

Occupational English Test (OET) Writing Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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Questions

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- 1. In what form is the OET Reading section presented?**
 - A. Short essays and long narratives**
 - B. Multiple-choice and short-answer questions based on various texts**
 - C. Focused grammar exercises and vocabulary quizzes**
 - D. Listening comprehension exercises and spoken responses**
- 2. What are candidates required to do in the Listening section of the OET?**
 - A. Listen to healthcare-related dialogues and then summarize them**
 - B. Listen to a range of healthcare-related dialogues and monologues, then answer questions**
 - C. Participate in group discussions about healthcare topics**
 - D. None of the above**
- 3. Which piece of information is NOT typically included in the subject line of a letter?**
 - A. Patient's name**
 - B. Patient's age**
 - C. Recipient's job title**
 - D. Patient's date of birth**
- 4. What is the suitable focus when discharging a patient to a social worker?**
 - A. Clinical details surrounding the treatment**
 - B. Social factors rather than medical details**
 - C. Patient's educational background**
 - D. Previous hospital admissions and outcomes**
- 5. What is the advantage of including a conclusion in OET writing?**
 - A. It provides a summary of shorter points**
 - B. It helps reinforce the main message and allows for closure**
 - C. It is not necessary in formal writing**
 - D. It should only restate the introduction**

- 6. What should a candidate do if they run out of time during the OET writing task?**
- A. Submit the incomplete work**
 - B. Prioritize completing the most critical sections to convey the essential message**
 - C. Focus on editing their work**
 - D. Start writing as quickly as possible to finish**
- 7. Which phrase indicates a polite assertion of future assistance?**
- A. It would be greatly appreciated if**
 - B. With regard to her medication**
 - C. During initial examination**
 - D. Recently**
- 8. Why is familiarity with the healthcare context important for OET candidates?**
- A. It allows candidates to specialize in one area**
 - B. It helps communicate and understand medical terminology**
 - C. It is not important for candidates**
 - D. It ensures candidates can avoid patient contact**
- 9. Which choice best demonstrates a polite request for more details in a business context?**
- A. If you will, please let me know.**
 - B. If you have any other questions, please feel free to ask.**
 - C. If you feel so, let me know your thoughts.**
 - D. If you require assistance, just shout.**
- 10. How does practicing OET writing tasks improve overall performance?**
- A. By increasing familiarity with the exam format and expectations**
 - B. By allowing for creative writing styles**
 - C. By enabling faster reading skills**
 - D. By improving speaking skills**

Answers

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- 1. B**
- 2. B**
- 3. C**
- 4. B**
- 5. B**
- 6. B**
- 7. A**
- 8. B**
- 9. B**
- 10. A**

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Explanations

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1. In what form is the OET Reading section presented?

- A. Short essays and long narratives
- B. Multiple-choice and short-answer questions based on various texts**
- C. Focused grammar exercises and vocabulary quizzes
- D. Listening comprehension exercises and spoken responses

The OET Reading section is designed to assess the reading comprehension skills of candidates in a healthcare context. This part of the exam includes multiple-choice and short-answer questions that are derived from a variety of texts related to healthcare professions. These texts may include articles, patient information leaflets, and other materials that healthcare professionals are likely to encounter in their work. The use of multiple-choice and short-answer formats allows examiners to evaluate the ability of candidates to understand, interpret, and analyze information effectively. It focuses on practical reading skills that are essential for communicating with patients and colleagues, making it highly relevant for those working in healthcare settings. In contrast, the other options do not align with the structure of the OET Reading section. Short essays or long narratives would require a different type of analysis and response that is not reflective of the exam's intention to test comprehension of specific information. Focused grammar exercises and vocabulary quizzes assess language mechanics rather than reading comprehension, and listening comprehension exercises along with spoken responses pertain to a different part of the examination, which assesses auditory skills instead of reading skills.

