merlin

| ITALIAN |
| B2 |
| **Help someone who has problems with chats** |

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	**B2**
Task number/name	**Espressione scritta**
	1325-S10-040300 (option 2)

General Information - the whole original test

1	Total test time	Ca. 155 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	B2

11 The writing component format

Open writing task

12 Specific Information - example task

Candidates choose between two contextualised communicative tasks such as replying to a magazine reader's letter. Four additional points help candidates structure their texts Candidates are reminded to organize their ideas appropriately and to compose an appropriate introduction and conclusion. They are also reminded not to forget to write their own and the addressee's address and the date.

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

Telc test tasks have been subject to the ALTE auditing procedures. The test publisher is a member of ALTE.

16 Sample task:

4 Espressione scritta

Nella rubrica „Lettere Personali" del giornale Settimana Giovani, via Crispi, 119, 80127 Caserta avete letto la lettera seguente, in cui Giorgio chiede ai lettori di aiutarlo a risolvere il suo problema.

> Fino a qualche mese fa andavo sulle chat, per conoscere nuova gente, chiacchierare. Niente di male, ma ho passato un periodo in cui vivevo per queste persone, per le quali ridevo, per le quali piangevo, a cui dedicavo ogni giorno, arrivando a voler bene a ragazze che non avevo mai visto. In quel periodo litigavo con tutti, avevo pochi amici, vivevo per persone che non esistevano. Allora ho detto basta, ho cancellato dal cellulare tutti i numeri delle persone con cui "chattavo" e ho rotto i contatti con tutti. Ma adesso continuano ad arrivarmi messaggi, in cui mi chiedono perché non mi faccio più sentire. Non so che cosa rispondere, e mi sembra come di aver tradito l'amicizia. Che cosa posso fare?
>
> Giorgio

Scrivete una lettera a Giorgio trattando
a) o almeno tre dei seguenti punti
b) oppure due dei seguenti punti ed un ulteriore argomento a vostra scelta:

- che cosa pensate voi delle amicizie virtuali
- dare un consiglio su che cosa fare
- una vostra esperienza con Internet
- la vostra opinione sull'uso di Internet

Prima di cominciare a scrivere la lettera, pensate in che ordine volete trattare gli argomenti e quali potrebbero essere una introduzione e una conclusione appropriate. Non dimenticate il vostro indirizzo, l'indirizzo del destinatario, la data, le formule di apertura e di chiusura.

Scrivete almeno 150 parole.

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i) Task input/prompt		
17	Language of input/prompt	Italian
18	CEFR level of input/prompt	B2
19	Time permitted or suggested for this task	30 minutes
20	Control/guidance	Semi-controlled
21	Content	Specified
22	Genre	Informal letter
23	Rhetorical function(s) of input	Narrating, reporting, complaining, expressing regret, asking for help
24	Imagined audience	Magazine reader
25	Mode of input/prompt	Written
26	Topic or theme of input	Relations with other people / internet use
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	Describing, giving opinions, suggesting, giving advice
30	Text purpose	Referential, emotive, conative, phatic
31	Register	Unmarked to informal
32	Domain	Personal / public
33	Grammatical competence expected	(B1) B2
34	Lexical competence expected	(B1) B2
35	Discoursal competence expected	(B1) B2
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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