



Istanbul
GEDİK
University

SCHOOL OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

SAMPLE QUESTIONS FOR ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAM

Istanbul Gedik University Proficiency exam aims to assess students' competency in English, focusing on the academic productive skills they will need in order to complete their studies at their departments where English is the medium of instruction.

The exam is administered in *two separate sessions* — Session I in the morning (**Use of English, Reading and Writing**) and Session II (**Speaking**) in the afternoon.

STUDENT'S FIRST NAME AND LAST NAME:

STUDENT NUMBER:

DEPARTMENT:

TOTAL TIME: 90 mins

USE OF ENGLISH	READING	WRITING	SPEAKING	TOTAL GRADE
_____ / 45	_____ / 15	_____ / 20	_____ / 20	_____ / 100

PART : USE OF ENGLISH

Total: _____ / 15 pts

Vocabulary Questions (15x1:15)

A. Circle the best answer to complete the sentences.

1. Wind is a new ____ of energy that can generate electricity for people's homes.
a. alternative b. source c. approach d. affect
2. The doctor asked Louise if she wanted to ____ in a clinical trial of the new drug.
a. participate b. demonstrate c. process d. method
3. The ____ reason most people buy a product is they like the way it looks.
a. primary b. percent c. summary d. image
4. The researchers are ____ a survey to find out how much time teens spend online.
a. conducting b. selecting c. responding d. commenting
5. Josie and Mia have ____ interests. They both like Japanese food and swimming.
a. convincing b. emphatic c. similar d. challenge
6. After the earthquake, people did not feel ____ in their homes.
a. secure b. specific c. challenge d. transfer
7. My essay is based on this ____ by Shakespeare: "We know what we are, but know not what we may be."
a. paragraph b. version c. quotation d. equivalent
8. Diet and exercise play a ____ role in maintaining a healthy lifestyle.
a. constant b. specified c. fundamental d. odd
9. Pollution in the ocean has ____ to the loss of Florida's coral reefs.
a. distributed b. declined c. contributed d. projected
10. The company has ____ hours. Employees can start anytime between 8 and 10 in the morning.
a. internal b. minimum c. flexible d. maximum
11. Paul lost his driver's license for ____ the speed limit.
a. exceeds b. exceeding c. exceeded d. exceed

4. Petrol sources are too limited in the world today, _____ everyone is turning to electricity- run cars.

- a. however b. on the contrary c. so d. yet

5. Don't forget that _____ to our new office by the time you get back from holiday.

- a. I'll move b. I'll have moved c. I move d. I'll be moving

6. The window _____ broken when you threw that big stone but fortunately it didn't.

- a. might have been b. can't have been c. should have been d. must have been

7. Whenever I see him, Robert seems _____ ready _____ talk with me.

- a. to be / being b. of being / being c. being /to d. to be / to

8. The children are playing with _____ toys right now. They are enjoying _____.

- a. their / themselves b. them / themselves c. his / themselves d. their / themselves

9. Luckily, the game had ended _____ the weather turned too cold and windy.

- a. before b. as soon as c. after d. as

10. Mary stayed up late last night, so she feels tired today. She wishes she _____ to bed earlier.

- a. went b. should have gone c. had gone d. would have gone

11. It was almost dark when we arrived _____ the hotel _____ we were planning to spend the night.

- a. to / which b. in / what c. at / where d. - / that

12. The company will need fewer office workers _____.

- a. when the computer network is installed
- b. even though the current economic recession is likely to continue for another six months
- c. as long as the sales continued to increase
- d. in order to discuss ways of preventing unemployment

13. Being covered with forests for the most part, _____.

- a. farming has never been a major activity in the country
- b. people are lucky to be surrounded by so many green areas
- c. the country has little farmland to sustain its population
- d. farmers can hardly look after their families

C. Choose the sentence that has the closest meaning to the given one.

14. I enjoyed the film even though I had seen it before.

- a. I had seen the film before, but I still enjoyed it.
- b. As I had seen the film before, I didn't enjoy it.
- c. The film I have just seen was very enjoyable.
- d. I saw the film and I enjoyed it a lot.