2. What are candidates required to do in the Listening section of the OET?

- A. Listen to healthcare-related dialogues and then summarize them
- B. Listen to a range of healthcare-related dialogues and monologues, then answer questions**
- C. Participate in group discussions about healthcare topics
- D. None of the above

In the Listening section of the OET, candidates are required to listen to a variety of healthcare-related dialogues and monologues, and then answer questions based on what they have heard. This involves understanding different scenarios relevant to healthcare, such as consultations, interactions between health professionals, and discussions with patients. By answering questions after listening, candidates demonstrate their ability to comprehend spoken English in a healthcare context, which is essential for effective communication in the workplace. The focus on understanding context, tone, and specific details ensures that candidates are equipped with the listening skills necessary for real-life interactions in healthcare settings. This reflects the actual demands of the profession, where listening to various healthcare conversations is crucial for providing adequate care and support.

3. Which piece of information is NOT typically included in the subject line of a letter?

- A. Patient's name**
- B. Patient's age**
- C. Recipient's job title**
- D. Patient's date of birth**

The information that is typically not included in the subject line of a letter is the recipient's job title. The subject line serves primarily to provide a concise summary of the main topic of the letter, often focusing on the patient's key identifiers, such as their name, age, or date of birth. Including the patient's name is essential for clarity and identification, allowing the recipient to quickly recognize the subject matter. The patient's age may also be relevant, particularly in a medical or clinical context where age-related considerations play a role in treatment. Furthermore, the patient's date of birth is crucial for accurate identification and for differentiating between patients with similar names. In contrast, the recipient's job title is typically not a priority in conveying the main purpose of the letter. The content of the letter itself would provide context for the recipient's role, making it unnecessary to include their title in the subject line. Thus, focusing on key patient information in the subject line enhances communication effectiveness while keeping it relevant and succinct.

4. What is the suitable focus when discharging a patient to a social worker?

- A. Clinical details surrounding the treatment**
- B. Social factors rather than medical details**
- C. Patient's educational background**
- D. Previous hospital admissions and outcomes**

When discharging a patient to a social worker, the most suitable focus is on social factors rather than medical details. This is because social workers play a critical role in assessing and addressing the patient's social needs, which may include their living situation, family support, financial resources, and community connections. These elements are essential for ensuring that the patient can adequately manage their health and well-being after leaving the healthcare facility. While clinical details surrounding the treatment, a patient's educational background, and previous hospital admissions and outcomes can provide valuable context, they are primarily medical in nature and not the primary concern of a social worker. The focus on social factors allows the social worker to develop a plan that addresses potential barriers to care and support systems necessary for the patient's recovery and integration into their community.

5. What is the advantage of including a conclusion in OET writing?

A. It provides a summary of shorter points

B. It helps reinforce the main message and allows for closure

C. It is not necessary in formal writing

D. It should only restate the introduction

Including a conclusion in OET writing serves a pivotal role in reinforcing the main message and providing closure to the reader. A well-crafted conclusion consolidates the key points that have been presented in the writing, ensuring that the central theme is clearly communicated and understood. It helps the reader synthesize the information by highlighting its significance and implications. By bringing the discussion to a close, a conclusion also assures the reader that all necessary points have been covered, and it can leave a lasting impression. This is especially relevant in a professional context, where clarity and effectiveness in communication are paramount. In contrast, simply summarizing shorter points or restating the introduction does not adequately capture the broader purpose of a conclusion, which is to emphasize the overall message and provide a final perspective. Furthermore, while formal writing can take on many forms, a strong conclusion remains a valuable element in most instances, enhancing the overall quality and impact of the text.

