

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Maturitätsprüfungen Englisch 2009**

---

Klassen: 4A (Dy), 4B (Hr), 4BM (Se), 4GL (Lp), 4IS (EG), 4IZ (Se), 4S (Wr), 4W (Sc), 4Wa (Wr), 4Wb (Ka)

Prüfungsdauer: 4 Stunden

Erlaubte Hilfsmittel: Englisch-Deutsches Wörterbuch für das Essay

---

### **Content**

A. Comprehension and Grammar (60 %) (approx. 150 mins.)

I. Listening Comprehension (approx. 20 mins.) 9 pts.

II. Reading Comprehension: Language 15 pts.

Comprehension Questions 24 pts.

III. Grammar 26 pts.

Total A 74 pts. = Mark 1

B. Essay (40 %) (approx. 90 mins.)

Content: 50 %

Language: 50 %

Total B = Mark 2

Final Mark: 60 % (Mark 1) + 40 % (Mark 2)

*All the best!*

J. Dyer  
E. Güntert  
F. Harris  
Y. Kaspar  
L. Leppich  
R. Schneider  
H. Stone  
C. Wirz

## A. Comprehension and Grammar

### I. Listening Comprehension

#### A. Instructions and Information

You have three minutes to read the following information and questions carefully before you hear the conversation in two parts. Then after a two-minute gap you will hear the complete conversation a second time. Use the next sheet for your notes.

Information:  
Title: Carob Cottage.  
Richard, the interviewer  
Maureen, the interviewee

#### B. Comprehension Questions

1. Tick (✓) the correct phrase: (1 point each)

- a. Maureen likes  package holidays.  
 luxury holidays.  
 organizing her own holidays.
- b. Maureen stayed in five-star hotels  for her work.  
 for her holiday.  
 to be able to write articles about travelling.
- c. Building New Zealand style means  working with flat-packed houses.  
 building flats and houses.  
 building flat-roofed houses.
- d. The cottage came from  New Zealand.  
 England.  
 Turkey.
- e. It took  over a week to build the cottage.  
 less than a week to build the cottage.  
 a week to build the cottage.

2. Replace the underlined words by the exact word(s) used in the dialogue: (1 point each)

- a. Maureen and Tony gave a commitment immediately. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. The builders put the different parts of the house together. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Providing the concrete base was an unusual experience. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. The quality is very good as well. \_\_\_\_\_

**Notes Listening Comprehension:**

## II. Reading Comprehension

A. Read the following text and answer the questions on pages 8 - 10.



A razor-wire fence in Yeoville, South Africa, a common sight due to an increasing crime rate



## Fleeing From South Africa

**Fourteen years after apartheid, why are the best and the brightest leaving Africa's most successful state?**

By Scott Johnson | NEWSWEEK

No one should be surprised to read that Zimbabwe has suffered massive emigration in recent years, especially among its white minority. But much less expected is the fact that next-door South Africa, the continent's wealthiest and most developed country, is suffering a brain drain of its own (if on a smaller scale).

The South African government doesn't keep reliable emigration statistics. But even as the global financial crisis has caused emigration from most other countries to slow, a number of recent independent studies show that mass departures from South Africa are ongoing and are sapping the nation of its skilled and best-educated young citizens. The most dramatic figures can be found among South African whites, who are leaving at a pace consistent with the threat of "widespread disease, mass natural disasters or large-scale civil conflict," according to a report by the South African Institute on Race Relations. Some 800,000 out of a total white population of 4 million have left since 1995, by one count. But they're hardly alone. Blacks, coloreds (as people of mixed race are known in South Africa) and Indians are also expressing the desire to leave. In the last 12 years, the number of blacks graduating in South Africa with advanced degrees has grown from 361,000 to 1.4 million a year. But in that time the number of those expressing high hopes to emigrate has doubled.

