



UNIVERSITETET I OSLO
Institutt for litteratur, områdestudier og europeiske språk

WRITTEN EXAMINATION
SPRING 2016
4 pages

ENG0111 – English for International Students
4 hours

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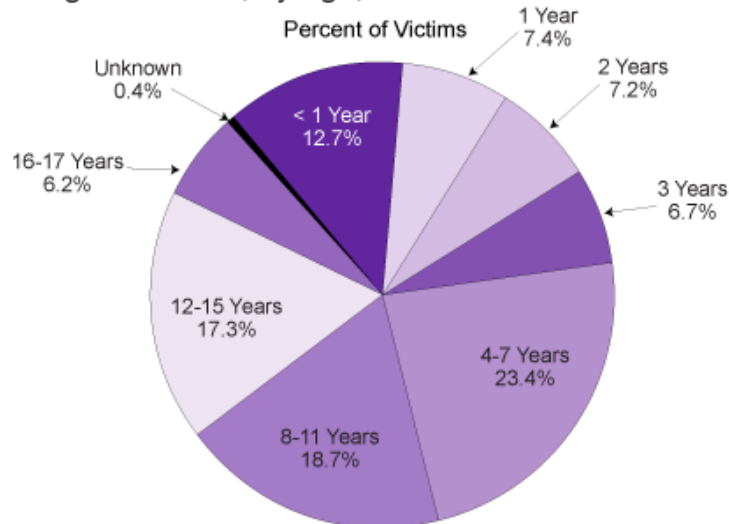
You are allowed to use an English–English dictionary. All questions must be answered in English. All answers must be written on copy-sheets. Remember to **DOUBLE-SPACE**.

Answer sections 1 – 3. A PASS mark is required on each section.

PART 1: Visual Information (30% of mark)

Based on the information conveyed by the chart below, write a **small caption** [short *accompanying* text] for the visual, not exceeding 60 words.

Abuse and Neglect Victims, by Age, 2010



Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. Child Maltreatment 2010. Retrieved from: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/pubs/cm10/index.htm>. Accessed: May 17, 2012.

<http://mchb.hrsa.gov/chusa12/hs/hsc/pages/an.html>

PART 2: Summary (40 % of mark)

Read the text carefully. Look up all the words that you do not fully understand in a monolingual dictionary. Write a summary of **approximately**, but **not more than, 200 words**. Focus on the information. Do not refer to the journalist or the newspaper. Remember to **DOUBLE-SPACE!**

GREY ZONE

1 OVER the months, Yuichi Okano realized that his elderly mother was losing her mind. She
2 stopped bathing and started to smell. At night, she chatted to her late husband. She would
3 head out of the front door and disappear, with Mr. Okano left to pound the streets of
4 Nagasaki, plotting her meandering course with the help of neighbors. What he feared most
5 was not noticing her sitting outside in the dark as he parked the family car.

6 Last year, over 10,000 dementia sufferers went missing in Japan. Many turned up dead, or
7 not at all. Some walked into the paths of trains, for which their families may suffer a
8 posthumous indignity: a bill for the cost of the accident. One man who lost his father this
9 way recalls staring in disbelief at a carefully itemized invoice from the railway company for
10 ¥7.2 million (\$65,215). Late settlements accrue interest.

11 Japan is one of the planet's oldest societies, pipped only by tiny Monaco for the proportion
12 of elderly in the population. Lengthening life expectancy is a boon for millions of Japanese
13 retirees leading full lives. But it also means a sharp increase in the numbers suffering from
14 dementia. Who, asks Florian Coulmas, an expert on Japanese ageing, should accept
15 responsibility for people unable to articulate their own interests or care for themselves?

16 Over 5 million elderly Japanese suffer from dementia. By 2025, some seven million will
17 need care, the health ministry predicts. Most live at home, putting a strain on relatives. A
18 new survey says three-quarters of people looking after elderly family members are at their
19 wits' end, and many have considered suicide or worse: last year, the police recorded 44
20 cases of murder or attempted murder in such homes.

