

English Language Test

**11th Grade
Variant 2**

The test consists of 2 parts: Use of English and Reading and Writing.

Duration – 80 minutes.

Part 1. USE OF ENGLISH

Task 1. For questions **1-10**, complete the second sentence so it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. **Do not change the word given.** You must use between **two** and **five** words, including the word given.

1. Steve looked as if he was about to cry when he saw the damage to his car.
VERGE
Steve looked like he was _____ when he saw the damage to his car.
2. David's one topic of conversation is the time he spent as a pilot.
EVER
The time he spent as a pilot is _____ about.
3. I don't get on very well with many people but I hit it off with Harry straight away.
TOOK
I don't get on very well with many people but Harry _____ other straightaway.
4. We often went to the countryside with our grandparents as children.
WOULD
Our grandparents _____ to the countryside as children.
5. You should have told me you were having problems with your job.
RATHER
I _____ me you were having problems with your job.
6. You know you are not allowed to cheat, Mike.

AGAINST

You know _____, Mike.

7. If you need to contact me urgently, then ring this number.

NECESSARY

Should _____, ring this number.

8. Brighton is very proud of its new shopping centre.

TAKES

Brighton _____ its new shopping centre.

9. He's never attempted to write poetry, though he has had a go at short stories.

HAND

Despite trying _____, poetry is something he's never attempted.

10. I know you'll find it hard to believe, but I've never read any of Shakespeare's works.

SEEM

Unlikely _____, I've never read any of Shakespeare's works.

Task 2. For sentences **1-10**, identify and correct the mistakes (grammatical, lexical, spelling or socio-cultural). There is **one** mistake in each sentence. You must use **one or two words** to correct it.

1. New Urbanist communities are intended to be more than residential subdivisions, with shops, a wide range of personal and consumer services, and workplace sites all conveniently accesible. _____
2. The Celtic fringe (curves) is a territory of Ireland, Wales, and England which remained unconquered during the Roman occupation of ancient Britain.
3. If your boss doesn't mind you delaying some mornings, public transport could be a solution. _____
4. She is head and arms above her twin sister when it comes to passing exams. _____
5. We're due to our last bottle of milk; remind me to buy some tomorrow. _____
6. In my culture, it's quite rude to get to the aim too quickly. _____
7. Stonehenge is a stony circle on Cheshire plain which dates from between 1900-1600 BC. _____
8. 'Northern Lights' are one of Suzanne's favourite books. _____

9. Lush and mysterious Greece is a nature lover's wonderland waiting to be explored and appreciated by anyone with a high level of standards: pristine environment with its winding mountain paths, bubbling thermal springs, petrified forests and exotic islets are just a few of the natural wonders lying in wait. _____
10. It was a very large stakes game with both teams needing to win to get through to the final. _____

Part 2. READING AND WRITING

Task 3. Read paragraphs **1-5** and decide which of **three** sentences best summarises the main idea of each paragraph.

1. Music has been downgraded in importance in our schools and is often the first subject to be withdrawn from the curriculum, with more and more emphasis placed on core subjects. Yet research has shown that those who learn music from a young age benefit in different ways. Music lessons are creative and engage children in a collaborative activity that has a real outcome. Even if parents are reluctant to contribute additional funding for instruments, they will usually come to see their offspring perform in the school concert. Let's give music back the status it deserves in education.

- A. Music is often cut from the school curriculum so that more resources can be given to mathematics and sciences despite the unforeseen benefits to children from the study of music in school.
- B. Despite the widespread presence of music in the modern world, it tends to be under-valued and promising young musicians are often unable to develop in their field.
- C. Parents should pay for their children's music tuition throughout their schooling because it is short-sighted to cut the study of music in schools, given its proven positive effects.

2. Studies have shown that chess improves both memory and concentration, as players need to focus not only on their own strategy but also on anticipating their opponent's moves in order to gain an advantage. Studies have shown that chess may even offset the risks of such diseases as Alzheimer's in older players. Finally, chess is excellent at stress reduction. As this is an evening club, it could be promoted as the perfect way to unwind after a hard day's work.

- A. Chess improves ability in certain subjects.
- B. Chess allows people to meet players from different countries.
- C. Chess helps develop prediction skills.

3. Experts recommend limiting viewing TV to one hour per day during the week and up to two hours per day on weekends. The programmes should be educational and promote discussion between the parent and child. Programmes on animal behaviour and family values, and programmes that teach basic learning skills, are highly recommended.

- A. Watching TV is not bad for children and it's fine for teenagers and adults, too.
- B. Watching TV is fine for children as long as you limit the hours and monitor the programmes.
- C. Programmes for children should be educational in content so that the time spent watching TV is not wasted.

