



AFYON KOCATEPE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES
2024-2025 FALL TERM – ELT PROFICIENCY EXAM – AKÜ YDYS CATEGORY A
SESSION II - LISTENING PART

Name: _____ Number: _____ Class: _____

LISTENING FLOW CHART

START →→ One-Minute Silence →→ **PART A (twice)** →→ One-Minute Silence →→ **Part B (twice)** →→ One-Minute Silence
→→ **Part C (twice)** →→ One-Minute Silence →→ **Part D (twice)** →→ **FINISH**

PART A: 🎧 Listen to five students talking about the differences between school life and university life. Choose the correct answer (1 – 5).

1. Speaker 1...

- a. complains about the early classes in college
- b. is a morning person
- c. has classes three days a week
- d. is satisfied with her schedule

2. Speaker 2...

- a. doesn't enjoy being with children
- b. is tired of strict lecturers
- c. appreciates the way he is treated in college
- d. feels his lecturers are too tolerant

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PART B: 🎧 Listen to a lecture in psychology class. Choose the correct answer (6 – 12).

6. What is the **main idea** of the lecture?

- a. Crowds are more intelligent than most people think.
- b. Experts are rarely more accurate than crowds.
- c. The Wisdom of Crowds is a questionable theory.
- d. Game show contestants should trust the audience.

7. Why does the professor say this: “... **the best setting to test this theory out is, surprise, surprise, in a crowd of people**”?

- a. He feels the whole concept is strange.
- b. He finds this information to be obvious.
- c. He thinks the idea is highly amusing.

- d. He finds this theory to be surprising.

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PART C: 🎧 Listen to two students, Joe and Alice. Choose the correct answer (13 – 20).

GLOSSARY

TA : Teaching Assistant

elective : a course at university chosen by the student, not compulsory

13. What are Joe and Alice **mainly** discussing?

- a. The difficulty of Dr. Peterson's lectures
- b. The lecture notes for their psychology class
- c. The professors that they are taking classes with
- d. The courses that they will take next term

14. What reason does Joe give for sometimes not reading the chapter before Dr. Peterson's lecture?

- a. He finds the lecture easier to understand without pre-reading.
 - b. He prefers to listen to the lecture first and then read the chapter.
 - c. He uses the lecture as a review when he doesn't have time to read.
 - d. He thinks the lecture alone is sufficient preparation for exams.
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PART D: 🎧 Listen to the lecture on languages. Choose the correct answer (21 – 25).

21. How does the speaker describe language use today?

- a. There are many people who speak many languages.
- b. There are few people who speak few languages.
- c. There are many people who speak few languages.
- d. There are few people who speak some languages.

22. How many countries does the speaker mention as having multiple surviving ethnic groups?

- a. 2
 - b. 3
 - c. 4
 - d. 5
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- END OF LISTENING EXAM -



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SESSION I – LANGUAGE USE PART

Name: _____ Number: _____ Class: _____

A. CLOZE TEST

Read the text below and choose the correct answer for questions 1 to 5.

Cities, both large and small, are central to a rapidly evolving global economy—they both contribute to and respond to worldwide economic growth. Many urban areas are growing **(1)** _____ their rural coasts are depressed, which forces needy rural people to move to the cities in search of work. These newcomers often end up not **(2)** _____ the opportunities they are looking for, so they become part of the urban poor. **(3)** _____ arrival to the city, they often encounter lack of housing and infrastructure services. To **(4)** _____ the lack of available homes, newcomers often set up shelters on the city outskirts, usually on public-owned land. They often live without electricity, running water, a sewerage system, roads and other urban services. **(5)** _____ dealing with poor hygiene and pollution from dirty cooking fuels and primitive stoves, they are exposed to modern environmental hazards, such as urban air pollution, exhaust fumes and industrial pollution.

- | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------------|----------------|
| 1. a) in case | b) because | c) so that | d) unless |
| 2. a) to be found | b) to find | c) finding | d) being found |
| 3. a) About | b) To | c) By | d) Upon |
| 4. a) make up for | b) go in for | c) fall behind with | d) cut down on |
| 5. a) Owing to | b) Unlike | c) In addition to | d) Despite |

B. VOCABULARY

Choose the correct answer for questions 6 to 10.

