APPENDICES

Appendix IA: Study 1

A. Writing Tasks

Write a paragraph in 250-300 words on the given topic. You have 40 minutes for the task.

Smoking
[-complex]: What are some of the ways to encourage people to stop smoking? Give reasons.
[+complex]: It is believed that youngsters imitate celebrities. They learn to smoke when actors smoke in films. “Banning smoking on screen” would motivate youngsters to quit smoking. Do you agree? Give reasons.

Product Description
[-complex]: Write a description of a new product that your company is planning to launch in the market.
[+complex]: “We buy things that look nice. They may or may not be good.” Do you agree? Give reasons.
Appendix IB: Writing sample and questionnaire rating for [-complex] task on Product description
Appendix IC: Weak Argumentator Sample Script and Scoring

[-complex]  

Accuracy: 0.93  
Syntactic complexity: 9.57  
Syntactic variety: 0.93  
Lexical Variety: 0.58  
Lexical Density: 1.89  
Reference Markers: 2.17  
Linkers: 2  
Coherence: 17

[+complex]  

Accuracy: 1  
Syntactic complexity: 11.67  
Syntactic variety: 1.06  
Lexical Variety: 0.57  
Lexical Density: 1.18  
Reference Markers: 1.9  
Linkers: 2.2  
Coherence: 18
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Appendix IIIA: Study2A

Tasks

Write a paragraph in 250-300 words on the given topic. You have 40 minutes for the task.

Social Networking sites
[-complex]: One of your friends does not know much about social networking sites. Send a friend request inviting him/ her to join the site. Also send a mail describing briefly what social networking is all about (definition, advantages, disadvantages of social networking, etc.).
[+complex]: Pakistan recently banned three major social networking sites: Orkut, Facebook and Twitter on religious grounds. Other countries like China and Indonesia have also banned certain social networking sites. According to them, these sites propagate immorality and violence. “Moral policing should be a characteristic of Social networking sites”. Do you agree? Give reasons.

Movies
[-complex]: You watched a movie recently and really liked it. Another movie by the same director is releasing soon. Write a letter to your friend narrating the story of the last movie and recommend to watch the new movie.
[+complex]: Censor board has banned smoking on screen. According to them, people, especially youngsters, imitate celebrities and banning smoking on screen would motivate youngsters to give up smoking. They are further planning to make it compulsory for both movie and TV serial directors to include parent advisory content for their shows. The board feels that this will lower anti-social activities. Do you agree with the censor board? Write an article for a national daily justifying your stance.

Product description
[-complex]: Write a description of a new product that your company is planning to launch in the market.
[+complex]: “Customers seem to buy products that look attractive and are promoted extensively than products which have better quality but do not look attractive and are not promoted much”. Do you agree? Give reasons.

Love marriage vs. arranged marriage
[-complex]: Write a letter to a pen friend living in another country describing the arranged marriage system in India.
[+complex]: Of late, there has been a rise in the number of divorce cases. The older generation believes that the reason is that most of the marriages are “love-marriages”. Others believe that divorce cases are increasing because of “the lack of sincerity and commitment”. Do you agree? Give reasons.

Globalization
[-complex]: You have heard a lot of discussion in the media these days about world as a ‘global village’. You see it in your everyday life with the opening of more and more international outlets/ easy accessibility of foreign brands like Barista, Subway, McDonalds, Oriflame, etc. Make a written presentation describing some aspects of globalization that affect your day-to-day life (E.g. food, family, traditions, education, trade, travel, communication, etc.).
[+complex]: “People tend to buy foreign brands more than Indian brands now-a-days because foreign brands are easily available”. Do you agree? Give reasons.
Appendix IIIB: Low Proficiency sample script and scoring

[-complex]  

Accuracy: 0.62  
Syntactic complexity: 7.07  
Syntactic variety: 0.88  
Lexical Variety: 0.43  
Lexical Density: 2.97  
Reference Markers: 5  
Linkers: 2.89  
Coherence: 16

[+complex]  

Accuracy: 0.63  
Syntactic complexity: 7.68  
Syntactic variety: 0.74  
Lexical Variety: 0.45  
Lexical Density: 2.69  
Reference Markers: 4.83  
Linkers: 2.78  
Coherence: 17
## Appendix IIIC: High Proficiency sample script and scoring

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Appendix IVA: Study 2B

Tasks

Write a paragraph in 250-300 words on the given topic. You have 40 minutes for the task.

**Condition 1: [+complex, -pre-task]**

3(b). “Customers seem to buy products that look attractive and are promoted extensively than products which have better quality but do not look attractive and are not promoted much”. Do you agree? Give reasons.