4. Many animals have extreme perception. Forensic dogs are three times as good as any X-ray machine at detecting contraband, drugs, or explosives and their overall success rate is 90 percent.

- A. Animals that display a deep understanding of the world around them are plentiful.
- B. There are some dogs that can sniff out dangerous materials at a very successful rate.
- C. Some forensic dogs are so good at their jobs, they are much better than X-ray machines.

5. It was in 1856, while working in his tiny laboratory at home, that William Perkin produced, quite by chance, the colour mauve, which not only revolutionised the dye industry but also led to important innovations in perfume, photography and, most significantly for modern medicine, to the development of aspirin.

- A. Mauve not only radically changed the dye industry but also led to new discoveries of anything from perfume to aspirin.
- B. In accidentally discovering mauve, Perkin transformed dyeing and many other areas, notably medicine.
- C. Commercially speaking, Perkin's chance discovery was very important, as other innovations followed, for example the development of aspirin.

Task 4. For questions 1-10, give **one-word** answers.

1. Which one of the five boroughs that make up New York City is the geographically smallest and most densely populated borough; it is also the symbol of New York City, as home to most of the city's skyscrapers and prominent landmarks? _____

2. What is an expressed imaginative comparison based on the likeness of two objects or ideas belonging to different classes (in contrast to a comparison which compares things belonging to the same class and is not a figure of speech) called? _____
3. What is a student in the first year of high school, college, or university called? _____
4. What is an evergreen plant that grows on trees, with small, white fruits and pale yellow flowers which is often used as a Christmas decoration, and it is traditional to kiss someone under it? _____
5. What vegetable is the national emblem of Wales? _____
6. What is the old name for a county which is now used in combination in the names of many British counties? _____
7. What is the name of the first successful English colony established by the Virginia Company in 1607 in Virginia and which is named in honour of England's king? _____
8. What is an area of land that is not used for growing crops, where grass and other small plants grow, but where there are few trees or bushes, especially in Britain? _____
9. What is one of a series of regular payments that you make until you have paid all the money you owe? _____
10. What do you call a lifestyle which involves little exercise or physical activity? _____

Task 5. Read the text and decide whether the following statements **1-10** agree with the information given in the text. Mark them:
T (True) if the statement agrees with the text
F (False) if the statement does not agree with the text
NG (Not Given) if there is no information about this in the text

1. The AirCare app made people realize that the problem of air pollution exists.
2. North Macedonia must reduce the level of pollution in the country to join the European Union.
3. Many young people in North Macedonia opt for emigration to study in other European countries.
4. Skopje's geographical location contributes to air quality deterioration in the city.
5. Gorjan Jovanovski's environmental concern played a role in his dedication to the app creation.
6. Pesheva's decision to relocate to a different part of the city has positively affected her family's health.

7. The app's release has managed to promote environmental activism among Skopje citizens.
8. Some political parties show lack of interest in fighting air pollution through collaborative efforts with environmental activists.
9. The Macedonian government was compelled to introduce such a permanent measure as free public transport for people to decrease the level of air pollution.
10. The AirCare app data has convinced even more young people to leave North Macedonia.

The young people fighting the worst smog in Europe

By Jessica Bateman

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“We always knew there was a problem with pollution because we can see it,” says Kosta Barsov, who lives in Skopje, North Macedonia. “In winter it stinks – if I open my bedroom window while I’m studying it feels like I’m suffocating. If I go walk my dog, I have to change my clothes when I get back because they smell.” Every day in winter, 16-year-old Barsov opens the AirCare app on his phone and checks the pollution levels around him. “There are two sensors close to my house and it’s always really polluted in winter,” Barsov tells me. If he sees a green circle, the air around him is reasonably clean. If it is yellow, there is some pollution but it does not break EU limits. If it is red or darker, pollution is over the limit, and hazardous to health. The app has become an essential tool to Barsov, and many others in the city, for understanding where the pollution is and exactly how bad it is. As a result, it has sparked growing awareness, and concern, about the city’s air.

Skopje regularly tops the lists of the most polluted cities in Europe, and sometimes the world. In 2018, levels of PM10 – tiny pollutant particles 10 micrometres in size that are harmful to human health – exceeded EU limits for a total of 202 days in the city. While North Macedonia is not part of the EU, it has entered accession negotiations and has some way to go to meet EU air quality standards. At present, the World Health Organization has estimated that around 4,000 premature deaths a year in North Macedonia may be due to air pollution, and the economic cost to Skopje is thought to be between €570 and €1,470 million. Barsov says pollution affects his quality of life so much that it is one of the reasons he and his friends plan to move abroad after studying. “It really puts me off living here,” he explains. “For three months every year you can’t really go outside or even open the window. It’s so depressing.” They may not be the only ones to leave North Macedonia to escape the pollution – in 2017, the World Bank estimated that one third of the country’s graduates were living overseas.