6. The new software was _____ designed to improve user experience.

- | | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|
| a) specially | b) specifically | c) generally | d) totally |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|

7. Contrary to what you said, the teacher's explanation was so _____ that even the most difficult concepts became easy to understand.

- a) vague b) obscure c) unambiguous d) misleading

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C. GRAMMAR

Choose the correct answer for questions 11 to 19.

11. Although scientists have made significant progress in understanding the universe, many phenomena remain a mystery, _____ the question of dark matter and energy, which _____ 95% of the universe's total mass.

- a) such as / comprises c) regarding / are comprised
b) like / had comprised d) especially / was comprising

12. Though some argue for more aggressive economic policies, others believe that a more balanced approach would be beneficial, particularly in terms of _____ long-term sustainability and growth.

- a) being achieved c) to achieve
b) achieved d) achieving

13. The manager insisted that the problem _____ as soon as possible.

- a) be resolved c) will be resolved
b) is resolved d) has been resolved

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D. CLOSEST-IN-MEANING

Choose the option that is closest to the meaning of the given sentence in questions 20 – 22.

20. Even though renewable energy sources are more environmentally friendly, their adoption is often hindered by higher initial costs.

- a) Renewable energy sources are always preferred over non-renewable ones due to their cost-effectiveness.
b) The use of renewable energy sources is limited primarily due to their high start-up costs, despite their environmental benefits.

- c) The environmental advantages of renewable energy make them more affordable than non-renewable sources.
- d) Renewable energy sources are costlier but have fewer environmental benefits than non-renewable ones.

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E. SENTENCE COMPLETION

Complete the sentences with the correct option in questions 23 – 25.

23. While being physically attractive seems to be a basic requirement for Internet celebrities,
_____.

- a) they are often characterized as having the ideal beauty standards
- b) their popularity will decline if they cannot create fresh ideas and engage in successful projects
- c) they are chased by investors hoping to expand their business by associating their products with famous people
- d) they earn huge amounts of money thanks to their collaboration with famous brands

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- END OF LANGUAGE USE PART -



AFYON KOCATEPE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES
2024-2025 FALL TERM – ELT PROFICIENCY EXAM - AKÜ YDYS CATEGORY A
SESSION I - READING PART

Name : _____ Number : _____ Class : _____

PART A: Read the passage below and answer questions 26 – 34.

- A. Green buildings, also referred to as sustainable or eco-friendly buildings, are structures designed with a focus on environmental responsibility and resource efficiency throughout their life cycle—from construction to operation, maintenance, and eventual demolition. The concept of green buildings has gained momentum in recent years as societies recognize the need to combat climate change and reduce the environmental footprint of urbanization. These buildings are designed to reduce energy consumption, use renewable materials, and promote healthy living spaces, all while minimizing waste and pollution.
- B. One of the most significant features of green buildings is energy efficiency. These buildings are often equipped with technologies like solar panels, energy-efficient windows, and smart lighting systems to reduce electricity use. Natural lighting and ventilation are also prioritized to decrease the reliance on artificial systems. In addition to energy savings, water conservation is a key component. Green buildings incorporate rainwater harvesting, low-flow fixtures, and water-efficient landscaping, further reducing the consumption of natural resources.
- C. Green buildings not only benefit the environment but also create healthier indoor environments for occupants. They typically use non-toxic, sustainable building materials that reduce the presence of harmful chemicals and pollutants in the air. Improved indoor air quality, access to natural light, and thermal comfort contribute to the well-being of those living or working within these structures. Research has shown that such features can enhance productivity, reduce stress, and improve overall health outcomes for building occupants.
- D. The development of green buildings is a critical part of the broader global push for sustainability. As urban areas continue to grow, the demand for energy and resources will increase, making it essential to adopt sustainable practices in construction. Green buildings not only reduce operational costs over time but also help mitigate climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions. They represent a forward-thinking solution to the challenges posed by rapid urbanization, offering a pathway to a more sustainable and environmentally friendly future for generations to come.

