point on the list, nor are you limited in your response to those points indicated. You are, however, required to write about the general assignment that you are given, and part of your score will be based on the degree to which you elaborate on the assignment by addressing either the suggested points or points of your choosing.

Your response must be **written in the target language** and may be up to two pages in length. You may use any blank space provided after the written assignment to make notes, write an outline, or otherwise prepare your response, but remember to record your final response on pages 13–14 of the answer document under "Section Six." *Your score will be based solely on the response you write on pages 13–14 of the answer document. Your response must be written in the target language.*

Your response to the written assignment will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

- **PURPOSE:** the fulfillment of the objective of the assignment in reference to the intended audience, purpose, and occasion
- **ORGANIZATION:** the organization, development, and support of ideas
- **VOCABULARY:** the selected vocabulary and idiomatic expressions
- **GRAMMAR:** the constructed grammatical forms and syntactic constructions, including spelling, diacritical marks, and punctuation

Be sure to write about the assigned topic. Please write legibly. You may not use any reference materials during the test. Remember to review what you have written and make any changes that you think will improve your response.

Turn the page and continue with Section Six.

PRACTICE WRITTEN EXPRESSION ASSIGNMENT

The following is a written expression assignment. Write your response to this assignment on pages 13–14 of the answer document. Your response must be written in Modern Standard Arabic.

Imagine that a company that publishes Arabic-language travel guides has asked you to write a short essay about a town with which you are familiar. Write in Modern Standard Arabic an introduction to the town for people who would like to visit it in their travels. You may wish to include, but are not limited to, the following topics:

- a brief introduction to the town;
- recommendations of sights to see and activities to do in the town; and
- advice about how to get around and where to stay in the town.



FOR YOUR REFERENCE ONLY—*This constructed-response item is written to assess understanding of Subarea VI, "Written Expression," which consists of the objective listed below.*

Use Modern Standard Arabic to present in writing information, concepts, and ideas for a variety of purposes to different audiences.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS FOR THE WRITTEN EXPRESSION ASSIGNMENT

Purpose	the fulfillment of the objective of the assignment in reference to the intended audience, purpose, and occasion
Organization	the organization, development, and support of ideas
Vocabulary	the selected vocabulary and idiomatic expressions
Grammar	the constructed grammatical forms and syntactic constructions, including spelling, diacritical marks, and punctuation

SCORING SCALE FOR THE WRITTEN EXPRESSION ASSIGNMENT

The four points of the scoring scale correspond to varying degrees of performance. The following statements describe typical responses at each score point.

Score Point	Score Point Description
4	<p>The "4" response reflects a strong command and thorough application of the performance characteristics for the written expression assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The response thoroughly achieves the objective of the assignment and is completely appropriate for the intended audience, purpose, and occasion. The ideas are clearly expressed in a unified discussion, and the supporting details are relevant and fully develop the stated ideas. The vocabulary reflects a broad command of the language and appropriate use of idiomatic expressions. The response shows a comprehensive command of grammar and syntax and mastery of spelling, diacritical marks, and punctuation, with few, if any, errors.
3	<p>The "3" response reflects a general command and application of the performance characteristics for the written expression assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The response largely achieves the objective of the assignment and is generally appropriate for the intended audience, purpose, and occasion. The expressed ideas are generally clear and organized, and the supporting details develop some of the stated ideas. The vocabulary and idiomatic expressions reflect a general command of the language for communicating a complete message. The response shows a general command of grammar and syntax and may contain minor errors in spelling, diacritical marks, and punctuation that do not interfere with communication.
2	<p>The "2" response reflects a limited command and a partial application of the performance characteristics for the written expression assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The response partially achieves the objective of the assignment and may not be entirely appropriate for the intended audience, purpose, and occasion. The expressed ideas are somewhat unclear, partially organized, and developed in a limited way with minimal relevant support. The vocabulary is simple and lacks key words and expressions but is sufficient for communicating a partial message. The response shows a limited command of grammar and syntax and contains frequent errors in spelling, diacritical marks, and punctuation that partially impede communication of ideas.
1	<p>The "1" response reflects a lack of command and little or no application of the performance characteristics for the written expression assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The response fails to achieve the objective of the assignment and may be inappropriate for the intended audience, purpose, and occasion. The expressed ideas are unclear, disjointed, and inadequately developed and may lack relevant supporting details. The vocabulary is not adequate for communicating a complete message and contains word usage errors that impede communication. The response shows little command of basic elements of grammar or syntax and contains errors in spelling, diacritical marks, and punctuation so numerous that they impede communication.
U	The response is unscorable because it is unrelated to the assigned topic, illegible, not written in the required language, not of sufficient length to score, or merely a repetition of the assignment.
B	There is no response to the assignment.

