

ENGLISH LANGUAGE EXAM SAMPLE FOR MAJORS IN HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Date: 27/09/2024

Full name: _____

Signature: _____

PART 1:

1. Reading comprehension

When considering a well-balanced lifestyle, we often prioritize work and family. However, a truly balanced life includes romantic relationships, self-care activities (such as exercise and hobbies), and friends, too. Although we may not always allocate equal time to all of them, work, family, love, self-care, and friendships are all very important.

Friendship is one of the many kinds of relationships that contribute to our overall happiness, being the essence of almost all types of relationships. Some of the fundamental qualities of a genuine friendship are: acceptance, empathy, sympathy, honesty, goodwill, trust, truth, mutual respect, and mutual understanding. True friendships are rare, as they require deep commitment and a lot of patience. Therefore, it is important to reflect on our own role as a friend and consider whether we possess the qualities we seek in others.

Even if we have plenty of them, not all of our acquaintances, work colleagues, social media friends or followers qualify as friends. At its simplest, a true friend is a person who supports and accepts us for who we are, being there for us in good and bad times. Studies have revealed that even our health is significantly affected by our friendships, e.g. people with strong friendships are less likely to catch colds, perhaps due to their lower levels of stress.

Some friendships may last a lifetime, while others may last only for a certain period of time. Friendships may end due to various reasons, such as realizing unfulfilled needs, differences in values or lifestyles, conflicts, or misunderstandings. It is important to remember that friendships naturally evolve as our lives change, but certain friendships may come to an end because we have neglected them. However, one should be aware, that friends typically don't require the constant attention that is required by romantic partners or children.

A grieving person is also likely to lose friends, as after the loss of their beloved ones, they don't enjoy social situations like they used to and usually withdraw from social life, trying not to bother others with their emotions. It takes an exceptionally empathetic person with a lot of emotional intelligence to be able to understand and accept that grief has a profound effect on a person's overall life and that it takes much time for the grieving person "to recover".

Occasionally, when our differences with our friends become too great to overcome by simply accepting them, we need to find a way to resolve the conflict. Although conflict is generally disliked, according to relationship researchers, every conflict offers a chance to improve a relationship if it is important to both

parties. The crucial aspect is to learn to fight constructively, without being defensive or reactive and without jumping to conclusions.

People should also be aware that in healthy relationships there is no place for emotional blackmail (e.g. manipulating and controlling others by making them feel guilty) or passive-aggressive behaviour, like the silent treatment. The latter is a common response to conflict, used to control a situation and to avoid healthy communication, which prevents people from resolving their conflicts in a constructive way. In a healthy friendship, clear and direct communication is key to keeping the connection strong.

When a friendship begins to fall apart, there is often a great deal of uncertainty. Individuals may find themselves torn between grieving over the loss of their friend and holding onto the hope that they can somehow fix the relationship in the future. Some individuals hold onto memories and affection for the person they once knew, only to eventually realize that their friend has transformed to the point where they are essentially a stranger.

Occasionally, if they are strong and important enough, friendships can adapt to and survive significant changes, but sometimes they simply cease to function. It often takes people a considerable amount of time to grasp that the relationship is truly over, and this realization is typically accompanied by a deep sense of grief for the loss of the friendship. However, a bit of self-reflection combined with strong willingness, a lot of empathy and a non-judgmental attitude from both parties can still save a troubled friendship. Strong friendships can often withstand these ups and downs.

Having friends around is easy when you are cheerful and everything is going well, but only difficult life situations reveal true friends. So, keep this in mind: "Never confuse people who are always around you with people who are always there for you." (Gee Linder)

1. According to the text, every conflict in a relationship offers a chance to...
 - a. break the relationship for good.
 - b. find new friends.
 - c. improve the relationship.
 - d. take revenge on the other person.

2. In a healthy friendship, clear and direct communication is...
 - a. avoidable.
 - b. damaging.
 - c. passive-aggressive.
 - d. essential.

3. What effect does grief have on a person's social life, according to the text?
 - a. They seek support from their friends.
 - b. They become more sociable and outgoing.
 - c. They avoid social situations.
 - d. They avoid conflicts.

4. When a friendship starts to fall apart, people might find themselves caught between...
 - a. fear and anger.
 - b. grief and hope for peace and harmony.
 - c. indifference and apathy.
 - d. unhappiness and relief.

5. According to the text, when a friendship begins to fall apart, people should...
 - a. hold onto memories and affection.
 - b. ignore the problems.
 - c. reflect, empathize, and communicate.
 - d. engage in competition and rivalry.

6. In a relationship, conflicts can be resolved constructively by...
- a. fighting constructively without defensiveness.
 - b. being defensive and reactive.
 - c. jumping to conclusions.
 - d. using the silent treatment.
7. According to the text, genuine friends come to light...
- a. during hard times.
 - b. in times of hostility.
 - c. at the point where they are already strangers.
 - d. in very comfortable circumstances.

