



Republic of Türkiye
Kahramanmaraş Sütçü İmam University
School of Foreign Languages
Proficiency Exam Specification for Students



1. Session 1 (Duration: 120 minutes; 70% of the total grade of 100)

Internal timing of Session 1 (120 minutes in total): Oral Comprehension 25 min → Reading 40 min → Linguistic Competence 15 min → Written Production and Interaction 40 min. The Oral Comprehension section is administered FIRST and is timed centrally for all candidates.

Answer sheet: all multiple-choice items (Reading Text 1, Linguistic Competence, Oral Comprehension Listening 2) are marked on a separate optical answer sheet. Open-ended, matching, note-taking and writing tasks are written in the examination booklet. No extra time is given for transferring answers.

1.1. Reading (30% of the total grade)

Students can:		Question Type	Numbers of Questions / Sample questions
Text 1 (10 points)	- differentiate between factual information and the writer's opinions or beliefs. - understand how reference words and linking	Multiple-choice item	An example reading text and questions: The Benefits of Urban Gardens Urban gardens have become increasingly popular in many cities. These projects allow people to grow fruits and vegetables in areas that were previously unused. They also provide

expressions connect ideas in a text.

- recognize how a text is organized and how ideas are developed.

opportunities for communities to work together and create greener environments.

Many researchers believe that urban gardens can improve people's quality of life. Hence, several local governments have started supporting these projects through funding and educational programs. However, some critics argue that urban gardens require significant time and maintenance.

According to a recent study, the number of urban gardens in major cities increased by 30% between 2018 and 2023. This shows that interest in local food production continues to grow.

1. What does the word "These projects" refer to in the first paragraph?

- A) Cities
 - B) Urban gardens
 - C) Fruits and vegetables
 - D) Communities
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2. What is the function of the word “Hence” in the second paragraph?

- A) To introduce a contrast
- B) To show a result or consequence
- C) To provide an example
- D) To add a similar idea

3. Which statement is presented as a fact in the passage?

- A) Urban gardens are the best solution for city problems.
- B) Urban gardens make people happier.
- C) The number of urban gardens increased by 30% between 2018 and 2023.
- D) All cities should create more urban gardens.

4. How is the passage organized?

- A) A problem is introduced, followed by possible solutions.
 - B) A topic is introduced, followed by benefits, challenges, and supporting evidence.
 - C) Two different ideas are compared throughout the text.
 - D) Events are explained in chronological order.
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	5. Which of the following is presented as an opinion rather than a fact? A) Urban gardens allow people to grow fruits and vegetables in unused areas. B) Urban gardens can improve people's quality of life. C) The number of urban gardens increased by 30% between 2018 and 2023. D) Several local governments have started supporting urban gardens.
Text 2 (10 points)	- understand the meaning of unfamiliar words by using clues from the surrounding text. - recognize the writer's purpose, viewpoint, and attitude toward the topic. - make logical conclusions based on information that is stated or implied in a text Open-ended questions - An example reading text and questions: The Use of Artificial Intelligence in Education Artificial intelligence (AI) tools are becoming more common in education. Many schools use these technologies to provide personalized learning opportunities and help students receive faster feedback. However, some teachers remain reluctant to adopt AI tools because they are concerned about privacy issues and the possible reduction of human interaction. The purpose of this article is to discuss both the benefits and challenges of using AI in education. While AI can support

learning, it should be used carefully and together with effective teaching methods. Overall, the writer believes that AI has potential value but should not replace teachers.

Answer each question using no more than 5 words.

1. The word “reluctant” is closest in meaning to: _____
(expected answer: unwilling / hesitant).
2. Why did the author write this article? To _____
(expected answer: discuss AI benefits and challenges).
3. The writer’s attitude toward AI in education is best described as: _____ (expected answer: cautiously positive / balanced).
4. The author’s tone in the passage is: _____ (expected answer: objective / balanced).
5. What can be inferred from the above statement? _____
(expected answer: some teachers need more support.)

Text 3 (10 points)	• identify the main idea and overall message of a text. • find and understand important details and	Matching
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- An example matching task — five statements (2 points each); a paragraph may be used more than once:
- Match the statements (1–5) with the paragraphs (A–D). A paragraph may be used more than once.
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supporting information in a
text.

Reading Text

The Changing Role of Libraries in the Digital Age

Paragraph A

Libraries have traditionally been places where people access printed books and study in a quiet environment. However, the role of libraries has changed significantly in recent years due to technological developments. Modern libraries now provide a wider range of services that support learning, research, and communication.

Paragraph B

One important change is the increasing availability of digital resources. Many libraries now offer online databases, electronic books, and digital research materials. These resources allow students and researchers to access information without needing to visit the library building.

