3 Studying abroad

AIMS: Words related to education • Scanning • Completing tables and flow charts

Part 1: Vocabulary

1a **Match the following school subjects to the definitions**

1	numeracy	**a**	a lesson in which pupils do physical exercise or sport
2	literacy	**b**	a school subject in which children learn about religion and other social matters
3	PE	**c**	the ability to work with numbers and do calculations (+, –, x, /)
4	RE	**d**	the ability to read and write

1b **Without looking back at exercise 1, write the correct school subject below each picture.**









1 ..... 2 ..... 3 ..... 4 .....

2 **Put the following in order, according to level of education. Rank them from low to high.**

6th form college	nursery school	infant school	master's degree
PhD	secondary school	bachelor's degree	primary school

8 .....
7 .....
6 .....
5 .....
4 .....
3 .....
2 .....
1 .....

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3 **What do you know about these student destinations and places of origin? Fill in the gaps in the table with words from the list:**

Arab Arabic Brussels Dutch (x2) German (x2) Hanoi
Heidelberg Japan Jeddah Kyoto Maastricht Vietnam Zurich

Country	Main languages	Adjective	City with one or more universities
(1)	Vietnamese	Vietnamese	(2) ..... Ho Chi Minh City
(3)	Japanese	Japanese	Tokyo (4) .....
Saudi Arabia	(5)	(6)	Riyadh (7) .....
Germany	(8)	German	(9) ..... Munich
The Netherlands	(10)	Dutch	Amsterdam (11) .....
Belgium	(12) ..... French	Belgian	Louvain (13) .....
Switzerland	French, Italian (14)	Swiss	Geneva (15) .....

Watch Out!

'Remember' has two main uses: (1) to recall people or events from the past, e.g. *I remember how she looked that day;* (2) to retain an idea or intention in your mind, e.g. *He didn't remember to call me.*

If you help someone else to remember something, you *remind* them about it:

✗ Can you remember me to take a coat? ✓ Can you remind me to take a coat?

4 **Complete these sentences with *remember* or *remind*.**

1 Goodbye. I will always ..... you.
2 Hello again. Do you ..... me?
3 She always ..... him that he needs to take his medicine.
4 Do you always ..... to take your medicine?
5 ..... me to take my medicine.

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Part 2: Skills development

Exam information | Completing tables and flow charts

In the exam, you may be given a table or a flow chart (a series of steps linked by arrows) with gaps in it. You will need to read a passage to find the missing information. The answers may be in one particular section of the text, but are unlikely to be in the same order as the gaps. You will be told how many words from the text you should use, e.g. *no more than two words and/or a number, one word only.*

Exam tip

Scanning is a very useful technique, because it saves time. It means that you move your eyes down the text quickly to find specific information, e.g. places, names, phrases, without reading everything properly and ignoring information you do not need.

The following four exercises help you practise scanning. They all refer to the text opposite.

1 **Use the organization of the text to help you. Look at the text quickly to decide which paragraph(s) you would need to read properly if you only wanted to find out about the reasons why people choose to study abroad.**

Paragraph number(s): .....

2 **Scan the text to find names of countries, people and organizations. Copy and complete the table.**

Countries	People	Organizations or institutions

Exam tip

Use the text style or formatting to help you find the areas in the text that you are looking for, e.g. uppercase letters, numbers, italics, bold print, quotation marks and other visual information.

3 **Do this exercise in less than one minute if you can. First copy the table in your notebook. Then scan the text for the different items. Check in the Answer key to see if you found them all within the time limit.**

numbers	
words in italics	
words in bold print	
abbreviations	

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4 **Scan the text quickly to answer the following questions.**

1. Which paragraph(s) give(s) somebody's opinion?
2. What does somebody really want people to understand?
3. Which two paragraphs talk about the country that is the most welcoming to overseas students?
4. Which paragraph gives examples to explain what an internationalization approach is?

5 **How did you find the answers without reading properly?**

Is it better to go abroad to study?

Student-friendly places

The British Council has named the universities that are most welcoming to overseas students. As you would expect, English-speaking countries such as Australia, the UK and the US have made the top 10, but the number one may be a surprise: Germany. Two Far Eastern countries, i.e. China and Malaysia, made it to the top 5, ranking higher than the US, Japan, Russia, Nigeria and Brazil.