Vocabulary task

8. The verb *to prioritize* means:
- a. to give someone or something special attention
 - b. to postpone things or tasks
 - c. to arrange things or tasks in order of importance
 - d. to choose the best option or alternative
9. The idiom *torn between something and something else* refers to:
- a. being physically torn apart
 - b. being caught in an unpleasant situation
 - c. finding something very annoying
 - d. finding it difficult to choose between two possibilities
10. *Self-reflection* refers to:
- a. thinking deeply about one's own thoughts, actions or experiences
 - b. looking at oneself in a mirror
 - c. ignoring one's own feelings and emotions
 - d. relying on others for feedback
11. The opposite of the verb *to contribute to* is:
- a. to facilitate
 - b. to encourage
 - c. to hinder
 - d. to enhance
12. The idiom *the silent treatment* refers to:
- a. being unable to express one's thoughts and feelings
 - b. refusing to give affection or emotional support as a form of punishment
 - c. engaging in healthy communication to resolve conflicts
 - d. a meditation retreat where no communication is allowed

13. The phrasal verb *to fall apart* means:
- a. to stop working
 - b. to argue
 - c. to decrease in quality
 - d. to lose control
14. The collocation *ups and downs* refers to:
- a. seasonal changes in temperature
 - b. a set of exercises in the gym
 - c. the movement of a yo-yo
 - d. changes or fluctuations in life
15. The opposite of the phrasal verb *to hold onto something* is:
- a. to stick to something
 - b. to let go of something
 - c. to keep hold of something
 - a. to grasp onto something

3. Grammar Task:

16. If there (...) good weather next weekend, we (...) a barbecue.
- a. is / will have
 - b. will be / have
 - c. will be / will have
 - d. is / have
17. Students regularly (...) snacks from vending machines during the breaks.
- a. buys
 - b. buy
 - c. is buying
 - d. are buying
18. I stepped out of the building, and my car was nowhere. I found out that it (...) by the authorities.
- a. has removed
 - b. had been removed
 - c. has been removed
 - d. was removing
19. We (...) a labour union, but they (...) to do much for us.
- a. were having / didn't seem
 - b. had / didn't seem
 - c. had / wasn't seeming
 - d. were having / didn't seemed

20. I (...) in touch with him a few weeks ago.

- a. had
- b. took
- c. got
- d. made

21. I (...) up my mind. You can't change my opinion.

- a. 've already made up
- b. 've already make up
- c. has already made up
- d. already made up

22. 'Sorry, Lena, I (...) the glass if I (...) so nervous now about our guest.'
'Stop worrying about him! Go wash your hands, and I'll pick up the shards.'

- a. wouldn't have dropped / weren't
- b. wouldn't drop / hadn't been
- c. won't drop / wasn't
- d. didn't drop / hadn't been

23. 'How long (...) him?' / 'Since high school. We're old friends. So can I speak to him?'

- a. did you know
- b. do you know
- c. have you known
- d. has you known

24. 'Well, he's bought an engagement ring to her. What more proof do you want? I'm telling you, they (...) married.'

- a. 're going to get
- b. 'll going to get
- c. will get
- d. get

25. By the time they found him, he (...) in the woods for 16 hours.

- a. was
- b. had been
- c. has been
- d. were

26. Not so fast! I just need to stop (...) my breath for a second.

- a. catching
- b. to catching
- c. catch
- d. to catch

27. If I (...) savings in the bank, we (...) able to prepare for our wedding. But I do, and I'm glad for that.

- a. don't have / won't be
- b. didn't have / wouldn't be
- c. hadn't had / wouldn't been
- d. wouldn't have / couldn't be

28. Pick the question that fits the answer:

'Simone's team. They are the best.'

- a. Which team did the competition win?
- b. Which competition did the team win?
- c. Which did the team win the competition?
- d. Which team won the competition?

29. You'd better (...) as she says. Don't rock the boat!

- a. to do
- b. doing
- c. to doing
- d. do

30. I had my phone turned off. I (...) when you called. It went pretty well, I think.

- a. was interviewed
- b. was being interviewed
- c. have been interviewed
- d. am being interviewed

PART 2: Speaking

The candidate randomly picks a card from the table. Each card has a topic and a set of questions:

Daily Routine

Personal Health

Social Media

Friendship

Entertainment – Cinema

Lifestyles

Music

Learning

Sports

Exam Stress

Example of a set of questions:

Unconventional or non-traditional family structures:

1. How important is it for friends to share common interests and/or hobbies?
2. How important is communication in maintaining a healthy friendship?
3. How do you handle conflicts or disagreements within a friendship?
4. What are some common misconceptions about friendship?
5. Have you ever experienced a friendship that turned toxic? How did you handle it?

Assessment:

- **Part 1:**
30 multiple choice questions (Reading comprehension / Vocabulary / Grammar) → 30 points
 - 0-14 overall correct answers: FAIL
 - 15-30 overall correct answers: PASS
- **Part 2: (Only available if Part 1 results in PASS)**
5 questions (Speaking)
30 points →
 - 10 points for Content (Relevance and Quality of Answers)
 - 10 points for Language (Grammar and Vocabulary)
 - 10 points for Communication Skills (Fluency, Pronunciation, Style, Interaction)

Source material to prepare for the exam:

Pop Antonia, Izsák Hajnalka, Szabó Roland-Attila. *Partium Language Exams – English Language – 10 topics for students with specialisation in Hungarian Language and Literature*. Partium kiadó, 2023

(The book is available at the Partium Language Center)