15. It has been fifteen days since Jessica got her new job at the airline company.

- a. It took Jessica fifteen days to get her new job at the airline company.
- b. Jessica will have started her new job at the airline company in fifteen-day time.
- c. Jessica got her new job at the airline company fifteen days ago.
- d. Jessica hasn't been at her new job at the airline company for the last fifteen days.

PART : READING

Total: _____ / 15 pts

SAMPLE READING TEXT 1

C. Circle the best answer according to the text below.

Anorexia Nervosa

1. Susan is a fifteen year-old bright student, and suffering from self-imposed starvation. She has anorexia nervosa. Anorexia means 'without appetite' and nervosa means 'of nervous origin'. One morning six months ago Susan looked at herself in the mirror and decided she needed to lose some weight. Then 1.65 meters tall and weighing 50 kilos, she presently weighs 37 kilos and is in the hospital where she is undergoing psychiatric treatment and being fed intravenously.
2. What happened to Susan? Why has she ruthlessly starved herself nearly to death? Susan is a typical anorexic - an adolescent girl who **refuses** to eat for the purpose of rebelling against the pressures imposed upon her by the adult environment. Family members - sometimes the mother, sometimes the father, sometimes both - require her to achieve more than they have in their lives. In her mind, school unites with her family to push her forward. Submissive for years, what does she finally do? She refuses food, says no to the two forces that are pushing her. Instead of growing into a mature woman, she holds back her physical growth by self-imposed starvation. In fact, she regresses to childhood, to the stage when she lacked curves. No one expected much from her then, and she was dependent upon adults who gave her love and approval without demanding anything from her in return.
3. Anorexia nervosa, formerly not recognized as a disease, has become common among adolescent girls. Today the cure is prolonged treatment by a psychiatrist who initiates discussion among family members and the patient to determine the causes and ways to eliminate **them** in the future.

1. In paragraph 2 - line 2, 'refuse' means _____ something.

- a. to reject
- b. to realize
- c. to recognize
- d. to force

2. In line 17, 'them' refers to the _____.

- a. family members
- b. causes
- c. family members and the patient
- d. causes and ways

3. The source of anorexia nervosa is _____.

- a. lack of appetite
- b. adolescence
- c. psychological problems
- d. physical lacks

4. It can be inferred from the text that those who have anorexia nervosa _____.

- a. generally have ambitious parents
- b. were fat in their childhood
- c. want to look more attractive
- d. can be cured by a short treatment

5. According to the text, _____.

- a. the origin of anorexia nervosa lies in a happy childhood
- b. anorexia nervosa is a reaction against neglectful parents
- c. anorexic adolescents prefer life at school to family life
- d. anorexic adolescents do not want to take on the responsibilities of adulthood

6. The main idea of paragraph 2 is that _____.

- a. an anorexic is most likely to be an adolescent
- b. an anorexic is in rebellion against the pressures in her environment
- c. Susan regressed to childhood because she thought she looked prettier then
- d. Susan's parents wanted her to succeed in doing the things they couldn't do