26. Which of the below could be **the best title** for the text above?

- a) The Future of Construction
- b) The Environment-friendly Future
- c) Environmental Sustainability
- d) Green Buildings and Sustainability

27. What is **the primary purpose** of green buildings?

- a) To reduce construction costs and the amount of waste
- b) To improve aesthetic design and comfort of the occupants
- c) To promote environmental sustainability and resource efficiency
- d) To increase building heights for more occupants

28. Which of the following is **NOT** mentioned as a feature of green buildings?

- a) Use of plastics in construction
- b) Rainwater harvesting
- c) Alternative energy resources
- d) Energy-efficient windows

29. In paragraph B, what does the term **“energy efficiency”** refer to?

- a) Recycling materials during the construction phase
- b) Reducing the use of electric at homes
- c) Decreasing the number of natural resources used in furniture
- d) Preserving land for future urban development

30. What is **the overall message** of the essay?

- a) Green buildings are an aesthetic trend in architecture.
- b) Green buildings help create healthier and more sustainable environments for the future.
- c) Green buildings are primarily focused on improving economic efficiency.
- d) Green buildings are more expensive to maintain than traditional buildings.

31. What can be **inferred** about the long-term cost of green buildings from the essay?

- a) Green buildings are expensive to maintain in the long run.
- b) Green buildings eventually reduce operational costs over time.
- c) The initial investment in green buildings is recouped through government subsidies.
- d) Green buildings offer no significant cost benefits over traditional buildings.

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34. What does the word “mitigate” most likely mean in the context of the **third** sentence in paragraph D?

- a) To ignore
- b) To worsen
- c) To lessen the severity of
- d) To prevent completely

PART B: Read the passage below and answer questions 35 – 44.

What Makes an Olympic Champion

A. Becoming an Olympic champion is one of the highest honors an athlete can achieve, but it requires much more than natural talent. The road to Olympic gold is a combination of physical ability, mental toughness, relentless dedication, and strong support systems. While many people admire the final moments of victory, few understand the immense amount of preparation and resilience it takes to reach the top. An Olympic champion is not made overnight, but through years of hard work, sacrifice, and a unique mindset that sets them apart from others.

Raw Talent and Physical Training

B. At the core of every Olympic champion is an exceptional level of talent and physical conditioning. These athletes often possess innate abilities that give them a natural advantage in their chosen sport, whether it be extraordinary speed, strength, agility, or endurance. However, talent alone is not enough. Champions undergo rigorous, scientifically designed training regimens to refine their skills and optimize their performance. They work with specialized coaches to improve technique, maintain peak physical fitness, and push their bodies to new limits. For many, the physical demands of training are grueling, requiring hours of daily practice and conditioning.

Mental Toughness and Resilience

C. Beyond physical training, mental toughness is a key component in the making of an Olympic champion. Competing at the highest level comes with intense pressure, and athletes must be able to handle both the expectations of others and their own inner doubts. Champions demonstrate resilience in the face of adversity, whether it's overcoming injury, a poor performance, or fierce competition. The ability to stay focused, confident, and calm under pressure is crucial in high-stakes moments. Mental preparation, including visualization, meditation, and goal-setting, often plays as important a role as physical conditioning in an athlete's success.

Dedication and Sacrifice

- D.** Becoming an Olympic champion requires immense dedication and the willingness to make significant sacrifices. Athletes spend years, if not decades, preparing for a chance at the Olympic Games. They often miss out on social activities, time with family, and even educational or career opportunities, dedicating their lives to the pursuit of excellence in their sport. This level of commitment often means adhering to strict diets, sleep schedules, and recovery routines. Many champions have to overcome setbacks, such as injuries or failures, but their determination to keep pushing forward, even when the odds are stacked against them, is what separates them from others.