5(b). “People tend to buy foreign brands more than Indian brands now-a-days because foreign brands are easily available”. Do you agree? Give reasons.

**Condition 2: [-complex, -pre-task]**

3(a). Write a description of a new product that your company is planning to launch in the market.

5(a). You have heard a lot of discussion in the media these days about world as a ‘global village’. You see it in your everyday life with the opening of more and more international outlets/ easy accessibility of foreign brands like Barista, Subway, McDonalds, Oriflame, etc. Make a written presentation describing some aspects of globalization that affect your day-to-day life (E.g. food, family, traditions, education, trade, travel, communication, etc.).

**Condition 3: [+complex, +pre-task]**

The pre-task started with a general discussion on advertisements with the class as a whole and then narrowed down to learners being shown six advertisements and answering the questions that followed. It was followed by 30 minutes for the main task during which the learners wrote a 250-300 words paragraph on the topic provided.

Pre-task for Task 3 (Product description)

- What is your favorite advertisement at the moment and why?
- What according to you is a good advertisement? What famous advertisement slogans can you remember? [What made them so memorable? What was so special about them? Can you describe the product (uses, appearance, etc. of the product)? ]
- Six advertisements were shown to the learners. For each advertisement, learners had to answer the following questions.
  - Who would use the product?
  - Does it create curiosity about the product?
  - What is the message of the product? What are the number of messages in the product?
  - Was the message simple or complex?
  - Does the advertisement talk about the qualities of the product?
  - Do you think the slogan is relevant?
  - Does it talk about how it is different from other brands?
  - Is the advertisement interesting? How effective is the presentation of the product?
3(b). “Customers seem to buy products that look attractive and are promoted extensively than products which have better quality but do not look attractive and are not promoted much”. Do you agree? Give reasons.

Pre-task for Task 5 (Globalization)

Pre-task: A discussion on the following questions took place as part of the pre-task.
Look at the power point presentation. What do you think it is about?
BEFORE GLOBALIZATION
• Distance mattered—space often measured in time.
• Territorial boundaries more or less kept things in and out
• Every society had a different culture. There were boundaries.

AFTER GLOBALIZATION
• Distance becomes almost irrelevant (the end of distance)
• Boundaries are increasingly porous.
• Groups and cultures increasingly don’t have a territorial basis.

SUMMARY
• What is common between Oriflame, McDonalds, CocaCola, Nike, Pizza?
• What does globalization mean to you? Write all the words and phrases you associate with globalization.

5(b). “People tend to buy foreign brands more than Indian brands now-a-days because foreign brands are easily available”. Do you agree? Give reasons.

Condition 4: [-complex, +pre-task]
3(a). Write a description of a new product that your company is planning to launch in the market.

5(a). You have heard a lot of discussion in the media these days about world as a ‘global village’. You see it in your everyday life with the opening of more and more international outlets/ easy accessibility of foreign brands like Barista, Subway, McDonalds, Oriflame, etc. Make a written presentation describing some aspects of globalization that affect your day-to-day life (E.g. food, family, traditions, education, trade, travel, communication, etc.).
### Appendix IVB: Low Proficiency sample script and scoring

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Syntactic complexity: 9.25
Syntactic variety: 1.1
Lexical Variety: 0.34
Lexical Density: 2.20
Reference Markers: 5.58
Linkers: 4
Coherence: 19

Accuracy: 0.37
Syntactic complexity: 8.77
Syntactic variety: 1.26
Lexical Variety: 0.30
Lexical Density: 1.63
Reference Markers: 5.46
Linkers: 2.25
Coherence: 20
Appendix V: Task difficulty questionnaire and sample response

Task difficulty questionnaire

Instructions: Evaluate each task by marking the appropriate answer in each case immediately after the task.

Please tick the appropriate option

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th></th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>I thought this task was easy.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I felt relaxed doing this task.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I did well on this task.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This task was interesting.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I had to think a lot for this task.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

Sample task difficulty questionnaire

<table>
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<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th></th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>I felt relaxed doing this task.</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>This task was interesting.</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>I had to think a lot for this task.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
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Appendix VI: Sample Proficiency Test

Grammar

Spot the error.

1. This history test is so difficult / as I think / I'm going to fail / No error
   A.  
   B.  
   C.  
   D.  

2. If a student is not well / he must to stay home / and rest till he feels better / No error
   A.  
   B.  
   C.  
   D.  

