
ILLINOIS LICENSURE TESTING SYSTEM
FIELD 137 FOREIGN LANGUAGE: ARABIC
TEST FRAMEWORK

March 2008

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.