Support Systems and Motivation

- E.** No Olympic champion achieves greatness alone. Behind every successful athlete is a team of supporters, including coaches, family members, friends, and teammates who provide guidance, motivation, and encouragement. Coaches develop strategic plans and provide feedback to help athletes improve, while family and friends offer emotional support during the highs and lows of competition. Additionally, champions are driven by a deep internal motivation to succeed, whether it's the desire to make their country proud, prove something to themselves, or achieve a lifelong dream.

Conclusion

- F.** Ultimately, what makes an Olympic champion is a rare combination of talent, dedication, mental strength, and the right support system. While these athletes are gifted with physical abilities, it is their determination, resilience, and relentless pursuit of excellence that truly set them apart. Olympic champions inspire the world, not only through their victories but also through the remarkable journey they take to reach the pinnacle of their sport. They embody the spirit of perseverance, showing us that with the right mindset and unwavering commitment, greatness can be achieved.

35. According to the essay, what is one of **the key reasons** that an Olympic champion is set apart from others?

- a)** Their access to better equipment
- b)** Their natural physical abilities combined with hard work
- c)** The financial rewards they receive
- d)** The recognition from fans worldwide

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37. What does the essay suggest about the importance of support systems for Olympic champions?

- a) They are not crucial to an athlete's success.
- b) They provide essential emotional and professional support.
- c) They only help in the early stages of an athlete's career.
- d) They are important only for securing sponsorships.

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39. What is the **main idea** of the essay?

- a) Olympic champions are defined by their perseverance, dedication, and mental toughness, in addition to talent.
- b) Olympic champions are born with natural talent.
- c) Mental toughness is more important than physical ability in becoming an Olympic champion.
- d) The support system around an athlete is the most crucial factor in their success.

40. What does the term **“resilience”** mean in the context of paragraph **C**?

- a) The ability to quickly recover from difficulties
- b) The skill of ignoring challenges
- c) An athlete's natural strength
- d) The tendency to avoid tough decisions

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42. Which of the following is **mentioned** as a sacrifice Olympic athletes often make?

- a) Competing in fewer events to avoid injuries
- b) Sacrificing time with family and missing social activities
- c) Giving up on professional coaching
- d) Choosing less competitive sports for easier victories

43. The phrase **“mental preparation”** in paragraph **C** is closely related to which of the following terms in the essay?

- a) Visualization and meditation
- b) Physical training and conditioning
- c) Natural talent and agility
- d) Emotional support from family

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PART C: Examine the infographic below and please answer questions 45 – 50 on the next page.

The Athletes

1929

2012

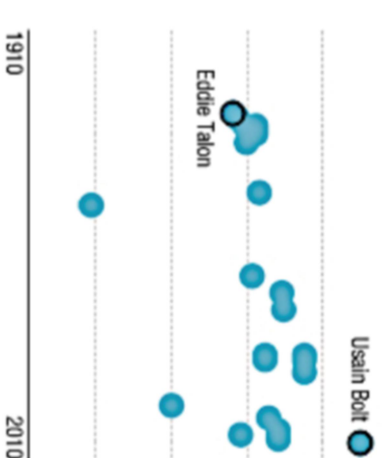


The Trend

Sprinters have seen an increase in “slenderness” (height divided by body weight) which has raised their center of mass.

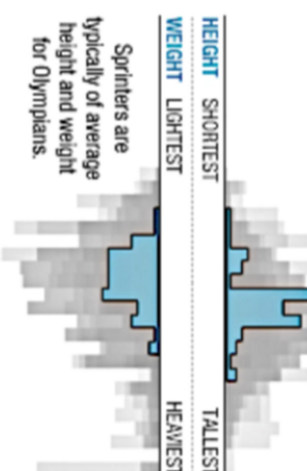
Slenderness

● World record breakers



How do sprinters compare?

■ Male Olympians
■ Male sprinters



The Blueprint

The physics of sprinting favors tall, muscular athletes.

Large muscular arms help counterbalance the momentum of pumping legs and keep the sprinter steady.

