

Express Publishing INTERNATIONAL VOCATIONAL ENGLISH EXAMINATIONS

INTERNATIONAL VOCATIONAL ENGLISH EXAMINATIONS



English for Au Pair Examination: General Description

PART 1 Listening (approx. 10 minutes)	<i>Task type:</i> Multiple choice <i>Format:</i> ten unrelated dialogues of about 30 seconds' duration, each followed by a 3-option multiple choice item
	The candidates listen to a short dialogue, then choose the correct statement from three that are based on the dialogue. The recordings are dialogues between two interacting speakers (conversations, interviews, discussions, etc.).
	Task Focus: identifying detail, understanding and interpreting information, specific information, gist, detail, main idea, function, purpose, attitude, opinion, etc.Marking Scheme: 10 items x 2 points = 20 points
	NOTE: Each part is heard twice.
PART 2 Knowledge of Linguistic Means (15 minutes)	Task type: Multiple choice Format: 18 4-option multiple choice sentences Task Focus: lexical Marking Scheme: 18 items x 2 points = 36 points
	Topic areas: becoming an au pair, qualities of an au pair, finding a position, au pair agencies, host families, the interview handbook, accepting a position, what to pack, duties of an au pair, household items, children's clothing, baby care, living arrangements, meeting the children, establishing a relationship with the children, setting boundaries, discipline, activities, getting around, outings, playdates advice, mealtimes, bedtime, helping with schoolwork, driving, free time, vacations, holidays with a host family, emergencies, first aid and CPR, common illnesses, safety hazards, chronic health problems, special needs, education requirements, insurance, language barriers, payment, communicating problems to host parents, cultural differences, homesickness, rematch, departing a position
PART 3 Knowledge of Language Functions (10 minutes)	Task type: Multiple choice Format: 16 2-option multiple choice exchanges Task Focus: lexico-grammatical Marking Scheme: 16 items x 1 point = 16 points
	<i>Functions:</i> adding information, agreeing with a suggestion, asking for: a favour, more information, someone on the phone, bringing up a problem, checking for understanding, clarifying information, correcting someone else, describing: a degree, a person, symptoms, discussing options, expressing enthusiasm, expressing: guilt, sympathy, uncertainty, getting someone's attention, giving: a reminder, directions, encouragement, thanks to someone, introducing yourself, making: a suggestion, an assumption, observations, plans, predictions, reassurances, offering: an alternative, encouragement, providing reassurance, returning to a topic, showing interest, stating requirements, talking about: feelings, plans, possibilities, qualifications
PART 4 Reading (10 minutes)	Task type:Multiple choice – True/False/Doesn't sayFormat:Three short texts (60-100 words each) containing factual information related to the field ofAu Pair; the first two texts are followed by two 3-option multiple choice questions each, while the thirdtext is followed by two True/False/Doesn't say questions.Task Focus:understanding detail, specific information, implication, attitude, reference and meaningMarking Scheme:6 items x 3 points = 18 points
	NOTE: All the texts are related to the specific field of study.
PART 5 Writing Awareness	Task type: A gapped or jumbled text of approx. 200 words
(15 minutes)	 Format: Gapped text – a text with five gaps to be filled with either one sentence from a choice of three or, one pair of sentences from a choice of six or, an appropriate word or, information from two short texts. Jumbled text – seven or eight paragraphs, of which five are to be organized into a text. Task Focus: recognition of writing features and language as required in their field of study Marking Scheme: 5 items x 2 points = 10 points NOTE: The candidate may be asked to complete a piece of writing such as advertisement, article, blog post, book excerpt, brochure, column, email, excerpt, family profiles, guidelines,
(15 minutes) Duration: 60 minutes	 Format: Gapped text – a text with five gaps to be filled with either one sentence from a choice of three or, one pair of sentences from a choice of six or, an appropriate word or, information from two short texts. Jumbled text – seven or eight paragraphs, of which five are to be organized into a text. Task Focus: recognition of writing features and language as required in their field of study Marking Scheme: 5 items x 2 points = 10 points NOTE: The candidate may be asked to complete a piece of writing such as advertisement, article,