

Politechnika Gdańska
Centrum Języków Obcych
Egzamin pisemny z języka angielskiego (B2)

PART ONE: LISTENING COMPREHENSION (20 points)

I Listen to three short meetings and decide if the following statements are true (T) or false (F). Circle the correct answer. You will hear the recording twice. (10 points)

Meeting 1

1. The first speaker has considered all possibilities and thinks they should move into Eastern Europe. T / F
2. The company does business in southern Europe. T / F
3. The company can't afford the cost on its own. T / F
4. The project can only go ahead if the second speaker agrees. T / F

Meeting 2

5. One of the partners doesn't think the investor should pay cash. T / F
6. The investor has worked really hard in the hi-tech sector. T / F
7. The two partners decide to talk to the investor. T / F

Meeting 3

8. The company lost money by paying compensation. T / F
9. The company's share price is inaccurate. T / F
10. The last speaker thinks the lawyers may not want to take the bank to court. T / F

II Listen to three conversations and complete the notes for each one below with word(s) from the recording. Use no more than 5 words in each gap. You will hear the recording twice. (10 points)

Conversation 1

The project is doing well but they have had a problem with the (11)_____. It keeps cutting out and they (12)_____. Ray suggests having a (13)_____ with the supplier for some suggestions.

Conversation 2

Don says the next batch of samples will be ready by (14)_____ not for the fifteenth. The problem is they haven't received some of the precision (15)_____ they ordered. We may have to extend the (16)_____.

Conversation 3

The meeting didn't go (17)_____. They'll only sign if we (18)_____ we won't raise prices by more than (19)_____ a year. We need to call (20)_____ to see what they think.

PART TWO: READING COMPREHENSION (20 points)

I Read the newspaper article. For questions 1-10 choose the answer (a, b, c, d) which fits best according to the text. (10 points)

How do you feel when you know you are going to have to speak in front of others? Does this thought make you want to run in the opposite direction? Do you break out in a cold sweat? You are not alone. There are very few people who are natural-born orators. The rest of us just need to learn how to improve our skills and gain confidence. A lot of people try to avoid speaking in public at all cost. However, if you tend to do so, there is a price to pay, as public speaking is one of the quickest and most efficient ways to market yourself, your business or your cause. That is why you ought to overcome your inhibitions so that you do not lessen your chances of making a powerful impression.

One of the reasons why a lot presentations fail is that the speaker has not taken either the time or trouble to find out anything about their audience. Helpful information may include gender breakdown, average age and, most importantly, their past and current experience of your topic. Just a little bit of advance research into your audience will give you large benefits on the presentation day as it will enable you to put yourself in their position and tailor your presentation according to their needs and expectations. What is more, do not talk to your audience in a manner that creates unnecessary distance - you should never speak down to them, even if your knowledge of the subject matter is far more extensive than theirs. Avoid sophisticated expressions and difficult terminology if you do not want to come across as arrogant and unapproachable.

You should never try to memorize everything you need to say. If you do, you run the risk of freezing up and forgetting what comes next. All you need to memorize is the opening and closing. It is totally acceptable to occasionally glance at your notes or slides to jog your memory. Do not be tempted, however, to read out your whole presentation because, by doing so, you will not be able to maintain eye contact with your audience and, as a result, you will not be able to connect with them in any way. Go for a powerful first impression. Grab your audience's attention with a short joke, an interesting fact or a provocative statement or question. A good opening gives your audience a reason to listen and builds your credibility as the authority on this topic.

Identify your key message and ensure that everything in your presentation is both consistent with and supportive of that message. You should also try to make it memorable. Signposting helps your audience follow and remember what you are talking about. Use phrases like: 'The point is this', 'The most important thing to remember is.' Aim to be concise and talk straight to the point.

No matter how incredible it may sound, you should use silent pauses during your speech. The audience ought to be given time and space to absorb your information. Without it, they may be too overwhelmed to assimilate anything. Remember to pause, especially after delivering a dramatic point, to increase the impact of your message.

