



# DELF EXAMPLE 6 – B2 WRITING SKILLS

## ÉCRIT ARGUMENTÉ

Vous êtes élève dans une école bilingue. Vous faites partie du « Club journal » et vous voulez créer un espace de libre expression des élèves sur le site Internet de l'école. Le directeur de votre école est opposé à ce projet car il redoute les textes provocateurs et les plaintes des professeurs et des parents d'élèves. Au nom du « Club journal », vous lui écrivez une lettre officielle afin de le faire changer d'avis. Vous le rassurez en lui montrant les avantages de cette initiative pour chacun et pour la vie de l'école. (250 mots minimum)

Le 4 abril, 2012



Lorsque vous auz besoin de laide, à qui vous le demandez?
Si c'est très personnel ne seruit-il plus confortable d'expliquer
votre problème sans vous vous exposez? (e site serait
anonyme, donc ce serait beaucoup plus facile de parlero de vos
problèmes. Par exemple, si un élève est constramment taquine, cela
attiverait l'attention de beaucoup de personnes qui firait peur au taquineur,
Le problème serait résordre sans exposer personne et en incluent
tout l'école, qui encourage rait la participation des élèves.
Nous espérons que vous prendrez en considération notre
projet et que vons changirez d'avis. Veuillez agréez Monsieur
le directeur, nos plus sincères salutations.





### **Following Instructions**

Responds appropriately to the situation and the type of written production required.

Follows the instruction regarding minimum length.

<u>Comment:</u> The candidate responds appropriately to the situation proposed and ably writes a formal letter to his school principal asking him to change his mind.

He follows the instruction regarding minimum length; his letter is 261 words long.

### **Sociolinguistic Appropriateness**

Is able to adapt his/her written production to the situation and the reader, adopting a formal level of language that is appropriate under the circumstances.

<u>Comment:</u> The candidate is able to adapt his written production to the situation and the reader, adopting a formal level of language appropriate under the circumstances: "Le « Club Journal » a pris connaissance de votre opposition envers notre projet ... et nous vous prions de reconsidéré votre décision." "Nous espérons que vous prendrez en considération notre projet et que vous changerez d'avis".

He uses the appropriate forms of greeting and leave-taking: "Monsieur le directeur", "Veuillez agréez, Monsieur le directeur, nos plus sincères salutations".

However, the tone of the third paragraph is somewhat casual: "Lorsque vous avez besoin de l'aide, à qui le demandez-vous?" The reader is no longer clearly identified. Is he addressing the principal (in which case, he has not used the appropriate level of language) or is he addressing the students (in which case, there is a disconnect in the message)?

#### **Ability to Present Facts**

Is able to relate facts, events, and situations clearly and precisely.

<u>Comment:</u> There are very few specific facts in this written production. Some passages are unclear (e.g., "Cela éliminera les décisions prises injustes, car les décisions seraient fait par les personnes impliquées"). The candidate writes about the website in generalities; he does not provide any details about how it functions or the types of comments that can be posted on the website, etc.

#### **Ability to Defend a Position**

Is able to develop an argument, appropriately emphasizing important points and relevant details.

<u>Comment:</u> The candidate is able to state some advantages of having a space on the website where students can express themselves freely: "suggérer des améliorations au système...", "ne serait-il plus confortable d'expliquer votre problème sans vous vous exposez?", "...ce site serait anonyme".

In support of his position, he uses expressions such as: "Il y a tellement d'avantages...", "une place idéale...", "le but de l'école...".

He emphasizes two important points: "Le but de l'école et de faire apprendre les jeunes, mais si les élèves ne sont pas intéressés, c'est très difficile d'atteindre cet objectif," "Ce site serait anonyme, donc ce serait beaucoup plus facile de parler de vos problèmes".

However, his arguments contain few relevant examples or details.

Moreover, the idea of having students vote directly on the website [directement sur le site web] would not be reassuring to the principal.

## **Coherence and Cohesion**

Is able to connect the ideas expressed in a fluid and coherent form.

Follows the rules for page layout.

Punctuation is reasonably accurate but may show signs of mother tongue influence.

<u>Comment:</u> The page layout is functional; the fact that the ideas are organized into four paragraphs is helpful. The candidate uses a few linking words ("ensuite", "lorsque", "si"); however, they are mostly Level B1, not Level B2.

Lastly, while his production is generally understandable, the reader must still make sense of some of the passages and, occasionally, a transition between ideas is lacking (for example, he does not make a connection between "Cet espace serait une place idéale pour les élèves de laisser des commentaires..." and the fact that the school's goal is to "faire apprendre les jeunes").





#### **Lexical Competence / Lexical Spelling**

## **Vocabulary Range**

Is able to use a sufficient range of vocabulary in spite of occasional lexical gaps, which lead to periphrasing.

<u>Comment:</u> The candidate uses a ratherbroad range of vocabulary ("prendre connaissance", "améliorations", "atteindre un objectif", "anonyme", "constamment", "résoudre").

#### **Vocabulary Control**

Is able to use vocabulary that is generally appropriate, though some confusion and incorrect word choice does occur without hindering communication

<u>Comment:</u> Vocabulary is not always used appropriately; imprecise and incorrect vocabulary is occasionally used. Some instances of this may affect reader comprehension ("faire des décisions", "confortable", "venir à ce projet", "éliminer les décisions", "offrir un commentaire", "taquiné").

## **Orthographic Control**

Can produce clearly intelligible continuous writing. Spelling is reasonably accurate but may show signs of mother tongue influence. Is able to correctly spell most of the words whose use is expected at this level.

<u>Comment:</u> The candidate is able to correctly spell most of the words whose use is expected at this level.

## **Grammatical Competence / Grammatical Spelling**

#### **Choice of Forms**

Has a high degree of grammatical control. Non-systematic errors may still occur, but do not lead to misunderstanding.

<u>Comment:</u> The candidate has not mastered the use of the infinitive of verbs ending in "-er" after prepositions and in structures such as: "nous vous prions de reconsidéré", "les élèves pourront votés", "les autres vont soient l'acceptés ou le rejetés", "Veillez agréez....".

His use of past participles is problematic: "Le problème serait résoudre", "les décisions seraient fait". He makes basic errors in agreement and conjugation ("tout l'école", "le but de l'école et de faire apprendre").

This writing is not representative of a "high degree of grammatical control".

#### **Degree of Elaboration in Sentence Structure**

Is able to use a variety of constructions appropriately.

<u>Comment:</u> In general, the candidate's sentences are structured and varied. He makes an effort to compose complex sentences. However, some sentences are structured incorrectly, e.g., "Lorsque vous avez besoin de l'aide, à qui vous le demandez?" (too oral).

In complex sentences, the candidate does not always master verb tense agreement (e.g., confusion between the future and conditional verb tenses).

**TOTAL OUT OF 25: 15.5 / 25**