



CENTRALIZĒTĀ EKSĀMENA ANĢĻU VALODĀ RAKSTĪŠANAS DAĻAS VĒRTĒŠANA

Metodiskais materiāls

Ievads

Metodiskais materiāls par centralizētā eksāmena angļu valodā vērtēšanu paredzēts plašam interesentu lokam – gan centralizētā eksāmena darbu vērtētājiem, gan mācību priekšmeta skolotājiem, gan skolēniem un viņu vecākiem. Materiāla mērķis ir sniegt plašāku informāciju par centralizētā eksāmena angļu valodā rakstīšanas daļas vērtēšanas būtību un kritērijiem.

Pirmkārt, materiāls sniedz praktisku ieskatu vērtēšanā, un tas ir noderīgs eksāmena darbu vērtētājiem un angļu valodas skolotājiem, organizējot skolēnu sasniegumu vērtēšanu mācību procesā. 2010./2011.m.g. centralizētā eksāmena angļu valodā skolēnu darbu paraugiem pievienots vērtējums un īss tā skaidrojums. Skolēnu darbu piemēri ir datorsalikumā, saglabājot visas oriģinālā teksta īpašības, tai skaitā gramatikas, pareizrakstības, stila, kompozīcijas u.c. neprecizitātes, kļūdas un īpatnības.

Otrkārt, izmantojot materiālā iekļauto informāciju, skolēni var izmēģināt novērtēt savas valodas prasmes, izpildot 2010./2011.m.g. parauguzdevumus un veicot pašnovērtēšanu, savstarpēju vērtēšanu vai lūdzot skolotāja palīdzību uzdevumu izvērtēšanā. Pieņemto vērtējumu ieteicams pārrunāt ar citiem skolēniem vai mācību priekšmeta skolotāju. Ņemot vērā, ka eksāmena rakstīšanas daļā skolēns apkopo zināšanas, prasmes un produktīvās darbības iemaņas, kuru vērtējums vienmēr ir subjektīvs, tā ticamība paaugstinās, ja vērtējumu izteikušas vismaz divas neatkarīgas personas – līdzīgi kā centralizēto eksāmenu vērtēšanas procesā.

Materiālā iekļautie uzdevumi atspoguļo tikai viena mācību gada noslēguma pārbaudījuma rakstīšanas daļas uzdevumus. Tā kā uzdevumi ik gadu tiek veidoti no jauna, tad, atbilstoši eksāmena programmai, gadu no gada var mainīties uzdevumu un tekstu veidi.

Metodisko materiālu par centralizētā eksāmena angļu valodā vērtēšanu ieteicams izmantot, gatavojot skolēnus centralizētajiem eksāmeņiem un vienlaikus veidojot skolēnos izpratni par vērtēšanas pamatprincipiem.

VISC izsaka pateicību par sadarbību materiāla satura sagatavošanā vērtēšanas ekspertei Tatjanai Kundai.

WRITING STANDARDISATION PACK 2011

WRITING SCALE 2011

Task 1

Letter: First Day at School

	Contents	Organisation	Grammar	Vocabulary	Orthography
3 B1	Develops clear, connected description of the day highlighting events and personal experience.	Clear and continuous writing, follows standard layout of a letter and paragraphing conventions.	Communicates with reasonable grammatical accuracy. Some errors may occur in complex structures.	Shows good control of vocabulary, sufficient for describing events and experience.	Writing clearly intelligible, spelling and punctuation accurate.
2 A2	Writes a simple personal letter describing feelings and events of the day in some detail.	Organisation is continuous but may lack some letter writing conventions. Ideas are not fluently linked.	Simple structures predominate, occasionally faulty or noticeable mother tongue influence.	Has sufficient vocabulary, occasionally repetitive or inaccurate.	Reasonable phonetic accuracy, mistakes do not lead to misunderstanding.
1 A1	The text has some relevance to the task or partly completed.	Some attempt to organize a letter and link ideas.	Shows limited grammatical control, systematically makes basic mistakes.	Lexical resource very limited, inaccurately used.	Spelling often faulty.
0	Not enough to evaluate.				

