

## INTERNATIONAL VOCATIONAL ENGLISH EXAMINATIONS



## **English for Firefighter Examination:**

General Description

PART 1

Listening

(approx. 10 minutes)

Task type: Multiple choice

Format: ten unrelated dialogues of about 30 seconds' duration, each followed by a 3-option multiple

choice item

The candidates listen to a short dialogue, then choose the correct statement from three that are based on the dialogue. The recordings are dialogues between two interacting speakers (conversations, interviews, discussions, etc.).

Task Focus: identifying detail, understanding and interpreting information, specific information, gist,

detail, main idea, function, purpose, attitude, opinion, etc.

**Marking Scheme:** 10 items x 2 points = 20 points

NOTE: Each part is heard twice.

PART 2

Knowledge of Linguistic Means (20 minutes) Task type: Multiple choice

Format: 18 4-option multiple choice sentences

Task Focus: lexical

**Marking Scheme:** 18 items x 2 points = 36 points

**Topic areas:** fires; firefighters and their qualities, roles and health; fire departments; clothing, equipment and tools; equipment maintenance; types of buildings and parts of buildings; common hazards; safety procedures; fuel classifications; fire extinguishers; sprinkler and detection systems; water supplies, hydrants and hoses; ladders; communications and radio procedures; responding to a fire; fire suppression; search and victim removal; motor vehicle rescue; medical response; disaster and terrorist response; salvage and cause

determination; prevention and awareness; knots and ropes; measurements

PART 3

Knowledge of Language Functions (15 minutes) Task type: Multiple choice

Format: 16 2-option multiple choice exchanges

Task Focus: lexico-grammatical

**Marking Scheme:** 16 items x 1 point = 16 points

**Functions:** adding information; agreeing with an opinion; answering a phone; asking about job experience/for more information; confirming information; correcting a misconception/oneself; describing experience/a plan/consequences/a challenge/importance/severity; emphasizing a point; expressing surprise/confidence/empathy/frustration/doubt/confusion/a preference/amazement/agreement/urgency/relief; giving a warning/a reminder/instructions/a compliment; making an estimate/a suggestion/a comparison/an apology; showing understanding; stressing a point; talking about benefits/about possibilities/condition; trying to remember something; wishing someone luck

PART 4
Reading

Reading (10 minutes)

Task type: Multiple choice - True/False/Doesn't say

**Format:** Three short texts (60-100 words each) containing factual information related to the field of firefighting; the first two texts are followed by two 3-option multiple choice questions each, while the third text is followed by two True/False/Doesn't say questions.

Task Focus: understanding detail, specific information, implication, attitude, reference and meaning

**Marking Scheme:** 6 items x 3 points = 18 points

**NOTE:** All the texts are related to the specific field of study.

PART 5

Writing Awareness (5 minutes)

Task type: A gapped or jumbled text of approx. 200 words

**Format:** A gapped text from which five sentence pairs have been removed and placed in jumbled order above the text (together with an extra option as a distractor)/A gapped text with five 3-option multiple choice sentences for each gap/A jumbled text which has to be organized in paragraphs (together with three extra paragraphs as distractors)

Task Focus: recognition of writing features and language as required in their field of study

**Marking Scheme:** 5 items x 2 points = 10 points

NOTE: The candidate may be asked to complete a quiz, a form, an evaluation, an email, an article, a company assignment request, an equipment replacement request, a training scenario, an incident report, a disciplinary report, a consultation request, a message, notes, a proposal, an inspection summary, study notes, a maintenance form, a memo, an advertisement, a doctor's note or a press release. This task is based on elements of writing that the candidates will need to produce in the field of firefighting for professional purposes.

**Duration: 60 minutes** 

Marks: TOTAL: 100 points