

Uniwersytet Zielonogórski, Instytut Neofilologii, KFA

Egzamin z praktycznej nauki języka angielskiego:

Paper 3 - Writing Test – 2014 (L4W14V3)

Poziom 4

Time allowed 90 minutes

(RELEASED TO PUBLIC DOMAIN JAN 2016)

February 17, 2014

[Scores: H = A =]

NAME BOX

Full

Name _____ (Please
print clearly)

Please do not identify yourself in any way on any other parts of the test paper.

Instructions:

Please write in **BLACK** or **BLUE INK ONLY**.

Write your **FULL** name on this cover sheet in the name box. Do not write your name or other identifying marks anywhere else on the test paper or your answer paper.

Follow the instructions for each task.

Legible handwriting is required for your paper to be assessed.

Correct spelling is part of the assessment.

During the exam you should work alone and not talk.

Do not leave the exam room until you have handed in your test paper.

You are kindly asked to sign the declaration below at the end of the test if you agree with it.

Declaration: *I have been able to answer the questions on this test paper to the best of my ability without any external disturbances and have no complaints about the execution of the exam procedures.*

Signed date

Choose **ONE** of the three questions 1-3.

Write an essay **paraphrasing** and **evaluating** the key points from both text prompts. **Synthesise** the ideas and **decide** whether to support one point of view, the other point of view, a combination or neither of them. Use your **own words** throughout as far as possible, and include your **own ideas** in your answer.

Write your answer in 350-400 words.

Excessive word-for-word copying will be penalised.

QUESTION CHOICE 1

Our personality

It is a truth universally acknowledged that we inherit characteristics from our parents. It is pretty obvious that our build, hair colour and eye colour are a direct result of the genetic make-up of our parents. However, if we dwell for a moment on concepts such as intelligence, aggression and personality, who could state definitely whether these stem from our DNA or the environment in which we grow up? One theory that is starting to gain ground is that both play a role, that is to say, that genetics gives us our core abilities and traits and that our environment and upbringing hammer them into shape.

Twins: a case in points

Twins provide an interesting insight into the role of nature and nurture in fostering traits such as intelligence, aggression, and personality. Certainly, one would expect identical twins, raised in the same environment, to mirror each other in personality as well as looks. Yet results show similarities to a startling degree between the characters of identical twins even when raised apart. For many, the issue of whether nature or nurture defines who we are is thorny one. However, it is now a common belief that, although our genes increase the likelihood of certain traits coming to the fore, we cannot escape the influence of the environment in which we find ourselves.

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QUESTION CHOICE 2

The changing world of work

Technology has dramatically altered the world of work in the last century. Previously, many tasks that were undertaken by hand are now carried out by machine, and many processes are now fully automated. In recent years, many such changes have resulted from improvements in telecommunications that allow for remote working. It means that companies can save money as they do not need to accommodate so many staff in one location or pay their employees to travel around the country or abroad. In addition companies can make savings by being more flexible about where their offices are based.

Work-life balance

Whilst technological changes have clearly had a number of benefits for companies, the same could perhaps not be said for families. More and more people are working from home, which is causing a blur between the boundaries of the home environment and the work environment. It also means that people are starting to work longer and more irregular hours, especially as more and more business is done internationally. Consequently, many families are feeling an additional and unwelcome strain.

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QUESTION CHOICE 3

Out of control

The boom-bust cycle of world economies is hardly a modern phenomenon, spanning some 400 years in various guises. The pursuit of wealth through speculation on markets exemplifies the inextricable link, to the human mind, between money and happiness. However, were it simply a matter of acquiring enough valuable commodities to maintain a certain standard of living then perhaps the constant maelstrom of economic growth followed by the despair of recession could be avoided. Unfortunately, once one man becomes rich, another seeks to attain the same or a higher position until the value of such goods and services reaches yet again an unsustainable level and the inevitable decline ensues.

Basic needs

Striving for greater riches is something which transcends every aspect and level of society. Stereotyped as the greed of the rich elite, this perspective naively hides the fact that the vast majority of the world exists below the poverty line. At least 80% of humanity lives on less than \$10 dollars per day and is fighting a constant battle for survival. It is therefore not surprising that to a certain extent money is equated with happiness, since the income derived from (often strenuous) labour enables individuals to eke out a meagre existence, while the simple fact of having more money gives a greater degree of pleasure and comfort.

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Circle question number attempted: ***Q1*** ***Q2*** ***Q3***

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