Task 2**Composition: Visiting a Museum**

	Contents	Organisation	Grammar	Vocabulary	Orthography
5 C1	The arguments are convincing, relevant, fully extended and well supported.	Clear, smoothly flowing and well-structured text, appropriate organizational pattern, connectors and cohesive devices.	Consistently maintains a high degree of grammatical control of complex language.	A good command of a very broad lexical repertoire, consistently used, good command of idiomatic expressions.	Clearly intelligible writing, spelling and punctuation consistently accurate. May occur a slip of the pen.
4 B2.2	The given arguments are varied, detailed, well highlighted and appropriately supported.	Clearly intelligible continuous writing with a variety of connectors to mark the relationships and paragraphs.	Shows a relatively high degree of grammatical control, minor flaws may occur, but they are difficult to spot.	A good command of a broad lexical repertoire, appropriately and flexibly used to avoid repetition.	Spelling accurate, writing intelligible, may contain a few mistakes which are difficult to spot.
3 B2.1	The main ideas are relevant; there may be lack of focus or precision in supporting the material.	Mostly continuous writing with appropriate connectors and paragraphing.	A mix of simple and complex sentence forms is used with occasional inaccuracies.	A good range of vocabulary, appropriate for the task, occasionally faulty collocation or meaning.	Intelligible writing, spelling mostly accurate, occasional or non-systematic errors may persist.
2 B1	Some main ideas are put forward but incompletely developed, the arguments may appear irrelevant, unclear or repetitive.	Links sentences into a connected text with simple connectors like 'and', 'but' and 'because'. Ideas may lack coherence and appropriate paragraphing.	Simple structures with errors predominate; errors and inappropriacies do not reduce the communicative effect.	Sufficient vocabulary to complete the task, there may be inappropriate word choice, frequent simplifications or repetition.	Spelling is sufficiently accurate to be understood most of the time.
1 A2	The text bears some relevance to the topic.	Ideas partly organized, generally intelligible.	Simple structures with errors predominate, occasionally reduce the communicative effect.	Limited vocabulary with faulty collocations and word choice occasionally reduce the communicative effect.	Spelling is often inaccurate but the ideas can be followed throughout the text.
0	Not enough to evaluate.				

Task 1 (15 points)

FIRST DAY AT SCHOOL

Write a letter to your friend who is going to secondary school next year. Share your experience about your first day in secondary school (Year 10).

Describe

- your school,
- your feelings and emotions,
- your classmates and teachers.

Remember you have to write between 100 and 120 words.

Student 1

(155 words)

Dear Tom,

I am writing this letter to you to share my experience about my first day in secondary school. The name of my school is [...], which is considered to be one of the best schools in Latvia. This school has a long history as it is the oldest school in Latvia.

As I began my studies in this school, I was overwhelmed with mixed emotions. The anxiety of meeting new people and forming new friendships was huge for me, although I wasn't confident that I would fit in this school as I've never been the hard-working type of person.

When the first day actually came, none of my worries came true. My classmates were very friendly and open-minded. I made many new friends and all the teachers were also very supportive and helpful.

Do not worry about your first day in secondary school. It will be great!

Yours sincerely,

Helmuts.

Contents	All the content points are mentioned, the description is clear but exceeds the length.	2
Organisation	The text follows standard layout of a letter but exceeds the length	2
Grammar	Good grammatical control; minor flaws do not lead to misunderstanding.	3
Vocabulary	A good range of vocabulary, quite accurately used.	3
Orthography	Spelling accurate.	3
Total		13

Student 2

(146 words)

Dear Anna,

Thank you for your letter. It is always greate to hear good news from you. Let me first congratulate you on finishing primary school and starting secondary school.

