

Sample ISE I Controlled Written examination tasks
Candidate answers, assessments and rationale

ISE I – Task 1 – Reading into writing task

Read the text below about some healthy lunch ideas for children. Then, **in your own words**, write a letter (approximately 150 words) to a young relative:

- i) telling him/her which food he/she needs to eat
- ii) saying why you think it is important **and**
- iii) inviting him/her to lunch next week.

Healthy lunch ideas



Monday

We'll start the week with the traditional sandwich. Choose low-fat fillings like ham, turkey or fish. Always try to add a little salad, and use brown bread if possible. Include at least one piece of fruit, or make a fruit salad with grapes, apple, banana and orange.

Tuesday

In winter, how about a warming home-made soup such as vegetable, tomato or chicken? For dessert, try some cooked fruit and natural yoghurt or perhaps some nuts.

Wednesday

Most children love brown rice salad with peppers and some chicken, or pasta salad with tuna and cherry tomatoes. Choose fruit juice without sugar.

Thursday

Home-made pizza is a great favourite with children. You could cook it for an evening meal, then save some for lunch the next day. Add a tomato, mozzarella cheese and lots of vegetables.



Friday

Try a slice of Spanish omelette with potato and tomato. If your child usually eats cakes and chocolates, try replacing them with fruit bread. You could make a fruit smoothie drink by mixing natural yoghurt with berries, banana and maybe a little honey.

(Source: Adapted from www.educationguardian.co.uk)

Dear Tom,

Today i read a good article in a newspaper That Tells the right feeding for children. I understand That The food is very important and i decided to give you some advices. The best food is: Meat or fish, brown bread, vegetables and fruit. I know you don't like but could be Tasty if you cook Them well. And I have a surprise, your favourite meal, The pizza ~~are~~, contain very good ingredients Then you can eat quietly. Drinking is very important for a good alimentation, The best drink is fruit juice whithout sugar. You should avoid fat food and sweets. In my opinion The feeding are very important because is good for health and for your growing. Next Sunday I am going to organise a party for lunch with friends and relatives. I will cook a healthy meal. Would you like to come? I'm waiting for you.

ISE I – Task 1 – Reading into writing task
Rationale for ISE Controlled Written assessment

TASK FULFILMENT Grade: C
Overall achievement of communicative aim
This is a good to satisfactory attempt at the task. The candidate has answered all three parts of the task: she tells her relative what healthy food he needs to eat, says why it is important and invites him to lunch. The writing is within the specified word limit of 150 words.
Text organisation
The task has not been divided into appropriate paragraphs, which makes it difficult for the reader to follow. ★ Tip – The text should be well-organised into appropriate paragraphs. The writer does include some connecting clauses and linking phrases which aid cohesion.
Appropriacy of format, style and register
The letter begins with a suitable salutation, but the candidate has not added a suitable ending which is required for an informal letter. ★ Tip – It is important that candidates learn the standard conventions for different text types. A brief greeting could also have been added as is typical in an informal letter e.g. 'How are you?' The style and register are generally appropriate. The candidate uses some contractions which are suitable in an informal letter.
Effect on reader
Overall, the task has the desired effect on the reader.

ACCURACY AND RANGE Grade: C
Accuracy and range of the grammatical, functional and lexical items of the level
There is a satisfactory level of grammatical accuracy, with some non-impeding errors. However, only isolated samples of the grammatical items of ISE I can be observed e.g. 'Will' for future, connecting clauses using because. This task lends itself to the use of modal verbs e.g. must/have to/need to, but these have not been used. ★ Tip – Candidates should include a wide range of the relevant grammatical structures. The range of vocabulary is quite limited and lexis is not always used appropriately and accurately e.g. 'the feeding are very important', 'you can eat quietly'. There is also some interference from the candidate's native language e.g. 'a good alimentation'.
Spelling and punctuation
Spelling is generally accurate, with only occasional errors e.g. 'whitout', 'sourprise'. Punctuation is varied and generally appropriate, though the pronoun 'I' has not been capitalised in some cases and the letter 'T' is often capitalised unnecessarily.

ISE I – Task 2 – Writing task

Write an article (approximately 150 words) for a travel magazine about a popular holiday destination or resort in your country:

- i) describing what people can see and do there **and**
- ii) giving your general opinion of the place.

TRAVEL TO TAORMINA

A very special place in Italy is in Sicily. Its name is Taormina. It is 30 kilometers far from Messina. It isn't very big but is very beautiful. The tourists can visit the historic centre where you buy souvenirs, or see visit the Byzantine church or some very beautiful gardens. A special place to go is the Greek Amphitheatre with its view over the transparent sea. In Taormina you can do lots of things, you can eat the real Sicilian "Cannolo" and drink a very good "granite" (a crushed ice-drink) with whipped cream. In Taormina the amusements don't lack, in the afternoon you can go to the beach. The best beach is "Isola bella" and you can have a bath or go up over a rock and dive into the blue sea. In the evening you can go to a restaurant and eat fish or typical Sicilian "focaccia". In the night you can go to discoteques.

ISE I – Task 2 – Writing task

Rationale for ISE Controlled Written assessment

TASK FULFILMENT Grade: D
Overall achievement of communicative aim
The candidate has failed to read the question properly, with the result that her article does not sufficiently fulfil the task. Although the candidate describes what people can see and do at the holiday destination, she does not give her general opinion of the place as required. This is considered to be a major omission. ★ Tip – It is vital that all parts of the task are covered. Failure to do so will have a detrimental effect on the grade awarded. The writing is within the specified word limit of 150 words. ★ Tip – Please note the title is not included in the word count.
Text organisation
The article begins appropriately, with a simple title and a suitable introduction. However, the task has not been divided into appropriate paragraphs, which makes it difficult for the reader to follow. ★ Tip – The text should be well-organised into appropriate paragraphs.
Appropriacy of format, style and register
The format is quite suitable, with a simple title and introduction. Although, the use of paragraphs and a conclusion would have enhanced the text. The style and register is consistent and appropriate for an article at this level.
Effect on reader
The overall effect on the reader is quite negative as parts of the task have not been addressed.

ACCURACY AND RANGE Grade: C
Accuracy and range of the grammatical, functional and lexical items of the level.
The candidate has not exploited the language function of expressing opinions and impressions as required in part (ii) of the task. ★ Tip – Candidates should ensure they use the relevant language functions. There is a satisfactory level of grammatical accuracy, with some non-impeding errors. However, the range of ISE I grammatical items is restricted. ★ Tip – Candidates should include a wide range of the relevant grammatical structures of ISE I. There is a good range of lexis, with some interesting vocabulary that enhances the text e.g. 'a crushed ice-drink', 'whipped cream', 'dive into the blue sea'.
Spelling and punctuation
Spelling is good, with only occasional errors e.g. 'typical'. Punctuation is generally appropriate, though the writer capitalises the letter 'T' unnecessarily on several occasions.