

Firat University School of Foreign Languages English Preparatory Program

Sample Writing Exam for B1 Classes

ANSWER KEY

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

1. Cheetahs, like leopards, are covered in spots.
2. Everest can be climbed without supplementary oxygen, but this requires special fitness training.
3. Many rubies and other precious stones come from Burma.

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

1. I have always considered my grandmother to be the person I admire the most in my life.
2. The author deeply admires their grandmother due to her resilience, selflessness, and wisdom.
3. There are three supporting ideas.
  1. Her resilience/overcoming hardships.
  2. Her selflessness/volunteering.
  3. Her wisdom/providing advice.
4. No
5. **Concluding sentence:** Ultimately, because of her strength of character and her commitment to helping others, she remains my greatest role model.

The concluding sentence **restates** the topic sentence by summarizing the main reasons (strength and commitment) and reinforcing the idea of her being a role model.

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

The correct order: 8 - 2 - 1 - 4 - 3 - 6 - 7 - 5

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 is 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 is 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 are 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?

Order of importance

c. Write an appropriate title for the paragraph above?

*Students' own answers*

5. Write an opinion paragraph choosing only one of the topics below (120-150 words). Remember that you need to provide reasons to support your opinion and making an outline beforehand will help you organize your ideas.

**Writing Rubric for a Paragraph**

Student's Name:

Date:

Class:

Topic of the Paragraph:

Writing an opinion paragraph (120-150 words)		Points	
Discourse competence	<b>The content is well organized.</b> The ideas are presented in a clear and logical order.		/ 10
	The main idea is given in a <b>topic sentence</b> at or near the beginning of the paragraph. (Hook is optional.)		/ 5
	There is effective <b>support</b> for the topic sentence.		/ 10
	Paragraph has good use of transition words <b>for unity</b> .		/ 10
	There is a clear <b>concluding sentence</b> .		/ 5
Linguistic competence	Student uses a range of appropriate and accurate <b>grammatical forms and sentence structures</b> .		/ 5
	Student uses a range of appropriate and accurate <b>vocabulary</b> related to the task.		/ 10
	<b>Sentences</b> are complete. <b>Spelling</b> is correct. <b>Punctuation</b> is used correctly.		/ 5
<b>Total points:</b>			<b>/ 60</b>

Comments:

Evaluating Instructor: