

a. Write at least 4 tips to write logically and in accordance to English word order

1. You should always write first the subject, then the verb, then the object
2. Put the verb as near as the beginning of the sentence
3. Avoid ambiguity
4. Put the direct object before the indirect object

b. What is the best way to write a paragraph?

To write a good paragraph you need to put the key information at the beginning and then the background information. You should vary the length of your sentences, however try to keep them short. You should also avoid redundancy and ambiguity.

c. What can you do to be concise and simple in writing a scientific paper?

You can:

1. Write short sentences, with only subject-verb-object
2. Avoid semi colons. Put a period and start a new sentence instead
3. Avoid unnecessary link words
4. Use verbs instead of nouns
5. Remove redundant words

## Second part – writing exercises [35 minutes]

### 2 – Use of tenses in Scientific Writing [9 p.]

*Underline the correct form.*

ABSTRACT We (1) **develop** / **have developed** / **developed** a didactic method for addressing the high level of irregularity in spelling and pronunciation. We (2) **combine** / **have combined** / **combined** new words, or words that non-native speakers regularly (3) **have** / **have had** / **had** difficult in pronouncing, with words that they are familiar with. Tests (4) **are** / **have been** / **were** conducted on 2041 adults who (5) **are** / **have been** / **were** selected at random from higher education institutes in 22 countries. The results (6) **reveal** / **have revealed** / **revealed** that as many as 85% of subjects (7) **manage** / **have managed** / **managed** to unlearn their erroneous pronunciation, with only 5% making no progress at all. We (8) **believe** / **have believed** / **believed** our findings could have a profound impact on the way English pronunciation (9) **is** / **has been** / **was** taught around the world.

### 3 – Choose the sentence (a, b or c) that best enables the reader to quickly assimilate the information contained in the sentence. [1 p.]

- a) I would like to request a delay in submission of manuscript #: 08SFL-00975 until 21 October.
- b) Until 21 October I would like to request a delay in submission of manuscript #: 08SFL-00975.
- c) I would like to request a delay until 21 October in submission of manuscript #: 08SFL-00975.

### 4 – Correct any mistakes in the following sentences. The mistakes are all related to word order. [3 p.]

1. Many are the substances that are harmful to human beings.

The substances that are harmful to human beings are many.

2. This book shares one with the previous several aspects.

This book shares several aspects with the previous one.

3. For several years with this system we have had problems.

We have had problems with this system for several years.

### 5 – Prove that a product of an odd number and the square of an even number is an even number.

**Do not write more than four lines (about 60 words). Try to prefer words to symbols where possible. [6 p.]**

see page 3.

**6 – Divide up the following sentence into more manageable and shorter sentences that will help the reader understand the content better. You may need to rearrange the word order and / or delete unnecessary words. [4 p.]**

The aim of our study was to assess changes in the level of tolerance of natives of one country towards immigrants over the course of a 50-year period in order to be able to advise governmental agencies on how to develop strategies based on those countries that have been more successful in reducing racism as already investigated in previous studies, but not in such a systematic way, and to establish correlations with data from the USA, which until now have been reported only sporadically. **see page 3.**

**7 – Connect each statement with its contrasting statement using one of the following link words: in reality, but, instead, despite this, although, however, nevertheless... [6 p.] **see page 3.****

Statement	despite this
Current thinking claims that fructose is not harmful for your health.	Fructose is a poison. We prove that it can be classified as deleterious to the health in the same way as tobacco and ethanol in alcohol
Manuscript peer review may delay publication of important results for six months or more.	It ensures good quality papers with reliable and reputable results and methodologies.
When water boils in an uncovered recipient it produces about 2000 times its own volume of steam.	In a sealed recipient, steam cannot expand and steam pressure increases.

**8 – Each of the sentences below contains words or phrases that can be deleted without requiring any other changes. Delete such words and phrases. [3 p.]**

The solution **adopted** was to **carry out a** test **of** all the software on the market.

