

NAMIBIA SENIOR SECONDARY CERTIFICATE

FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH ORDINARY LEVEL

6095/1

PAPER 1 Reading and Directed Writing

2 hours 30 minutes

Marks 70

2022

Additional Materials: Answer Book

INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION TO CANDIDATES

- Write your answers in the Answer Book provided.
- Write your Centre Number, Candidate Number and Name in the spaces on the Answer Book.
- Write with blue or black pen.
- Do not use correction fluid.

- Answer **all** questions.
- Dictionaries are **not** permitted.

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **6** printed pages and **2** blank pages.



Republic of Namibia

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, ARTS AND CULTURE

PART 1**Passage A**

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.

The Importance of English: 5 Ways the Language Can Change Your Life

We all know that there are millions of English speakers across the globe.

But what makes English an important language, not just a common one? Is it really worth putting all that time, effort and energy into learning English?

Below are the ways that knowing the language can help you as an English language learner.

1 English Opens New Career Opportunities

Firstly, learning English can help you pursue and obtain more career opportunities. These days, the job market is global - many companies need employees who can communicate with partners and clients all over the world. Very often, that means finding employees who speak English.

The global job market has even created new positions for bilingual people. By learning English, you could become a translator, a language teacher or an English marketing professional for a global company.

No matter what career path you decide to pursue, learning English is a valuable skill. It'll help you become a better, more **sought-after** employee as well as a more well-rounded person.

2 English Tests Can Get You Into School

If you learn English well enough to pass tests like the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) you can study in English-language universities across the globe.

That's great news if you want to move to an English-speaking region or work in one - a student visa can get you there. Or you may simply want to take a few classes abroad. A successful English test will show colleges and universities that you're ready.

Even if you don't need to take a test for a specific reason, or have already graduated from college, studying for an English test can still really help you improve your language skills. It'll teach you the essential skills needed to communicate in English and if you end up passing the test, it means your English has become very strong!

3 English Is the Top Language of the Internet

English is the most-used language online, with nearly one billion users typing and chatting in the language. If you can understand and read English, you'll be able to access and enjoy many more resources online.

You can read online news articles. You can leave comments on an English video. You can understand Tweets from English-speaking celebrities. You can participate in a discussion on a forum. The possibilities are endless!

Whether it's for fun or for work, if you can understand English, you'll be able to communicate with more people online or use many more materials.

4 English Makes Your Life More Entertaining

Want to put more books on your bookshelf? Want more options for a Friday movie night? Learning English will open a whole world of entertainment for you. You won't need to rely on translations - you can enjoy the authentic originals.

Understanding English means you'll get to enjoy modern Hollywood blockbusters as well as classic films from different generations. If you aren't sure where to watch movies in English, check out streaming services like Netflix or Amazon Prime Video.

Of course, learning English will make other types of entertainment available to you, too. You'll also be able to read popular books that were written in English, like "Harry Potter", "Twilight", and "The Hunger Games". Plus, many famous pop culture icons come from famous English classics. If you can read these books, you'll better understand the culture of the English world.

5 Learning English Can Make You Smarter

On top of all of these benefits, learning a new language such as English helps your brain function in new ways. Literally!

Research shows that learning a new language changes your brain structure (don't worry, it's in a good way). It impacts the parts of your brain that are responsible for memory, conscious thought and more. Put simply, learning a new language can make your brain stronger and more versatile, improving the way you think.

Research also shows that bilingualism can keep the brain strong and healthy into old age, and helps with memory, concentration and other skills. It can also help you on standardised tests and make you more creative.

If you learn English, you could read a book in English, take a class in English or do all kinds of other things. This will open up the pathways to many other experiences, help you learn new things and make you feel smarter.

Well, what are you waiting for? Don't hesitate! The sooner you start learning English, the sooner you'll be able to enjoy all of these benefits.

(Taken and adapted from: <https://www.fluentu.com/blog/english/importance-of-english-language/>)

For Questions 1 - 3, write down next to the number only the letter **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** as the answer of your choice in your Answer Book.

