

State of Israel
Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport
English Inspectorate

April, 2004

Dear English Teachers,

The *Meitzav* examinations in English for the fifth grade will include the domains: Social Interaction, Access to Information and Presentation. Not all pupils will be tested on the domain of Social Interaction; only a random sample will be tested on this domain.

The content of the *Meitzav* examinations will be based on the benchmarks for the foundation level as specified in the national curriculum. Attached is the Table of Specification which includes:

- the benchmarks that will be tested for each domain
- the number of tasks for each domain
- the level of the tasks
- possible text types
- possible item types
- assessment criteria

Please note the following:

- Pupils are not allowed to use dictionaries.
- Teachers should tell pupils to look first at the task for accessing information from spoken texts before they listen to the task in order to familiarize themselves with the context of the tasks.

In response to teachers' questions about how best to ensure their pupils' success in the examination, the English Inspectorate recommends that teachers continue teaching and providing learning opportunities for their pupils according to the national curriculum. If you have any questions regarding the *Meitzav* examination, please contact the English Inspector of your school.

Sincerely,

Dr. Judy Steiner
Chief Inspector for English Language Education

Table of Specification of the Meitzav Test: Grade 5

June 2004

Domain	Relevant Benchmarks	Number of Tasks	Level of Tasks	Possible Text Types	Possible Item Types	Assessment Criteria
Access to Information from Spoken Texts 20%	understand general meaning of text locate relevant information for a specific purpose	3	word level sentence level text level (approx. 1 minute)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • game • shopping list • dialogue, story • phone conversation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • matching • true/false • multiple choice • sequencing 	comprehension
Access to Information from Written Texts 60%	understand general meaning of text identify different text types locate information for a specific purpose	4	word level sentence level text level (80 – 100 words)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • list • note • notice • timetable • advertisement • comic strip • story 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • matching • true/false • multiple choice • sequencing • sentence completion • filling in a chart 	comprehension
Written Presentation 20%	describe people, places, things and events produce short piece of coherent writing that conveys personal experiences	2	sentence level (4 sentences with word bank) text level (4 sentences)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ID card • report • description • note • invitation • letter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • description • providing personal information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • relevant/accurate information • mostly correct sentence structure • mostly correct spelling and punctuation
Oral Social Interaction (to be administered in a random sample of classes)	engage in short conversation	1	conversation (3-4 minutes) picture description (2-3 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conversation • description 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • providing personal information • description 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • relevant/accurate information • mostly correct sentence structure