



4th Grade Standard English - Final Exam - Short Essays - June 2020

Instructions:

For your final exam, you will write four short essays. You can complete the essays on the computer or in your notebooks. If you send a picture of your notebook **PLEASE** make sure to send a good picture! Each essay **MUST** include 10-12 sentences. Remember that a period (.) indicates the end of a sentence -- if you only have one period in your essay, you only have one sentence! You can use an online dictionary, such as Word Reference or Linguee, but you **CANNOT** use Google Translate. The use of Google Translate on an essay will result in a 0, and you will have to write your essay again. For short essay #3, you have three options; make sure to include the option you chose in your work. Please remember to check your work before turning in your final essays.

Short Essay #1

Tell me about a special event or memory in your life. Include important details about the people, location, actions, and more. **Hint: make sure you're using the past tense!**

Short Essay #2

Where do you see yourself in 5 years? Predict what your life will be like in 2025. Think about your family and friends, education, job, location, hobbies and more. **Hint: make sure you're using the future tense!**

Short Essay #3 - Choose ONE of the following topics:

1. **Option A:** Tell me about a special person in your life. Why is that person special? Describe their personality, your relationship, and the impact they have had on you.
2. **Option B:** If you could be any famous person for one day, who **would** you be? How would you spend your day? Include details about the things you would do and why.
3. **Option C:** Do you have a passion? Tell me about something you are passionate about. Explain in detail why that thing is important to you, how it makes you feel, and why.

Short Essay #4 - Article Response

Read the following article. Do you think countries should begin to reopen, or should people continue to stay at home? Why? Use at least three examples from the text in your response.

To Reopen or Not to Reopen?

NFK EDITORS - MAY 14, 2020

During the last few months, most countries around the world have spent weeks in lockdowns of different kinds. Now, governments are trying to decide if the time is right to start normal business activity again.

The goal of the lockdowns is keeping people safe, but stay-at-home orders have had a terrible effect on businesses and their workers. The coronavirus pandemic has cost trillions of dollars, put many companies out of business, and ended millions of jobs.



But the decision about whether to allow businesses to reopen is hugely difficult. If lockdowns continue, more companies will struggle and more people will lose their jobs. But if lockdowns are relaxed too soon, even more people could get sick and many could die.

Some countries that were successful at containing the coronavirus, like China and South Korea, have reopened. But they've also had new outbreaks of cases, which they're now trying hard to control.

In China, the coronavirus has showed up again in Wuhan, where it first appeared. The government is now rushing to test all 11 million people who live there.

One challenge about relaxing safety rules is how quickly and easily the virus can spread. In South Korea's recent outbreak, a single person is linked to the spread of the virus to at least 54 other people.

Australia and New Zealand have been very successful at containing the virus. Together the two countries have had fewer than 9,000 cases. Both countries are now working their way through a slow process of unlocking.

In many European countries, the number of new cases is now dropping, and governments are also starting to relax lockdown rules. The same is true in Canada.

In other places, governments are racing to reopen, even though their outbreaks aren't under control.

The United States (US) has far more cases and deaths than any other country – over 1.3 million cases and over 82,000 deaths. But President Donald Trump is eager to reopen. Most states have already begun to relax lockdown rules.

On Tuesday, some of the country's top medical experts spoke to the US Senate, warning of serious problems if states reopen too early.

In the United Kingdom (UK), Prime Minister Boris Johnson has begun relaxing lockdown rules, even though the UK still has about 5,000 new cases a day. Some experts believe it's too soon for the UK to relax lockdown rules.

The same is true in Russia and India, where lockdown rules are being relaxed while the number of new cases is still going up. Many African countries are also relaxing lockdown rules in spite of the warnings of health experts.

In the end, there is no single plan that will work for every place. But any government hoping to relax its lockdown should have a plan for testing people and for tracing the contacts of those who get the illness so that outbreaks can be quickly contained.

Even so, much of the success of relaxing lockdown rules will still depend greatly on people carefully following safety rules, like washing hands often, wearing masks, and keeping a safe distance apart.