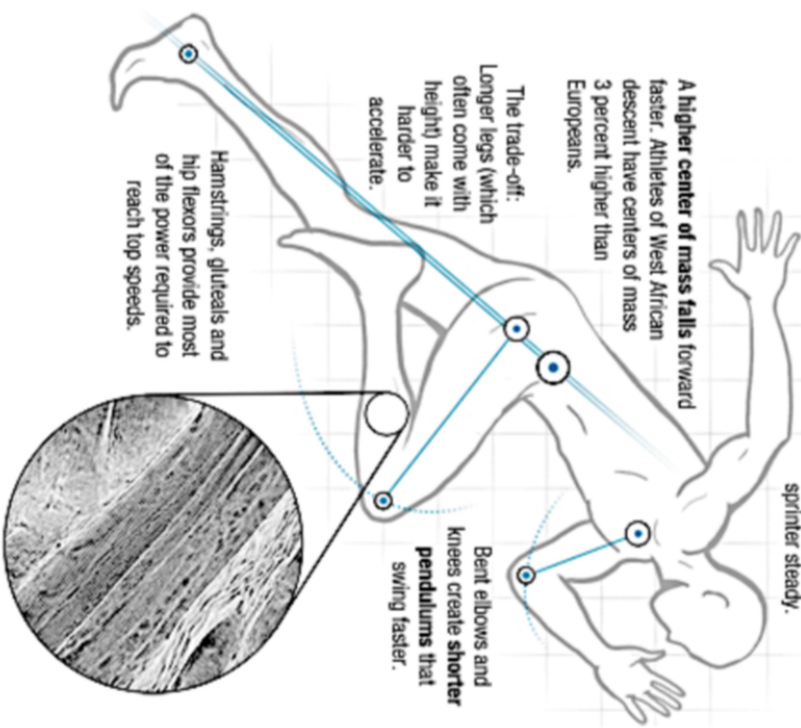
A higher center of mass falls forward faster. Athletes of West African descent have centers of mass 3 percent higher than Europeans.

The trade-off: Longer legs (which often come with height) make it harder to accelerate.

Bent elbows and knees create **shorter pendulums** that swing faster.

Hamstrings, gluteals and hip flexors provide most of the power required to reach top speeds.

Sprinters have a high percentage of **fast twitch muscle fibers**. These fibers help generate short bursts of speed.



PART C: Examine the infographic on page 12 and please answer questions 45 – 50 accordingly.

45. Which of the below is **WRONG** according to the infographic?

- a) Taller athletes are better runners.
- b) Usain Bolt is slenderer than Eddie Talon.
- c) Male sprinters are taller than female ones.
- d) Muscles are also important for runners.

46. What is the **main idea (purpose)** of the infographic?

- a) To compare male and female athletes
- b) To compare Olympians and sprinters
- c) To explain effects of muscles in running
- d) To explain body features of record breaker sprinters

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48. According to the infographic, why are West African athletes faster than Europeans?

- a) They have longer arms.
- b) They have higher centers of mass.
- c) They have more fast twitch muscle fibers.
- d) They have longer legs.

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50. What is the connection between slenderness and center of mass?

- a) The slenderer an athlete is, the higher center of mass he/she has.
- b) The slenderer an athlete is, the longer legs he/she has.
- c) The slender athletes have higher mass of muscles.
- d) The higher center of mass falls forward faster than slender ones.

- END OF READING PART -



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2024-2025 FALL TERM – ELT PROFICIENCY EXAM - AKÜ YDYS CATEGORY A
SESSION II - WRITING PART

Name : _____ Number : _____ Class : _____

WRITING AN ESSAY (25 points)

Choose ONE of the topics below and write AN OPINION (with 5 paragraphs), A CAUSE or AN EFFECT essay (with 4 paragraphs).

