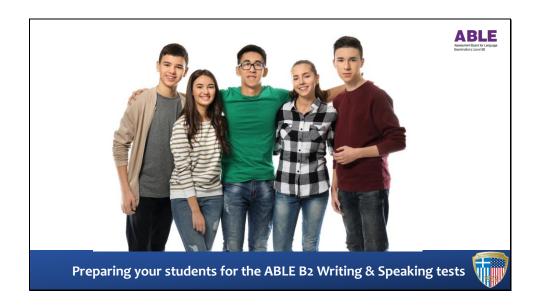


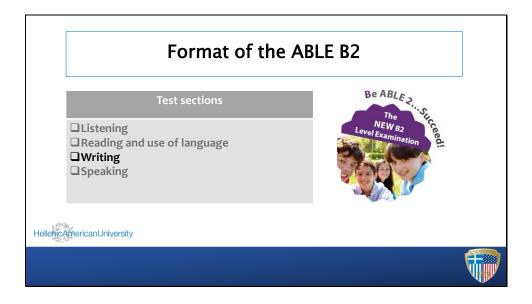


Preparing your students for the ABLE B2 Writing & Speaking tests



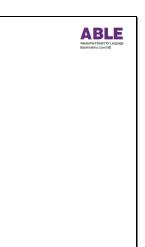


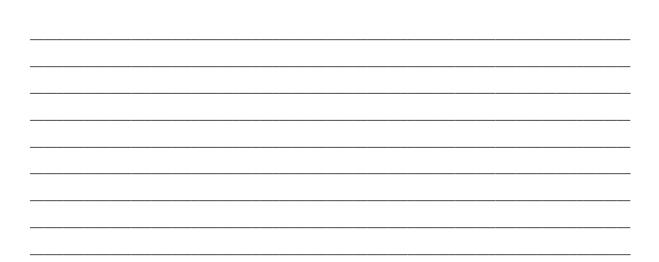






ABLE B2 Writing: Meeting the Standard









	Task Completion	Organization	Linguistic Resources
Focus	Relevance to the task Elaboration Style and format	Text organization: Coherence Cohesion	Complexity & accuracy of: Grammar & syntax Vocabulary
5 HIGH PASS Effective Writing	Completes the task fully and relevantly, using all the prompts provided. Covers all aspects of the	Text is fully coherent. Consistently uses cohesive devices in an effective manner to	Consistently uses a wide range of linguistic forms and structures effectively.
J	topic effectively. Consistently uses an appropriate style and format.	make the text flow smoothly.	Consistently maintains a high degree of grammatical and syntactical accuracy and consistently chooses appropriate vocabulary.
			Minor errors may occur.



-		





	Task Completion	Organization	Linguistic Resources
Focus	Relevance to the task Elaboration Style and format	Text organization: Coherence Cohesion	Complexity & accuracy of: Grammar & syntax Vocabulary
4 PASS Good Writing	Develops the topic mostly relevantly, using all the prompts provided. Covers most aspects of the topic effectively. Style and format are mostly appropriate.	Text is mostly coherent. Mostly uses cohesive devices effectively to achieve the smooth flow of the text.	Uses some variety of structures and displays sufficient lexical range to accomplish the task mostly effectively. Mostly maintains a fairly high degree of grammatical and syntactical accuracy and mostly chooses appropriate vocabulary. Some errors may occur in more complex structures, but mostly do not impede communication.







	Task Completion	Organization	Linguistic Resources
Focus	Relevance to the task Elaboration Style and format	Text organization:	Complexity & accuracy of: Grammar & syntax Vocabulary
3 LOW PASS Good Writing	Develops the topic satisfactorily, using most of the prompts provided. Covers some aspects of the topic more effectively than others. Style and format are often appropriate.	Text is satisfactorily coherent. Often uses cohesive devices effectively to achieve the smooth flow of the text.	Often uses some variety of structures and displays sufficient lexical range to accomplish the task satisfactorily. Maintains a satisfactory degree of grammatical and syntactical accuracy and often chooses appropriate vocabulary. Errors may occur in simple and more complex structures, but rarely impede communication.







	Task Completion	Organization	Linguistic Resources
Focus	Relevance to the task Elaboration Style and format	Text organization: Coherence Cohesion	Complexity & accuracy of: Grammar & syntax Vocabulary
2 NARROW FAIL Limited	Often does not develop the topic satisfactorily.	Lack of coherence may sometimes impede communication.	Often uses a limited variety of structures and displays a lack of lexical range.
Writing	of the prompts or some misunderstanding of the task. Style and format are often not appropriate.	Often uses a limited range of cohesive devices, which may often hinder the smooth flow of the text.	Errors occur in both simple and complex structures, which may often impede communication and some vocabulary may be inappropriately used.



