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Central Foreign Language Proficiency Examination

EXAM OVERVIEW

Central Foreign Language Proficiency Examination is an English language exam that assesses the language communication skills in the academic context.

The necessary prerequisite for being allowed to take the examination is the candidate's Personal Statement which must be submitted 7 days prior to the date of the examination.

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|--------------------------|---|
| Examination board | Centre for Foreign Language Teaching, University of Warsaw |
| Examination dates | July, August (only the last week), September |
| CEFR level | <u>B2</u> |
| Time | 30 minutes |
| Content | 3 parts |
| Format | one candidate and two examiners; online conversation between one of the examiners and the candidate |
| Score | total: 25 points; the board of examiners' recommendation |

CONTENT DESCRIPTION

(30 minutes)

Introduction

The examiner introduces him/herself and confirms the candidate's identity.

Part 1: Interview

Conversation with the examiner

The examiner asks the candidate 3 questions regarding the submitted Personal Statement.

Part 2: Individual prompt-based task

Responding to a visual prompt

The examiner asks the candidate to describe and interpret a picture/photograph, a drawing, a poster, a meme, a chart/graph or a headline.

The candidate is given two minutes to prepare to talk about the topic/message portrayed by the visual.

The examiner then asks the candidate four questions related to the same topic. More prompt questions may be asked by the examiner if the candidate does not produce enough language samples.

Part 3: Discussion

Discussion with the examiner

The examiner asks the candidate two questions on a topic not connected to the topic of Part 2.

In this part of the exam, the candidate is expected to discuss more abstract issues and concepts. More prompt questions may be asked by the examiner if the candidate does not produce enough language samples.

ASSESSMENT STRUCTURE

The candidate's speaking performance throughout the exam is assessed according to five different criteria:

- Interactive communication
- Fluency
- Grammatical resource and accuracy
- Lexical resource
- Pronunciation and intonation.

The five criteria are equally weighed (0–5 points).

The examiners assess whether candidates can:

- interpret visual prompts (if they concern a familiar topic)
- easily and accurately formulate their opinion on familiar topics, or topics related to the subject of study or professional career, being able to justify it in the discussion
- synthesise a text or a speech about a wide range of topics concerning social, academic and professional aspects of life
- present cohesive and logical speeches on familiar topics in the form of a description, review, critical opinion, analysis or synthesis
- take part in a conversation about everyday topics with ease and in a coherent way, using culturally appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication tools and suitably formal register.