The benefits of studying abroad

Russell Howe, a Scot who is currently studying a Business degree at Stellinga International College in the Netherlands, previously also studied in India (which came 11th on the list). 'People often ask me why I needed to travel, because British universities have a good reputation elsewhere in the world. But this is not something I *needed* to do, but something I really *wanted* to do. I have learnt different ways of looking at things, but I also found out how much we all have in common, wherever we are from. All of this will be useful in my future career.'

Russell is not the only international student in his department. Business and administrative courses are the most popular with international students, followed by engineering and technology, social studies, creative arts and design, medicine-related topics and law. Manal, a student at the Faculty of Art and Design at Stellinga, says she has similar reasons to Russell, but there is more: 'I wanted to broaden my understanding of the world. I have enhanced my language skills: I am more fluent in English and have also taken a level 1 Dutch evening class. One of my modules is about European art, and I believe that I am benefiting more from studying this in Europe than anywhere else. I have managed to visit other countries in my holidays, and really feel that this whole experience is developing my global perspective. I also hope that I have made lasting friendships and contacts.'

Enabling student access

What is it that makes these countries student-friendly? Well, all of them make it easy for international students to apply, and provide ongoing support once they are there. They also offer good quality degrees, which are valued highly in other countries too. The fact that Germany came out as winner is probably due to the country's efforts towards *internationalization*. One aspect of this is that the country welcomes foreign students by charging them the same fees as home students, meaning that in some universities overseas students study for free. Many classes are conducted in English, and so are most leaflets, making it easier for international students to keep informed and take part in student life.

Apart from the financial reasons already mentioned, this type of educational internationalization can help with the quality of research in these universities, through e.g. networking, team work and the sharing of skills. For students, it is a valuable addition to their skills and experience at a time when jobs are not easy to find.

Glossary

British Council: an organization that connects people worldwide with learning opportunities and creative ideas from the UK.