I know that it can be a little scary to go to a new school and meet new people. It will be not easy at the beginning but I know that you will make through it and in the end you will not want to leave the school.

I will tell you about my first day in school. It was easier for me because I continued to study at the school I was learning til class 9. But I had some new classmates and teachers. From the beginning we all were very friendly and had fun.

I hope to hear from you soon. Write back and tell about how was your first day.

Best wishes,

Ilga.

Contents	The description is given in some detail, the text contains irrelevant information (advice) and exceeds the required length.	1
Organisation	The writing mostly follows letter writing conventions but exceeds the length.	2
Grammar	Simple structures predominate, occasional mistakes in the sentence structure.	2
Vocabulary	Has a sufficient range of simple vocabulary, occasionally repetitive.	2
Orthography	Spelling generally intelligible, mistakes do not lead to misunderstanding.	2
Total		9

Student 3

(122 words)

Dear, Peater.

Hello my friend. You my bestfriend. I tell about my school. My first day at school was happy. I fealing great.

I tell my school is ver big. My school is theer steats. School is 45. Girls and 88 boys. I like thet have 45 girls and 88 boys. I living at school. My school is intertational school.

I school feeling very good. I like my school but I dont like my teachers. My emotions is fantastic. I not tell way I feel fantastic.

My classmates and teachers ir good. My classmates is fanny. I like my classmated that is fanny and happy people, but my teacher is big, but happy.

I look farwards to hearing form you.

Yours sencerfuy.

Contents	The text bears some relevance to the task; the description is incomplete.	1
Organisation	Attempts to organise a letter and link ideas.	1
Grammar	Limited control of a few simple grammatical structures, frequent mistakes.	1
Vocabulary	Very limited vocabulary range.	1
Orthography	Frequent spelling errors cause strain for the reader.	1
Total		5

Student 4

(214 words)

Dear Xenu,

I heard that you are going to secondary school next year and I thought you would be interested in knowing what's it like to arrive there and go through the first school day.

First of all, I'd like you to forget everything you've seen in movies and be more open minded. You see, school is more like a strict facility than a theme park. On my first day, I thought that this building, four stories tall will be another step in understanding, but it is not the building that enlightens you, it is the mind.

I was late, like I usually am, and I felt oddly exhilarated, expecting some sort of a journey with all the classmates, but they seemed a bit plain. Like space monkeys that push a button, pull a lever, don't understand why, just do what they're told. It's not like they are drones, but at that day, it seemed so.

The teachers all with their not-so-unique moral principles were what, at first, I did not dislike. But that changed, for some. It all felt like being in a machine factory, watching robots more around, all contributing something that would never be finished. I hope your experience will be more pleasant and I'll hear from you soon.

*Yours,
Victor.*

Contents	Provides the description, but too much irrelevant information makes it difficult to follow. The text considerably exceeds the required length.	1
Organisation	Even though the text follows standard layout of a letter, the ideas are not linked coherently. The text considerably exceeds the required length.	1
Grammar	Shows a relatively high degree of grammatical control.	3
Vocabulary	Sufficient vocabulary to complete the task.	3
Orthography	Spelling is quite accurate, but sloppy handwriting causes strain for the reader.	2
Total		10

Student 5

(200 words)

*Dear, Jane!**I am writing to you, to tell something about my first day at school. My school is very big and beautiful. It has got brown windows and white doors. My school is 200 years old. In school are 50 classes and one big sporthall.**When, I first came in this school I was thinking that this school isn't for me. But all change, and now I really love this building with all my heart. Sometimes I cry in this school, but that is because, I am happy. All emotions are nice and good. Each day I get up in the morning, and all what I want is, go to school. All day's are like my first day at school.**In the first day I met my classmates and teachers.**My classmates were very friendly especially girls. Girls made me fell like I bin in this school already. Now, my classmates are my best friends and I love to go somewere with them. My teachers are very smart, and they like only those kids who learn a lot. Please tell me about your first day at school. I hope I will here from you soon.**All the best,**Lina.*