This wasn't supposed to happen. In many ways, the new South Africa has lived up to its promise of racial harmony and equal opportunities; its enlightened Constitution, progressive economic policies, and wealth of human and natural resources have all kept it relatively stable since apartheid was swept away in 1994. But that stability could be endangered if its human capital keeps leaving at the current rate. South Africa has undergone massive swings in emigration for decades, even since the end of white rule. The shifts can be linked to changes in political stability and economic opportunity, as well as less worrying factors like simple wanderlust. And all these same factors are at work now, but they've been accentuated by a violent crime epidemic, serious political unrest and economic globalization. A poll conducted in May 2008 among 600 people of different races, ages and genders

found that 20 percent were planning to leave the country. "We are now seeing a new tipping point for an exodus," warned another report from Future Fact, a polling agency. "But this time it's not a question  
30 of race."

The primary driver for emigration among all groups, but especially whites, who still retain the majority of South Africa's wealth, is fear of crime. With more than 50 killings a day, South Africa has one of the highest per capita murder rates in the world. The same goes for rape — ranking the country alongside conflict zones such as Sierra Leone, Colombia and Afghanistan. Future Fact polling indicates that  
35 more than 95 percent of those eager to leave South Africa rate violent crime as the single most important factor affecting their thinking. Lynette Chen, an ethnic-Chinese CEO, is the only member of her family left in South Africa. Her parents departed in 2002 after being carjacked — twice. Her brother, also a victim of crime, followed shortly thereafter. "They're always getting homesick," she says. "But they won't come back unless the crime is reduced."

40 Another largely unnoticed problem is the growing number of attacks on South Africa's white farmers. As in neighboring Zimbabwe, some of the attacks appear to be racially motivated. Others seem simply opportunistic, but the result is that white farmers' numbers continue to decrease, leading to fears that despite the government's good intentions, a Zimbabwe-style crisis — where the flight of skilled farmers led to an agricultural collapse — is possible here too.

45 Then there's the problem of affirmative action, which was introduced in 1998 in order to promote and achieve equality in the workplace, by not only advancing people from designated groups but also specifically dis-advancing the others. This means that government's employment legislation reserves 80% of new jobs for black people and favours black-owned companies. The Black Economic Empowerment Act aims to distribute wealth across as broad a spectrum of South African society as possible, a  
50 society which is made up by 80% blacks, 9% whites, 9% coloreds, and 2% Asians. Not surprisingly, many whites feel affirmative action programs limit their opportunities for advancement, and they keep many émigrés from returning. "You can attract people home, but there are still the same concerns when they get here," Chen says. "Crime and lack of job opportunities if you're not the right color."

Still another factor driving out citizens of all races is the country's political crisis. Many politicians  
55 face serious corruption charges and accusations of autocratic behavior. The ruling ANC party has been split by a rebellion of former loyalists, and increasing numbers of South Africans express concern with the health of their young democracy. This distracts attention from pressing national concerns like energy problems due to mismanagement.

For all these reasons, even the global economic slowdown hasn't been enough to keep qualified South  
60 Africans at home. Of the country's 25,000 registered accountants, fully a quarter now live overseas. Engineers, doctors, nurses and accountants are all in increasingly short supply. In February, Health Minister Barbara Hogan said South Africa's doctors were constantly being offered jobs in places like Canada, Australia and the United States — among the most popular destinations for wealthy white émigrés. Banks and investment companies are forced to look for talent overseas, and Eskom, the  
65 disgraced national electricity provider, has recently begun trying to attract electrical engineers back home, but with little success.

The vast majority of South Africa's emigrants are also the country's best and brightest. Compounding the problem is the fact that while South Africa has mild policies toward admitting refugees from elsewhere in Africa, the import of skilled labor is still quite unsuccessful — meaning that as more and  
70 more trained workers leave, there are fewer and fewer replacements. Pretoria needs new policies to balance these flows, says Debbie Milner of Future Fact. "Africa has a huge amount of skilled people in it, and many other African countries have better education systems than our own."

To succeed, post-racial South Africa also needs to move nonwhite professionals quickly up the ranks in all sectors of its economy, and the government's black-empowerment plan centers on ensuring that

75 more of its citizens get advanced degrees. But as growing numbers of these graduates express a desire to follow their white colleagues out the door, the prospects for continued black economic empowerment are not good. "We were shocked by the incredibly high numbers of people who claim they're seriously considering leaving South Africa," Milner says. While unemployment for whites has increased more than 100 percent since the end of apartheid, it remains as low as in an average  
80 European country, between 7 percent and 8 percent. Joblessness among blacks, on the other hand, is hovering at around 50 percent. "If the qualified nonwhites are leaving too, that is pretty hard for black economic empowerment," Milner says.