There are several factors causing the smog, but they all have one thing in common: poverty. The average monthly wage in the country is €250 and many people can only afford to heat their homes by burning wood, biomass fuel pellets

or sometimes even plastic. Old cars that do not meet EU emissions standards are imported and sold cheaply, and public transport is limited. Power plants and industry also play a role. All this murky air is trapped over the city by high mountains all around; in winter, temperature inversion creates a “seal” of warm air over the valley which locks cold air inside. All the smog and fumes produced then get stuck here, too.

But, for Europe’s most polluted city, there was relatively little awareness of just how bad the air quality was before the AirCare app came about. It was developed more or less by chance in 2015 by Gorjan Jovanovski, then a 22-year-old engineering student. “I was trying to teach myself how to develop apps for Android,” he says. He was browsing a government website to get some ideas when he came across the pollution figures, which are gathered from state-run measuring stations. “I knew there was pollution but I didn’t know how bad it was,” he recalls. “I was looking at the data and I thought, these numbers are way too high... could it be wrong? Could the sensors be malfunctioning?” Jovanovski built and published the app, but was not prepared for how quickly it gained popularity. “It actually caused technical problems because it wasn’t optimised for that many users,” he says. “People were sharing screenshots of the pollution levels on social media. Some started using a red circle over their profile pictures as a protest sign.” One of the groups that formed after the app’s release was the O2 Initiative, which campaigns on a wide range of environmental issues. “Gorjan gave the people what they needed to understand it,” says Eli Pesheva, who co-founded the group. “It’s simple. If there’s a red circle, your health is in danger. The life of your family is in danger.”

Pesheva has first-hand experience of the health impact of pollution. For years she was living in the neighbourhood of Novo Lisice, one of the lowest parts of Skopje and therefore one of the most polluted. “I never had any problems but my husband and two daughters couldn’t breathe,” she says. “They were always struggling with allergies and respiratory infections.” A few years ago, the family made the decision to move uphill, further out of the city.

Mimi Kimovska-Hristova, a paediatrician in the intensive care unit at the City General Hospital, has witnessed for years the effects of the toxic air on Skopje’s children. “Children have much smaller airways, so the particulate matter gets stuck more easily,” she says. The air pollution damages the protective tissue that lines the airways, leaving them more vulnerable to viruses and bacteria. “I’ll see many cases of bronchitis from autumn to early spring,” Kimovska-Hristova continues. She also notices high rates of asthma and cancers in children “that we wouldn’t expect to see, such as tumours in the throat”.

Before the app’s launch, Pesheva says it had been difficult to mobilise more than a few hundred people for environmental protests. But in December 2015, with winter smog at its peak, over 1,000 people gathered in Skopje’s main square to protest against air pollution. “People were contacting us on social media every day, asking what they could do and how they could get involved,” Pesheva remembers. Activists are confident that their work is beginning to force the government to take action. “All the political parties came to us asking for

recommendations for their election programmes,” says Pesheva. “We gave them 20 pages.” Progress has been slow, however. “I can’t say the government hasn’t done anything, but it’s all been very small,” says Jovanovski, citing certain measures, such as free public transport, that are now brought in when the PM10 levels are four times over the EU limit for two days in a row.

Pesheva is hoping the current wave of activism may slow down the country’s heavy emigration. “When I meet young activists I tell them we need them to stay in the country,” she says. “If you don’t like something, you have to fight to change it.”

Task 6. Read the text above again and complete the table with the information from the text using **the given plan**. You are not allowed to copy patches of the text, **you need to paraphrase**.

| | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| 1. (a) | The problem North Macedonia is facing | (1) |
| 1. (b) | The app’s purpose | (1) |
| 2. | Effects of air pollution on citizens (state two) | (0) <i>Air pollution disrupts people’s day-to-day routine, e.g. they are unable to leave their windows open;</i> (1) (2) |
| 3. | Factors causing the smog (state two) | (0) <i>Sustainable energy sources for home heating are over the budget for low-income families;</i> (1) (2) |
| 4. | Implications of the app launch (state two) | (1) (2) |

ANSWER KEY

TASK 1 (10 points)

1. on the verge of tears/crying
2. all (that) David ever talks
3. and I took to each
4. would often take us
5. would/'d rather you had told
6. cheating is against the rules
7. you find it necessary
8. takes (great) pride in
9. his hand at short stories
10. as it may seem

TASK 2 (10 points)

1. accessible
2. Scotland
3. being delayed/being late
4. shoulders
5. down
6. point
7. Salisbury
8. is
9. pristine
10. high

TASK 3 (10 points)