Contents	Includes irrelevant information; the text exceeds the required length.	1
Organisation	The text follows standard layout of a letter but the ideas are not linked enough. The required length is exceeded.	1
Grammar	Simple structures predominate	2
Vocabulary	Uses basic vocabulary to describe the school and personal experience	2
Orthography	Spelling errors are distracting, noticeable overuse of comas.	2
Total		8

Student 6
(137 words)

Dear friend,

I began my year 10 in 2009, it was something new. I was really scared for the first time in my whole life. I did not know what to expect from secondary school. I chose to continue to study in [...] because I was used to it and because a lot of my friends stayed aswell. Actually, half of my classmates were from my old class so I knew them pretty well. I also had an wonderful opertunity to get in touch with the new ones. The teachers looked very scary. I thought that I would not make it to the end, but that was just my impression. You shoud not be scared teachers are there to help you so do not be afraid to ask them for help.

Yours faithfully.

Contents	All the required content points are mentioned but lack development.	2
Organisation	The ideas are linked but some elements of a letter are missing (wrong greeting and closing remark). Paragraphing is not observed. The text exceeds the required length.	1
Grammar	Shows a certain degree of grammatical control. Errors do not hinder understanding.	3
Vocabulary	The vocabulary is sufficient for describing the event, mostly appropriately used.	3
Orthography	Spelling is mostly accurate, mistakes are present but do not lead to misunderstanding.	2
Total		11

Task 2 (25 points)

VISITING A MUSEUM

Some people think that museums are enjoyable and educational. Others think that museums are a waste of time and money. Discuss both these views and give your own opinion about the future of museums.

Remember you have to write between 200 and 250 words

Student 1

(207 words)

Dear Sir or Madam

I will tell you my opinion about museums.

Nowadays I guess more museums are visited by elder people or intelligent people. The reason why young people do not visit museums is high prices. I as a student do not have so much lunch money that I could visit a museum. The other reason may be that there are not many modern museums, for example, Wax Museum in my country. All these current museums are historical and nowadays youth is not interested in history. However a big problem is that the youth better choose to hang out with friends, go to a pub or a club. I like to visit museums but I do it rarely. Main reasons are time, money and variety. I would like to go to a museum, for example, about fashion, music, lifestyles, because these are some issues that are interesting for young people. Also an education level nowadays is very low, which shows that students are not interested in education or culture. I hope that in the future there will be more museums and that people will be more interested in culture than now. I suggest everyone to visit a museum once in their lives.

Yours faithfully

Rita Ozola

Contents	The author puts forward the main ideas about the advantages and disadvantages of museums; however, the arguments lack appropriate support, irrelevant ideas are apparent.	2
Organisation	Even though the author manages to link the ideas, the layout of the text does not meet the task requirements (letter instead of a composition). The text also lacks paragraphing.	2
Grammar	Shows quite good grammatical control, both simple and complex sentence forms are present, mistakes do not lead to misunderstanding.	3
Vocabulary	The vocabulary is sufficient but repetitive.	2
Orthography	Spelling of basic vocabulary is accurate	4
Total		13

Student 2

(333 words)

We all remember the time when visiting a museum with your classmates was obligatory and we all enjoyed them mostly because we did not have to attend lessons and it was always fun. However, when you grow up you realize that is not only a typical excursion but a place where to broaden your outlook.

There are two views about museums – the ones who think that museums are enjoyable and educational and those who say that they are a waste of time and money. If you ask me, then I find museums enjoyable and educational. People who enjoy them tend to be more educated in a particular field and they try, and most important – want, to find out more about it. Museum is a great place where to see different things inherited from past centuries. They all are unique and in a museum they are in a safe place. You can also take a guided tour where a specialized guide will give you a thorough information.