☐ **Topic 1: AN OPINION essay explaining your opinions:**

*In today's world, environmental issues are at the forefront of global concern. Environmental reports have shown varying levels of eco-awareness across different countries, but where does your country stand? Write **a 5-paragraph opinion essay** discussing whether you think your country's people are environmentally friendly or not.*

☐ **Topic 2: A CAUSE essay explaining the reasons:**

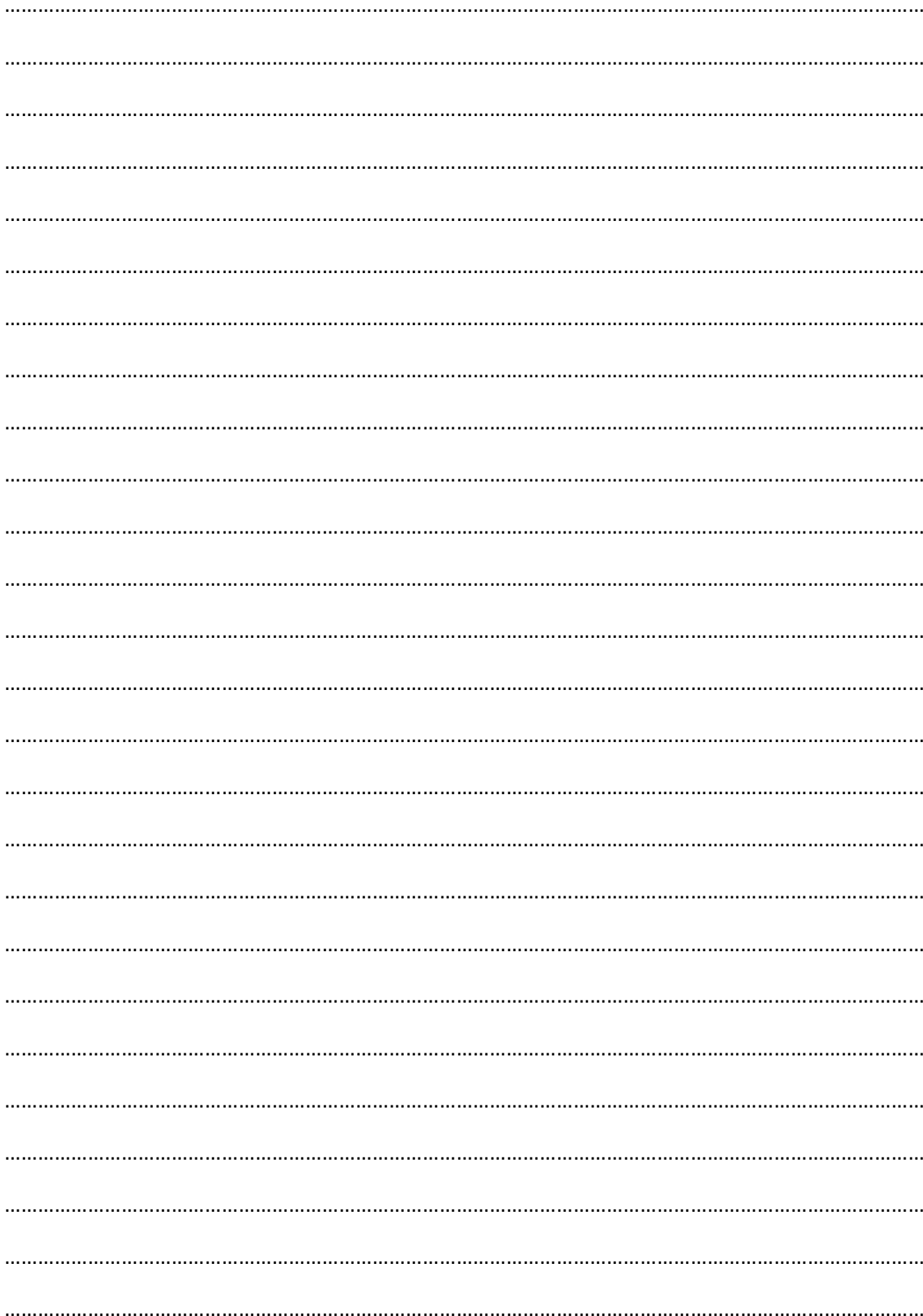
*Teen depression has become a growing concern in today's society, with rates rising at an alarming pace. As adolescents face increasing pressure from various sources, it is crucial to understand the causes behind this mental health crisis. Write **a 4-paragraph cause essay** explaining the reasons for depression among teenagers.*

☐ **Topic 3: AN EFFECT essay explaining the results:**

*In recent years, electric cars have gained remarkable popularity. This growing adoption of electric vehicles is not only changing the way we travel but also reshaping industries, economies, and societies. Write **a 4-paragraph effect essay** examining the several influences of this rise of electric cars.*

Name: _____ Number: _____ Class: _____

[illegible]



SPEAKING EXAM INFORMATION

Please read the following information about **PROFICIENCY EXAM - SPEAKING PART** carefully.

