

INTERNATIONAL VOCATIONAL ENGLISH **EXAMINATIONS**

English for Science:

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: Science, Lab Equipment, The Microscope, Safety Procedures, Measurements, SI Units, Numbers and Basic Math, Large Numbers, Analyzing Quantities, Tables and Graphs, Describing Change, Education, Matter, Energy, The Periodic Table, Rate Processes, Chemical Reactions, Reactors, The Scientific Method, Research Activities, Statistics, Systems, Mathematics, Design Theory, Logic, Career Options, Ethics, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Biochemistry, Anatomy, Botany, Zoology, Social Science, Behavioral Science, Environmental Science, Geology, Oceanography,

Astronomy, Genetics, Computer Science

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: Asking about a process/for clarification/for help/for information/for more time. Clarifying information, Comparing results, Correcting oneself/someone, Describing a process/difficulty/ expectations/necessity/opposites/order/requirements, Discussing wants/desires, Expressing a concern/enthusiasm/hope/interest/reservations, Giving a reminder, Giving a warning, Introducing bad news, Listing conditions, Making a realization/a recommendation/ a suggestion/an apology/an assumption/recommendations, Politely interrupting, Reacting to good news, Recognizing an error, Sharing opinions, Showing agreement, Talking about experience/future events/potential problems, Working with numbers

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 Science; 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 magazine abstract, article, blog, chapter summary, chart, conversion guide, course description, editorial, email, employee manual, encyclopedia entry, flyer, quide, handbook excerpt, instructions, magazine article, manual, memo, newsletter, newspaper article, poster, product listing, report, review sheet, safety poster, syllabus, textbook excerpt, textbook introduction, webpage. This task is based on elements of writing that the candidates will need to produce in the field of Science for professional purposes.

Duration: 60 minutes Marks: **TOTAL:** 100 points