

2019 VCE Bosnian written examination report

General comments

Students prepared well for the 2019 Bosnian written examination. This was evident from the quality of the students' responses and their effective use of vocabulary, tense and syntax.

Grammar mistakes included: incorrect use of verbal prepositions, such as 'iz parkinga' instead of 'sa parkinga' or 'u ulicama' instead of 'po ulicama'; incorrect order of personal pronouns in sentences, such as 'Juče je mi bio rođendan' instead of 'Juče mi je bio rođendan' or 'kad je me babo upitao' instead of 'kad me je babo upitao'; and direct translations from English such as 'da apliciramo za vozačku dozvolu' instead of 'da uplatimo za vozačku dozvolu'.

Students are reminded to read questions carefully and provide their own authentic answers, without copying text from the questions.

Specific information

This report provides sample answers or an indication of what answers may have included. Unless otherwise stated, these are not intended to be exemplary or complete responses.

Section 1 – Listening and Responding

Part A – Answer in English

Text 1

Question 1

- The game will be shown on the big screen on the main square.
- Refreshments will be provided.
- Protection from the sun/heat will be provided.
- Police advise to keep order during the game.

Text 2

Question 2a.

- People have used herbs for years so they know that the herbs help people or are effective.
- Herbal medicines (the grasses and the herbs) are free.
- Looking for herbs encourages people to interact with nature.

Question 2b.

- The exhibitors waited for 10 years to get a permit.
- There has been no support from the municipality – politicians are not very interested.
- Neither biologists nor pharmacists are very supportive.

Text 3

Question 3a.

- (The editor of the newspaper says that) research has shown that young people lack accurate information about developments in B&H and the world.
- As a result, they started to pay special attention to the young (in order to fill the gaps in young people's knowledge).

Question 3b.

- Interesting material (anecdotes, articles) about Bosnian culture and language will be published.
- Technology will be used to reach a wide audience – anecdotes, blogs, podcasts etc.

Question 3c.

- An interesting discussion was held with participants from five countries.
- Now the discussion is available as a podcast and via a free app.

Part B – Answer in Bosnian

Text 4

Question 4a.

- Žena nije htjela da čeka u redu. (She won't queue like everyone else.)
- Žena je bila sarkastična prema vozaču. (She was sarcastic towards the driver.)
- Žena je bila spremna da vozača dovede u nevolju nudeći mu novac. (She is prepared to get the driver into trouble by paying cash.)
- Žena zadržava autobus kao i ostale putnike. (She is holding up the bus as well as the other passengers.)

Question 4b.

- Na početku vozač je učtiv/ljubazan/prijatan prema ženi. (At the start, the driver is polite to the woman.)
- Kasnije vozač postaje sve više i više uzrujan i njegovi odgovori postaju odsječeniji. (Later on, he becomes increasingly annoyed with her [and so his replies become more impatient].)

Text 5

Question 5

- Dobiće se informacije o mogućim radnim mjestima. (They will hear information about possible work opportunities.)
- Mladi će naučiti o pozitivnim aspektima/prednostima dronova. (They will understand the positive aspects of drones.)
- Biće upoznati kada da koriste dronove. (They will understand when to use drones.)
- Uvećaće se poznavanje zakona o upotrebi dronova. (Their knowledge of government regulations will increase.)

Text 6

Question 6

Film festival nudi: (The film festival offers:)

- pobjednički dokumentarni filmovi dobivaju novčanu nagradu (cash prizes for documentary filmmakers who win awards at the film festival)
- daju mogućnosti da se sretnu režiseri i producenti dokumentarnih filmova (opportunities to meet directors and producers of documentaries)
- posjetiocima ples, muziku, zabavu i opuštenu atmosferu (dancing, music, fun and a relaxed atmosphere for visitors)
- priliku da se posjete atrakcije Hercegovine (a chance to visit tourist attractions in Herzegovina)
- stari most u Mostaru, etno sela i izvor Bune se mogu posjetiti (the old bridge in Mostar, ethnic villages and the Buna Spring can also be visited)
- učesnici mogu uživati u okusima tradicionalne hrane (traditional food can be tasted/is available).

Section 2 – Reading and Responding

Part A – Answer in English

Text 7

Question 7a.

- High coffee consumption: Bosnia and Herzegovina ranks 10th in the world by the amount of coffee consumed per capita.
- Coffee has a particular social meaning for Bosnian Herzegovinians.
- Professor Edib Muftić states that coffee is the Bosnian national drink.

Question 7b.

- The first cup is offered to welcome a visitor to one's home.
- The second cup is offered to encourage conversation.
- The third cup is offered to indicate that it is time for guests to go home.

Text 8

Question 8

Initially, people had to use a natural lake; but with hard work, including looking after the equipment (ice skates) and the ice, plus fund-raising/donations, the ice hockey rink was built.

Later on, people helped by participating as players, coaches and supporters.

Now, important people (represented by the speaker) are working to encourage young people and children to play ice hockey at an international level.

The club encourages good results at school.

Part B – Answer in Bosnian

Question 9

- Text type: email
- Kind of writing: persuasive
- Audience: a friend

After reading a given newspaper advertisement about offers from the Tourist Association of Bosnia and Herzegovina, students were required to write an email to persuade a friend to go hiking with them after school is finished for the year.

Section 3 – Writing in Bosnian

For Questions 10–12, students presented relevant information or opinions in creative and authentic writing, with some students even using common colloquial phrases such as ‘Moj osmijeh je bio **od uha do uha**’.

Question 10

- Text type: report
- Kind of writing: informative
- Audience: environmental organisation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Students were required to write an informative report for an environmental organisation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, describing the ways in which people in Australia take care of the water resources in their homes and cities. No students selected this option.

Question 11

- Text type: diary entry
- Kind of writing: reflective
- Audience: the self

Students were asked to imagine they have just learned how to do something for the first time: for example, drive a car, learn a musical instrument or cook a new dish. They were asked to write a reflective diary entry about the experience of learning to do something for the first time.

This was the most popular question choice. Students shared their emotional journey in obtaining their driving license or learning how to prepare a complex traditional dish. They made points such as:

- their pride in their achievement
- the value of facing their fears or doubts
- their determination to meet a challenge
- closure
- their appreciation of family support.

Question 12

- Text type: speech
- Kind of writing: evaluative
- Audience: students at a high school in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Students were asked to write the script of an evaluative speech about the positive and negative aspects of fast-food outlets to give to the parents of students at a high school in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Students compared fast food with healthy food and presented their views and perspectives on the topic. They did not comment on any particular company or type of food but summarised general characteristics on both sides. They compared such aspects as:

- availability
- nutritional value
- popularity with young people
- affordability
- job opportunities.