

INTERNATIONAL VOCATIONAL ENGLISH EXAMINATIONS



English for Computer Engineering Examination:

General Description

PART 1

Listening (approx. 10 minutes)

Task type: Multiple choice

Format: 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: computer engineers (traits, careers, education); computers (types of computers, computer components, control systems, design); hardware and devices (monitors, peripherals, storage devices, buses); numbers (basic math, measurements, quantities, SI and IEC Units, accounting); science (energy, electricity, the scientific method, physics); technology (change, performance, internet, sold-state electronics); computation (theory, arithmetic, chips); data transmission (datapaths and control, pipelining, buses); programming (algorithms, computer languages); memory (memory hierarchy, virtual

memory, disk storage)

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

Functions: describing goals, expressing preferences and giving reasons, politely disagreeing, confirming information, describing a problem, describing progress, explaining concepts, expressing opinion and disagreement, asking for and giving clarification, offering help, giving advice and reasons, discussing opinions and agreeing, reporting on progress, answering questions, providing explanations, describing mixed results and making a recommendation, checking for understanding and confirming information, explaining a process, disagreeing with opinions, explaining terms

PART 4

Reading (10 minutes)

Task type: Multiple choice - True/False/Doesn't say

Format: Three short texts (60-100 words each) containing factual information related to the field of Computer Engineering; the first two texts are followed by two 3-option multiple choice questions each, while the third text is followed by two True/False/Doesn't say questions.

Task Focus: understanding detail, specific information, implication, attitude, reference and meaning

Marking Scheme: 6 items x 3 points = 18 points

NOTE: All the texts are related to the specific field of study.

PART 5

Writing Awareness (15 minutes)

Task type: A gapped or jumbled text of approx. 200 words

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 studies.

Marking Scheme: 5 items x 2 points = 10 points

NOTE: The candidate may be asked to complete an email, a customer survey, a feedback form, a tech support log, an order form, a memo, a student's notes, a receipt, a progress report, an interviewer's notes, a log entry, a blog entry, an exam sheet, a test results sheet, an evaluation report, an essay, a performance report, an error resolution report, an intern evaluation or a teacher evaluation. This task is based on elements of writing that the candidates will need to produce in the field of Computer Engineering for professional purposes.

Duration: 60 minutes

Marks: TOTAL: 100 points