Encourage active participation through interactive activities and exercises. Do not avoid questions. Instead, you should welcome them as they mean that the audience is interested in your presentation, giving you a chance to elaborate on your subject a little more.

Your presentation should finish as powerfully as it started off. The audience is likely to remember the start and the end of your speech, although they may not necessarily remember the whole content. A strong closing ought to summarize your main points and motivate the audience to do something – take action, ask a question or, simply, think.

To sum up, very few of us were born as talented speakers. Almost everybody feels a little bit anxious before a presentation. However, if you take care to follow the above guidelines, you too can deliver a speech that will be both memorable and effective.

1. It is natural that

- a) a lot of people have inhibitions about public speaking
- b) there are more than a few people who are born as talented speakers
- c) there is not a lot you can do to overcome the feeling of anxiety before delivering a presentation
- d) some people will never become good speakers

2. Avoiding making presentations will

- a) make people treat you with disrespect
- b) make you feel more efficient
- c) have a bad influence on your wages
- d) negatively affect your chances

3. It is essential to familiarize yourself with your audience before the presentation because

- a) you will know what handout material you need to prepare
- b) they will tell you what they want to hear
- c) being aware of what they think and know will help you adjust your presentation accordingly
- d) it will help you stay calm

4. Grand expressions and highly specialist vocabulary may

- a) confuse your audience
- b) cause your listeners to lose interest
- c) make your audience consider you too superior to interact with
- d) make your presentation more effective

5. Memorize your entire speech

- a) to be sure not to forget anything important
- b) if you are prepared to freeze up
- c) when you feel unable to work from your memory
- d) because, by doing so, you become more confident

6. The function of a good opening is to make your audience believe that

- a) you are powerful
- b) you have grabbed their attention
- c) if they do not listen they will miss out
- d) you are hardly the authority on this topic

7. Silent pauses during your speech

- a) signify that you have gone blank
- b) help the information sink in
- c) distract the audience from the main topic
- d) give you a chance to breathe

8. If the audience asks you a question you should

- a) feel pleased that they have been listening to you
- b) tell them to talk to you after the presentation
- c) pretend to know the answer even if you do not
- d) inform them that your time is up

9. The audience will tend to remember the opening and closing so

- a) do not worry too much about the main body of your presentation
- b) remember to finish effectively
- c) make them all stand up and repeat the key message
- d) make them as long as possible

10. The author of this text feels that

- a) you need certain qualities to be a successful speaker
- b) some of the guidelines discussed above are difficult to follow
- c) only natural-born speakers deliver effective speeches
- d) everybody stands a chance of making a good presentation

II Read the text and decide if statements 11-20 are TRUE (T) or FALSE (F) according to the text. Circle the correct answer.(10 points)

ENERGY OF THE FUTURE

With the growth of technology comes the need for more and more energy. Most of our energy is currently provided by non-renewable energy sources, that is, the three fossil fuels and nuclear fuels. However, these resources have a detrimental effect on our environment and will run out one day.

The fossil fuels release CO₂ when they are burnt. For the same amount of energy produced, coal releases the most carbon dioxide, followed by oil, then gas. These CO₂ emissions contribute to the Greenhouse Effect causing global warming. There's no feasible way to stop this CO₂ being released into the atmosphere. When coal and oil are burnt, they also release sulphur dioxide causing acid rain. This danger can be reduced either by removing the sulphur before they are burnt or by clearing up the emissions. Oil spillages also cause serious environmental problems and while measures can be taken to avoid these, they cannot be prevented completely.

Although nuclear power is termed a 'clean' fuel, its waste is very dangerous and difficult to dispose of. The actual fuel, uranium, is cheap but the overall cost of nuclear power is high due to the cost of the power plant and the final decommissioning. Despite advances in technology, nuclear power always carries with it the risk of a major catastrophe, like Chernobyl. However, people in favour of this form of energy say that the problem is more psychological than real.