DURATION:	2-3 minutes
PURPOSE:	To assess and evaluate students' overall proficiency in spoken English
FORMAT:	One-on-one interview with an interlocutor and a second scorer
TOPICS:	Students will be given a general topic in the form of a question.

SPEAKING TASK DESCRIPTION: Short Talk

Your task is to give a short talk on the topic provided. You should share your opinions, thoughts, experiences, preferences, or any other relevant information related to the topic.

If you cannot think of a personal experience or preference, feel free to use your imagination. Imagination is always welcomed as long as it is in real life limits.

Remember to:

- Speak clearly and fluently.
- Use a variety of vocabulary and grammar.
- Pronounce words correctly.
- Organize your thoughts logically.
- Express your ideas creatively.

You will have 2-3 minutes to complete your talk.

SPEAKING EXAM PROCEDURE:

- 1. Topic Presentation:** You will receive the topic that you are going to talk about in the form of a question written on a piece of paper.
- 2. Preparation Time:** You will have approximately 2-3 minutes to prepare your response.
- 3. Speaking Task:** You will be asked to speak on the given topic for 2-3 minutes.

FURTHER DETAILS:

1. You will be summoned to the exam hall according to your place on the list.
2. If you are late for the exam or if you decide not to take the exam, the next student on the list will be summoned to the exam hall. Therefore, please be at school at the specified exam time.
3. When you enter the exam hall, you need to **sign the exam attendance list**.
4. You need to **leave your mobile phones or other smart devices** on an empty desk in the classroom when you enter the exam hall. You **CANNOT USE YOUR PHONE OR THE INTERNET** while you are in the exam hall before or during the exam.
5. There will be two students present at the exam hall at the same time. While the first student is answering the speaking exam task, the second student will receive his/her short talk question and prepare for his/her speech.
6. You are **NOT ALLOWED** to **take notes** during your thinking time.
7. You have to talk about the topic you are given. You **CANNOT CHANGE** the topic that you are given. However, you are allowed to ask the interlocutor to paraphrase the question if there are any unfamiliar words to you.
8. Your spoken performance will be graded by two scorers: an observer scorer and an active scorer (interlocutor).

9. Speaking exam will be audio recorded to ensure fairness and transparency. These recordings will be used to evaluate student performance and may be referred to in the event of any grade-related inquiries or appeals.

10. Scoring Criteria: You will be evaluated on the following aspects:

- **Task Achievement:** Your ability to address all aspects of the topic and provide relevant information.
- **Coherence:** Your ability to organize your thoughts logically and connect your ideas.
- **Creativity:** Your ability to express your ideas in an original and interesting way.
- **Fluency:** Your ability to speak without long pauses or hesitation.
- **Pronunciation:** Your ability to pronounce words and sounds correctly.
- **Accuracy:** Your use of correct grammar, vocabulary, and sentence structure.
- **Vocabulary Range:** Your ability to use a wide variety of vocabulary to express your ideas.

SAMPLE SPEAKING EXAM – SHORT TALK TASK QUESTION:

“What does stress mean to you? How do you typically cope with stress?
Give examples.”

Respecting the Exam Space

To minimize distractions during the speaking exam, we kindly ask all students to remain quiet and avoid making noise in the corridors while waiting for their turn. Please respect the exam environment for all participants.

REMINDER

You are obliged to read the information and instructions in this document. AKU School of Foreign Languages is **NOT responsible** for the problems caused by lack of information on your part.