3. The papers are increasing / full of stories / of mindless violence / No error
   A.  
   B.  
   C.  
   D.  

4. The Taj Residency / is not as expensive than / the Four Seasons Hotel / No error
   A.  
   B.  
   C.  
   D.  

5. The old lady / had to walk the narrow path / very carefully / No error
   A.  
   B.  
   C.  
   D.  

6. Harry has worked with animals / and is used to handle / both dogs and horses / No error
   A.  
   B.  
   C.  
   D.  

7. All the passengers was hoping / that the journey / would be a smooth one / No error
   A.  
   B.  
   C.  
   D.  

8. Maya and Anand .................................. for five years.
   A. has been married  
   B. have been married  
   C. are married  
   D. is married

9. ................. Priya nor Seema have gone to see the movie.
   A. Each  
   B. Neither  
   C. Both  
   D. Rather
10. Being invited is one thing ________ inviting oneself is another.  
   (A) however  (B) whereas  (C) compared to  (D) besides

11. I’ve thought over what you said and after a great deal of thought I ________ what you mean.  
   (A) will see  (B) saw  (C) am seeing  (D) see

12. Working all day long in financial services can be very ________.  
   (A) tiring  (B) tire  (C) tired  (D) tiredness

13. Most banks do not ________ money to young entrepreneurs.  
   (A) mind to lend  (B) mind lending  (C) mind lending to  (D) minded lending

14. They also want someone who is enthusiastic, energetic and ________ chocolates.  
   (A) love  (B) loves  (C) loving  (D) loved

15. He had flu but now he is recovering ________ it.  
   (A) from  (B) to  (C) of  (D) for

16. He ________ by the police but he escaped soon afterwards.  
   (A) Caught  (B) were caught  (C) was caught  (D) would be caught

17. Thank you for letting me ________ your dog for a walk.  
   (A) taken  (B) taking  (C) to take  (D) take

18. You ________ to listen to your teacher.  
   (A) must  (B) ought  (C) had better  (D) should
19. ______ of us thinks that she should be given the job.
   (A) neither    (B) either    (C) both    (D) few

20. Who ______ was coming to see me this morning.
   (A) you said    (B) did you say
   (C) did you say that    (D) you did say

Read the paragraph and answer the questions that follow.

A blind man is walking down the street, accompanied by his guide dog. Approaching a busy junction, the animal leaps into a torrent of traffic, dragging its owner behind him. The motorists honk and apply sudden brakes, desperately trying to avoid running them down. The pair eventually reach the other side of the street. After a few seconds, the man takes a biscuit from his pocket and offers it to the dog. A passer-by who had observed the incident is amazed: “why on earth are you rewarding your dog with a biscuit? He nearly killed you!” the blind man grimaces and replies, “I’m trying to find out where the fool’s head is, so I can give him a good kick up the backside.”

1. Why does the man offer a biscuit to the dog? Because:
   (A) He wanted to reward the dog.
   (B) He wanted to punish the dog.
   (C) He wanted to feed the dog.
   (D) He wanted to show the dog away.

2. Why is the passer-by amazed? Because:
   (A) He sees the dog being rewarded.
   (B) He sees the dog being punished.
   (C) He sees the dog growling at the man.
   (D) He sees a man running after a dog through the traffic.
3. Why do motorists honk and apply brakes?
   A. To stop at the red light.
   B. To help them cross the road.
   C. To see the blind man reward the dog.
   D. To avoid running the blind man and his dog down.

4. What does a 'torrent of traffic' imply?
   A. There was no traffic.
   B. There was heavy traffic.
   C. There was a slow moving traffic.
   D. There was a traffic jam.

5. The blind man grimaced because:
   A. He was happy.
   B. He was in pain.
   C. He was iritated.
   D. He was relieved.

Read the paragraph and answer the questions that follow.

The greatest threat to life on Earth today comes from global warming. This is caused due to multiple factors including human activity. It happens when greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide, water vapour, nitrous oxide, and methane) trap heat and light from the sun in the earth's atmosphere, which increases the overall temperature on Earth. This impacts people, animals, and plants. Many who cannot take the change, die. Global warming is affecting many parts of the world, particularly sea coasts. People living on islands and in coastal areas are therefore at risk as the polar ice caps and sea levels rise.

1. Select the statement that is false, according to the passage.
   (A) Life on Earth is threatened only by global warming.
   (B) Global warming threatens human beings who live on islands.
(C) When the overall temperature on Earth rises the sea level will also increase.
(D) Creatures which cannot adapt to higher temperatures will become extinct.

2. “Many cannot take the change.” Here “change” refers to changes in
   (A) Lifestyle (B) Food habits (C) Temperature (D) Health issues
   [ ]

3. People living in coastal areas are affected by
   (A) Green house gases (B) Human actions
   (C) Rise in sea levels (D) Rise in temperature
   [ ]

Read the paragraph and answer the questions that follow:

When Daniel Webster was a boy, he often went to school with dirty hands and face. The teacher finally warned him that she would cane him if he did not wash before class the next day. Daniel paid no attention.