- 1 The word “**sought-after**” (paragraph 6) means
A in great demand.
B popular.
C unpopular.
D of high quality. [1]
- 2 Why is English the top language of the internet?
A Most users speak English.
B Most users understand English.
C Most users use English.
D Most users are English. [1]
- 3 Learning English makes you smarter because
A it makes you experience more.
B it keeps your brain young.
C it helps you to read books.
D it creates new brain pathways. [1]
- 4 What does the author mean when she says that “English makes your life more entertaining?” [2]
- 5 Why do you think the TOEFL course is important for English-language universities? [2]
- 6 What is the author’s attitude towards learning English? Give reasons for your answer, based on the text. [3]
- [10]
- 7 You have applied to study English at a university overseas. As part of your application, you are required to submit a **letter of application**.
The letter of application must state clearly **why** you feel it is **important to learn English**.
The body of your letter should be between **1** and **1 ½** pages. [20]

PART 2**Passage B**

Read the passage below and follow the instructions given.

Why English should not be the international language of the world

When I was younger I didn't like languages. In school, I hated Irish and thought it was a complete waste of time. Why bother learning it when everyone spoke English? In fact, what's the use of any other language when it's obvious that English is the international language? This view is very common among English native speakers and to a certain extent it's true. English is one of the most spoken languages in the world and is by far the most common second language in the world. No matter where you travel in the world, you have a decent chance of finding an English speaker. International conferences almost always are held in English and over 90% of academic articles are published in English. So it seems like case closed – English is the global language, everyone speaks it and I should be thankful that I happen to be a native speaker.

Except recently I've been having doubts. I began to reconsider my views when I went travelling through Europe. I was impressed at how many people could speak English, but I felt guilty that they had spent years learning my language, yet I couldn't speak a word of theirs. Learning a language isn't easy; it involves months of hard work just to become conversational and years to become fluent. It costs time, money and can be deeply frustrating. Up until that point, I had taken English for granted, I never realised how much work the rest of the world goes through. It's not as though English is an easy language to learn, it's incredibly irregular and outright random (especially the spelling and grammar).

Language isn't just a tool to communicate; it is also a huge part of our identity. It's how we think and how we view the world. So when English speakers expect the rest of the world to learn our language, we are actually asking a lot. English speakers often treat not knowing English as primitive as not having electricity, but we don't think about what people give up to learn our language. Languages carry a lot of cultural and historical baggage, both good and bad. The only reason I (and many others) speak English is because centuries ago my country was invaded, colonised and the native language suppressed. It wasn't for linguistic reasons that English dominated, but political.

A world where everyone speaks English and only English would have advantages (I'm deeply aware that this blog would only have a tiny fraction of the number of its views if I blogged in any other language) but also major disadvantages. It would be a duller, blander world where we all had the same conversations, watched the same movies and listened to the same music. We would lose a huge amount of the diversity in the world, a huge part of what makes us unique, what makes us who we are.

So what can we do about it? We could ignore it and hope it sorts itself out. This option has the least going for it and the most support. The idea that they should have to learn another language is a thought that rarely crosses the mind of an English speaker (unless they're moving abroad). The English language advances like the tide, slowly and without fanfare or any coordinated effort so people don't notice until it's up to their waist.

The second option is to promote multilingualism and other languages. Scientific journals could accept other languages with or without translations, business conferences needn't have to be in English. After all, German used to be the language of science and French the language of culture. While encouraging other languages and helping people take pride in their languages certainly has many positives, I'm doubtful of how much of a long-term strategy this is.

There will always be pressure for conferences to be in one language and given the economic might and stubbornness of English speakers, this will more than likely lead to English being used slowly.

I believe everyone has as much right to be heard in this world as I do and we shouldn't shut out the majority of the world. The chances of another language replacing or even challenging English are slim (it would probably require a major war) so French, Spanish or German can slow the march of English, but can't stop it.

(Taken and adapted from: <https://whistlinginthewind.org/2015/02/11/why-english-should-not-be-the-international-language-of-the-world/>)

- 8 Read passage B and re-read passage A. Using material from **both** passages, **summarise** why everyone should learn English and why bilingualism should be encouraged.

Your summary should not exceed **1** page.

[20]

- 9 You and a friend have been asked to prepare a **debate** in your English class about whether everyone should learn English **or** whether we should be encouraged to be multilingual.

Write the **debate** between you and a friend. You may **choose** which point of view you are arguing for.

Base your debate on Passage A **and** Passage B.

The body of your debate should be between **1** and **1 ½** pages.

[20]

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