# CU SOFL ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAM SPECIFICATIONS

## SESSION I: LISTENING AND READING COMPREHENSION
### (Duration 50 minutes; *Listening excluded*/Total 50 points.)

### Section A: Listening Comprehension
### (Duration approx. 30 minutes/Total 25 points)

| Part | Objectives | Source of Text | Number of Text |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Part 1 Various Situations (5*1.5=7.5 points)** | To assess the candidate's ability to follow and comprehend a genre, identify the speaker's feelings, attitude, topic, opinion, purpose, agreement between speakers, gist, and detail. | A series of short, unrelated extracts, of approximately 30 seconds each, from monologues or exchanges between interacting speakers. | There is one multiple-choice question per text, each with three options. The five questions in this part of the paper are each preceded by a context sentence, which is read out on the recording. The candidates then have time to read each question before hearing the recording **once.** Each correct answer in Part 1 receives 1.5 points. |
| **Part 2 (Dialogue) (5*1.5=7.5 points)** | To assess the candidate's ability to identify opinion, attitude, detail, gist, main idea, and specific information. | An interview or exchange between two speakers lasting 3–4 minutes. | The five questions in this part of the paper take the form of 3-option multiple-choice questions. The questions follow the order of the interaction on the recording. The audio track is played **once.** Each correct answer in Part 2 receives 1.5 points. |
| **Part 3 (Lecture/ Monologue) (5*2=10 points)** | To assess the candidate's ability to follow and comprehend extended spoken input, to identify and follow the key ideas, to identify specific information and to be able to infer meaning from the supporting details | An extract from a formal lecture or monologue lasting 6–8 minutes. | The five questions in this part of the paper take the form of 3-option multiple-choice questions. The track is played **twice** and is conveyed. Each correct answer in Part 3 receives 2 points. |

## Section B: Reading Comprehension

**(Duration 50 minutes/Total 25 points)**

| Part | Objectives | Source of Text | Number of Text |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Part 1** **Short texts** **(5*1.5=7.5 points)** | To assess the candidate's ability to understand the main idea in a text or answer comprehension questions about it, to distinguish between different levels of information, to identify and understand the reason for the author writing the text, and to infer meaning. | A series of short, unrelated texts of approximately 120 words each. | The five texts in this part of the paper are each followed by a related question with a 4-option. Each correct answer in Part 1 receives 1.5 points. |
| **Part 2 Text Comprehensio n** **(Text I)** **(5*1.5=7.5 points)** | To assess the candidate's ability to understand the main idea in a text or answer comprehension questions about it, to distinguish between different levels of information, to identify and understand the reason for the author writing the text, to infer meaning and guess word meanings, or to find references given in the text. | An extended academic text from an authentic source such as an academic publication, website, or lecture. The text is divided into sections, with questions related to that part of the text following each section. | The five questions in this part of the paper take the form of 4-option multiple-choice questions. The questions follow the order of the interaction in the text. Each correct answer in the text receives 1.5 points. |
| **(Text II)** **(5*2=10 points)** | To assess the candidate's ability to understand the main idea in a text or answer comprehension questions about it, to distinguish between different levels of information, to identify and understand the reason for the author writing the text, to infer meaning and guess word meanings, or to find references given in the text. | An extended academic-type text from an authentic source such as an academic publication, website, or lecture. The text is divided into sections, with questions related to that part of the text following each section. | The five questions in this part of the paper take the form of 4-option multiple-choice questions. The questions follow the order of the interaction in the text. Each correct answer in Text II receives 2 points. |

# SESSION II: WRITING

**(Duration 75 minutes/Total  30 Points)**

<u>**Section A:**</u> Integrated Writing (Listening input note-taking and writing a summary) (10 points)
<u>**Section B:**</u> Writing an essay on one of the given topics (20 points)

| Section | Objectives | Source of Text | Number of Text |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Section A** | To assess the candidate's ability to follow and comprehend spoken input while taking notes, recognising the main and key points in the listening and producing a relevant summary of the talk | A transcript of an academic monologue taken from an authentic source, such as a lecture or radio programme. | The audio track played once. (Notes taken in the table will not be graded.) 1 summary of max 120 words, graded against agreed criteria with a possible maximum of 10 points. |
| **Section B** | To assess the candidate's ability to produce an essay using the correct and appropriate language structures, discourse, and lexis to produce a coherent piece of writing | The candidate is expected to generate the schemata, ideas, and vocabulary on the given topic to produce a relevant piece of writing. The focus is on agreeing or disagreeing with a statement, giving information, giving an opinion, giving reasons or/and results, comparing and contrasting ideas and opinions, and drawing a conclusion. | 1 essay of at least 250 words, graded against agreed criteria with a possible maximum of 20 points. |

# SESSION III: SPEAKING

**(Duration 10 minutes/Total 20 points)**

| Part | Objectives | Number of Items | Other Info |
|---|---|---|---|
| Individual Question and answer | To communicate personal information, opinions, feelings and ideas on various topics | 2 questions | -2 candidates -2 interlocutors -Video recorded |