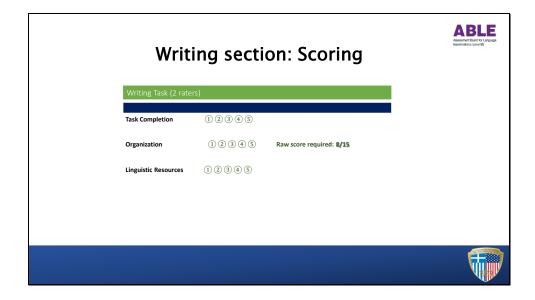




	Task Completion	Organization	Linguistic Resources
Focus	Relevance to the task Elaboration Style and format	Text organization: Coherence Cohesion	Complexity & accuracy of: Grammar & syntax Vocabulary
fAIL Ineffective Writing	Mostly does not develop the topic satisfactorily. Mostly ineffective use	Mostly incoherent writing. Use of cohesive devices is very limited or inappropriate and hinders the smooth flow of the	Mostly uses a very limited variety of structures and displays a lack of lexical range.
J	of the prompts or misunderstanding of the task.	text.	Errors frequently occur in simple structures, frequently impeding communication, while vocabulary may frequently be inappropriately used.
	Style and format are mostly not appropriate.		









Writing section



TASK 1

You are emailing a friend who has asked you about your favorite movie. Describe the best movie you have ever seen. You should include:

- Where you saw it
 Who was in the movie
 What happened in the movie
 Why it is your favorite movie

Start your email with 'Hi Antony' and end with 'Take care' and your name.







Hi Antony!

It's me! How are things? I am fine. I am looking forward to the summer holidays when we will meet again. Yesterday was a rainy day so we couldn't do our exercise class outside in the school yard. So our gym teacher decided to take us to the classroom and show us a film. Everyone was pleased.

When I saw that my favorite actor was playing I was very excited. He was Kevin Costner and the movie was "Robin

As the story goes Robin returns from war only to find his father dead and that a bad sheriff had taken all his fortune. So what does he do? He finds some other men and they steal from the rich who pass through the forest of Sherwood. Besides all that he falls in love with Marion a girl from the castle. At some point he is sent to prison but fortunately the real king returns and releases him.

I love this film so much because we see that "good" always wins in the end.
I can't wait for school to finish so I can come to the island to stay at my grandmother and spend time with you every day.
Take care,
Kostas







Task Completion: \$
Completes the task fully and relevantly, using all the prompts provided.
Covers all aspects of the topic effectively.
Consistently uses an appropriate style and format.

Organization: \$
Text is fully coherent.
Consistently uses cohesive devices in an effective manner to make the text flow smoothly.

Linguistic Resources: \$
Consistently uses a wide range of linguistic forms and structures effectively.
Consistently maintains a high degree of grammatical and syntactical accuracy and consistently chooses appropriate vocabulary.





Writing section



TASK 2

Your friend Kate is trying to decide what to do next vacation. She is not sure whether to go on vacation with her parents or organize a trip for a few friends to go to the beach. She has emailed you to ask for your opinion. Decide which one would be better and write to her with some advice. Your email should one would be better and write to her with some advice. Your er include:

• an introduction

• at least two advantages of the option you chose

• at least two disadvantages of the option you did not choose

• a conclusion

Start your email with 'Hi Kate' and end with 'See you soon' and your name.







Hi Kate,
How are you? Today I help you with your problem. I give you some advice. I am very happy to help you.
The best thing for you should be a trip for a few friends to go to the beach because you can invite your friends.
The trip in the beach is very good idea because you can go on the beach and you're swimming at the sea. The trip is better because you can do many things with your friends you can listen songs and you can dance.

It shouldn't be a good idea to go on vacation with your parents because is very boring. The vacation with your parents isn't good because you don't play with your friends and you don't spend time with your friends.

I wish to help you and solve your problem. I hope to choice the better thing for you. You don't forget to tell me..





ABLE Assessment Board for Language

Task Completion: 3
Develops the task satisfactorily, using most of the prompts provided.
Covers some aspects of the topic more effectively than others.
Style and format are often appropriate.

Organization: 3
Text is satisfactorily coherent.
Often uses cohesive devices effectively to achieve a smooth flow of the text.

