

FOR TEACHERS ONLY

The University of the State of New York

REGENTS HIGH SCHOOL EXAMINATION

F COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION IN FRENCH

Tuesday, June 24, 2008 — 1:15 to 4:15 p.m., only

SCORING KEY

Updated information regarding the rating of this examination may be posted on the New York State Education Department's web site during the rating period. Check this web site <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/osa/> and select the link "Examination Scoring Information" for any recently posted information regarding this examination. This site should be checked before the rating process for this examination begins and several times throughout the Regents examination period.

Mechanics of Rating

- Use only *red* ink or *red* pencil in rating Regents examination papers. Do *not* attempt to *correct* the student's work by making insertions or changes of any kind.
- Use check marks [✓] to indicate incorrect or omitted answers in Parts 2 and 3. Do *not* place a check mark beside a correct answer.
- Record the credit for each part in the appropriate credit box on the student's answer booklet.
- Record the total examination score (the sum of the credits the student received for each part) in the appropriate space in the box in the upper right corner of the answer booklet.
- Check carefully for mechanical errors (e.g., addition). Using a calculator might be helpful.
- Write your initials clearly in the appropriate space on the answer booklet.

Part 1

Record the credit for Part 1: Speaking, as previously reported to the building principal.

Part 2

Allow a total of 30 credits, two credits for each of the following:

<i>a</i> (1) 1	(4) 4	(7) 4	<i>b</i> (10) 4	(13) 4
(2) 2	(5) 3	(8) 3	(11) 2	(14) 1
(3) 1	(6) 2	(9) 1	(12) 2	(15) 3

Part 3

Allow a total of 30 credits, two credits for each of the following:

<i>a</i> (16) 2	<i>b</i> (21) 2	<i>c</i> (26) 3
(17) 4	(22) 3	(27) 2
(18) 3	(23) 2	(28) 3
(19) 4	(24) 3	(29) 1
(20) 1	(25) 1	(30) 4

Part 4

In this part of the examination, students are asked to demonstrate the ability to write in the target language using the four functions of language (socializing, getting others to adopt a course of action, getting and providing information, and expressing personal feelings) as the vehicle for communication.

Students are instructed to choose two of the three tasks provided and write a response of at least 100 words in the target language to achieve a specified communication purpose. A word is defined as a letter or collection of letters, surrounded by space, that in the target language is comprehensible and contributes to the development of the task. This definition applies even when words are grammatically incorrect. When counting words, please note that numbers, unless written as words, and names of people are not to be counted. Place names and brand names from the target culture count as one word (all other places and brand names are disregarded), and contractions are counted as one word. In addition, salutations and closings are counted, as well as commonly used abbreviations in the target language.

Additional information concerning word count guidelines, how to apply the writing rubric, and use of the scoring rubric for students with disabilities who have a spelling exemption listed on an IEP or 504 plan is provided in the document, *Comprehensive Regents Examination in Modern Foreign Languages Test Changes and Sampler Draft*, which is available on the Department web site at <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/osa/lotegre/loterearch/lotesam.pdf>.

The responses to the Part 4 writing tasks must be written in the student’s own words; no credit should be given for a response that is copied or substantially the same as material from other parts of the examination. Part 4 is worth a total of 16 credits. Each response is worth a maximum of eight credits and must be rated according to the writing rubric for Part 4, which is provided on the next page. This writing rubric measures five dimensions: purpose/task, organization, vocabulary, structure/conventions, and word count. The dimensions of purpose/task, organization, vocabulary, and structure/conventions are measured on a zero to four scale; the dimension of word count is measured on a zero to two scale. A writing checklist is also provided for use in rating student responses. The writing checklist requires reference to the full writing rubric for the definitions of each dimension at each level and is not intended as a substitute for the writing rubric.

After rating the student’s response for each dimension, the scores for the five dimensions must be added, resulting in a total raw score for the response. The conversion chart must be applied to that total raw score so that the proper credit is given to the student for the question. For example, if a student received a performance level score of 3 on the dimension of purpose/task, a score of 3 on the dimension of organization, a score of 2 on the dimension of vocabulary, a score of 3 on the dimension of structure/conventions, and a score of 2 on the dimension of word count, the student’s total raw score would equal 13 (the sum of the five performance level scores). According to the conversion chart, a raw score of 13 represents a converted score of 6 credits for the question.