So, if these sources of power are not only environmentally damaging but also running out, what should we do? It is not enough to just try to use these sources more efficiently. We need to turn our attention to renewable sources of energy.

Wind power is one of these renewable sources. It involves putting up lots of wind turbines in exposed places. Each turbine has its own generator inside it so the electricity is generated directly from the wind turning the blades, which, in turn, turn the generator. The great advantage of this source is that it does not produce any pollution. There are no fuel costs and the running costs are minimal. However, you need about 5000 wind turbines to replace one coal-fired power station, which not only means a huge investment to start with, but also a lot of land needs to be designated to this purpose. Also, we need to remember that they only generate electricity when it is windy, so they are not suitable for every climate.

Tidal power, in contrast to wave power, gets its energy from the sun and moon's gravity. Big dams with turbines in them, tidal barrages, are built across river estuaries. As the tide comes in, it fills up the estuary. This water can then be allowed out through turbines at a controlled speed. Again, there is no pollution with this source of energy and while the setting up costs are moderately high, the running costs are negligible. Tides are reliable in that they happen twice a day, day in, day out. Also, tidal barrages can store energy ready for periods of peak demand. In fact, although it can only be used in a few of the most suitable estuaries, it does have the potential to generate a significant amount of energy.

Another important source of renewable energy is geothermal energy, otherwise known as 'heat from underground'. This is possible only in places where hot rocks lie quite near to the surface. The heat comes from the slow decay of radioactive elements deep inside the Earth. The basic principle of this form of energy is that water is pumped in pipes down to hot rocks and comes back in the form of steam to drive a generator. This source of energy presents no real environmental problems, but has the drawback that there are not too many places where this is possible. Furthermore, the cost of drilling down several kilometres to reach the hot rocks is substantial. Scientists claim, however, that geothermal energy will play a big role in the next millenium as it can provide limitless free energy.

Whatever the drawbacks of each form of renewable energy, it is clear that they will need to be developed and exploited as our need for energy grows and the energy from our traditional sources slowly, but surely, runs out.

- 11.** Traditional energy sources are kind to the environment. **T /F**
- 12.** When gas is burnt, it releases more carbon dioxide than oil. **T /F**
- 13.** Acid rain is caused by coal releasing carbon dioxide when it is burnt. **T /F**
- 14.** It is possible to take measures to stop oil spills from ever happening. **T /F**
- 15.** Nuclear power is a cheap form of energy. **T /F**
- 16.** A lot of money is needed initially to generate wind power. **T /F**
- 17.** An advantage of wind power is that the turbines don't take up a lot of space. **T /F**
- 18.** Tidal power is linked to the sun and the moon. **T /F**
- 19.** Although tidal power doesn't cause pollution, it is extremely expensive. **T /F**
- 20.** It is possible to get geothermal energy wherever there are hot rocks. **T /F**

PART THREE: GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY (20 points)

I For questions 1-10, read the text below and decide which answer A, B, C, or D best fits each space. There is an example at the beginning (0). Write your answers in the table below. (10 points)

Technology is becoming increasingly important in our **(0)****C**..... lives. Whereas the **(1)**of technological developments are beneficial, for example in the field of medicine, there are many other areas where the effects of technology are less positive. Many people are losing their jobs as robots perform the tasks that they used to do. A perfect example of this is the car-manufacturing industry **(2)** robots are more accurate, work faster, don't need so many breaks and don't complain so much. This, obviously, **(3)** to higher unemployment and all the social problems connected **(4)** this. Another negative aspect in the area of work is the fact that more and more people now work from home using their personal computers. As a result, they **(5)** contact with others, thus losing the social **(6)** needed to function effectively in society. They may become isolated and depressed. Another important issue is the issue of freedom and privacy. More and more data banks **(7)** an increasing of information about us, thus exposing us **(8)** the risk that unauthorised people or organisations could get **(9)** of and abuse our private details. While there can be no doubt that technological progress is not only desirable, but also necessary, we should make **(10)** that we control technology and not vice versa.

