

English Abschlussprüfung – Mock Exam

Year 10 – According to the KMK Educational Standards (B1+/B2)

Time: 180 minutes

Total: 100 Points

Allowed materials: Dictionary (if permitted by your school)

PART A – Reading Comprehension (25 Points)

Read the text carefully.

The Four-Day School Week – A Good Idea?

Many schools around the world are looking for new ways to improve students' learning experience. One idea that has recently attracted attention is the four-day school week. Instead of attending school from Monday to Friday, students would have one additional day off. Although this idea sounds attractive, experts disagree about whether it is actually beneficial.

Supporters argue that students often feel stressed because of homework, tests and extracurricular activities. A shorter school week could reduce stress levels and give young people more time to relax, spend time with family, or pursue hobbies. Teachers might also benefit from having an extra day to prepare lessons or complete administrative work.

However, critics believe that students might learn less if they spend fewer days in school. To compensate for the missing day, lessons would have to be longer, which could make it more difficult for younger students to stay focused. Parents also worry about childcare, especially if both parents work full-time.

Some schools in the United States have already introduced the four-day school week. Initial studies suggest that students generally enjoy the longer weekends, but there is little evidence that academic performance improves. Researchers therefore recommend that schools carefully evaluate both the advantages and disadvantages before introducing such a system.

Ultimately, there is no perfect solution. Every school has different needs, and what works well in one community may not work in another.

A1 – Multiple Choice (10 Points)

Choose the correct answer.

1. Why do supporters like the four-day school week?

- a) Students would have fewer subjects.
- b) Students could reduce stress and have more free time.
- c) Teachers would receive higher salaries.
- d) School holidays would become longer.

2. According to critics...

- a) students would automatically achieve better grades.
- b) schools should close permanently.
- c) longer lessons may reduce concentration.
- d) homework would disappear.

3. What is one concern of parents?

- a) School uniforms
- b) Childcare
- c) School meals
- d) Public transport

4. According to studies in the USA...

- a) academic performance has improved significantly.
- b) every school has adopted the system.
- c) students generally enjoy longer weekends.
- d) teachers dislike the system.

5. The author's overall opinion is...

- a) strongly in favour.
- b) strongly against.
- c) balanced.
- d) uncertain because there are no studies.

A2 – Vocabulary in Context (5 Points)

Find a word or phrase in the text that means:

- 1. less pressure
- 2. advantages
- 3. to make up for something
- 4. proof
- 5. carefully examine

A3 – Answer in Complete Sentences (10 Points)

- 1. Why do supporters think students would benefit?
- 2. Why might longer lessons be a problem?
- 3. What worries parents?
- 4. What do researchers recommend?
- 5. What is the author's conclusion?

PART B – Language in Use (20 Points)

B1 – Grammar (10 Points)

Complete the sentences using the correct form.

- 1. If I _____ (be) you, I would study every day.
- 2. By next July, she _____ (live) in Germany for three years.
- 3. They _____ (already/finish) dinner when we arrived.
- 4. English _____ (speak) all over the world.
- 5. I wish I _____ (have) more free time.
- 6. He asked me where I _____ (buy) my laptop.
- 7. The book _____ (write) by George Orwell.
- 8. You _____ wear a helmet when riding a bike. (modal verb)
- 9. She enjoys _____ (read) detective novels.

10. They promised _____ (help) us.

B2 – Rewrite the Sentences (10 Points)

Rewrite without changing the meaning.

1. "I have finished my homework," Lisa said.

→ Reported Speech

2. People speak English in many countries.

→ Passive Voice

3. Although he was tired, he finished the project.

→ Use **Despite**

4. They started building the bridge in 2018.

→ Passive Voice

5. I started learning English six years ago.

→ Use **have been**

PART C – Mediation (15 Points)

Your English friend is interested in spending one year at a German school.

Summarise the following German text **in English (120–150 words)**.

Deutscher Text

Viele deutsche Schulen bieten Austauschprogramme mit Partnerschulen im Ausland an. Schülerinnen und Schüler verbringen einige Monate oder sogar ein ganzes Schuljahr in einem

anderen Land. Während dieser Zeit besuchen sie eine Schule, wohnen meistens bei Gastfamilien und lernen den Alltag in einem anderen Land kennen. Gleichzeitig kommen Jugendliche aus dem Ausland nach Deutschland und besuchen hier eine Schule. Austauschprogramme helfen jungen Menschen dabei, selbstständiger zu werden, ihre Sprachkenntnisse zu verbessern und neue Freundschaften zu schließen. Viele ehemalige Teilnehmer sagen später, dass der Austausch eine der wichtigsten Erfahrungen ihres Lebens war.

PART D – Writing (40 Points)

Choose **ONE** task.

Option A – Discussion Essay

Should schools ban smartphones completely?

Write **250–300 words**.

Include:

- Introduction
- Arguments in favour
- Arguments against
- Your opinion
- Conclusion

Option B – Article

Your school magazine is collecting articles on the topic:

"How can teenagers improve their mental health?"

Write **250–300 words**.

Include:

- common problems
- practical solutions
- personal opinion
- conclusion

Option C – Formal Email

You have applied for a two-week internship in London.

You receive the following email:

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your application.

Before we make a decision, we would like to know more about your motivation, your skills, and why you think you are suitable for the internship.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,
Internship Coordinator

Write a formal reply (**200–250 words**).