1. However, we have to ~~make use of some~~ additional memory for such instructions.
2. The document was written in the ~~English language~~ and the contents represent ~~an new~~ innovation in the ~~sector of~~ telecommunications.
3. ~~They have shown~~ we should also consider ~~the possibility of~~ doing the testing in advance.

**9 – Make the following sentences sound less arrogant / strong. [3 p.]**

Our approach lends itself perfectly for use by civil engineers. = *We **believe** our approach will lend itself for use by civil engineers. / Our approach **could possibly** lend itself for use by civil engineers.*

1. These results demonstrate the fundamental nature of ...  
*These results seem to imply that the fundamental nature of...* \_\_\_\_\_
2. This is the first time that such results have been reported in the literature.  
*To our knowledge, this would be the first time that...* \_\_\_\_\_
3. Our finding that  $x = y$  represents a groundbreaking discovery.  
*If our finding that  $x=y$  is correct, this would possibly represent a groundbreaking discovery.* \_\_\_\_\_

**5 – Prove that a product of an odd number and the square of an even number is an even number. Do not write more than four lines (about 60 words). Try to prefer words to symbols where possible. [6 p.]**

We want to prove that a product of an odd number and the square of an even number is an even number. Consider  $m$  and  $n$  two integers. The number  $m$  is odd, while the number  $n$  is even, thus I can write  $m$  as an even number plus 1, while I write  $n$  as the product of 2 and another integer.

We notice that the square of  $n$ , i.e.  $n$  times  $n$ , is still an even number, because is the product of 2 times 2, which equals 4, times the square of an integer. But the product between an even number, like 4, and any number is even, thus the square of an even number is even. In conclusion, we can say that the product between an odd number and the square of an even number is even, q.e.d.

**6 – Divide up the following sentence into more manageable and shorter sentences that will help the reader understand the content better. You may need to rearrange the word order and / or delete unnecessary words. [4 p.]**

The aim of our study was to assess changes in the level of tolerance of natives of one country towards immigrants over the course of a 50-year period. This was done in order to be able to advise governmental agencies on how to develop strategies to reduce racism. We based our studies on those countries that have been more successful in reducing racism. Those countries were already investigated in previous studies, but not in such a systematic way. We want to establish correlations with data from the USA, which until now have been reported only sporadically.

**7 – Connect each statement with its contrasting statement using one of the following link words: in reality, but, instead, despite this, although, however, nevertheless... [6 p.]**

1. Current thinking claims that fructose is not harmful for your health, however we can prove that it can be classified as deleterious to the health in the same way as tobacco and ethanol in alcohol.
2. Manuscript peer review may delay publication of important results for six months or more, in reality this ensures good quality papers with reliable and reputable results and methodologies.
3. When water boils in an uncovered recipient it produces about 2000 times its own volume of steam nevertheless in a sealed recipient, steam cannot expand, thus steam pressure increases.

## Topic B

### **Attending Classes: A Controversial Subject**

A lot of schools require students to attend all of their classes in person in order to pass exams. However not everybody is in accordance with this.

On the one hand, attending classes can be useful for many reasons.

Above all there is the possibility to learn from a professional, a person whose job is to make students understand what they want to learn. In fact, it isn't always easy to comprehend difficult subjects, like those you encounter at university, especially if you study it just by yourself.

Subsequently, attending classes in person forces you to keep up with the study, which can be the biggest challenge in university. As a result, you become quicker in the study, and you can thus pass your exams before.

On the other hand, for some people is not convenient to attend classes.

For instance, keeping up with the study is not for everybody. There are some people that take more time than others to learn: for them it can be a waste of time go to lesson, and it can also be very depressing.

There are also some people who cannot attend lesson every day, but who would want to learn. Namely, working students, or parents: those people can't put their lives on hold for learning.

In conclusion, even if attending lessons can be a very important part of university, it can also leave out a lot of intelligent and motivated people.

[244 words]