ITALIAN
B1
Cook with teacher

Description of Test Task*

The task described here was provided by the renowned test institution telc (Germany). Telc test tasks have been subject to the ALTE auditing procedures. In the MERLIN project, all written learner productions were re-rated by especially trained telc raters who used the MERLIN rating grid. It should be noted that the descriptions below refer to these post hoc rating procedures, not to the original marking inside the test institutions.

Report on analysis of	**Writing**
Target language of this test	**Italian**
Target level (CEFR) of this test	**B1**
Task number/name	**Espressione scritta**
	1365-S10-050402

General Information - the whole original test

1	Total test time	Ca. 165 minutes + a 20 minute break
2	Purpose	General proficiency

3 Examination background

High stakes test developed by telc.

4 Candidature

Adult language learners

5 Structure of the test

Language Elements, Listening, Reading, Writing, Speaking

*The task analysis is based on the "CEFR Grid for Writing Tasks v. 3.1 (presentation)". The original template for this grid was developed by ALTE members: www.alte.org. For explanations of the numbered items in the grid please refer to "Notes on the task descriptions".

General Information - the writing component

6	Number of tasks in the writing paper	1
7	Total component time	30 minutes
8	Integration of skills	Reading and writing
9	Channel	Handwritten
10	CEFR level of this component	B1

11 The writing component format

Open writing task

12 Specific Information - example task

Candidates receive a short description of a contextualised communicative task such as replying to a letter from a friend. Four additional points help candidates structure their texts. Candidates are reminded to find a suitable structure for their letter according to the additional points and to write a suitable introduction and closing. They are also reminded of the time allowed to write the letter.

13 Mark distribution in MERLIN

n.a.

14 Task rating in MERLIN

The test was rated on the basis of the MERLIN rating grid which is directly related to the CEFR levels. The grid is available on the MERLIN platform.

15 Effective level

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16 Sample task:

Espressione scritta

Un amico Le ha scritto la seguente lettera

... le ultime novità sono che la mia scuola ha deciso di organizzare delle serate culinarie multiculturali, dove si cucina con l'insegnante e poi si mangia tutti insieme. La prima serata è stata venerdì scorso. Ho imparato a preparare il pesto, una specialità italiana della Liguria, ma soprattutto mi sono divertito moltissimo! E a te piace cucinare? Sapresti indicarmi dei piatti tipici del tuo paese da suggerire alla classe per le prossime serate? Non chiederci però di fare cose troppo difficili, siamo ancora principianti!

Un caro saluto e a presto

...

Rispondete al vostro amico. Scrivete qualcosa sui quattro temi guida:

- chiedendo altre informazioni sul corso

- dicendo quali sono i vostri piatti preferiti

- dicendo se vi piace cucinare

- suggerendo delle ...

Pensate all'ordine dei temi guida. Non dimenticate la data e le formule di apertura e di chiusura, e scrivete una introduzione e una conclusione appropriate. Avete 30 minuti di tempo per scrivete la lettura.

i) Task input/prompt		
17	Language of input/prompt	Italian
18	CEFR level of input/prompt	B1
19	Time permitted or suggested for this task	30 minutes
20	Control/guidance	Semi-controlled
21	Content	Specified
22	Genre	Letter (personal)
23	Rhetorical function(s) of input	Narrating (predominantly), describing, explaining, giving opinions, asking for suggestions
24	Imagined audience	Friend
25	Mode of input/prompt	Written
26	Topic or theme of input	Education / free time / cooking
27	Integration of skills for input	Reading

ii) Response (description of written response elicited by the prompt(s)/input)		
28	Number of words expected	n.a.
29	Rhetorical function(s) expected	Expressing own interests and preferences, suggesting, asking for further information
30	Text purpose	Referential, conative, phatic
31	Register	Informal
32	Domain	Personal
33	Grammatical competence expected	B1
34	Lexical competence expected	B1
35	Discoursal competence expected	B1
36	Authenticity: situational	High
37	Authenticity: interactional	High
38	Cognitive processing	Reproduction of known ideas

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39	Content knowledge required	Personal/everyday life knowledge areas

iii) Rating of Task in the MERLIN project		
40	Known criteria	MERLIN rating grid
41	Task rating method	Analytical scale
42	Assessment criteria	Grammatical accuracy, lexical range & accuracy, coherence/cohesion, orthography, sociolinguistic appropriateness, task fulfilment
43	Number and combination of raters	Each test was rated by a trained rater; 10% of the tests were double-rated. The double-ratings serve as a link to calculate a fair average, i.e. to adjust test results to rater severity/lenience. Please note that telc generally provides double-ratings.

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