ORAL EXPRESSION ASSIGNMENT SECTION

This section includes the following:

- A description of the task and expected response
- Sample test directions for the oral expression assignment
- A practice oral expression assignment
- The performance characteristics and scoring scale

On the actual test, examinees will be given a different oral expression assignment from the one provided as a sample in this study guide.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ORAL EXPRESSION ASSIGNMENT TASK AND EXPECTED RESPONSE

In this section of the test, you will speak on tape in the target language in response to an assignment that describes in English an imaginary situation requiring oral communication (e.g., a problem you encounter while traveling in an area where the target language is spoken). You will read the assignment in your test booklet and have one minute to consider your response, then two minutes to speak. Speech samples will be evaluated on the basis of five major criteria:

- Purpose—the fulfillment of the objective of the assignment in reference to the intended audience, purpose, and occasion
- Fluency—the fluent and developed communication of the message
- Pronunciation—the articulation and pronunciation of words and phrases
- Vocabulary—the selected vocabulary and idiomatic expressions
- Grammar—the constructed grammatical forms and syntactic constructions

An excellent response to the assignment would address the assigned topic and develop the topic by extensive elaboration of specific points. The response would be delivered in a consistently clear manner. The speaker would speak fluently, using a variety of sentences. The speaker's vocabulary would show mastery of a broad vocabulary including appropriate idiomatic expressions. The speaker would handle simple and complex linguistic constructions, avoiding errors that interfere with communication. The speaker would exhibit good to excellent pronunciation and intonation.

SAMPLE TEST DIRECTIONS FOR THE ORAL EXPRESSION ASSIGNMENT

DIRECTIONS FOR SECTION SEVEN ORAL EXPRESSION

For Section Seven of this test, you will speak in the target language on tape in response to an assignment presented in English in your test booklet. You will read the assignment in your test booklet and have one minute to consider your response, then you will have two minutes to speak. A list of suggestions to help direct your response will be provided. It is not necessary that you address every point in the list, nor are you limited to the points provided. However, what you say must be relevant to the situation with which you are presented, and part of your score will be based on the degree to which you elaborate on the topic by addressing either the suggested points or points of your choosing.

You may NOT write in this test booklet, but you may make notes on the scratch paper provided. **You will be scored only on the response that you provide on the audiotape after the announcer instructs you to begin speaking. You must return the scratch paper when you have finished testing. Your response must be spoken in the target language.**

Your response will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

- **PURPOSE:** the fulfillment of the objective of the assignment in reference to the intended audience, purpose, and occasion
- **FLUENCY:** the fluent and developed communication of the message
- **PRONUNCIATION:** the articulation and pronunciation of words and phrases
- **VOCABULARY:** the selected vocabulary and idiomatic expressions
- **GRAMMAR:** the constructed grammatical forms and syntactic constructions

Once the tape has begun, it cannot be stopped, nor can you rerecord a response.

When you have finished reading these directions, please look up. You will receive further instructions from your test administrator.

Look up when you are ready to begin.



DO NOT GO ON UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.

PRACTICE ORAL EXPRESSION ASSIGNMENT

Read the instructions below. You will have 1 minute to study these instructions. Then, when you are told to do so, begin to respond in Modern Standard Arabic. You may take up to 2 minutes to complete your response. You will be told when the 2 minutes are up. You may begin studying the instructions now. You will be told when to begin speaking.

(You will read in the test booklet:)

Imagine that you are attending a seminar in an Arabic-speaking country about teaching and learning a foreign language. You have been asked to give a brief presentation about your experiences studying a language other than your first language. Respond in Modern Standard Arabic to this request. You may wish to include, but are not limited to, the following topics:

- a description of a challenge that you faced while studying the language;
- a description of one way in which you benefited from studying the language; and
- a prediction about what you will do with the language in the future.

(You will have 1 minute to study the instructions above. Then you will have 2 minutes to respond on the audiotape.)