People who say that it is a waste of time and money are, in my opinion, immature. If they don't have time for their interests then what do they have time for? Of course, you can find almost everything on the Internet but, unfortunately, it is a completely different thing. You won't have the atmosphere and everything looks not as impressive as in reality. Besides, museums are not that expensive nowadays and open-door days are organized regularly.

Fortunately, people gradually realize the importance of museums. For the last few years the visitors of Muzeju nakts has increased which means that more and more people attend museums. In the future, despite Internet's influence, the interest should grow because the authenticity of ancient things is increasing over the years.

I visited three museums in this year's 'Muzeju nakts' and I loved the atmosphere and people who were educating themselves. Everyone of us has its own hobby and, to my mind, museum is the best place where to foster it.

Contents	All the content points are mentioned and highlighted; however, irrelevant information is apparent (e.g. paragraph 1). The text exceeds the required length.	3
Organisation	The writing is continuous and structured. However, lapses in the text structure (two introductory parts) and paragraphing diminish the quality of the text. The text also exceeds the required length.	3
Grammar	Show a high degree of grammatical control, minor errors and flaws in sentence structure occur but they do not hinder understanding.	4
Vocabulary	Broad vocabulary range used consistently.	5
Orthography	Spelling is consistent and accurate.	5
Total		20

Student 3

(299 words)

Nowadays some people think that museums are enjoyable and educational. Others think that museums are a waste of time and money. I will discuss both views' negative and positive aspects.

Firstly, people, who think that museums are interesting mostly themselves are sociable and educational. Visiting a museum people show their attitude that art is not boring for them. That means majority of people care museums' development in the future. No doubts that social life would be more develop if numerous people visit these places. From negative aspect I can say that if people be careless of this situation, museums in the future could lose its attractive. There would be any interest about it. Obviously, major problem is how to save museums.

Secondly, others think that museums are waste of time and money. On the one hand I can say that museums can be boring and most of people do not like it. On the other hand, no doubts that visiting museum need pay, moreover, if people decide to take a guide, who cost also good price. From the first view, humans choose attraction which is best for them. Nowadays in the every museum in my opinion need pay. Then how other people can visit museums if they do not have enough money? Thirdly, in my opinion, I think that nowadays museums are very boring. I could suggest renew old museums and make it modern and interesting for customers. Demand will be much higher that before. People want to see beautiful things. Obviously, to make it all better; also need material subjects. Therefore I agree that museums are just wast of my daily time.

All things considered, I strongly believe that I do not see the future for museums. In this case I can see only more disadvantages than advantages.

Contents	The content points are mentioned but lack focus in support. Ideas are jumbled and repetitive (e.g. 'museums are boring'). The required text length is exceeded.	2
Organisation	The text exceeds the required length. Linking devices are in abundance but their use is mostly inconsistent and unhelpful (e.g. on the one hand/on the other hand to add rather than to contrast ideas)	2
Grammar	The author uses both complex and simple structures with frequent errors.	2
Vocabulary	The author attempts to use complex vocabulary but fails to use it correctly. The vocabulary is repetitive with the obvious overuse of the rubric.	2
Orthography	Spelling is mostly accurate with some minor slips which do not lead to misunderstanding.	4
Total		12

Student 4

(206 words)

I tell you about Brivdabas Museums. Museums in Latvian. This museums is very big. Museums in Latvian is biggest. This museums is very beautiful.

Museums is very big and fet. I think that museums is Latvian traditional. This museums is wather. This tradicional is cool. I like this museums. People liked museums and this museums. Museums is horses, pig, rebits. This is fantastick museums. People going this museums because museums ir fantastick. People going that your holiday. Museoms work summer. Summer is beateful. Museum money is many. This iss very big museums and museums is many money. This museums ir very good. I besait very small girl that this museums bit. I think this ir fantastic museums. I think this museums is draiving. Museums working all days. Beautiful day people many visited museums.

