



AP[®] German Language and Culture

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

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Question 1: Email Reply

5 points

General Scoring Note

When applying the scoring guidelines, the response does not need to meet every single criterion in a column. You should award the score according to the preponderance of evidence.

AP® German Language and Culture 2023 Scoring Guidelines

1 Poor	2 Weak	3 Fair	4 Good	5 Strong
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unsuccessfully attempts to maintain the exchange by providing a response that is inappropriate within the context of the task 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partially maintains the exchange with a response that is minimally appropriate within the context of the task 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains the exchange with a response that is somewhat appropriate but basic within the context of the task 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains the exchange with a response that is generally appropriate within the context of the task 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains the exchange with a response that is clearly appropriate within the context of the task
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides little required information (responses to questions, request for details) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides some required information (responses to questions, request for details) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides most required information (responses to questions, request for details) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides most required information (responses to questions, request for details) with some elaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides required information (responses to questions, request for details) with frequent elaboration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barely understandable, with frequent or significant errors that impede comprehensibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partially understandable with errors that force interpretation and cause confusion for the reader 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally understandable, with errors that may impede comprehensibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fully understandable, with some errors that do not impede comprehensibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fully understandable, with ease and clarity of expression; occasional errors do not impede comprehensibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very few vocabulary resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited vocabulary and idiomatic language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate but basic vocabulary and idiomatic language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Varied and generally appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Varied and appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic language
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Little or no control of grammar, syntax, and usage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited control of grammar, syntax, and usage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some control of grammar, syntax, and usage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General control of grammar, syntax, and usage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accuracy and variety in grammar, syntax, and usage, with few errors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal or no attention to register; includes significantly inaccurate or no conventions for formal correspondence (e.g., greeting, closing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of register is generally inappropriate for the situation; includes some conventions for formal correspondence (e.g., greeting, closing) with inaccuracies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of register may be inappropriate for the situation with several shifts; partial control of conventions for formal correspondence (e.g., greeting, closing), although these may lack cultural appropriateness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally consistent use of register appropriate for the situation, except for occasional shifts; basic control of cultural conventions appropriate for formal correspondence (e.g., greeting, closing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mostly consistent use of register appropriate for the situation; control of cultural conventions appropriate for formal correspondence (e.g., greeting, closing), despite occasional errors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very simple sentences or fragments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simple sentences and phrases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simple and a few compound sentences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simple, compound, and a few complex sentences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Variety of simple and compound sentences, and some complex sentences

Score of 0: UNACCEPTABLE

- Mere restatement of language from the stimulus
- Completely irrelevant to the stimulus
- *“I don’t know,” “I don’t understand,”* or equivalent in any language
- Not in the language of the exam

NR: no response, pages are blank

Important: Completely fill in the circle that corresponds to the task you are responding to on this page.

Task 1:
Email Reply

Task 2:
Argumentative Essay

Begin your response to each task at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

Sehr geehrte Frau Mielke,
Vielen dank für Ihre Mail. Wie geht es Ihnen?
~~Wissen~~ Spielen macht man froh. Wenn etwas
Spaß macht, dann kann man davon
mehr lernen. Für mich ist Musik spielen
sehr wichtig, weil ich kann mich selbst
sein. Ich glaub, dass viele andere
Kindern kann, dass auch sagen über
Computerspiele, Brettspiele, und Sport.
Die mehr jemand etwas mögen, die
mehr Sie davon lernen will.
Ich benutzen auch viel Technologie
in meinem Alltag. In die Schule muss
ich alles am Computer machen. Auch
wenn ich Sport machen ist alles auf
mein Handy.
Ich will wissen welche orten von
Spielen Sie machen will. Ich will
auch wissen ob Sie verschiedene
Musik spielen haben?

Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Task 1 - Sample 1B

Important: Completely fill in the circle that corresponds to the task you are responding to on this page.

Task 1:
Email Reply

Task 2:
Argumentative Essay

Begin your response to each task at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

Vielen Dank dank für deine Email

Ich denke das Spielen generell wichtig für Menschen, aber Menschen liebt zu gewönne. Menschen sind sehr kompetitiv, also spielen bist gut für Menschen, denn die kann ~~sp~~ zu gewönne spielt.

Technologie ist sehr benutzen in meine Alltag. Ich habe meine Handy sind all zeit, aber es ist sehr wichtig zu meine activities. Ich kann spricht mit freunde und familie, spielt mit meine freunde, und meine Handy hilft mit meine arbeit. Ein Handy ist nur ein auf die ~~few~~ viele Technologie das hilft mich in meine Alltag, also es ist sehr benutzen.