Linguistic Resources: 3
Often uses some variety of structures and displays sufficient lexical range to accomplish the task satisfactorily.
Maintains a satisfactory degree of grammatical and syntactical accuracy and often chooses appropriate vocabulary.
Errors may occur in simple and more complex structures, but rarely impede communication.





Writing section



TASK 3

Your friend Kate is trying to decide how to celebrate her birthday. She is not sure whether to have a party at her parents' apartment or organize a trip for a few friends to go to the beach. She has emailed you to ask for your opinion. Decide which one would be better and write to her with some advice. Your email should include:
 an introduction
 at least two advantages of the option you did not choose
 at least two disadvantages of the option you did not choose
 a conclusion

Start your email with 'Hi Kate' and end with 'See you soon' and your name.







Hi Kate.

Thanks for your email. It was great to hear from you. I'm sending you this email to express my opinion whether you should celebrate your birthday at your parent's house or celebrate it with your friends at the beach.

First of all, if I were you, I would celebrate my birthday with my friends at the beach because it's summer now, the weather is getting hot, and so I think it would be a good idea to go there for a swim. Also, you can play tennis or volleyball and generally you can do plenty of crazy things as you'll have a lot of space.

However, organizing your birthday at your parents house isn't a good idea because you have to behave well and you can't put the music too loud because the neighbours might come to your parents apartment and complain that you are making a lot of noise. Also, it is a tiny place, so you can't do a lot of things there.

So, I think you ought to celebrate your birthday at the beach, as you'll have more fun there than to celebrate it at your parent's apartment. I have to go now! I'm sure whatever you deside you'll be fine. Happy birthday!

See you soon





Task Completion: \$
Completes the task fully and relevantly, using all the prompts provided.
Covers all aspects of the topic effectively.
Consistently uses an appropriate style and format.

Organization: \$
Text is fully coherent.
Consistently uses cohesive devices in an effective manner to make the text flow smoothly.

Linguistic Resources: S

Consistently uses a wide range of linguistic forms and structures effectively.

Consistently maintains a high degree of grammatical and syntactical accuracy and consistently chooses appropriate

.







Hi Kat

I am writing this email because I want to tell you about how to celebrate your birthday and whether it is better for you to have a party at your parents apartments or organize a trip for a few friends to go to the beach.

In my opinion I think that the best is to spend time with your friends in this age. I think it is a great idea to organize a trip for a few friends to go to beach because you will have fun as you tell with your friends more things than with your parents. Also, you can do a lot of things without parents, as parents all the time tell you what is right and what is wrong, but with your friends you can do do what you want and that is fabulous.

On the other hand I have to tell you that it is not amazing to have a party at your parents apartment, because they will tell you all the time what is fine and what is bad and this is very anchotic. Also before the party they will tell you what to wear and how you must be in the party. In this age it is better to spend time with your friends, as all your other birthdays you were with your parents. Now it is time to change it.

In conclusion, in my opinion I think the best thing is to organize a trip for a few friends to go to the beach because I believe that will be wonderful and I think there will be a beautiful place. Well, that is my opinion about how to celebrate your birthday. I want to believe that the advice that I gave you will help you.

See you soon, Christina





Task Completion: 4
Completes the task relevantly, using all the prompts provided.
Covers most aspects of the topic effectively.
Style and format are mostly appropriate.

Organization: 4
Text is mostly coherent.
Mostly uses cohesive devices effectively to achieve the smooth flow of the text.

Linguistic Resources: 4

Uses some variety of structures and displays sufficient lexical range to accomplish the task mostly effectively.

Mostly maintains a fairly high degree of grammatical and syntactical accuracy and mostly chooses appropriate vocabulary.

Some errors may occur in more complex structures, but mostly do not impede communication.







Hi Kat

How are you? I'm finel I was very glad to recieve your email. I'm very happy that you will have a party and I think it would be a very good party because whichever option would you choose it would be amazing. Firstly I'm going to give you my opinion which is to organize a trip for a few friends to go to the beach because I think that is the best way to celebrate your birthday with people who love.

There are also a lot of things to do with your friends during the party such as swimming in the beach, playing beach volleyball and waterpolo too. Also there are a lot of restaurants and cafes-bars where you can eat and drink.

Also about the other option I think it would be the badest option because after the party you must clean the apartment of your parents and that it would be very exhausting. Also there is one last disadvantage which is the organization of the party. You have to get balloons, to buy drinks food and you will put your mom to work to cook a wonderfull birthday cake. Also it would be a very expensive party in your parents apartment. I think I have been really helpfull and I'm looking forward to hearing from you soon.

See you soon Angjelos







Task Completion: 3
Develops the topic satisfactorily.
Covers some aspects of the topic more effectively than others.
Style and format are often appropriate.

