S4 English Language Practice Paper: Reading Skills, Grammar (Tenses, Conditionals, Passive Voice), Vocabulary and Collocation, Summary and Note-taking, Long Task Writing, Integrated Listening

S4 | English Language | Time: 75 minutes | Total: 100 marks | 24 questions

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Part A - Reading Skills: Skimming and Scanning (18 marks)

Show all working and units in calculations; answer in full sentences where required.

1. A reading passage contains 240 words. If your reading speed is 200 words per minute, calculate the number of seconds needed to read the whole passage. Give the answer in minutes and seconds. [5]

2. In a 100-mark paper with a 90-minute time limit, how many minutes should be spent on a 5-mark question if time is allocated in proportion to marks? [4]

3. Identify the text type of each extract: (i) "We apologise that our company was unable to issue the refund within seven days." (ii) "Step 3: Press the Save key." (iii) "The study randomly sampled 500 students." [4]

4. You must locate every mention of "2019" in a six-paragraph text and also decide the main idea of the whole text. State which technique (skimming or scanning) you would use for each task and give one reason for each. [5]

Part B - Grammar: Tenses and Conditionals (17 marks)

Rewrite each sentence once, keeping the original meaning.

5. Rewrite as a third conditional sentence (contrary to past fact): "I did not revise, so I failed the test." [5]

6. Change "The committee will announce the results tomorrow." into the passive voice, keeping the same tense. [4]

7. Fill in the correct tense of the verbs in brackets: "I _____ (live) in Hong Kong since 2018, but I _____ (move) here from Macau." [4]

8. Report the following: She said, "I am finishing the report now." [4]

Part C - Vocabulary and Collocation (16 marks)

Write ONE most suitable English word or phrase for each item.

9. Complete the collocations with make, do or take: _____ a decision, _____ a mistake, _____ responsibility, _____ progress. [4]

10. Write the correct form of the word in brackets: "The company reported a sharp _____ (reduce) in cost." [4]

11. Choose the correct word: "The heavy rain _____ (affected / effected) the schedule." [4]

12. Match the phrasal verbs with their meanings: give up, look into, turn down. Meanings: (a) to refuse (b) to stop trying (c) to investigate. [4]

Part D - Summary and Note-taking (17 marks)

Write the summary in your own words; do not copy whole sentences from the passage.

13. A passage is 240 words long and the summary must not exceed 50% of the original length. Find the maximum number of words allowed. If a student writes 132 words, by how many words does the summary exceed the limit? [5]

14. State the function of a topic sentence in a paragraph, and explain the difference when it appears at the beginning and at the end of the paragraph. [4]

15. Paraphrase the sentence without copying it: "Many students fail because they do not manage their time well." [4]

16. Abbreviations save time in notes. Give the meaning of: e.g., i.e., w/, and the arrow symbol. [4]

Part E - Long Task Writing (16 marks)

Plan before writing; pay attention to paragraph structure and register.

17. The task asks for about 400 words, with a tolerance of plus or minus 10%. Find the minimum and maximum word counts allowed. [4]

18. The long task carries 16 marks: content 6, language 6 and organisation 4. Find the percentage of the total mark for each criterion (1 decimal place). [4]

19. Name the four components of a well-developed paragraph and write one example sentence for each on the topic "installing more water dispensers on campus". [4]

20. Rewrite the informal sentence in a formal register suitable for a school composition: "So I was like, the trip was super cool and we had a lot of fun." [4]

Part F - Listening and Integrated Skills (16 marks)

Answer after one listening section; keep answers short and accurate.

21. An integrated task asks you to write an activity proposal for the Students' Association. The data file contains: (1) last year's activity report (2) a venue fee schedule (3) student survey results (4) an extract of school rules. State which TWO documents you should cite when writing the paragraph on the activity format, and explain why. [4]

22. Rewrite the sentence in note form (no more than six words per point): "The activity will be held in the school hall on 15 March from 3 pm to 5 pm." [4]

23. Put the five steps of an integrated task into the correct order: (A) check word count and format (B) read the task instructions (C) transfer the data into the answer (D) select the relevant documents (E) plan the paragraphs [4]

24. Find and correct the four errors: "She have been working here since three years and she is responsible of the report which written last week." [4]