The conversion chart for Part 4 is shown below.

Part 4 Conversion Chart									
Total Raw Score	17–18	15–16	13–14	11–12	8–10	6–7	4–5	2–3	0–1
Total Credits	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0

After each of the two questions has been scored, the two converted scores must be added together to determine the total Part 4 score. This total Part 4 score should be entered in the last box on the last page of the student answer booklet and also under the “Credit Earned” section for Part 4, on the upper right corner of the first page of the student answer booklet.

The writing rubric for Part 4 is shown below.

Part 4 Writing Rubric

Note that a zero can be given in any of the dimensions when the student’s performance falls below the criteria described for the performance level of 1.

Dimension	Performance Level			
	4	3	2	1
Purpose/Task	Accomplishes the task; includes many details that are clearly connected to the development of the task, but there may be minor irrelevancies.	Accomplishes the task; includes some details that are generally connected to the development of the task, but there may be some irrelevancies.	Accomplishes the task; includes few details, some of which may be only loosely connected to the task. There are many irrelevancies.	Attempts to accomplish the task; makes some reference to it but provides few or no supporting details.
Organization The extent to which the response exhibits direction, shape, and coherence	Exhibits a logical and coherent sequence throughout; provides a clear sense of a beginning, middle, and end. Makes smooth transitions between ideas.	Exhibits a logical sequence; provides a beginning, middle, and end.	Attempts to provide a logical sequence and/or the beginning or ending is abrupt or unclear.	Exhibits little order; provides a series of separate sentences and/or disconnected ideas.
Vocabulary	Includes a wide variety of vocabulary that expands the topic, but there may be minor inaccuracies.	Includes a variety of vocabulary related to the topic.	Includes basic vocabulary; some vocabulary may be inaccurate or unrelated to the topic.	Includes limited vocabulary and/or most vocabulary is inaccurate or unrelated to the topic.
Structure/Conventions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject-verb agreement • Tense • Noun-adjective agreement • Correct word order • Spelling/diacritical marks 	<p>Demonstrates a high degree of control of Checkpoint B structure/conventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • subject-verb agreement • present, past, future ideas expressed as appropriate • noun-adjective agreement • correct word order • spelling/diacritical marks <p>Errors do not hinder overall comprehensibility of the passage.</p>	<p>Demonstrates some control of Checkpoint B structure/conventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • subject-verb agreement • present, past, future ideas expressed as appropriate • noun-adjective agreement • correct word order • spelling/diacritical marks <p>Errors do not hinder overall comprehensibility of the passage.</p>	<p>Demonstrates some control of Checkpoint B structure/conventions. Errors do hinder overall comprehensibility and/or there are numerous Checkpoint A errors.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Demonstrates a high degree of control, but uses only Checkpoint A structure/conventions.</p>	<p>Demonstrates little control of Checkpoint A or B structure/conventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • subject-verb agreement • present, past, future ideas expressed as appropriate • noun-adjective agreement • correct word order • spelling/diacritical marks <p>Errors impede overall comprehensibility of the passage.</p>
Word Count	—	—	Uses 100 or more comprehensible words in the target language that contribute to the development of the task.	Uses 50–99 or more comprehensible words in the target language that contribute to the development of the task.

COMPREHENSIVE FRENCH— *continued*

The writing checklist for Part 4 is shown below.


Part 4 Writing Checklist

Please refer to the full writing rubric for definitions of each level.

Note that a zero can be given in any of the dimensions when the student's performance falls below the criteria described for the performance level of 1.

Question No. _____

Question No. _____

Dimension	Performance Level 									
	4	3	2	1	0	4	3	2	1	0
Purpose/Task <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accomplishes the task • Includes details • Connects ideas to task/purpose 										
Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exhibits a logical and coherent sequence • Has a beginning, middle, and end • Makes smooth transitions 										
Vocabulary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes a variety of vocabulary • Uses relevant and accurate words 										
Structure (degree to which errors hinder overall comprehensibility) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject-verb agreement • Present, past, future ideas expressed as appropriate • Noun-adjective agreement • Correct word order • Spelling/diacritical marks 										
Word Count <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensible • In target language 			100+	50–99	<50			100+	50–99	<50

This writing checklist is provided solely for the teacher's convenience. This form is not required to be completed and should not be returned to the State Education Department. In addition, when scoring Part 4 responses, no marks should be placed on the student's paper as such marks may interfere with the ability of the rater to properly apply the scoring rubric.

