

FINAL ENGLISH EXAM SEMESTER 2 – LEVEL 5

On the day of the exam, you will have to summarise and comment upon an article. You will be given 60 minutes to prepare your oral presentation which should last approximately 10 minutes. It will be followed by a 5-minute interview during which you may be asked to deepen your analysis, to explain cultural references or even to correct mistakes/omissions.

Your presentation should be composed of 5 parts.

1) Introduction

- a. Start with a catchphrase to contextualise the article
- b. Say what the text is about in a few sentences
Use: deal with; dwell on; point out; tackles; present...
DO NOT use: talk about; speak about
- c. Prepare a mini-transition which will lead you to the summary
Use: I will start by summarising/summing up the text/accounting for the main points...
DO NOT use: the pronoun “we”; the verb “resume”

➔ **If you need more information about this part, check the “Introduire un document” file on the EPI**

2) Summary

- a. Summarise the main points in your words
- b. Show you understand how the article works by using link words
- c. If relevant, mention the tone of the journalist/author (critical, ironic, optimistic...)

DO: speak from notes (instead of reading whole sentences); reorganize the ideas (instead of listing points paragraph by paragraph)

DO NOT: start every sentence with “(s)he says that...”; give your opinion

3) Transition

- a. Go back to the main idea of the text or the point you found most striking
- b. Raise the key question you will try to answer in your commentary
- c. Give a brief outline of your commentary

Ex: The text's central point is that reducing meat-eating is essential to avoid climate change. It therefore invites us to consider how people are changing their eating habits today. In order to do so, I will first discuss the rise of vegetarianism and veganism, before looking at the fight against food waste. Finally, I will wonder whether these measures are enough to slow down climate change.

4) Commentary (which should be slightly longer than the summary!)

- a. Present a structured analysis with 2 or 3 main points that you illustrate with examples
- b. Make sure you don't lose track of the article you have just studied by echoing some ideas raised by the journalist and discussing alternative viewpoints.
- c. If relevant, make references to documents on the same topic (those posted on the EPI for instance) that you are supposed to have read/ studied as you prepared for this exam.

DO: use link words; give examples drawn from English-speaking countries when you can

DO NOT: summarise the text all over again; present a random list of points; start all your sentences with 'I think'

5) Conclusion

- a. Say a final word about the issues you discussed, deliver a judgment
- b. Add an opening sentence if you can

DO: keep it brief; start with "in conclusion", "to conclude", "all in all"...

DO NOT: stop abruptly (instead say "thank you" to indicate you have finished!)

REMEMBER: This is an oral English exam so don't forget to greet the examiner, speak clearly and confidently, sound dynamic and interested, and avoid speaking French!