21 Japan has made strides in coping with the problems of a population with ever fewer young
22 people. The retirement age has been pushed back, and it is not unusual for 70-year-olds to
23 be driving taxis, working as watchmen on building sites and serving in supermarkets. Many
24 elderly say they are keen to keep on working for as long as they are fit. As for dealing with
25 senility, some approaches have been innovative. Convenience stores, everywhere in Japan,
26 offer themselves as safe havens for wandering pensioners. Phone and car companies have
27 made products with simpler, more intuitive functions.

28 However, policy and spending lag. Public funding for long-term care for the elderly was the
29 equivalent of just 1.2% of GDP in 2010, versus 3.7% in the Netherlands, according to the
30 most recent OECD comparison. One reason is that relatives are still the main caregivers in

31 Japan, says Miharū Nakanishi of the Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Medical Science.
32 Family members often quit work and burn through savings to look after senile parents.

33 More professional care would make a big difference, but there is an acute shortage of
34 nurses. Nursing is poorly paid, and staff turnover is high. Despite much fanfare a decade
35 ago about the government bringing in nurses from the Philippines and Indonesia, only a
36 trickle have come. Visas are extremely hard to obtain. Among other things, foreign care
37 workers must pass absurdly tough language tests.

38 Beds, too, are in increasingly short supply. One report claims that by 2025 about 130,000
39 elderly with dementia in Tokyo alone will need beds in care homes but not be able to find
40 one. A think-tank, the Japan Policy Council, recently floated a desperate solution: moving
41 the elderly out of the capital to pep up declining rural communities. The plan was endorsed
42 by the government, but raised eyebrows. The minister in charge of rural revitalization,
43 Shigeru Ishiba, had to deny that the government was bringing back *ubasute*, the mythical
44 ancient custom of dumping grandma on a mountain to die. He insisted that no one would
45 be forced to move.

46 To date, over 200 local authorities have expressed interest in hosting what are being called
47 continual care retirement communities. A few such communities are already up and
48 running. But, if care facilities are to be greatly expanded, it is unclear who will pay for
49 places, whether families or the state. Undaunted, the prime minister, Shinzo Abe, promises
50 that Japan will become an example to the world in dealing with senility. Among his
51 promises is better funding for research into Alzheimer's disease and more money to train
52 60,000 doctors to recognize its early symptoms.

53 However, much more should be done, including lowering the immigration barriers that
54 keep out foreign care workers (which Mr. Abe shows little sign of doing). Ms. Nakanishi
55 says the entire national strategy for dealing with dementia is fragmented. Above all, she
56 says, the government has failed properly to consult with those who actually take care of the
57 elderly.

58 Still, attitudes in Japan are changing. In a landmark ruling in March, the Supreme Court
59 threw out an attempt by Japan Railways to claim for the costs of an accident involving the
60 death of an elderly man. The 91-year-old man, suffering from dementia, had slipped out of
61 the door and stumbled onto the tracks after his wife dozed off. The company argued that
62 the man's son and wife were responsible for the accident, because they "had not fulfilled
63 their obligation" to monitor him. What many do not realize, says the son, is how expensive
64 and exhausting it is to look after parents who have become children. The state is going to
65 have to find better ways to help.

(900 words)

The Economist, April 13, 2016 [edited]

PART 3: Text Comprehension (30% of mark)

Read the previous text well and **answer the questions** below. **Write in full sentences.**

1. “Convenience stores [...] offer themselves as safe havens for wandering pensioners.”
What do you think this mean?
2. Approximately how many Japanese elders suffer from dementia?
3. Find a synonym for the word “float” in line 40.
4. Explain the sentence “Late settlements accrue interest” (lines 10).
5. Find another word for “pipped” in line 11.
6. Give at least one synonym for the word “meander” (line 4).
7. Professional nursing facilities would make life easier on the families. Why are there not more of them?
8. Use your dictionary to explain the expression “be at your wit’s end” in line 19.
9. What are some of the actions that Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has promised to take?
10. What does “plotting” (line 4) mean in this text?
11. What has happened to the Japanese retirement age in the last decades?
12. What solution has been proposed by the Japan Policy Council?
13. Who takes care of the elderly in Japan?
14. What is a convenience store?

The grades will be published in StudentWeb within 3 weeks.

For information on appeals and explanation of grades, see
<http://www.uio.no/english/studies/admin/examinations/>