

Written component

GENERAL COMMENTS

Most students performed well on and were familiar with the requirements of the 2014 Bosnian written examination.

There were some grammar inaccuracies, such as *mješanje* instead of *miješanje*, *cjeli* instead of *cijeli*, *vrijemena* instead of *vremena* (*vrijeme*: nominative; *vremena*: genitive), *uvijek* instead of *uvijek*, and *uspjeh* instead of *uspjeh*.

The phonemes ‘o’, ‘a’ and ‘u’ were sometimes incorrectly used; for example, *ospijem* instead of *uspijem*, *patujem* instead of *putujem*, *duje* instead of *daje*, and *kundidati* instead of *kandidati*.

The phonemes ‘č’ and ‘ć’ were confusing for some students; errors included *osječaj* instead of *osjećaj*. Other errors included mistakes with gender agreement, such as *svaki riječ* instead of *svaka riječ* and the incorrect spelling of the pronouns, such as *sa ovom* instead of *sa ovom* and *od sebe* instead of *od sebe*. Students are advised to use the appropriate letter for the phonemes ‘š’ and ‘ž’; ‘s’ and ‘z’ are different phonemes.

Some students were confused as to how to spell adverbs, making errors such as *predhodno* instead of *prethodno*, *na kazalište* instead of *u kazalištu* and *za volila* instead of *zavoljela*.

It is advised that students use their dictionary to check the appropriate meaning of nouns so that they convey the right message; errors included the use of *privući više članaka u zajednicu* instead of *privući više članova u zajednicu* and *predstaviti svoje ime* instead of *sebe predstaviti* or *reći svoje ime*.

When using superlatives in writing, students should remember that the superlative is one word: *najbolji*, not *naj bolji*, and *najinteresantnijih*, not *naj interesantnijih*.

Students should use lower-case letters to spell possessive attributes, such as *njemački klub* with lower-case ‘nj’, not *Njemački klub*, and *engleski klub* with lower-case ‘e’, not *Engleski klub*.

SPECIFIC INFORMATION

This report provides sample answers or an indication of what answers may have included. Unless otherwise stated, these are not intended to be exemplary or complete responses.

Section 1 – Listening and Responding

Most students were able to select the relevant information from the six texts; however, some students did not include all of the relevant information. Common errors included the use of the incorrect gender and incorrect spelling.

Part A – Answer in English

Text 1

Question 1

Dial	Selection
1	enrolment, school fees, application or sign up
2	<i>uniform sale, working hours</i>
4	<i>interview with teacher or principal</i>
9	listen to the menu or all options again, or hear the menu

Text 2

Question 2a.

Vučko’s task is to call all citizens to join the celebration.

Question 2b.

- There is insufficient snow.
- The planned outdoor activities are jeopardised.

- The artificial snow cannot last long as the weather is too hot.

Question 2c.

An entertaining competition with funny games such as running with their ski gear on and jumping over logs

Text 3

Question 3a.

Any three of:

- more abandoned animals on the streets
- local government unable to solve the problem by itself
- lack of money and facilities
- in winter the dogs can freeze to death.

Question 3b.

- A new tax can be introduced to fund animal shelters.
- Animal lovers could take/adopt one dog.
- A campaign can be started to change attitudes to stray dogs.

Part B – Answer in Bosnian

Text 4

Question 4a.

- Two films have been made there already.
- The villagers have taken part in the films (they can be involved in the acting).
- Film crews (or people who are making films) enjoy home produce and the villagers' hospitality (while they are making the films) and they talk about it/film crews love this village.

Question 4b.

- Transport to the place may be difficult (macadam on the roads, no bus lane).
- It is isolated in winter (and the distance to Sarajevo is also great).

Text 5

Question 5

Possible answers:

- there is a lot of honey (which means that Ahmo has been taking good care of the bees)
- Ahmo leaves the last frame for the bees to feed on if necessary – if something unexpected happens
- there are no additives in the honey/they are not needed
- Ahmo is proud of his bees; he loves them and takes care of them
- the hives are placed in a good way (they look like a 'bee village')
- Ahmo has been caring for bees for a very long time (he is very experienced/it is a family tradition).

Text 6

Question 6

Possible answers:

- there will be an exhibition of traditional costumes
- there will be a demonstration of how to prepare food specialities
- traditional folk dances will be performed
- traditional songs will be sung by groups
- popular individual singers will sing (and interpret) Bosnian songs with the orchestra
- there is a day and night program.

Section 2 – Reading and Responding

Part A – Answer in English

In general, students were able to select and use the relevant information from the two texts; however, some students did not include sufficient information in their responses to be awarded full marks.

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Text 7

Question 7

Possible answers:

- students will have greater insight into the work of processes and decision-making
- students can learn through technology in engaging and interactive ways
- students can take part/discuss with students from other schools
- student representatives learn that they must represent the ideas of other students, not just their own ideas
- the virtual parliament is preparation for future leadership (by young people).

Text 8

Question 8

Possible answers:

- we can see from the opening greeting that many ‘distinguished guests and participants’ have come to the film festival
- having lasted over two decades, the festival’s length of existence is evidence too
- the speaker states that the audience is getting larger
- the festival has a reputation for giving awards for new short films
- the film festival gives young artists (directors, actors, etc.) a chance to meet the greatest names in the film industry
- Sarajevo, as the place for the film festival, is attractive and offers many other attractions that can be enjoyed.

Part B – Answer in Bosnian

Text 9

Question 9

Students were asked to write a persuasive email of approximately 150 words, in Bosnian, to show the conductor, Mr Pašić, that they would be an outstanding applicant for a position with the new group.

Responses should have included the following elements.

- the student’s arguments/range of points
- reasons/examples given to support their points
- good sentence construction
- written in the structure of a formal email

The response could also have included some features of a formal email, such as title or heading and an email address, the development of arguments, specific details, sequencing, simple language structures, salutations and an ending.

Section 3 – Writing in Bosnian

Students’ ability to express ideas in fluent and clear Bosnian was assessed in this section. There were four questions from which to choose. This section was assessed using the following criteria.

- relevance and depth of treatment of ideas, information, or opinions
- accuracy and range of vocabulary and sentence structures
- the capacity to structure and sequence response and capacity to use conventions of the text type

The highest-scoring students demonstrated excellent language skills and presented interesting and creative ideas that were enhanced by a wide range of vocabulary. However, some students’ writing lacked depth and they presented only basic ideas and information.

Students should concentrate on consolidating and revising grammatical and spelling rules and expanding their vocabulary, as well as practising writing on a variety of topics. Students are encouraged to incorporate more complex grammatical structures and relevant vocabulary into written responses.

Question 10

Students were asked to write an evaluative speech for a school assembly, explaining the positive and negative aspects of consuming energy drinks during school time.

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Question 11

Students were asked to write an imaginative story for a newspaper about a surprising event that happened during the Olympic Games when they represented their country as a very skilled sportsperson.

Question 12

Students were asked to write an informative report about a well-known scientific centre in their city for a group of teachers who will be organising an excursion.

Question 13

Students were asked to write a reflective journal entry about meeting a new person from a Bosnian-speaking community, and about why they found the person so interesting.