

# Verbal Language Skills

## Grammar Test Resit

### SoSe 2009

Surname

Given Name

Matrikelnr.

Exercise 1: /10

Exercise 4: /5

Exercise 7: /20

Exercise 2: /5

Exercise 5: /10

Exercise 8: /10

Exercise 3: /15

Exercise 6: /5

Total: / 80 points =

Please note: The exercises of this test, especially those concerning tenses, are oriented on the standard grammar books and as such require **formal, British English!!!**

## Exercise 1: Relative Clauses

Fill in the relative pronouns and punctuation **where necessary**. (10)

1. The German economy \_\_\_\_\_ has been going downhill for a long time is now showing signs of recovery.
2. His teachers \_\_\_\_\_ describe him as very intelligent were not happy with his test results.
3. This is the lady \_\_\_\_\_ Tom was telling us about.
4. The room was crowded \_\_\_\_\_ made the speaker even more nervous.
5. Paul had to write postcards to all the relatives \_\_\_\_\_ addresses he had.
6. The experts haven't found anything \_\_\_\_\_ could be of much help to the police.
7. In her Christmas speech the Queen usually expresses views \_\_\_\_\_ no-one would disagree with.
8. It was Sally \_\_\_\_\_ she went to the party with.
9. Harry's eighteenth birthday party \_\_\_\_\_ took place last week has been the biggest event of his life so far.
10. That is the reason \_\_\_\_\_ I want to study harder.

## Exercise 2: Nouns in groups

Combine the words in brackets to complete the gaps. Use one (or more) of the following patterns: (5)

's (boy's parents)

of (the) (Houses of Parliament)

two nouns together (cat food)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (Mark; brother; wife), his sister-in-law, is called Sue.
2. Don't forget to write your name at the \_\_\_\_\_ (examination; paper; top).
3. On the table, I could see the \_\_\_\_\_  
(yesterday evening; remains; dinner)
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ (discovery; wheel) was a ...
5. ... landmark in the \_\_\_\_\_ (civilisation; history).

### Exercise 3: Tense usage: fact versus non-fact

Fill in the gaps, using the verb given in brackets in the correct form! Insert the negative particle not where the sense requires it. (15)

"My girlfriend \_\_\_\_\_ (1: talk) to me anymore," complained Charles. "I \_\_\_\_\_ (2: mind) so much if she \_\_\_\_\_ (3: quarrel) with me, or even \_\_\_\_\_ (4: shout) and \_\_\_\_\_ (5: swear) at me. But it's as if she \_\_\_\_\_ (6: see) me at all, as if I \_\_\_\_\_ (7: be) air! I wish I \_\_\_\_\_ (8: have) that little affair with my secretary last year, or at least that my girlfriend \_\_\_\_\_ (9: find out) about it. If only Harold the telltale \_\_\_\_\_ (10: tell) her!" "It's no use \_\_\_\_\_ (11: complain) now, what's done is done. But if you \_\_\_\_\_ (12: ask) me, I \_\_\_\_\_ (13: give) you some advice: try \_\_\_\_\_ (14: be) a bit more affectionate, for example by \_\_\_\_\_ (15: send) her some flowers every now and then!"

## Exercise 4: Inversion

Rewrite the following sentences, inverting the subject and the auxiliary verb to express emphasis: (5)

**Example:** I had never before seen such a beautiful horse.

=> Never before had I seen such a beautiful horse.

1. The cell phone is very expensive. What's more, most of the features are useless.

2. I will never again go on holiday with that woman.

3. I little suspected what a surprise they had prepared for me.

4. He only later realised how important the meeting would have been for his career.

5. They had hardly turned the key when the lights went on and the guests cried: 'Surprise!'

## Exercise 5: Reported Speech

Complete the following sentences, turning direct speech into reported (indirect) speech. (10)

1. 'I enjoyed my trip to Denmark.'

We were glad to hear that you ...

2. 'It would be nice if I could see you again.'

He said that it ...

3. 'What shall we do with the drunken sailor?'

They wanted to know what ...

4. 'Would you like me to carry that bag?'

He asked the old lady if ...

5. 'If I had any money, I'd buy you a drink.'

She said ...

6. 'How would you have felt if this had happened to you?'

She enquired of them how they ...

7. 'Were you on time to meet your grandparents?'

He wanted to know ...

8. 'If you go on behaving like this, there will be no more ice cream for you!'

His parents exclaimed that ...

9. 'I've only borrowed the DVD, I need to bring it back by tomorrow.'

She admitted that ...

10. 'This time next year, you will laugh about it all.'

She thought to herself that ...

## Exercise 6: Subjunctive

Rewrite the following sentences, using a **that-clause** for the phrases in bold type. Use a subjunctive in each case. (5)

1. He recommended **setting up a committee of enquiry**.
2. It is important **for a foreign-language student to read a lot**.
3. The headmaster insisted **on all of his teachers living near the school**.
4. It is essential **for a judge to be impartial**.
5. When she asked how she should do it, I suggested **using a hammer**.

## Exercise 7: Hypothesizing

Fill in the gaps, using the correct tenses (incl. negative forms and or conditional forms) for the verbs given in brackets. (20)

If you \_\_\_\_\_ (1: be) a bit more considerate, you \_\_\_\_\_ (2: let) me have the seat.

If I \_\_\_\_\_ (3: think) he \_\_\_\_\_ (4: be) dishonest, I \_\_\_\_\_ (5: not offer) him the job.

You \_\_\_\_\_ (6: feel) better if you \_\_\_\_\_ (7: get) some fresh air.

\_\_\_\_\_ (8: you tell) me earlier, I \_\_\_\_\_ (9: can do) something about it; but now it's too late.

If you \_\_\_\_\_ (10: listen) more carefully to his directions yesterday, we \_\_\_\_\_ (11: not be) lost now.

If it \_\_\_\_\_ (12: not be) for the awful weather last summer, we \_\_\_\_\_ (13: spend) much more time sailing.

He looks as if he \_\_\_\_\_ (14: win) a million dollars.

If I \_\_\_\_\_ (15: give) you my address, \_\_\_\_\_ (16: write) to me soon?

If I \_\_\_\_\_ (17: know) your address, I \_\_\_\_\_ (18: send) you a postcard.

I \_\_\_\_\_ (19: be) not sure if Peter \_\_\_\_\_ (20: come) this evening.

### Exercise 8: Future tenses

Fill in the gaps with the verb in brackets in the correct tense. (10)

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ (get) there as soon as I can.

2. This is Clare. She \_\_\_\_\_ (look) after the cat while we're gone.

3. I was just \_\_\_\_\_ (go) shopping when the phone rang.

4.+5. We \_\_\_\_\_ (clear) out the attic tomorrow and if the weather's fine we \_\_\_\_\_ (have) a picnic in the afternoon.

6. We \_\_\_\_\_ (let) you know as soon as we received the flight confirmation.

7. Look at the clouds! It's \_\_\_\_\_ (be) a rainy day tomorrow.

8. Ladies and gentlemen, this shop \_\_\_\_\_ (closing) in half an hour.

9.+10. I'm afraid Paul's \_\_\_\_\_ (be) sick. He certainly  
\_\_\_\_\_ (have) any alcoholic drinks tomorrow!