- | | | | | |
|-----------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 0 | A today | B nowadays | C everyday | D all day |
| 1 | A main | B majority | C major | D most |
| 2 | A when | B where | C which | D that |
| 3 | A leads | B brings | C causes | D results |
| 4 | A on | B for | C with | D of |
| 5 | A follow | B grant | C gain | D lose |
| 6 | A talents | B values | C benefits | D skills |
| 7 | A invest | B steal | C store | D stock |
| 8 | A on | B to | C for | D at |
| 9 | A handle | B hold | C grab | D grasp |
| 10 | A sure | B true | C out | D up for |

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
C										

II For questions 11-15, complete each sentence with the correct form of the word in capital letters. Write the word in the space provided. (5 points)

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| 11. The of the box is 2 metres. | WIDE |
| 12. This data has been tested. | SCIENCE |
| 13. In your new job you will perform a of functions. | VARY |
| 14. Average are around £20 000 per year. | EARN |
| 15. If you this mass, it will melt. | HOT |

III For questions 16-20, complete the second sentence so that 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. There is an example at the beginning (0). Write *only* the missing words. (5 points)

0. I'm sure she lied to you. **have**
She *must have lied* to you.

16. It wasn't necessary to bring my umbrella. **brought**
I my umbrella.

17. I wish I hadn't left school at sixteen. **regret**
I at sixteen.

18. Sarah found the concert very boring. **by**
Sarah the concert.

19. Despite the rain, we went to the park. **although**
....., we went to the park.

20. A painter painted our house last month. **had**
We last month.

PART FOUR: WRITING - Choose ONE of the following tasks. (20 points)

1.

You recently bought a mobile phone. However, when you got the phone home, it turned out that it was not working properly and you could not connect to the Internet. You phoned the shop but got no answer and then wrote an email to the customer service department informing them of the problem but you have still not received a reply.

Write a *letter* to the manager of the customer service department explaining the situation. Express your dissatisfaction with the service you have received and ask for your money back.

Write between 160-180 words in an appropriate style. Do not include addresses.

2.

You are a student at Gdansk University of Technology. You saw this advert on the website www.studentopportunities.co.uk and have decided to apply for the internship. Read the advertisement and write an email applying for the position.

Write an *email* of between 160-180 words in an appropriate style. Do not include addresses.

UNITO

UNITO is an international organization which promotes co-operation in the fields of science, education and art among EU member states. An internship with **UNITO** will give you the opportunity to learn about EU cooperation in practice.

INTERNSHIP

- fluency in English and one other EU language is a necessity (knowledge of other EU languages would be an advantage)
- assisting in administrative tasks – word processing skills and knowledge of Microsoft Office essential
- organizing international conferences – good interpersonal skills required
- 01.09.2015-23.09.2015

Send application to :

Mr. R Jones, r.jones@gmail.com

PART FIVE: SPEAKING (20 points)

Part 1

In this section the interviewer will ask you general questions on everyday, familiar topics – your home town, education, work, free time and leisure activities, plans for the future, etc.

Part 2 – interactive task

In this part of the interview, you should talk with your partner about a given topic. The topics can be from the following areas: education, work and employment, technology, international relations, communication, transport, health, the environment, science, business.

Sample task:

Talk together about these problems that people may experience when they work abroad and give suggestions how they can overcome them. Then decide which two are the most difficult to deal with and why.

- language
- loneliness
- cultural differences
- finding accommodation
- making friends
- money

Part 3

The interviewer will ask questions related to the topic in Part 2.

Sample questions:

1. Would you like to study at a foreign university? (Why/why not?)
2. Would you like to work in a different country? (Why/why not?)
3. What do you think are the main problems people encounter when working in an international team?
4. Do you prefer to work as part of a team or individually? Why?