6. What should a candidate do if they run out of time during the OET writing task?

A. Submit the incomplete work

B. Prioritize completing the most critical sections to convey the essential message

C. Focus on editing their work

D. Start writing as quickly as possible to finish

In the context of the OET writing task, if a candidate finds themselves short on time, prioritizing the completion of the most critical sections is the best strategy. This approach allows the candidate to ensure that the essential messages are clearly communicated, even if not every part of the task is finished. By focusing on the most significant aspects, such as the patient's condition, key recommendations, and any vital details, the candidate can still deliver a coherent and effective piece of writing that serves its purpose. This is crucial in a healthcare setting where clear communication can impact patient outcomes. In contrast, submitting an incomplete work does not demonstrate the candidate's ability to convey important information effectively. Concentrating on editing, while valuable in principle, might not be possible if the writing task is unfinished, as there will be no content to refine. Lastly, hastily writing just to finish can lead to errors and poorly constructed sentences that undermine the overall clarity and professionalism of the communication, ultimately detracting from the candidate's performance. Therefore, prioritizing critical sections strikes a balance between time management and content quality.

7. Which phrase indicates a polite assertion of future assistance?

A. It would be greatly appreciated if

B. With regard to her medication

C. During initial examination

D. Recently

The phrase "It would be greatly appreciated if" effectively conveys a polite assertion of future assistance. It communicates a request or suggestion while maintaining a respectful and courteous tone. By using this phrase, the speaker acknowledges the other person's potential efforts and expresses gratitude in advance for any help rendered, creating a positive interaction. The other choices do not serve the purpose of indicating future assistance. "With regard to her medication" focuses on specific information related to a patient's treatment and lacks any implication of future help. "During initial examination" is descriptive and refers to a specific time without suggesting any subsequent support. "Recently" simply indicates a time frame without any connection to assistance being offered or expected.

8. Why is familiarity with the healthcare context important for OET candidates?

A. It allows candidates to specialize in one area

B. It helps communicate and understand medical terminology

C. It is not important for candidates

D. It ensures candidates can avoid patient contact

Familiarity with the healthcare context is crucial for OET candidates because it enhances their ability to communicate effectively and understand medical terminology, which is essential for safe and effective patient care. When candidates have a solid grasp of the healthcare environment, they can navigate conversations with healthcare professionals and patients more efficiently. Medical terminology is often complex and specific, and being knowledgeable about it can prevent misunderstandings in clinical settings. This understanding also enables candidates to respond appropriately to patients' inquiries and provide clear explanations regarding treatments and procedures. Thus, effective communication, which hinges on familiarity with healthcare vocabulary and concepts, is vital for ensuring high-quality care and minimizing the risk of errors in practice.

9. Which choice best demonstrates a polite request for more details in a business context?

- A. If you will, please let me know.**
- B. If you have any other questions, please feel free to ask.**
- C. If you feel so, let me know your thoughts.**
- D. If you require assistance, just shout.**

The choice that best demonstrates a polite request for more details in a business context is framed in a manner that encourages open communication. It offers an invitation for further inquiries without imposing on the recipient. The phrase "please feel free to ask" suggests a supportive atmosphere where questions are welcome, fostering a respectful dialogue. In a business environment, maintaining professionalism and courtesy is essential. This option does not come across as directive or casual, ensuring that the recipient feels comfortable reaching out for additional information or clarification. Such language is critical in promoting effective communication in professional interactions.

10. How does practicing OET writing tasks improve overall performance?

- A. By increasing familiarity with the exam format and expectations**
- B. By allowing for creative writing styles**
- C. By enabling faster reading skills**
- D. By improving speaking skills**

Practicing OET writing tasks significantly enhances overall performance primarily by increasing familiarity with the exam format and expectations. Understanding the specific structure, types of tasks, and assessment criteria used in the OET allows candidates to align their writing with what examiners are looking for. When students engage in writing practice, they learn how to effectively organize their thoughts, utilize proper medical terminology, and adhere to the conventions of formal communication required in the healthcare context. This organized approach not only improves their writing quality but also reduces anxiety on exam day, as students feel more confident navigating the format and fulfilling the requirements. Familiarity with the test enhances not just writing abilities but also boosts overall competence in exam strategies, contributing to a better performance across all areas evaluated in the OET.