FOR YOUR REFERENCE ONLY—*This constructed-response item is written to assess understanding of Subarea VII, "Oral Expression," which consists of the objective listed below.*

In response to a prompt, construct connected oral discourse in Modern Standard Arabic that communicates a message effectively and that demonstrates command of a range of vocabulary, idiomatic expressions, and simple and complex language structures.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS FOR THE ORAL EXPRESSION ASSIGNMENT

Candidate responses are scored holistically based on the extent to which the response reflects a command of the knowledge and skills included in the following performance characteristics.

Purpose	the fulfillment of the objective of the assignment in reference to the intended audience, purpose, and occasion
Fluency	the fluent and developed communication of the message
Pronunciation	the articulation and pronunciation of words and phrases
Vocabulary	the selected vocabulary and idiomatic expressions
Grammar	the constructed grammatical forms and syntactic constructions

SCORING SCALE FOR THE ORAL EXPRESSION ASSIGNMENT

The four points of the scoring scale correspond to varying degrees of performance. The following statements describe typical responses at each score point.

Score Point	Score Point Description
4	<p>The "4" response reflects a strong command and a thorough application of the performance characteristics for the oral expression assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response thoroughly achieves the objective of the assignment and is completely appropriate for the intended audience, purpose, and occasion. • The response is well developed and shows an elaboration of ideas, demonstrating a consistent flow of speech with few, if any, hesitations or pauses. • The response demonstrates easily intelligible pronunciation with few, if any, errors. • The response demonstrates an extensive command of appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic expressions with few, if any, errors. • The response demonstrates a comprehensive command of grammar and syntax, with only minor errors.
3	<p>The "3" response reflects a general command and application of the performance characteristics for the oral expression assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response largely achieves the objective of the assignment and is generally appropriate for the intended audience, purpose, and occasion. • The response is developed with some elaboration and maintains a steady flow of speech with occasional hesitations and pauses. • The response demonstrates intelligible pronunciation, with occasional errors. • The response demonstrates a general command of appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic expressions. • The response demonstrates a general command of grammar and syntax, though some errors interrupt comprehension.
2	<p>The "2" response reflects a limited command and a partial application of the performance characteristics for the oral expression assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response partially achieves the objective of the assignment and may not be entirely appropriate for the intended audience, purpose, and occasion. • The response shows limited development of ideas, which are sometimes unclear, and is occasionally difficult to understand because of an inconsistent flow of speech with frequent hesitations and pauses. • The response demonstrates frequent errors in pronunciation. • The response demonstrates a limited range of expression, using a very simple vocabulary that lacks key words and phrases. • The response shows a limited command of grammar and syntax, as evidenced by frequent errors that partially impede comprehension.
1	<p>The "1" response reflects a lack of command and little or no application of the performance characteristics for the oral expression assignment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response fails to achieve the objective of the assignment and may be inappropriate for the intended audience, purpose, and occasion. • The response presents few, if any, comprehensible ideas and does so with minimal development; the response fails to maintain any flow of speech, as evidenced by frequent hesitations and pauses that interrupt comprehensibility. • The response demonstrates inadequate pronunciation that contains numerous errors and is at times unintelligible. • The response demonstrates little knowledge of vocabulary beyond the most common words and may include numerous misused and ill-formed words and expressions. • The response has little command of basic elements of grammar or syntax, as evidenced by numerous and frequent errors that significantly impede comprehension.
U	The response is unscorable because it is unrelated to the assigned topic, inaudible/incomprehensible, not spoken in the required language, not of sufficient length to score, or merely a repetition of the assignment.
B	There is no response to the assignment.

EXPLANATION OF THE SCORING PROCESS FOR THE CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ASSIGNMENTS

This section is designed to provide you with an explanation of the scoring process for the constructed-response assignments.

THE SCORING PROCESS

Constructed responses will be rated on a four-point scoring scale. For each scoring scale within the range of scores (i.e., from 1 to 4), a response that receives a score point of 1 is an undeveloped response, while a score point of 4 is assigned to a response that is very well developed. Specific performance characteristics describe the elements typically found in responses at each of the four score points, although any particular response may be either more or less developed in respect to any specific elements.