I think museums is people like. Museums Latvian is very beautiful. I like this museums and I think this museums is countries beautifuli. Latvian countries is beautiful and museums are beautiful. I like my museums, way? I don't know way, but I think this museum is very very beautiful and fantastick.

Me many like museums. I think museums in dificual. Museums is very fantastic feel and great. I think this museums is wonderful.

Contents	The text bears no relevance to the task (general description of museums instead of comparing opinions).	0
Organisation		0
Grammar		0
Vocabulary		0
Orthography		0
Total		0

Student 5

(232 words)

One of the most popular tourist attractions is museums. They can be found in almost every city in the world, yet there are no two of a kind. Nevertheless, there is a conflict among the tourists – are museums educational or a waste of time?

Museums attract the curious type of tourists – the ones who are amazed by history and organized facts. Museums allow them to learn new things in a rather short time, as well as give a deeper insight in the particular topic. Museums are like books – they can be about anything, and that is what makes them so appealing to people.

On the other hand, many young people dislike museums because of the many restrictions there. Quite often taking photos is not allowed, as well as speaking loudly. The adventurous type of people cannot stand the prohibitions, and instead choose other activities. Another argument is that they can easily find all the necessary information on the Internet and there is no need for going to museums.

I believe that in the future the 'boring' museums will cease to exist, as our generation is not willing to pay for things they do not care about. Museums about such things as science fiction, photography or the Internet will, however, gain world-wide fame and recognition, as they are trying to break the prejudice of museums as boring places where only old people go.

Contents	The key points are mentioned but are not fully extended and supported.	3
Organisation	Even though the author does not use a variety of connectors and cohesive devices, the text is well-structured and quite easy to follow.	4
Grammar	Shows a relatively high degree of grammatical control with few minor lapses in sentence structure.	4
Vocabulary	A wide range of vocabulary used to the point.	5
Orthography	Spelling is consistently accurate.	5
Total		21

Student 6

(235 words)

Since the civilization has understood the importance of preserving its historical heritage, museums have become an important part of our cultural life. However, the rapid development of information technologies in recent years has increased the number of people, especially youngsters, who think that museums are old-fashioned and consider them as a waste of time and money.

A research performed on this topic has shown two main reasons for not attending museums – the first one is unpleasant previous experience during early school years when respondents were forced to attend museums. The other cause is a firm belief that everything that one will ever need in life can be easily found on Internet.

However, there are still many people who understand the difference between observing 'Mona Lisa' in real life and on their PC screens. And those are the ones our cultural future can be based on because they are not only visiting museums themselves but also getting involved in various cultural organizations and events like 'The Night of Museums' to encourage the others.

I am firmly concerned that museums still have their place in our society and modern technologies can be used not to replace museums but to make them more interesting. This approach has already been used in most famous museums and the number of visitors has increased. I hope other museums will also use IT to improve their exhibitions and attract more young visitors.

Contents	The given arguments are relevant and supported, though not fully extended.	4
Organisation	Even though the text lacks a variety of connectors and cohesive devices, it is well-structured and clear. The ideas are can be easily followed.	4
Grammar	Shows a high degree of grammatical accuracy, errors are difficult to spot.	5
Vocabulary	Broad lexical repertoire used consistently	5
Orthography	A lot of corrections and sloppy handwriting may cause strain to the reader.	4
Total		22

The above given sample has also been rated using CEF scales. The rating was carried out during the meeting of regional methods group leaders on September 23, 2011. CEFR level assigned to the text: C1. The script meets most of the requirements of C1 performance, providing a 'clear, well-structured text of complex subjects, [...] expanding and supporting points of view, [...] and rounding off with an appropriate conclusion.' The grammatical control is quite high with no apparent errors. The linguistic range of the script is broad and allows the writer to 'express him/herself clearly', which also corresponds to a C1 performance.