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INTERNATIONAL
VOCATIONAL ENGLISH

# INTERNATIONAL VOCATIONAL ENGLISH EXAMINATIONS 

English for Physician Assistants Examination:<br>General Description

| PART 1 <br> Listening <br> (approx. 10 minutes) | Task type: Multiple choice <br> Format: ten unrelated dialogues of about 30 seconds' duration, each followed by a 3-option multiple choice item <br> 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.). <br> Task Focus: identifying detail, understanding and interpreting information, specific information, gist, detail, main idea, function, purpose, attitude, opinion, etc. <br> Marking Scheme: 10 items $\times 2$ points $=20$ points <br> NOTE: Each part is heard twice. |
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| PART 2 <br> Knowledge of Linguistic Means (20 minutes) | Task type: Multiple choice <br> Format: 18 4-option multiple choice sentences <br> Task Focus: lexical <br> Marking Scheme: 18 items x 2 points $=36$ points <br> Topic areas: the hospital; hospital staff and equipment; anatomy; the human systems; medication (types, prescription, measurements and frequency); tissue types; patient history; physical examinations; vital signs; symptoms; diagnostic tests \& equipment; imaging equipment; hygiene; types of illness/injury/ailments/diseases; diagnosis \& treatment; wound care; infections; counselling and therapy; education and training; schedules; hours; rotations; work environments; career outlook |
| PART 3 <br> Knowledge of Language Functions (15 minutes) | Task type: Multiple choice <br> Format: 16 2-option multiple choice exchanges <br> Task Focus: lexico-grammatical <br> Marking Scheme: 16 items $\times 1$ point = 16 points <br> Functions: providing reassurance/options/support; giving directions/examples/warnings/ advice/a reminder; expressing relief/an opinion/sympathy; asking about pain/location/ symptoms; describing priorities/a procedure/pain/condition/location/amounts/frequency/a disorder/steps in a process/ experience/order; delivering good/bad news; requesting an example; stressing a point; assigning responsibility; explaining meaning/results; discussing risks/pros and cons; checking understanding; pointing out an error; enquiring about knowledge; correcting yourself; stating an opinion; asking for details/more information; taking a medical history; reporting observations; introducing a procedure; talking about location; reacting to bad news |
| PART 4 <br> Reading <br> (10 minutes) | Task type: Multiple choice - True/False/Doesn't say <br> Format: Three short texts (60-100 words each) containing factual information related to the job of a physician assistant; 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. <br> Task Focus: understanding detail, specific information, implication, attitude, reference and meaning <br> Marking Scheme: 6 items $\times 3$ points $=18$ points <br> NOTE: All the texts are related to the specific field of study. |
| PART 5 <br> Writing Awareness (5 minutes) | Task type: A gapped or jumbled text of approx. 200 words <br> Format: Gapped text - a text with five gaps to be filled with either one sentence from a choice of three or, one pair of sentences from a choice of six or, an appropriate word or, information from two short texts. Jumbled text - seven or eight paragraphs, of which five are to be organized into a text. Task Focus: Recognition of writing features and language as required in their field of studies. <br> Marking Scheme: 5 items $\times 2$ points $=10$ points <br> NOTE: The candidate may be asked to complete a webpage, an article, a blog, a handbook, a chart, a textbook excerpt, a poster, a pamphlet, notes, instructions, a list, a study guide, a medical history, a form, a report, a job listing, a memo, a newsletter, an announcement, a sheet, a checklist, an equipment request, a letter or a journal entry. This task is based on elements of writing that the candidates will need to produce as a professional physician assistant. |
| Duration: 60 minutes | Marks: TOTAL: 100 points |