To be fair, not all the signs point in one direction. The global economic downturn has led to anecdotal reports of South Africans returning from the once hot economies of Europe and North America. Others  
85 who had recently considered leaving have now decided to stay, in some cases when their offers were withdrawn at the last moment. "I don't dispute that people have left — I just dispute the high figures," says Martine Schaffer of the Homecoming Revolution, an NGO that helps returnees with logistical difficulties and to get re-acquainted with a country that may have changed significantly in their absence. "Nothing indicates that they've all emigrated permanently."

90 That may be true. But if Pretoria hopes to drive development, it needs to act fast to keep the South African exodus from gaining momentum. For starters, the new president should make fighting crime a priority. South Africa's affirmative-action program should also be re-examined, perhaps to emphasize economic status rather than race. Whites between the ages of 20 and 35 — currently the group most likely to emigrate — should be allowed to compete more forcefully for jobs. Such measures won't stop  
95 emigration entirely, certainly not while the country's leadership crisis continues. But South Africa faces no great new natural disaster or a war. Its vital statistics need to begin to reflect that.

*Adapted from* - NEWSWEEK magazine dated Feb 23, 2009  
- Wikipedia ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Affirmative\\_action#Africa](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Affirmative_action#Africa))

#### Annotations

to sap (l. 10):	to gradually weaken or destroy something
tipping point (l. 28)	deciding factor / moment
ANC (l. 55):	African National Congress; the ruling party since the end of apartheid, dominated by blacks
compounding (l. 67)	making worse
NGO (l. 87):	non-governmental organization
momentum (l. 91):	speed

**Notes Reading Comprehension:**

## B. Language

1. Give a contextual synonym or explain in your own words the meaning of the following words as they appear in the text: (1 point each)

a. poll (l. 27)

---

---

b. left (l. 37)

---

---

c. joblessness (l. 80)

---

---

2. Give a contextual antonym for the following: (1 point each)

a. to slow (l. 9)

---

b. mild (l. 68)

---

c. to succeed (l. 73)

---

3. Give the verb derived from the following words: (1 point each)

a. reliable (l. 8)

---

b. threat (l. 12)

---

c. intention (l. 43)

---

4. Paraphrase the underlined parts:

a. the shifts can be linked to (l. 24) (2 points)

---

b. the primary driver for emigration (l. 31) (2 points)

---

c. also needs to move ... up the ranks (l. 73) (2 points)

---

---

### C. Comprehension Questions

Answer the following questions in your own words as far as possible and in full sentences. Keep the whole text in mind when answering the questions. No points will be awarded for repeated answers. Up to six points will be awarded for the quality of your language.

1. What factors have guaranteed South Africa's stability since the end of apartheid? *(4 points)*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

2. What problems weaken the leading political party? *(3 points)*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

3. How does the worldwide economic crisis affect South Africa's emigration figures? *(3 points)*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

*./ cont.*

4. a. Explain how the government tries to redistribute wealth. (3 points)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

b. What effects does this (see 4a) have on white people's wish to work in South Africa? (2 points)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

5. What does the journalist Scott Johnson mean by "brain drain" and how does the phenomenon manifest itself in South Africa? (3 points)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### III. Grammar

- A. Read through the following newspaper article. Put the verbs in brackets into the correct form and write them into the gap. Do not add any other words. (½ point each)

#### Playful dolphin strands NZ woman

A New Zealand swimmer got into difficulty when a friendly dolphin stopped her from (1. return) \_\_\_\_\_ to shore.

The woman (2. swim) \_\_\_\_\_ with the dolphin, called Moko, at Mahia Beach on the North Island. But the playful dolphin did not want the fun (3. end) \_\_\_\_\_. People at a nearby café eventually heard her cries for help, and rowed out to her rescue.

She (4. find) \_\_\_\_\_ exhausted and extremely cold, clinging to a buoy. She said the dolphin (5. mean) \_\_\_\_\_ no harm.

The woman, who wants to remain anonymous, (6. wear) \_\_\_\_\_ a wetsuit. But even that failed to protect her from the winter cold.

