ARTICLE

Marking format for articles:

FORMAT (F)	2
CONTENT (C)	13
LANGUAGE (L)	20
TOTAL	**35 MARKS**

Quick tips:

- You will be given 1 mark for each correctly written Format (F) and Content (C).
- Usually the full mark you can get for Format (F) for articles is 2.
- Make sure you identify the format from the question before you begin writing. Read the question carefully.
- Before you begin writing, count the points given to you. Always make sure there are 13 points because you will be given 13 marks for content and not less.
- It is very tempting to write long in this section as the points are given. Do not write too long! There is no word limit for this section so, do not get carried away.
- Don't write a paragraph to elaborate only 1 point. Cluster the points given according to their relevance. You can use up until 3-4 points in a paragraph.
- Use variety types of sentences; remember to use simple, compound and complex sentences!
- Always plan before you write. It makes a lot of difference.

FORMAT FOR ARTICLE

	WAYS TO EXCEL IN ENGLISH	**F1** – Title in capital letters and underlined.
F2 – Written by: Your full name.	Written by: Nurul Hayat Yahya	
	_____	
	_____	
End your introduction paragraph with a clear thesis statement.	In this article, you will learn some ways to improve your English.	
	Firstly, the best way to excel in English is to immerse yourself with English materials. _____ _____ _____ _____	Begin every paragraph with a clear topic sentence.
	Thus, you will not only get familiar with the language but also pick up some of the words and phrases you have never used before.	End every paragraph by making a short conclusion of your points.
Use transitional words when you introduce a new point.	Other than that, always think in English. _____ _____ _____ _____	
	Next, it is a good idea if you can find an English speaking friend. _____ _____ _____	
Use a concluding phrase to begin your conclusion	In conclusion, to excel in English, engage yourself in as many English materials as you can, always try to think in English and you can also find an English speaking friend. It is absolutely possible to excel in English if you have the motivation it takes to do what have been suggested in this article.	Restate your main points but try to reword them.

WRITING HOOKS (ENVIRONMENT)

You may begin your essay with one of these hooks to grab the attention of your readers.

INTERESTING QUESTIONS	Have you ever dreamt of a world without pollution? Have you ever wondered how many plastic bags are used by a person in his entire lifetime? Have you ever imagined a world where everyone stopped using plastic bags? How do you see the world in 10 years from now?
FAMOUS QUOTES	"It is our collective and individual responsibility to preserve and tend to the world in which we all live." – Dalai Lama "We won't have a society if we destroy the environment." – Margaret Mead "Try to leave the Earth a better place than when you arrive." – Sidney Sheldon "The environmental crisis is a global problem, and only global action will resolve it." "When we heal the earth, we heal ourselves."
INTERESTING FACTS	80 trillion aluminum cans are used by human every year. Recycling 1 aluminum can can save enough energy to run our TVs for at least 3 hours. When you throw plastic bags and other plastic materials in the ocean, it kills as many as 1 million sea creatures every year. 27,000 trees are cut each day to make toilet papers.

SOME TRANSITIONAL PHRASES

To introduce an idea	First,… Firstly,… To begin with,… One of the ways we can […] is by …ing … The first way we can […] is by …ing ….
To add information	Secondly,… Thirdly,… Next,… In addition,… Additionally,… Besides,… Beside that,… Furthermore,… Moreover,… Apart from that,… Other than that,… Equally important,…
To show contradiction	But,… However,… On the contrary,… Conversely,… On the other hand,… Nevertheless,…
To make small conclusion (at every end of paragraph)	So,… Therefore,… Hence,… Thus,…
To make conclusion	To conclude,… In conclusion,… As a conclusion,… Finally, it may be concluded that … To summarise,… In summary,… To sum up,… All in all,… Ultimately,… On the whole,… By and large,…

SAMPLE QUESTION

Section A: Directed Writing
[35 marks]
[Time suggested: 45 minutes]

We cannot undo the harm that has already been done to our environment, but we can prevent the Earth from further degradation.

As the president of the Nature Club in your school, you have been asked to write an **article** for your school bulletin on actions that can be taken to save the environment. Using the information below, write your article.

SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT

	DO'S	**DON'TS**
At home	- turn off electrical appliances - [give your own idea]	- burn rubbish - [give your own idea]
At school	- plant trees - [give your own idea]	- litter everywhere - [give your own idea]
On the road	- carpool - [give your own idea]	- idle
When shopping	- bring your own shopping bags	- buy animal-tested products

When writing your **article**, you must:

- give your article a title
- include the name of the author
- use all the points given
- give your own ideas when needed

CRITERIA FOR MARKING LANGUAGE

Question 1: Directed Writing

A **19 – 20** **Excellent**	• Language is accurate except for first draft slips • No grammatical mistakes • Effective use of varied sentence structures • Vocabulary is sophisticated and precise • Spelling and punctuation are accurate and helpful • Paragraphs have unity and are well-linked
B **16 – 18** **Good**	• Language is almost always accurate • Sentence structure is varied and interesting • Wide vocabulary • Spelling and punctuation are accurate • Paragraphs have unity • Appropriate tone and style
C **13 – 15** **Satisfactory**	• Language is largely accurate • Simple structures are used without errors • Errors occur in complex sentences • Vocabulary is adequate • Spelling and punctuation are generally accurate • Written in paragraphs but ideas may not be linked • Appropriate tone and style
D **10 – 12** **Fair**	• Language is sufficiently accurate • Patches of clarity when simple structures are used • Some variety in sentence structure • Adequate vocabulary but lacks precision • Spelling of simple words and punctuation are generally accurate • Paragraphs have some unity • Tone and style are sometimes appropriate
E **7 – 9** **Unsatisfactory**	• Meaning is never in doubt • Errors are sufficiently frequent and serious • Some simple structures may be accurate • Vocabulary is limited and simple but not precise • Spelling errors in difficult words • Paragraphs lack planning • Tone and style inappropriate
U (i) **4 – 6** **Poor**	• Meaning is fairly clear • Many serious errors – mainly SWE (single word error) • A few simple structures are used correctly • Errors in spelling of simple words • Paragraphs may not be used • Tone and style hidden in density of errors

U (ii) **2 – 3**	• Meaning is blurred • Multiple word error (MWE)
U (iii) **0 – 1**	• Almost unrecognizable as pieces of English • Whole sections may make no sense.