Each category of the four-point scale will comprise a range of ability across that particular score. Thus, among the most competent constructed responses, there will be those that represent a "high 4" (the best) as well as those that represent a "low 4" (clearly superior responses, but they are not quite as well constructed as the "high 4"). This range of ability holds true within each of the other three points on the scoring scale.

Each response is scored on a scale from 1 to 4, with 1 representing a lack of command and little or no application of the performance characteristics, and 4 representing a strong command and thorough application of the performance characteristics. Each response is reviewed and scored by a scoring group, and the group's consensus score is doubled.

Scores Assigned	Constructed-Response Assignment Score
4 + 4	8
3 + 4	7
3 + 3	6
2 + 3	5
2 + 2	4
1 + 2	3
1 + 1	2
U	0
B	0

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

The score points for each of the seven constructed-response assignments are based on a set of performance characteristics that is specific to the constructed-response assignment as follows.

Listening Comprehension Assignment Performance Characteristics

- Listening Comprehension
- Listening Inference

Detailed characteristics of the score point features for the listening comprehension assignment are described in the scoring scale on page 2-13.

Reading and Vocabulary Assignment Performance Characteristics

- Reading Comprehension
- Reading Inference

Detailed characteristics of the score point features for the reading and vocabulary assignment are described in the scoring scale on page 2-19.

Language Structures Assignment Performance Characteristics

- Grammar
- Transformation
- Correction

Detailed characteristics of the score point features for the language structures assignment are described in the scoring scale on page 2-26.

Cultural Knowledge Assignment Performance Characteristics

- Identification
- Cultural Context
- Cultural Issues

Detailed characteristics of the score point features for the cultural knowledge assignment are described in the scoring scale on page 2-31.

Language Acquisition Assignment Performance Characteristics

- Purpose
- Subject-Matter Knowledge
- Support
- Rationale

Detailed characteristics of the score point features for the language acquisition assignment are described in the scoring scale on page 2-36.

Written Expression Assignment Performance Characteristics

- Purpose
- Organization
- Vocabulary
- Grammar

Detailed characteristics of the score point features for the written expression assignment are described in the scoring scale on page 2-41.

Oral Expression Assignment Performance Characteristics

- Purpose
- Fluency
- Pronunciation
- Vocabulary
- Grammar

Detailed characteristics of the score point features for the oral expression assignment are described in the scoring scale on page 2-46.

OVERVIEW

The score report indicates whether or not you passed the test and how you performed on each test subarea. The passing scores for the Illinois Licensure Testing System were established by the Illinois State Board of Education based on recommendations from panels of Illinois educators. The passing score for each foreign language content-area test is designed to reflect the level of content knowledge and skills required to perform the job of an educator receiving an initial license in Illinois.

Passing Score

To pass a foreign language content-area test you must obtain a scaled total test score of 240 or above.

Total Test Score

The total test score is based on your performance on the entire test, specifically the scores you received on the seven constructed-response assignments.

Constructed Response Assignment Scores

One score is indicated for your performance on each of the seven constructed-response assignments. These scores are presented on the same scale as the total test score.

The performance graph is provided in regard to your performance on each of the seven constructed-response assignments. These will help you assess your areas of relative strength and weakness.

Reporting of Scores

Your results will be forwarded to the Illinois State Board of Education and to the Illinois institution(s) you indicate during the registration process. You should keep the score report you receive for your own records.

READING YOUR REPORT: A SAMPLE

A sample of a Foreign Language: Arabic test score report is provided below.

Test: 137 Foreign Language: Arabic			Your Status: Did not pass ← ①	
Your Scaled Total Test Score: 237 ← ②				
Number of Test Items in Subarea	Subarea Name	Subarea Score	Performance Graph	
⑤	1 Listening Comprehension	231		
	1 Reading and Vocabulary	252 ← ③		
	1 Language Structures	210		
	1 Cultural Knowledge	231		
	1 Language Acquisition	242		
	1 Written Expression	229 ← ④		
	1 Oral Expression	240		
	Scaled Total Test Score	237		

According to the above sample, the examinee did not pass the Foreign Language: Arabic test ①, because the examinee's total test score of 237 ② is below the passing score of 240.

The examinee did better on the Reading and Vocabulary subarea ③ of the test than on the Written Expression subarea ④. The examinee will need to retake the test and achieve a total test score of 240 or higher to pass the test. The score report indicates the number of items for each subarea on the test ⑤.