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Part 3: Exam practice

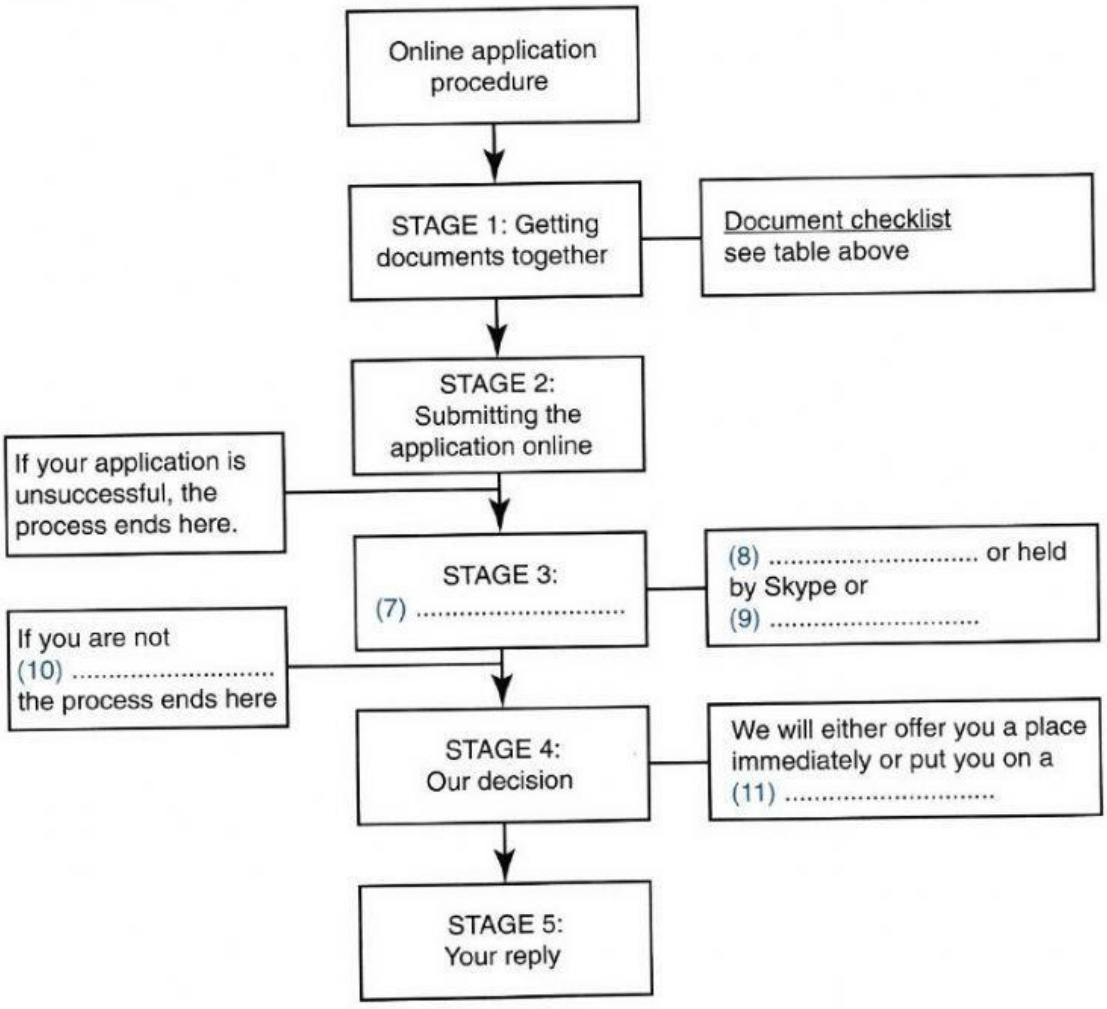
Questions 1–11

Using NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS from the passage for each answer, complete the table and the flow chart below.

The required documents:

Evidence of language ability	IELTS 6.5 or (1) .....
Evidence of studies	(2) ....., Dutch VWO diploma, or other secondary school diploma
Information about motivation	(3) ..... with a maximum length of (4) .....
Proof of identity	(5) ..... and passport photo
Other	(6) ..... if originals are in a foreign language

The online application process for people outside the EU:



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Applying to Stellinga College

Why Stellinga?

Thank you for your interest in Stellinga International College. As an international student, we are sure you will find our university college an exciting place to study, with like-minded and ambitious individuals.

Preparing and submitting your application

We have tried to make the application process as easy as possible for you, but there are a number of procedures you must follow.

All our courses are taught in English, so first of all you will probably need to submit proof of your English language ability. We require an IELTS score of 6.5 or another test result which is equivalent (see appendix). You will also have to send us your secondary school diploma, so that we can evaluate it. If you have the International Baccalaureate or a Dutch VWO diploma, you don't need to provide English language test results.

We will also require a personal statement. This is a text of up to 1000 words in which you introduce yourself, explain your interest in our college, and why you want to study your chosen course.

If you are from outside the European Union (EU), it is important that you have an entrance visa before you come to study in the Netherlands, but we will apply for this for you.

We now only accept online applications, so please ensure that you have all your documents ready to upload before you begin. Any documents that are not in English originally will also need to be translated and the translations also uploaded.

You will need a passport photograph; a copy of your passport; copies of all your certificates, diplomas, etc.; your proof of language ability (see above); and your personal statement in English.

What happens next?

Your application will then be considered. If your initial application is successful, you will be invited for an interview. This will be conducted in English via Skype, over the phone or on site, depending on whether you can come and visit us. You will talk to two or three members of staff for up to 30 minutes, and will be asked to elaborate on your application documents and your personal statement. We aim to inform you of our decision in writing, within 4 weeks. There are several possible outcomes: you may not have been successful; you may be offered a place at the college or you may be offered a place on the waiting list. You will need to reply to any offers within two weeks, otherwise your place may be offered to somebody else.
Good luck with your application.

Progress check

How many boxes can you tick? You should work towards being able to tick them all.

Did you …

use scanning techniques? ☐
read thoroughly only the parts of the text that you needed to? ☐
read the instructions carefully to know what the word limit was? ☐
count the words in your answers? ☐
only use words that were in the text? ☐

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