1. A
2. C
3. B
4. A
5. B

TASK 4 (20 points)

1. Manhattan
2. simile
3. freshman
4. mistletoe
5. leek
6. shire
7. Jamestown
8. heath
9. instalment/installment
10. sedentary

TASK 5 (10 points)

1. **F** (*“We always knew there was a problem with pollution because we can see it,” says Kosta Barsov, who lives in Skopje, North Macedonia.*)
2. **T** (*While North Macedonia is not part of the EU, it has entered accession negotiations and has some way to go to meet EU air quality standards.*)
3. **NG** (*Barsov says pollution affects his quality of life so much that it is one of the reasons he and his friends plan to move abroad after studying.*)
4. **T** (*All this murky air is trapped over the city by high mountains all around; in winter, temperature inversion creates a “seal” of warm air over the valley which locks cold air inside. All the smog and fumes produced then get stuck here, too.*)
5. **NG** (*“I was trying to teach myself how to develop apps for Android,” he says. He was browsing a government website to get some ideas when he came across the pollution figures, which are gathered from state-run measuring stations. “I knew there was pollution but I didn’t know how bad it was,” he recalls.*)
6. **NG** (*A few years ago, the family made the decision to move uphill, further out of the city.*)
7. **T** (*Before the app’s launch, Pesheva says it had been difficult to mobilise more than a few hundred people for environmental protests. But in December 2015, with winter smog at its peak, over 1,000 people gathered in Skopje’s main square to protest against air pollution.*)
8. **F** (*“All the political parties came to us asking for recommendations for their election programmes,” says Pesheva. “We gave them 20 pages.”*)
9. **F** (*“I can’t say the government hasn’t done anything, but it’s all been very small,” says Jovanovski, citing certain measures, such as free public transport, that are now brought in when the PM10 levels are four times over the EU limit for two days in a row.*)
10. **NG** (*Pesheva is hoping the current wave of activism may slow down the country’s heavy emigration.*)

TASK 6 (40 points)

Patches of possible answers given in the text shall not be copied (except for certain words like language, English that are meaningful for the context but might not be paraphrased):

| | | |
|---------------|--|--|
| 1. (a) | The problem North Macedonia is facing | (2) <i>A problem with pollution ... “In winter it stinks – if I open my bedroom window while I’m studying it feels like I’m suffocating. If I go walk my dog, I have to change my clothes when I get back because they smell.”</i> |
| 1. (b) | The app’s purpose | (2) <i>Understanding where the pollution is and exactly how bad it is.</i> |
| 2. | Effects of air pollution | (3) <i>It is one of the reasons he [Barsov]</i> |

| | | |
|------------------|--|---|
| | <p>on citizens (state two)</p> | <p><i>and his friends plan to move abroad after studying... in 2017 the World Bank estimated that one third of the country's graduates were living overseas;</i></p> <p><i>(4) For three months every year you can't really go outside or even open the window;</i></p> <p><i>(5) People can't breathe;</i></p> <p><i>(6) Allergies and respiratory infections;</i></p> <p><i>(7) Children have much smaller airways, so the particulate matter gets stuck more easily. The air pollution damages the protective tissue that lines the airways, leaving them more vulnerable to viruses and bacteria;</i></p> <p><i>(8) High rates of asthma and cancers in children "that we wouldn't expect to see, such as tumours in the throat".</i></p> |
| <p>3.</p> | <p>Factors causing the smog (state two)</p> | <p><i>(3) Poverty. The average monthly wage in the country is €250 and many people can only afford to heat their homes by burning wood, biomass fuel pellets or sometimes even plastic;</i></p> <p><i>(4) Old cars that don't meet EU emissions standards are imported and sold cheaply;</i></p> <p><i>(5) Public transport is limited;</i></p> <p><i>(6) Power plants and industry also play a role;</i></p> <p><i>(7) All this murky air is trapped over the city by high mountains all around; in winter, temperature inversion creates a "seal" of warm air over the valley which locks cold air inside. All the smog and fumes produced then get stuck here, too.</i></p> |
| <p>4.</p> | <p>Implications of the app launch (state two)</p> | <p><i>(3) It has sparked growing awareness, and concern, about the city's air;</i></p> <p><i>(4) People were sharing screenshots of the pollution levels on social media;</i></p> <p><i>(5) One of the groups that formed after the app's release was the O2 Initiative, which campaigns on a wide range of environmental issues;</i></p> |

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| | | <p><i>(6) It mobilised more than a few hundred people for environmental protests ... people gathered in Skopje's main square to protest against air pollution;</i></p> <p><i>(7) It is beginning to force the government to take action;</i></p> <p><i>(8) Free public transport;</i></p> <p><i>(9) Slow down the country's heavy emigration.</i></p> |
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