

Firat University School of Foreign Languages English Preparatory Program
Sample Writing Exam for B1 Classes

1. Read the paragraphs and underline the irrelevant sentence in each.

1. The cheetah, which is found mostly in Africa and India, is one of the fastest land animals. Cheetahs, like leopards, are covered in spots. They have long and muscular legs. Cheetahs have been known to sprint at a speed of over 60 miles per hour. On a long-distance run, however, a cheetah can be overtaken by a horse.

2. May 10, 1996 was the deadliest day in Everest history. A storm kept many climbers near the summit and killed eight people. Rob Hall and Scott Fischer were among the ones who died. Everest can be climbed without supplementary oxygen, but this requires special fitness training. Both were experienced guides and were leading paid expeditions to the summit.

3. Diamonds are the most valuable of the precious stones. They were first discovered in India, probably around 500 B.C. For a long time, India was the only source of diamonds. Later, large diamond fields were discovered in Africa. Many rubies and other precious stones come from Burma. The largest and most perfect diamonds are so valuable that they are priceless. Most of these stones are now held by museums and governments.

2. Read the paragraph and answer the questions that follow.

An Inspirational Figure

I have always considered my grandmother to be the person I admire the most in my life. First and foremost, she possesses an incredible amount of resilience, having overcome numerous hardships during her youth. For instance, despite facing financial difficulties, she managed to graduate from university at a time when few women had that opportunity. Additionally, she is remarkably selfless; she consistently dedicates her weekends to volunteering at local charities and helping those in need. Finally, her wisdom is what guides me through my own challenges. Whenever I face a dilemma, she provides insightful advice without ever being judgmental. Ultimately, because of her strength of character and her commitment to helping others, she remains my greatest role model.

1. Draw a line under the topic sentence.

2. What is the main idea of the paragraph?

3. How many supporting ideas are in the paragraph? _____ Underline them.

4. Is this paragraph indented? _____

5. Draw two lines under the concluding sentence. How is the information in the concluding sentence related to the information in the topic sentence?

3. Put the sentences below in the correct order to make up a well-organized paragraph.

1. For instance, I enjoy reading books about space and science fiction stories.
2. First of all, I like reading because it helps me learn new things.
3. For example, I play soccer with my friends or ride my bike around the park.
4. In addition, I love playing sports to stay active and have fun.
5. My hobbies make my free time enjoyable and relaxing.
6. Lastly, I like watching movies with my family on weekends.
7. We often choose comedies or action films because they are exciting and entertaining.
8. My favorite hobbies are reading, playing sports, and watching movies.

The correct order: ____ - ____ - ____ - ____ - ____ - ____ - ____ - ____

4. Answer the following questions according to the paragraph below.

All over the world people prefer the same kind of paintings. The most popular one a painting of the countryside. A TV program asked people in ten different countries and found that everyone likes paintings. Which have trees and flowers, lakes and rivers, and animals. There are different ideas about the reasons why people prefer these paintings. One idea is that the countryside has been part of human life for thousands of years. It natural for us to want to feel part of the world around us. Another reason is that modern parks in towns and cities look similar to paintings of the countryside – both are usually full of different colors or shades of green. We feel closer to this type of nature than others. Because we see it in our city parks every day. Most people have never lived in a desert, in the mountains or in a very cold place, so these paintings are more unusual to us. This means that paintings of really hot or cold places less popular.

a. Find the three fragments and two run-on sentences in the paragraph. Correct them by writing below the wrong/missing part.

b. What is the pattern of organization of the paragraph above?

c. Write an appropriate title for the paragraph above?