Paragraph C

In addition to providing digital resources, many libraries have created new learning spaces. These areas include group discussion rooms, technology centers, and collaborative workspaces where students can work together and develop new skills.

Paragraph D

Despite these changes, libraries continue to serve their original purpose of supporting education and access to information. By combining traditional services with modern technologies, libraries remain valuable learning environments for communities.

Match the statements (1–5) with the paragraphs (A–D). Write the correct letter. A paragraph may be used more than once.

1. The paragraph explains the overall transformation of libraries and their changing role in modern society.
 2. The paragraph summarizes how libraries have maintained their importance by adapting to new needs.
 3. The paragraph explains that users can access information through online resources.
 4. The paragraph describes new areas designed for cooperation and student activities.
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5. The paragraph mentions that libraries provide both traditional and modern services.

1.2. Linguistic Competence (20% of the total grade)

Linguistic Competence total: 10 vocabulary items + 10 grammar items = 20 items × 1 point = 20 points.

Students can:	Question Type	Numbers of Questions / Sample questions
1 point per question (20 items × 1 point = 20 points)	Multiple-choice item	- Ten multiple-choice items with four options. Some examples: “The results of the study were significant, showing a clear difference between the two groups.” What does significant mean in this context? A) Important and meaningful B) Difficult to explain C) Unrelated to the topic D) Unexpected and temporary - The researcher collected additional evidence to _____ the findings of the study. A) support B) ignore C) replace D) question

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- recognize and use accurate grammatical structures to understand meaning in different contexts.

- understand and apply a range of grammatical forms, including more complex sentence structures.

Multiple-choice item

3. The project was successful because all team members worked together effectively. The phrase “worked together effectively” means:

- A) completed tasks without communication
- B) collaborated successfully to achieve a goal
- C) competed to achieve better results
- D) worked separately on different projects

- Ten items in total (1 point each):

- Grammar cloze test: five gapped items with five options each (A–E)
- Five separate multiple-choice items with four options (A–D)

1. If students _____ their time effectively, they will be able to complete their assignments on time.

- A) manage
 - B) managed
 - C) will manage
 - D) have managed
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Reading Text

The Benefits of Exercise

Regular exercise plays an important role in maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Although many people have busy schedules, they can improve their health if they (1) _____ physical activity into their daily routines. Exercise not only helps people stay fit but also improves mental well-being. In recent years, more research (2) _____ that regular exercise can reduce stress levels and increase concentration. However, some people avoid exercising because they believe it requires too much time. Experts recommend that individuals (3) _____ realistic goals and develop consistent habits. If people exercise regularly, they (4) _____ experience both physical and psychological benefits. For this reason, exercise (5) _____ an essential part of a balanced lifestyle.

1.

- A) include
 - B) included
 - C) will include
 - D) have included
-

E) had included

2.

A) shows

B) showed

C) has shown

D) was showing

E) had shown

3.

A) set

B) setting

C) to set

D) sets

E) have set

4.

A) would

B) will

C) have

D) had

E) were

5.

A) considers

B) considered

C) has considered

D) should be considered

E) considering

1.3. Oral Comprehension (20% of the total grade)

Administration: each listening text is played TWICE. This section is administered first in Session 1 and is timed centrally (25 minutes in total).

Item distribution: Listening 1 = 3 items (6 points), Listening 2 = 5 items (10 points), Listening 3 = 2 items (4 points). Total = 10 items × 2 points = 20 points.

Students can:		Question Type	Numbers of Questions / Sample questions
Listening 1 (6 points)	- identify the main idea - identify specific information such as facts, details, names, numbers, and events in a spoken text.	Sentence completion task	- Three sentence completion questions. Some examples: - What is the main topic of the talk? - According to the speaker, how many students participated in the research project? - Why does the speaker recommend using public transportation?

	understand important supporting details, examples, and explanations in spoken text.	
Listening 2 (10 points)	- identify the speaker's attitude, opinions, and purpose in spoken texts. - make logical conclusions based on information that is directly stated or implied in spoken texts. - understand the meaning of unfamiliar words and expressions by using contextual clues. - understand how ideas are connected and how speakers support their ideas with examples or evidence.	Multiple-choice listening analysis task - Five multiple-choice items with four options each (2 points per item): - What is the speaker's attitude toward online education? A) Completely negative B) Generally positive but realistic about challenges C) Uncertain about its usefulness D) Completely opposed to traditional education - Why does the speaker mention the example of successful companies? A) To show that online learning can be effective in practice B) To explain why companies avoid technology C) To compare different business models D) To criticize workplace training programs - What can be inferred about the students mentioned by the speaker?