Ich freue mich, von Ihnen zu hören.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen,

Use a pen with black or dark blue ink only. Do NOT write your name. Do NOT write outside the box.

Task 1 - Sample 1C

Important: Completely fill in the circle that corresponds to the task you are responding to on this page.

Task 1:
Email Reply

Task 2:
Argumentative Essay

Begin your response to each task at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

Hallo Julia!

Ich bin sehr interessiert in die Zapp-Gaming Software-Firma. Spiele sind wichtig für Menschen weil sie sind kreativ und motivieren. Ich kann nicht gib ein answer für Frage weil ich spreche Deutsch nicht.

Danke,

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Use a pen with black or dark blue ink only. Do NOT write your name. Do NOT write outside the box.

Question 1

Note: Student samples are quoted verbatim and may contain spelling and grammatical errors.

Overview

This task assessed writing in the interpersonal communicative mode by having the student write a reply to an email message. Students were allotted 15 minutes to read the message and write the reply. The response received a single holistic score based on how well it accomplished the assigned task. Students needed to be able first to comprehend the email and then to write a reply using a formal form of address. The reply must address all the questions and requests raised in the message, as well as ask for more details about something mentioned in the message.

The course theme for the email reply was Science and Technology (*Naturwissenschaft und Technologie*). The task required the student to reply to an email from Julia Mielke, the Director of Internship Services at Zapp-Gaming Ltd., a software firm specializing in game and app design. In the scenario, the student had already initiated an exchange by expressing interest in an internship at Zapp-Gaming. Ms. Mielke takes up this interest and explains to the student that Zapp is looking for creative and motivated interns to help develop and test games, particularly interns who can clearly state their opinions and are interested in the virtual worlds created in computer games. Mielke poses two questions to better understand the candidates' backgrounds and the ways they think: 1) Why is game-playing (computer games, board games, but also sports, music, etc.) generally important for people? and 2) What kinds of technology do you use in your everyday life? In closing, Ms. Mielke offers to answer any questions the student might have and states that she looks forward to hearing back from the candidate.

Sample: 1A

Score: 4

This response exemplifies a good response in Interpersonal Writing. On the whole, the student maintains an exchange that is generally appropriate and further provides some elaboration, particularly on the first question in the prompt. The errors that are present do not impede comprehensibility and, in some cases, only represent slightly unsuccessful attempts at more complex language (“*Die mehr jemand etwas mögen, die mehr Sie davon lernen will*”). Thus, the response is fully understandable, but lacks the ease and clarity of expression one would generally see in the higher scoring point. Vocabulary usage is generally appropriate, aside from a moment where the student used an incorrect word (“*orten von Spielen*”). However, this too does not detract from the response's overall appropriateness and comprehensibility. The register is very consistently formal. This response received a score of 4.

Sample: 1B

Score: 3

This response exemplifies a fair performance in Interpersonal Writing. On the whole, the response is somewhat appropriate in that it answers the two questions contained in the prompt. However, these responses do not rise above a fair performance. Further, the absence of a question or request for more details reflects the fact that this response is only mostly completed and only provides most required information. The level of elaboration is also low, comprised of short, repetitive phrases (“*Menschen sind sehr kompetitiv, also spielen bist gut für Menschen, denn die kann zu gewönne spielt*”). Overall,

Question 1 (continued)

the text is generally understandable, however there are phrases in the student response that contain errors that impede comprehensibility (“*aber Menschen liebt zu gewönne*”, “*also es ist sehr benutzen*”). There are also shifts in the register and only partial control of email-writing conventions (“*Vielen dank für deine Email!*”). Linguistically, the response only shows some control of grammar, syntax, usage, and sentence construction. This response received a score of 3.

Sample: 1C

Score: 1

This response embodies a poor performance in Interpersonal Writing. On the whole, the response unsuccessfully attempts to maintain the exchange by providing a response that is inappropriate within the context of the task in that it fails to address the questions in the prompt. Furthermore, the response never demonstrates an understanding of the context of the task itself, i.e., an internship at a game- and app-design company, with an attempt that largely borrows language from the prompt itself (“*Ich bin sehr interessant in die Zapp-Gaming Software-Firma*”). The response never rises above the poor level and is barely understandable, with frequent or significant errors that impede comprehensibility. The vocabulary used is limited and relies on wording from the prompt (“*kreativ und motivieren*”). Linguistically, the response only shows little control of grammar, syntax, usage, and sentence construction (“*Ich kann nicht gib ein answer für Frage weil ich spreche Deutsch nicht*”). Overall, the text pays minimal or no attention to register (“*Hallo Julia!*”) and does not use a proper closing (“*Danke*”). This response received a score of 1.