

UPPER-INTERMEDIATE EXAM TASK TYPES

The Upper-Intermediate exams will make use of one or more of the task types exemplified below.

READING

TASK: Read the passage below. Write the correct paragraph number next to each main idea. There are two extra options.

- X A. Many French people do not like to eat at fast-food restaurants.
- 1 B. In France balance comes from eating foods from different regions.
- 3 C. Yin and yang help create balance in Chinese cooking.
- X D. Carrots and water are yin foods because they are cool.
- 2 E. Meals that balance yin and yang can improve health.

TASK: Read the text below and answer the questions that follow by choosing A, B, C, D or E.

1. What is the main idea of paragraph 2?

- A Preparing balanced meals is a challenge.
- B Too much yang can cause heart burn.
- C Meals that balance yin and yang can improve health.
- D Balanced meals are not always satisfying.
- E Yin is the dominant force in meal preparation.

2. What is the author's purpose in the article?

- A to compare how to cultures find balance in food
- B to explain why the French do not like fast-food
- C to describe the concepts of healthy eating
- D to explain Chinese way of healthy cooking
- E to show the different cultures and eating habits

3. What is the most common vegetable used in Chinese cooking?

- A carrots
- B cabbage
- C cucumbers
- D zucchini
- E cauliflower

4. It can be inferred from paragraph 4 that Chinese people stay away from food which includes...

- A a lot of salt
- B hot spices
- C animal fat
- D white meat
- E alcohol

5. Circle the option that best matches the meaning of the word “**demanding**” in paragraph 2.

- A difficult
- B expensive
- C harmful
- D relaxing
- E satisfying

6. The author’s attitude towards eating fast- food is...

- A neutral
- B critical
- C confused
- D supportive
- E optimistic

7. In paragraph 5 the word “**it**” refers to...

- A Chinese food
- B Fast food
- C Home-made food
- D French food
- E Japanese food

8. Which of the following sentences can best fit into the blank in paragraph 7?

- A French meals always have seven courses.
- B The French prefer to eat small portions of food.
- C French meals taste better with wine.
- D The French mostly eat their meals at cafes.
- E French cuisine has undergone many changes.

TASK: Read the text below and answer the questions that follow by writing your answers in the boxes. Do not write any extra or irrelevant information. Do not write outside the box.

1. What foods are common in Chinese restaurants?

Sweet and sour chicken, beef with broccoli
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TASK: Find the words in the reading text that are similar to the definitions below. Write your answers in the appropriate spaces.

- 1 an idea of what something is like (*n*) par. 2: _____
- 2 to decide on the meaning of something (*v*) par. 2: _____
- 3 honest;genuine (*adj*) par. 3: _____
- 4 to force someone to accept something (*v*) par. 4: _____

LISTENING

TASK: You are going to listen to a short talk about food. As you listen, complete the sentences below with the ideas mentioned by the speaker.

- 1 Turkey contains a natural substance which makes us feel calm.
- 2 Cheese has _____.
- 3 Eating turkey can change _____.
- 4 Eating chicken is good for _____.

TASK: You are going to listen to a short talk. As you listen answer the following questions by choosing A, B, C, D or E.

1. What is the main idea of the talk?

- A Our first impressions give us an accurate picture of the whole person.
- B We judge other people's behavior differently from our own.
- C First impressions are not always important.
- D People's behavior may change over time.
- E All parties in a given situation will share the same impression.

2. What is the speaker going to talk about in the rest of the lecture?

- A Advantages and disadvantages of first impression.
- B Different ways to meet people that we like.
- C How people's behaviours change over time.
- D Different ways to deal with problems in relationships.
- E Why people have problems with the people they love.

TASK: Circle the answer that best completes the following statement according to the speaker's opinion?

1. Snap judgements are often ...

- A suspicious
- B careful
- C reliable
- D wrong
- E necessary

TASK: You are going to listen to a lecture. As you listen, take notes under the headings provided. After the lecture has finished, you will be given questions to answer using your notes. Your notes will not be marked.

1. According to the speaker, what is one advantage of foods that contain vitamin C?

Boosts immune system

2. How many cans of coke are consumed worldwide in a day?

- A 1.7 billion
- B 7.1 billion
- C 70 million
- D 17 million
- E 71 million

3/4. According to the lecture, there are certain steps to follow to have a healthy lifestyle.

Fill out the chart below with the appropriate answer.

How often?	What?
3. _____	going to a gym
Everyday	4. _____

TASK: You are going to listen to a dialogue. As you listen, fill in the blanks in the dialogue with the missing words.

Gary: Where are you going to have the meeting Jim?

Jim: Well, I don't know. They haven't called yet

TASK: You are going to listen to a short talk. As you listen, identify which ideas are mentioned by the speaker and write your choice A, B, C, D, or E next to the numbers.

1. A 2. C 3. D

- A Some people prefer to fail rather than succeed.
- B It is sometimes necessary to fail in order to succeed.
- C Modern society doesn't accept failure.
- D We can learn from our failures.
- E Many successful people begin by failing.

LANGUAGE

TASK: Fill in the blanks in the following passage. Use only ONE word in each blank.

Dear Mary,

As you know, I _____ (1) on vacation. I have _____ (2) to different countries since the beginning of my holiday. I enjoyed myself a lot.

TASK: Read the text below and fill in the blanks in the text using the words in the box. Use each word once only. Do not change the form of the word.

sports	improve	depend	revision
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There are many ways to _____ (1) yourself as a student. One way of doing this is to do a regular _____ (2) everyday by going over your class notes.

TASK: The word in capitals at the end of each of the following lines must be used to form a word that fits in the blank space in the text. Fill in each space in this way. Spelling mistakes are not allowed.

<p>He was not a good student so he was _____ (1) most of the time at school. Therefore, he had to _____ (2) most of his assignments which were given by his teachers.</p>	<p>(1) SUCCESSFUL (2) WRITE</p>
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WRITING

TASK: Write an essay of 180 - 200 words giving your opinion.

“Nowadays maintaining a balanced diet is very difficult. Due to demanding jobs and long working hours most people neglect their diet. What can be done to have a balanced diet?”

TASK: Write an essay of 225 - 250 words giving your opinion.

“Some students find international exchange programs quite useful in terms of their academic and social development. However, some others think that living in a foreign country affect students negatively because of cultural and social differences. In your opinion what are the advantages and/or disadvantages of studying abroad? Support your opinion with specific examples and details.”