SAMPLE READING TEXT 2

Cities of the Future

1. The word 'megacity' was first used as far back as the early 1960s by French geographer Jean Gottman to describe the north-eastern USA. The term is used more widely now to mean an area with more than 10,000,000 people living closely together. A megacity can be a single area, or several areas together that make one huge area known as a 'megalopolis'. As of March 2013, there were 28 megacities in the world.
2. When cities started to become too busy, people who could afford it moved out into the suburbs on the edge of the city. When the suburbs started attracting too many people, they moved further out into villages and the countryside. It was important to be close enough to the city to travel in every day for work, though. That's why the countryside became more popular – London, for example, lost 15% of its population between 1950 and 1970, and Detroit in the USA lost 47%.
3. However, movement away from cities does not mean the end of the city. Cities continue to spread, and in time these may grow into megacities with millions of people. According to one list, the majority of the world's greatest megacities are to be found in Asia. The largest of these is the Tokyo-Yokohama area, home to 37,000,000 people, followed by the Indian capital Delhi, Seoul-Incheon in South Korea, Shanghai in China and Mumbai, also in India.
4. In the ancient world, Rome, with its 1,000,000 people, was a megacity for its time. And although London was one of the world's first modern cities to have a million or more people, it is not currently high up on the list of megacities. In fact, the only western megacities are now New York City, Los Angeles, Moscow and Paris. The fastest-growing cities in the last ten years have all been in the developing world and this trend looks likely to continue. It is expected that by the year 2030, 60% of the world's population will be living in megacities.
5. Megacities everywhere have several things in common, which are mainly the problems they all experience. Among these are high traffic levels resulting in pollution, housing problems and various social problems such as unemployment. Often, the only housing that many people can afford is badly planned or of poor quality. However, all these problems are partly created by governments who don't prepare for increased population before the people arrive.
6. As megacities are likely to become more common, it seems that governments should try to plan for rising urban populations before it actually happens. But perhaps this is easier said than done.

- 7. The word ‘megacity’ was used for the first time ____.**
- a. to describe the world’s most crowded cities.
 - b. by an American to describe a place in Europe.
 - c. to describe places with fewer than 10,000,000 people.
 - d. by a European to describe a place in the United States.
- 8. Areas on the edge of the city became popular because ____.**
- a. people there had less money.
 - b. villages became too expensive.
 - c. cities were getting too full.
 - d. the countryside was almost empty.
- 9. The writer says that ____.**
- a. Tokyo has been the world’s biggest megacity for some time.
 - b. the world’s biggest megacities are mostly in one continent.
 - c. London will soon be on the list of the world’s megacities.
 - d. the world’s smaller cities are growing too quickly.
- 10. According to the writer, megacities of the future will ____.**
- a. possibly include Rome.
 - b. not include London.
 - c. be common in Western countries.
 - d. hold least of the world’s people.
- 11. By the year 2030, it is expected that ____.**
- a. London will be the most popular megacity around the world.
 - b. more than half of the world’s population will be living in megacities.
 - c. 60% of people all around the world will be living in rural areas.
 - d. New York City, Los Angeles, Moscow and Paris will be the fastest-growing cities.

SAMPLE READING TEXT 3

On Another Planet

1 While living on the moon is apparently possible, without air, food or water it would involve a lot of effort. Other planets might have air or water, or we could even make them there, but we'd have to get there first. Unfortunately, humans can't just live anywhere. Life on Earth has spent the last 4.5 billion years adapting to survive on this particular planet, so if we took the plants, animals and people to another planet, it's not surprising that we'd have some problems!

2 To start with, our bodies are used to the Earth's atmosphere – the gases that surround it. We wouldn't be able to breathe the gases that exist on some of the other planets. We're also affected by the Earth's gravity – the force that pulls us towards the centre and stops us from floating away into space. The strength of gravity is different on other planets; if the gravity was too strong, we wouldn't be able to move, and if it was too weak, we would lose all the strength in our bodies. Then there's the temperature. Humans need their body temperature to be around 37°C to stay alive. A few degrees lower or higher, and we die of hypothermia (being too cold) or hyperthermia (being too hot). We also need to breathe oxygen, but if the air contains too little or too much, that can also kill us!

3 So, neither the moon nor Mars is really a suitable destination for us. The moon has no atmosphere and the atmosphere on Mars can only be described as deadly, as it's made up of approximately 96% poisonous carbon dioxide. On top of that, Mars has only one-third of the gravity of Earth, and temperatures range from a cool 20°C down to a freezing -140°C. As for the moon, it has six times less gravity. Also, temperatures there go from a ridiculously hot 130°C to a ridiculously cold -170°C.