If a student's response receives a performance level score of zero on the dimension of purpose/task, the entire response should receive a score of zero. Please note, however, that in order to receive a score of zero on the dimension of purpose/task, the student's response must be completely unrelated to the topic. A student's response must not be given a zero on the dimension of purpose/task if the response can be associated with the task in any manner whatsoever. In such an instance, the student's response must be rated on each of the dimensions of the writing rubric.

Part 4

A sample of an 8-credit response for each question in Part 4 follows:

31 Chère Jeanne,

La semaine dernière j'ai trouvé un petit chat. J'allais au lycée quand j'ai vu ce pauvre animal devant la boulangerie. J'ai téléphoné à ma mère et elle a accepté de le garder. Elle était très heureuse car elle adore les chats. Nous avons décidé de l'appeler Félix. Il est noir et blanc avec le nez rose. Demain nous irons chez le vétérinaire pour le vacciner. Cet été il partira en vacances avec nous. Nous avons un grand jardin, il sera très heureux. Ma petite soeur n'aime pas beaucoup les chats parce qu'elle a peur mais Félix est très gentil et je crois qu'elle changera.

Amitiés,
Aude

32 Chère Brigitte,

Ça fait longtemps que je ne t'ai pas écrit mais je vais te dire pourquoi. Notre famille a décidé de participer dans un programme d'échange et cet été nous avons reçu un Québécois chez nous. Gérard est arrivé à la fin août et il est resté pendant le premier semestre. C'est un garçon sympa et sportif. Il est devenu très populaire parce qu'il était très doué sur le terrain de foot! C'était une très bonne expérience pour tout le monde. Il a suivi les mêmes cours que moi et bien sûr il m'a aidée en français.

À la maison, il était comme un membre de la famille, et mes parents et ma soeur l'ont adoré. Il a aidé avec les tâches ménagères et a participé à toutes les activités familiales. Tu peux imaginer que nous étions très tristes au moment de son départ. Tout le monde pleurait mais on a promis de s'écrire souvent par courriel. Je continue à recevoir de ses nouvelles et j'espère lui rendre visite à Québec l'année prochaine.

Amitiés,
Roseann

33 Aujourd’hui, c’est l’anniversaire de Jacques. Hier, sa mère a préparé un grand gâteau au chocolat pour le décorer avec de jolies bougies qu’elle a achetées la semaine dernière. Pour célébrer son septième anniversaire, sa mère a invité ses amis d’école et ses cousins préférés.

Malheureusement, pendant que sa mère nettoyait la maison, Jacques, qui avait faim, a décidé de manger un morceau du gâteau appétissant qu’il a trouvé dans la cuisine. Il est monté sur une chaise et il a pris un couteau et une assiette du placard.

Quand il a mis le couteau dans ce gâteau, sa mère est entrée dans la cuisine. Elle était surprise de voir Jacques et lui a expliqué que le gâteau était pour la fête du soir.

**Regents Comprehensive Examinations in Modern Languages
Map to Learning Standards**

Key Ideas	Part of Test/Item Numbers
Speaking	Part 1, Speaking Test (administered prior to the written test)
Listening	Part 2, Listening Comprehension Items: 1–15
Reading	Part 3, Reading Comprehension Items: 16–30
Writing	Part 4, Writing Items: 31–33
Culture	Embedded in each item of test

Submitting Teacher Evaluations of the Test to the Department

Suggestions and feedback from teachers provide an important contribution to the test development process. The Department provides an online evaluation form for State assessments. It contains spaces for teachers to respond to several specific questions and to make suggestions. Instructions for completing the evaluation form are as follows:

1. Go to www.emsc.nysed.gov/osa/exameval.
2. Select the test title.
3. Complete the required demographic fields.
4. Complete each evaluation question and provide comments in the space provided.
5. Click the SUBMIT button at the bottom of the page to submit the completed form.