She told the Gisborne Herald newspaper: "I (7. never again, go) \_\_\_\_\_ out by myself as late as today; this probably was not the wisest thing to do. I (8. see) \_\_\_\_\_ Moko many times before and (9. never, be) \_\_\_\_\_ afraid of him. I think I feel a bit different after (10. meet) \_\_\_\_\_ him today. He just didn't let me (11. go) \_\_\_\_\_ ashore. It makes me shudder to imagine that I (12. may, drown) \_\_\_\_\_ if the people at the café (13. not, hear) \_\_\_\_\_ me!"

Moko took up residence at Mahia Beach, south of Gisborne, two years ago, and (14. become) \_\_\_\_\_ a major attraction since.

During the summer, hundreds of people take to the water to play with him. But there are fewer people around in the winter, and residents believe he (15. get) \_\_\_\_\_ lonely and bored.

Moko, a three-year-old bottlenose dolphin, (16. gain) \_\_\_\_\_ worldwide fame in March last year as the rescuer of two exhausted and confused pygmy sperm whales. They seemed unable to find their way past a sandbar. Moko (17. see) \_\_\_\_\_ by sailors (18. guide) \_\_\_\_\_ the whales - a mother and daughter – down a narrow channel to safety.

But scientists are concerned about Moko's welfare. In a recent study they found that Moko, who is one of 30 "lone" dolphins (19. identify) \_\_\_\_\_ around the world, (20. wound) \_\_\_\_\_ by boats and a fish hook.

Story from BBC NEWS: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/asia-pacific/8170130.stm>  
Published: 2009/07/27 09:35:49 GMT  
© BBC MMIX

B. Complete the second sentence using the word given so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Do not change the word given. (1 point each)

1. When you go on a camping holiday, you should first make sure that your tents are waterproof.

**GOING**

Make sure that your tents \_\_\_\_\_ on a camping holiday.

2. Despite the heavy snow, they carried on their argument in the street.

**IT**

Although \_\_\_\_\_ they carried on their argument in the street.

3. Blue eyes are rarer in the South than in the North.

**COMMON**

Blue eyes are \_\_\_\_\_ as in the North.

4. If you don't put a plaster on, this blister will never heal.

**UNLESS**

This blister will never heal \_\_\_\_\_ on it.

5. I shouldn't have told her about my previous marriage.

**REGRET**

I \_\_\_\_\_ my previous marriage.

6. "It's important that everybody washes their hands carefully", doctors say.

**ADVISE**

Doctors \_\_\_\_\_ carefully.

7. A careless smoker had caused a fire.

**CAUSED**

A fire \_\_\_\_\_ a careless smoker.

8. They always find their way about - they won't need a map.

**USED**

They \_\_\_\_\_ their way about - they won't need a map.

**C. Correct the mistake in the following sentences.**

*(1 point each)*

1. I hate his driving. I rather go by bike.
2. She explained that she accompanied him to the cinema if he invited her.
3. Her first book, that was published last year, became a bestseller immediately.
4. I wish my mother doesn't have so much work to do.
5. She was soaking wet when she came home. She can't wear her raincoat while she was out.
6. Are you doing anything at Saturday evening?
7. Although the danger, Janet ran into the burning house to rescue her husband.
8. Is that present Oscar gave you for Christmas?



**Now hand in all the sheets of part A in order to get part B (essay topics). For the essay you can use your dictionary.**

## B. Essay

- Choose one of the following topics to write an essay of 400 - 550 words.
- Hand in a fair copy.
- Count your words and state the number at the bottom of this sheet.

1. People should be paid by ability and not according to sex or race.  
Discuss.

2. "The brave may not live for ever - the cautious don't live at all."  
*(Sir Richard Branson, Swiss Economic Forum, 15 May 2009)*

3. "Words may, through the devotion, the skill, the passion and the luck of writers, prove to be the most powerful thing in the world."  
*(William Golding; Nobel Lecture, 7 December 1983)*

Discuss and illustrate this quotation with one or several literary examples.

4. Change.  
What opportunities and threats does "Change" offer?  
Define the term and discuss its various aspects.

5. Change.  
Create a fictional text on the theme of "change".

Words:



Attach all the sheets you have written on to the task sheet with the paperclip and hand them in. All the sheets you have not used go onto another pile.