



ANTALYA BİLİM  
ÜNİVERSİTESİ

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING PROGRAM**

**SAMPLE PROCIENCY EXAM**

**READING**

**CLASS** : \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT NAME&SURNAME** : \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT ID NUMBER** : \_\_\_\_\_

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ABÜ'nün sınav kurallarına uyacağımı ve bu sınav kâğıdının üzerindeki bütün cevapların bana ait olduğunu taahhüt ederim. Sınav kurallarını ihlâl etmem durumunda, YDYO yönetimi tarafından gerekli disiplin yaptırımlarının uygulanacağını bilir ve kabul ederim.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Text 1**

Do men and women understand the same things from the spoken word? Judging by the misinterpretation, misunderstanding and false assumptions that can arise from a single simple sentence, there are serious reasons for doubt. In fact, it is better to put it even stronger. Do we even speak the same language?

First-and going against the general impression-men use language more. "Like everyone else, I used to believe that women were the talkative sex," says Dale Spender, a sociolinguist. "But when I analyzed the results of over one hundred and forty recorded conversations between men and women, the result was quite the opposite. Whether we're talking about social gatherings or business meetings, one element never changes: in any conversation with a man, a woman who talks more than a third of the time is seen as talking too much."

Nowhere is this more obvious than on radio or TV talk shows. One host, Robert Robinson, once said, "it's difficult to find the right kind of woman to participate in my program. Most of them can't stand up to me and so stay silent. They also find interrupting a bit tricky." On one occasion, a well-known female thinker became so cross and unhappy at being what she regarded as "shouted down" that she remained silent for the last fifteen minutes of the program. Even those women who are perfectly able to defend their opinions in a conversation are noticeably less talkative than their male counterparts.

Another female characteristic is the belief that conversation should be a mutual exchange rather than an attempt to dominate the other person. According to sociologist Jennifer Coates, when a woman in a group raises a topic, the others will encourage, sympathize or elaborate. The next female speaker may enlarge on some point, add a personal story, or simply make 'Go on' signals. But one thing she won't do is openly contradict the previous speaker and suddenly change the subject. But men in a group with women often get tired with what they see as the slow build-up of a topic." The tried and tested method of avoiding this hazard is doing what most women hate: interrupting.

"The effect constant interruption has on women is that they become silent," says Dr. Coates. It isn't only that men view conversation as a contest; they also have a different style of communicating. "We all think we know what a question is. But with men and women it triggers different reactions. Men think questions are requests for information, whereas women think they are part of the way in which a co-operative conversation works. If a woman asks a man a question, she's trying to keep the conversation going, while the man thinks this is a request for information, so he gives her a lecture." In social situations, this different view of the polite inquiry can often cause bad feelings. The woman thinks, 'What is he talking about? I didn't want a lecture on company accountancy,' and the man thinks, 'Why is she looking so annoyed? If she didn't want to know, why did she ask?'"

Although women have much greater sensitivity to what the other person is feeling, it is equally true that, in situations where power is concerned, the male style is the norm. "Male language allows them to have clear goals, stick to decisions, answer directly, seem confident and assert themselves," says Natasha Josefowitz, author of *Paths to Power*. "Women say 'I think I can', where men say, 'I can'. And though the woman may be right -who knows if she can carry out a particular task until she is doing it? - what employers look for is confidence." In female conversation, this general hesitance emerges in the use of 'soft' phrases such as 'I wonder if I might ...?', and 'Perhaps this isn't the moment to disturb you but ... ' instead of the simpler expressions 'Please may I...?' or 'Can I come in?'. The reason for such differences is something that frequently makes male English a rather different language from the female version of English: most men use language to hide their feelings whereas women see it as a means of expressing their emotions.

Answer the questions below based on 'Text 1'. Choose the correct option for questions 1-4 and answer question 5 in less than 25 words.