4 NASA's Kepler satellite was launched in 2009. Its mission is to find out how many Earth-like planets are in the galaxy. So far, it has found several that are going around other stars. They are smaller than Earth and they are all circling stars that are smaller and cooler than our sun. At least two of the planets look rocky, like Earth. Even if they are habitable, however, they would take hundreds of years to reach.

5 Of course, if we were determined to leave Earth, we could reach other nearby planets and try to build an Earth-like environment there. At the moment, it would take nine months to get to Mars, which is 48,000,000 miles away. The weight of the spacecraft would make things difficult, as it would have to carry enough fuel, food and water. One solution might be to build the craft in space, or use the water and other gases on Mars to make the fuel for the return trip.

6 Personally, I think it's just too much effort. So, for now, I'm happy to call planet Earth 'home', but who knows what the future may hold. As they say, 'watch this space'!

12. In paragraph 1, what does the writer suggest about living on the moon or other planets?

- a. Humans could live on the moon without the need for air, food or water.
- b. There may be planets that would support human life, but they're very far away.
- c. It should be fairly simple to get used to life on other planets.
- d. We would have some problems related to the other planets.

13. What can we infer about gravity from paragraph 2?

- a. The gases on Earth are affected by gravity.
- b. The gravity on Earth is just the right strength for the muscles in our bodies to work.
- c. There is no gravity on some planets.
- d. We need to breathe oxygen.

14. What can we infer about carbon dioxide from paragraph 3?

- a. There's very little carbon dioxide in the moon's atmosphere.
- b. Temperatures on Mars range from 20°C to -140°C because the atmosphere is 96% carbon dioxide.
- c. Mars has no atmosphere.
- d. Humans cannot live in an atmosphere that's 96% carbon dioxide.

15. What has NASA's Kepler satellite discovered so far?

- a. Some planets that are the same size and temperature as Earth and that are going around suns like ours.
- b. Some rocky, Earth-like planets that humans might be able to live on but that are very far away.
- c. The exact number of Earth-like planets in the galaxy.
- d. All stars in the galaxy are much more smaller than Earth.

PART : WRITING

Total: _____ / 20 pts

Choose ONE of the topics below and write **a well-organized essay**. Write at least 200 words. You should have a clear thesis statement in your introduction paragraph and you should write at least two body paragraphs giving your supporting ideas about your issue.

1. Compare two kinds of music (such as classical, pop etc.) A few points of comparison might be artists, instruments, audiences, and popularity. (point-by-point method)

2. Children are learning to use computers at a very early age. What are some negative effects that computers can have on the development of children?

3. Classify types of movies (such as comedy, adventure etc.)

Writing	
Organisation ___ / 4 pts	Spelling ___ / 2 pts
Grammar ___ / 5 pts	Content ___ / 4 pts
Vocabulary ___ / 4 pts	Punctuation ___ / 1 pt
Total (20 pts): ___ / 20 pts	

PART : SPEAKING

Total: _____ / 20 pts

In this section; First, the student is asked to introduce himself/herself: The student says his/her name, age, department, etc. in one minute.

Then, the instructor will ask general questions on familiar topics such as home, family, university life, studies and interest. Students are expected to talk about 3-4 minutes.

SAMPLE SPEAKING TASK

Think about a goal you have achieved in your life?

How did you achieve it?

What are your goals for your studies/career? How do you plan to achieve them?

What are the benefits of social media?

What are the problems with social media?

Can social media help someone find a job?

SAMPLE PROFICIENCY EXAM ANSWER KEY

PART : USE OF ENGLISH

Vocabulary	Grammar
1. B	1. D
2. A	2. A
3. A	3. B
4. A	4. C
5. C	5. B
6. A	6. A
7. C	7. D
8. C	8. A
9. C	9. A
10. C	10. C
11. B	11. C
12. A	12. A
13. B	13. C
14. C	14. A
15. B	15. C

PART : READING

Reading 1	Reading 2	Reading 3
1. A	7. D	12. B
2. B	8. C	13. B
3. C	9. B	14. D
4. A	10. C	15. B
5. D	11. B	
6. B		