Organization: 3
Text is satisfactorily coherent.
Often uses cohesive devices effectively to achieve the smooth flow of the text.

Linguistic Resources: 3
Often uses some variety of structures and displays sufficient lexical range to accomplish the task satisfactorily.
Maintains a satisfactory degree of grammatical and syntactical accuracy and often chooses appropriate vocabulary.
Errors may occur in simple and more complex structures, but rarely impede communication.







Hi Kat

How are you?

I am fine. I read your last letter and I am writing to give you some advice what to do about your party.

I suggest you should to organize a trip for a few friends and go to the beach.

First of all, the friends will give you most usefull gifts clothes, and electronic games. Also it is amazing in your birthday you will be there with your best friends.

The birthday with your parents it's a little boring and you haven't a good nice day.

I hope I will help you. Tell me about you choise.

See you soon Smaragda







Task Completion: 2
Often does not develop the topic satisfactorily.
Style and format are often not appropriate.

Organization: 2
Lack of coherence may sometimes impede communication.
Often uses a limited range of cohesive devices, which may often hinder the smooth flow of the text.

Linguistic Resources: 2
Often uses a limited variety of structures and displays a lack of lexical range.
Errors occur in both simple and complex structures, which may often impede communication and some vocabulary may
be inappropriately used





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ABLE Assessment Board for Language Framinations: Level R2

Focus on

- The writing topics listed for the upcoming test administrations
 Developing the skills of describing and giving advice in writing
 Developing a set of writing approaches applicable to all probable topics
- Using all prompts provided in the produced texts



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Format of the	
Test sections	Be ABLE 2 SILL NEW B2 Level Examination
□ Listening □ Reading and use of language □ Writing □ Speaking	NEW B2 Level Examination
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Speaking section

One examiner One candidate

Duration: 8 min. (approximately)

Tasks: 3

Speaking test is recorded!



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Speaking tasks

- Task 1: Answering non-sensitive personal questions
- Task 2: Understanding and providing information in an information-gap activity with the Examiner
- Task 3: Answering follow-up questions about the topic







Task 1: Answering non-sensitive personal questions

Speaking Section (8 minutes approx.)

Examiner's Booklet

Hello and welcome. My name's (Examiner's first name) and what's your name? (Examiner checks ID and Registration Form.) And your Registration Number is... (Examiner reads out number).

Thank you. There are three tasks in the Speaking Section. First, I'll ask a few questions about you. Then we'll take part in a short role play. Finally, I'll ask you a few general questions about the topic. Are you ready to begin?

Task 1: Getting to Know You (1-2 minutes)

(Examiner asks a selection of the questions below, taking care not to exceed the time limit.)

- So, (name of candidate):

 Where do you live? Do you like it there? Why or why not?

 What do you like about your school or work?

 Do you have any hobbles? What hobbles do you have? Do you do them with family or friends?

 What about the future what are your ambitions?





Speaking task 1 - Tips

• Task 1: Answering non-sensitive personal questions

Practice Task 1 with your friends and fellow students to give you confidence in this part of the test. The aim of Task 1 is to help you relax in the Speaking Section by giving you a chance to speak about a topic where *you* are the expert!







• Task 2: Understanding and providing information in an information-gap activity with the Examiner

Candidate's Handout

Task 2: Role Play

In this part of the Speaking Section, we are going to take part in a role play.

- Calaxy Hotel

 quite expensive
 no rooms with sea views available for tonight
 breakfast not included in the price
 no parking lot
 no seimming pool
 just len minutes' walk from the beach
 quite expensive
 very reasonable prices
 one room available with fantastic sea views
 breakfast included in the price
 large parking lot
 beautiful exvirming pool
 just one minute's walk from the beach

Please ask me your questions.

So, now that I've answered your questions, which hotel do you think would be better for me, and why do you not recommend the other one?





• Examiner's answers

Information for Examiner's role as a tourist

- I would prefer not to pay too much
- I would like a room with a sea view
- I enjoy a big breakfast
- · I need somewhere to park a car
- I don't want to walk far to the beach

So, now that I've answered your questions, which hotel do you think would be better for me, and why do you not recommend the other one?

(Examiner gives the candidate time to reply, reminding the candidate to speak about the other option, if necessary.)





Speaking task 2 - Tips

 Task 2: Understanding and providing information in an information-gap activity with the Examiner

For Task 2, the Examiner will ask you to help him/her by giving advice about which of two options to choose. The two options are on your handout. Read both options. The type of information will be in the same order for both options, for example, price, location, facilities, etc. Notice what type of information there is and look quickly at the questions you will be asking – these questions follow the same order as the information in your options.