1. Before Dale Spender carried out her research, she \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. intended to show what made women aggressive
  - b. thought she knew what the outcome would be
  - c. realized men tended to speak more than women
  - d. wanted to discover the situations where men spoke most
  
2. Robert Robinson complained that many women appearing on his show \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. tended to be too talkative
  - b. didn't like his silent manner
  - c. were unable to cope with him
  - d. kept interrupting him
  
3. According to Dr. Coates, in a mixed group of speakers, \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. women tend to encourage interruption
  - b. men tend to build up the topic slowly
  - c. women discuss boring topics
  - d. men experience feelings of boredom
  
4. According to the article, \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. men use more complex sentences in a conversation than women
  - b. women tend to dominate the other person in a conversation
  - c. men regard conversation as a struggle for victory
  - d. women are interested in asking men questions in a conversation

5. What behavior is **NOT** expected from women according to Jennifer Coates?

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**Text 2**

**(1)** The etymology of the term “freelance” is the combination of two words: “free,” meaning independent, and “lance,” referring to a weapon. The original freelancer was a soldier who was available for hire by whichever person or nation was willing to pay him the most. In modern times, the term has evolved to mean a self-employed person who works for various companies on a short-term or project-by-project basis. Freelancers are writers, project managers, corporate consultants, or even doctors and nurses. Though typically only an option for highly experienced workers in the past, these days freelancing has become a popular option for people just entering the job market. Even so, it is important to examine the pros and cons of freelancing carefully before choosing this option.

**(2)** The benefits of freelance work are many: choosing when and where you want to work, declining jobs or projects that don't appeal to you, having the opportunity to collaborate with many different workers, supervisors, and organizations, and perhaps being able to apply your skills in different industries and areas of the world. Freelancers can usually choose the work schedule that best suits them. After all, some people work best in the morning; others work best at night. Household chores, lunch dates, and doctors' appointments can be scheduled for whenever it suits them. Freelancers often have less or no commuting needs, and, depending on the task, they might not even have to be at home to do their work. Coffee shops are often dotted with freelancers on laptops. And if a freelancer is offered work that is not appealing, they can turn it down – if doing so is an affordable option, that is. Probably the most popular benefit of freelancing, though, is variety. Freelancers often get to collaborate with more people and with more different types of companies than someone working with the same people at the same location every day. This can make the daily grind of work life more interesting and help people expand their professional network.

**(3)** There are, of course, disadvantages to being a freelancer as well. Freelancers have no predictable salary to rely on. Plus, there are usually administrative tasks unrelated to their main occupation that must be done, tasks that might be done for them if they were working full time for a company. Such tasks could include billing and paying invoices, photocopying, and handling paperwork, which, particularly for creative types like graphic designers, might be stressful and frustrating. In addition, freelancers are always looking for their next job, and also thinking about how much they are earning from their current work. Is it enough, or should they take on more in order to pay the bills? Finally, being a freelancer is a huge responsibility. Instead of having the support of a boss, they are the boss. The praise and credit for the work is all theirs, but so too is all the blame or criticism. The buck stops with them. This degree of individual responsibility can feel like isolation for some people.

**(4)** In short, working as a freelancer can be a wonderful, satisfying career choice, but it is not the right choice for everyone. Understanding the pros and cons is important for anyone who is considering becoming a freelancer, either as a first career move or by making the move from a full- or part-time position to becoming their own boss.



## ANSWER KEY

### SAMPLE PROFICIENCY EXAM

#### READING PART

##### TEXT 1

1. B (1 pt)
2. C (1 pt)
3. D (1 pt)
4. C (1 pt)
5. The student needs any one of the following (1 pt):
  - Contradicting the previous speaker
  - Suddenly changing the subject.

##### TEXT 2

6. The student needs to write **ONE** of the answers below. (1 pt)
  - It is important for anyone thinking about becoming a freelancer to consider the pros and cons.
  - Pros and cons / Advantages and disadvantages of becoming a freelancer
7. The student needs to write **ONE** of the answers below. (1 pt)
  - They are the boss, and the boss makes all of the final decisions.
  - They have to take responsibility of everything about their work. etc.

#### 8. Reflection Task Criteria

##### **3 pts.**

- \* ideas relevant and well-developed
- \* almost no grammatical mistakes that obscure the meaning

##### **2 pts**

- \* ideas relevant but not well-developed
- \* grammatical mistakes occasionally obscure the meaning

##### **1 pt.**

- \* ideas mostly irrelevant and not developed
- \* grammar mistakes often obscure the meaning
- \* a very short answer

##### **0 pt.**

- \* ideas completely irrelevant or no response

\*Ss are expected to write their own sentences.

\*If the answer is directly copied from the text, do **NOT GIVE** any points.

\*If the answer is **partially copied**, deduct **half the point** you have given.

\*Only "Yes, I do / No I don't": 0 pt.