

## Table of Specifications for the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Exam, 2025

This exam is designed to assess the English proficiency of 9<sup>th</sup> grade students in Israeli schools. It is aligned with the A2 level (basic user) that is outlined in the [English Curriculum \(2020\)](#).

Exam questions assess a variety of skills. Beginning in 2025, there will be an emphasis on creative thinking and critical thinking skills (for more details, refer to the skills definitions in the [National pedagogical policy document](#) – (מסמך תפיסת הלמידה המתחדשת)).

The table below describes the language tasks that might appear in the exam and the relevant global Can-Do statements for the exam tasks.

Modes	Task Description	Global Can-Do Statements	Value
<b>Vocabulary</b>	<p>The vocabulary items test students' ability to understand the meanings of words and to use vocabulary in appropriate contexts. The vocabulary to be assessed will be taken from band 1 and band 2 (core I &amp; core II).</p> <p>Questions will test:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• single words</li> <li>• lexical chunks</li> </ul>	<p>Can draw on his/her vocabulary for the expression of basic communicative needs</p> <p>Can understand and convey messages drawing on receptive and productive knowledge of the target lexical items in Lexical Bands I and II</p> <p>For more information, see <a href="#">page 10 on "Can do's Basic user II A2: Linguistic - Vocabulary range and control"</a>.</p>	Approx. 20%

<p><b>Written Reception</b> (reading)</p>	<p>In this section, students will be given different types of texts with a range of questions.</p> <p>Possible text lengths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• single paragraphs</li> <li>• text with 250 - 300 words</li> <li>• text with 350 - 400 words</li> </ul> <p>Possible Text Types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• advertisement</li> <li>• article / report</li> <li>• biography</li> <li>• blog</li> <li>• book cover</li> <li>• brochure</li> <li>• comic strip</li> <li>• diary entry</li> <li>• flyer</li> <li>• interview</li> <li>• instructions</li> <li>• letter / email</li> <li>• message</li> <li>• notice</li> <li>• review</li> <li>• informative text</li> <li>• story</li> <li>• timetable / schedule web page</li> </ul> <p>Questions will test different types of skills, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• literal thinking</li> <li>• drawing inferences</li> <li>• integrating ideas</li> <li>• critical thinking</li> <li>• creative thinking</li> <li>• language skills</li> </ul>	<p>Can understand texts on familiar matters of a concrete type in level-appropriate language (vocabulary and grammar), rereading as required</p> <p>For more information, see <a href="#">page 2 on “Can do’s Basic user II A2: Written Reception”</a> .</p>	<p>Approx. 70%</p>
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<p><b>Written Production/ Written Interaction</b> (writing)</p>	<p>This section evaluates students' ability to write a paragraph in English. (30-40 words)</p> <p>Possible Text Types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• article (e.g. for school newspaper)</li> <li>• blog</li> <li>• friendly letter</li> <li>• extended form</li> <li>• forum</li> <li>• short composition (e.g. opinion, description.)</li> <li>• story</li> </ul> <p>Assessment Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• relevance</li> <li>• vocabulary</li> <li>• language accuracy</li> <li>• mechanics</li> <li>• length</li> </ul> <p><b>Please note:</b> An additional writing task (text level, 70-80 words) will be given and assessed in class, internally.</p>	<p>Can give information in writing about matters of relevance linking a series of phrases and sentences with simple connectors like 'and,' 'but' and 'because', with increasing accuracy of spelling based on a developmental continuum</p> <p>Can write short, simple notes relating to routine, everyday matters</p> <p>For more information, see <a href="#">page 5 on "Can do's Basic user II A2: Written Production"</a>.</p> <p><a href="#">page 7 on "Can do's Basic user II A2: Written Interaction"</a>.</p>	<p>Approx. 10%</p>
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