

viadrina Dialog und Transfer: B2 English Exam

Below you will find further information about your upcoming exam.

1. Structure and duration

The total length of the exam is 120 minutes.

The first part of the exam is the listening comprehension, which will last about 20 minutes.

The second and third parts of the exam are reading comprehension and essay writing. You can decide how much time to spend on each section and which order to answer these two parts. It is, however, recommended that you spend about 45-50 minutes on each section.

The number of marks for each question will be displayed clearly. The final marks for each section will then be weighted so that each section is equally weighted.

2. Tasks

(a) Listening Comprehension

You will listen to a recording lasting between three and four minutes. The recording will be an authentic audio recording (e.g. from the radio).

You will hear the recording twice and answer six or seven questions. The questions are testing whether you have understood what you have heard and whether you can extract relevant information.

You can copy down exactly what you hear.

Give as much relevant information as you can.

(b) Reading Comprehension

You will be given an authentic newspaper text of 900 to 1000 words.

There are seven questions in total:

- 5 multiple choice questions
- 2 text questions which you answer in full sentences.

For the multiple choice questions, pick the answer that best fits. Remember, some options will look similar, but a single word might change the meaning!

For the written questions, we are testing whether you have understood the whole text. You are likely to need to use information from different parts of the article. You must not copy word for word from the text.

(c) Essay Writing

You will be given three essay titles. You pick one question and write an argumentative academic essay between 250 to 350 words either for or against one of the three suggested statements.

You should read the information on the following website information in advance so that you know how to structure this essay: [https://www.sz.europa-uni.de/en/lektorate/englisch/pruefungen_Englisch/UNICert2_homepage/U2_essay/index.html](https://www.sz.europa.uni.de/en/lektorate/englisch/pruefungen_Englisch/UNICert2_homepage/U2_essay/index.html)

3. Examples of the Questions

Attached are some sample questions. You will see that some questions have been crossed out and are in black. This is because you are looking at a sample exam, not a real one, so some of the questions are missing.

4. Other points

There is no oral part for the examination.

You may use a **paper** dictionary (you are not allowed to use an online dictionary or a dictionary on a device. The dictionary must only be an English-language dictionary. It cannot be a dual-language dictionary (e.g. a German-English dictionary). You may be able to borrow a dictionary from the Selbstlernzentrum ([https://www.sz.europa-uni.de/en/selbstlernen/index.html](https://www.sz.europa.uni.de/en/selbstlernen/index.html)). To do this, you will need an active library card. Please enquire at the Language Centre BEFORE the exam if you are interested in borrowing a dictionary. If your dictionary does not fulfil the requirements, you will not be able to use it.