

INTERNATIONAL VOCATIONAL ENGLISH EXAMINATIONS



English for Law 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: basic legal terms and concepts; legal resources; legal documents; court structure; court process and etiquette; criminal/civil/administrative law; interviewing clients and witnesses; affidavits; legal memorandums; motions; torts; liability; contracts; professional conduct; attorney-client privilege; time management; document retention; legal billing; criminal procedure; types of evidence; alternative dispute resolution; arbitration; mediation; international law

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: asking for information/a favor/an explanation/help/an opinion/confirmation/permission/a reason; giving advice; confirming details; giving a reminder; asking about outcomes/price; expressing surprise/an opinion/confusion/sympathy/hope; stating agreement; asking permission; making a recommendation; describing degree/work experience/a problem; making comparisons; introducing yourself; stating requirements; making an appointment; describing possible consequences; stating uncertainty; asking about availability; greeting someone; eliciting information; clarifying what someone means; adding information; describing plans; discussing timeframes; identifying self on phone; offering something to someone; assigning responsibility; making an argument for something;

PART 4

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 law; 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 (5 minutes)

Task type: A gapped text

Format: One text (100-200 words) from which five sentences, phrases, words or headings have been removed and placed in a jumbled order, together with an extra option as a distractor, above the text. **Task Focus:** recognition of writing features and language as required in their field of study

Marking Scheme: 5 items x 2 points = 10 points

NOTES: The candidate may be asked to complete an email, a letter, an update, an official complaint, a recommendation, a message, attorney's notes, a paralegal's notes, notes about pre-trial hearing, inteviewer's notes, witness interview notes, business notes, notes about selecting a jury for trial, minutes from a meeting, a legal memo, briefs filed in a case, notes giving advice, notes on international law, a report of a case or an evidence report. This task is based on elements of writing that the candidates will need to produce in the field of law for professional purposes.

Duration: 60 minutes

Marks: TOTAL: 100 points