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- A) They may have better opportunities in future workplaces.
 - B) They do not need traditional learning skills.
 - C) They prefer working without technology.
 - D) They are unlikely to find employment.

4. What does the speaker imply about future employment?

- A) Digital skills will become increasingly important.
- B) Technology will replace all workers.
- C) Traditional skills will no longer be useful.
- D) Online education will eliminate universities.

5. The speaker says: “The project faced several obstacles before it was finally completed.” What do *obstacles* mean?

- A) Achievements
- B) Challenges or difficulties
- C) Improvements
- D) Opportunities

Listening
3
(4 points)

- follow and understand longer spoken texts, including discussions, lectures, and conversations.

Note-taking

- An example structure:

1. Main idea:

-
- a. “Renewable energy sources are becoming increasingly important because they provide more (1) _____ alternatives to traditional energy sources.”
 - b. Advantages of renewable energy:
2. Environmental benefits:
- a. Produces fewer (2) _____ emissions and helps reduce the effects of climate change.
3. Speaker’s conclusion:
- a. ~~The future of energy depends on finding a balance between technological development and (3) _____ protection.”~~
 - b. Speaker’s conclusion: The future of energy depends on finding a balance between technological development and environmental protection.”
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1.4. Written Production and Interaction (30 points)

	Students can:	Question Type	Numbers of Questions / Sample questions
Writing 1 (20 points)	introduce a topic clearly, explain ideas, and organize information in a logical way.	Writing an opinion essay	A sample question and progression: 1. “You are contributing to a discussion in your university’s student magazine about campus life. The magazine has invited

		students to share their views on how universities can better support student success: ‘Universities should focus more on practical skills and work experience rather than only academic knowledge.’ Write an opinion essay responding to the statement (200 words). In your essay: ○ explain whether you agree or disagree with the opinion, ○ discuss the reasons for your position, ○ provide examples to support your ideas.”
Writing 2 (10 points)	Responding to a given text	• Two sample questions: 1. “You are participating in an online discussion about university education. A student writes: ‘I think students learn better when they study independently rather than attending traditional classes.’ Write a response to the student’s opinion. State whether you agree or disagree and explain your reasons.” 2. “Your department is preparing a guide for new students. You have been asked to summarize an article about study strategies to make new students understand key recommendations. Write a summary of the article for the student guide. Include the main points and important supporting information (100 words).”

2. Session 2 (Duration: 8–10 minutes per candidate; scored out of 100 and weighted at 30% of the final grade)

a. Oral Production and Interaction (100 points; 30% of the final grade)

Scoring: Session 2 is scored out of 100 using the institutional analytic speaking rubric (Speaking 1 = 50 points, Speaking 2 = 50 points).

Final grade = (Session 1 score × 0.70) + (Session 2 score × 0.30). Both sessions are scored out of 100. Pass mark = 70.

Duration per candidate: 2 min preparation + 3–4 min individual presentation (Phase 1) + 3–4 min examiner discussion (Phase 2) = 8–10 minutes.

	Students can:	Question Type	Numbers of Questions / Sample questions
Speaking 1 (50 points)	- produce clear, detailed, and well-organized spoken texts - describe experiences, events, and processes with appropriate detail - express and develop opinions by providing relevant reasons and examples - deliver structured presentations with a clear introduction, development, and conclusion	Individual presentation task	Phase 1 (Preparation time: 2 minutes; speaking time: 3-4 minutes) An example prompt: 1. “You are participating in a university orientation event. New students are interested in learning about effective ways to manage university life. You have been invited to give a short talk sharing your experience and advice. Talk about a challenging experience you have had and explain how you managed it. In your response: - describe the experience clearly, - explain the steps you took to deal with the situation, - discuss what you learned from the experience, - give advice to other students.”

	• use appropriate language, tone, and register for different speaking contexts • communicate information accurately and effectively.	
Speaking 2 (50 points)	• compare options and discuss their advantages and disadvantages • take part in longer discussions and exchange ideas; ask questions, clarify ideas, and respond appropriately • agree, disagree, and express different viewpoints • explain their opinions and personal perspectives • communicate effectively in academic and professional situations.	Integrated presentation + discussion task with the examiner • Phase 2: Examiner Discussion Phase (Discussion time: 3-4 minutes) Sample examiner questions: 1. You mentioned that this experience was challenging. What was the most difficult part of the situation for you? 2. Looking back, would you handle the situation differently now? Why or why not? 3. What skills or qualities helped you overcome this challenge? 4. Which is more effective for dealing with challenges: careful planning or flexibility? Why? 5. Do you think university students today face more challenges than students did in the past? Why? 6. Some people believe that students should solve their problems independently, while others think they should seek support from others. What is your opinion?