The next morning the teacher told him to hold out a hand for inspection. He spat on his hand, rubbed some of the dirt onto his trousers, then showed it palm up.

The teacher looked and shook her head. “Daniel, if you can find another hand in the room that’s dirtier than this one, I’ll let you off.” Daniel immediately showed her his other hand.

1. Daniel paid no attention to
   A. the teacher’s kind words
   B. the rules of the school
   C. the teacher’s warning
   D. his dirty face and hands
   [ ]

2. What did Daniel do before showing his hand to the teacher?
   A. He washed his hands and face.
   B. He spat on his hand to clean it.
   [ ]
C. He hid his hands in his trousers.
D. He dipped it in a glass of water.

3. What does the phrase “I’ll let you off” mean?
   A. I will punish you.
   B. I will not cane you.
   C. I will make you go away.
   D. I will untie your hands.

4. Why did Daniel show the teacher his other hand?
   A. The other hand was cleaner.
   B. He wanted to say sorry.
   C. He wanted to be punished.
   D. The other hand was dirtier.
Vocabulary
Choose the odd one out from each set of words

1. A. annoy : irrate
   B. comprehend : understand
   C. spectator : onlooker
   D. reserve : supply

2. A. bulb : torch
   B. nail : hammer
   C. hard drive : computer
   D. lens : camera

3. A. mend
   B. fix
   C. replace
   D. repair

4. A. yawn : boredom
   B. smile : amusement
   C. anger : madness
   D. fidget : nervousness

5. A. actor
   B. teacher
   C. monitor
   D. astronomer

6. A. disappear
   B. dissolve
   C. dissatisfy
   D. disallow

Choose the most appropriate word and write the letter corresponding to that word in the given bracket.

7. The thief walked away with the diamond crown on display. No one stopped him because he was .................. the director of the museum.
   (A) contacting  (B) impersonating  (C) implanting  (D) contradicting

8. Supermarkets offer discounts to keep their sales steady and their ............... satisfied.
   (A) clients  (B) guests  (C) visitors  (D) customers
Fill in the blanks with the correctly spelt word.

9. There was a volcanic __________ in Hawaii recently.
   (A) eruption   (B) erupision   (C) erupision   (D) eruption

10. The _______________ is fine today. Let’s go for a picnic.
    (A) weather   (B) whether   (C) whether   (D) wether

Fill in the blanks with the correct suffix.

11. The outcome of the court case was disappoint __________ for the family involved.
    (A) ed   (B) ing   (C) ment   (D) ingly

12. One of the greatest __________ film stars is Sean Connery.
    (A) alive   (B) Irving   (C) live   (D) lively

13. Many diamond mines are __________ in South Africa.
    (A) situation   (B) situate   (C) situated   (D) situating

14. Because of bad weather, communication with the base camp was cut __________.
    (A) off   (B) on   (C) in   (D) out

15. Stop boasting about __________ and tell me what the problem is.
    (A) a bush   (B) a shrub   (C) the bush   (D) the shrub

16. __________ the morning news, many houses on the island were destroyed.
    (A) In addition to   (B) As of   (C) According to   (D) In spite of

17. All children did well in the marathon but Rahul was __________
    (A) the faster   (B) fast   (C) fastest   (D) the fastest
18. I hope it won’t take us long to _______ the airport by bus.
   (A) arrive  (B) reach  (C) approach  (D) get

19. A thieving, white cat _______ me home and I decided to keep it.
   (A) pursued  (B) chased  (C) tracked  (D) followed

20. Secta was _______ as she felt that her mother had misunderstood her
good intentions.
   (A) in high spirits  (B) green with envy  (C) all smiles  (D) on the verge of tears
Writing

“Education, now-a-days, is making the youth bookworms but not intelligent”. Do you agree?
Give reasons.

OR

Write a letter to a friend narrating an incident to a friend where you overheard a conversation between a parent and a child about the importance of getting good grades.

Education now a days is making the youth bookworms but not intelligent. Yes, I agree with it because parents now-a-days are thinking that all the information, knowledge and education is there in books but not thinking about general skills like communicating, general knowledge is there around us excluding books. Due to reading books overtime the children and youth are facing problems of sight and mental tension. There is lot more to learn beyond the books created by ourselves. Saying books are waste is not correct because there is some information in books which is useful but always reading the books is not enough for a bright future these days as the competition increased very much. Reading books always is making the children book worms but
not intelligent person to live in a competitive world. Read books, but don’t forget about world, and learn what happens around the world.