To find out which of the options is the most suitable, ask the Examiner the questions on your handout. As the Examiner answers, compare what he/she says to the information about your two options. Only **one** of the options will be suitable.

If you find it difficult to remember everything the Examiner has answered, you can ask the Examiner to repeat the information. The Speaking Test is **not a memory test**, so do not feel worried or embarrassed about asking for repetition. Make sure you develop your response — if you only give a summary, your answer will be too short, and you may lose marks for topic development.





• Task 3: Answering follow-up questions about the topic

Information on candidate's handout

Galaxy Hotel

- no rooms with sea views available for tonight
- breakfast not included in the price
 no parking lot
 no swimming pool
- no swimming pool

- · very reasonable prices
- one room available with fantastic sea views
- breakfast included in the price
 large parking lot
 beautiful swimming pool
- no swimming pool
 just ten minutes' walk from the beach
 just one minute's walk from the beach

Task 3: Questions about the Topic (2-4 minutes)

(Examiner asks a selection of the questions below, taking care not to exceed the time limit.)

Now, I'm going to ask you a few general questions about the topic:

- If you were the tourist, which of the two hotels would you choose and why?
 Would you prefer to stay in a hotel or a friend's house and why?
 Would you like to work in the fourist industry? Why or why not?
 Do you think tourism is important for your country? What are the benefits and drawbacks?

Thank you for your answers. (Examiner ends the conversation in a friendly manner, while checking that all materials have been returned.)





Speaking task 3 - Tips

• Task 3: Answering follow-up questions about the topic

In Task 3, the Examiner will ask up to four questions about the topic. Each question is slightly more difficult than the previous one in order to give you a chance to show off your language competency. For this reason, do not worry at all if you find the last questions a little more challenging.



The first question of Task 3 usually asks you which of the two options you prefer. Explain which one you prefer and why, but you do not need to say why you do not prefer the other choice.



Speaking section tips - You should:

- Give full answers when examiners asks personal questions
- · Read instructions while examiner explains the role play
- Ask examiner to explain, clarify or rephrase points they might not understand
- Use the information provided and choose one of the two options
- Explain why you selected one of two options using information on the sheet (you can add your own ideas too) and then why you did not recommend the other option
- Respond to questions related to the topic of discussion giving full answers (justify, explain, give examples) – The first question is always about which option you prefer
- Relax and enjoy the speaking test!

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Writing & Speaking Topics for Administrations

Description

- A past experience/event (e.g. vacation/trip, etc.)
- People (e.g. close friend or relative, a favorite teacher, etc.)
- Favorite TV series, movies, books, etc.
- Favorite places (e.g. local place, holiday place, etc.)
- Ambitions and future plans
- Hobby/sport





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Writing & Speaking Topics for Administrations

Giving advice

- Sports (e.g. individual/team sports, etc.)
- Shopping(e.g. what to buy, etc.)
- Animals/pets (e.g. type of animal, zoos, etc.)
- Vacations/trips (e.g. where to go, type of accommodation, etc.
- Transport (e.g. mode of transport, etc.)
- Where to live (e.g. town/countryside, apartment/house, etc.)
- Study (e.g. subjects, school schedule, etc.)
- New free time activity (e.g. exercise, collecting, volunteering, etc.)
- Work (e.g. at home/abroad, large/small company, at home/in office, etc.)
- Social occasions (e.g. where to have a party/who to invite/what to do, etc.)



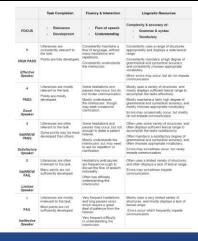




	Scoring		
Speaking task (1 exa	miner/rater)		
Task completion	1 2 3 4 5		
Fluency and interaction	1 2 3 4 5		
Linguistic resources	1 2 3 4 5		
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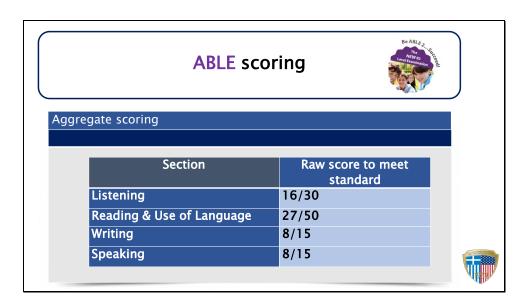


ABLE B2 Speaking Rating scale









-		



Speaking Video Sample	



Thank you!





Center for Examinations and Certifications



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