

## Reifeprüfung aus Englisch, Klasse 8a (Prof. Mag. Maria Wechselberger)

### WRITING: OPINION ESSAY

Women at Work. Do women get a fair chance on the job market?

Try to answer this question, taking into consideration also the quotation below. Express your opinion in a composition of 350 to 400 words. Your essay should include the following points

women and their role in society

career chances

female jobs

*Because I am a woman, I must make unusual efforts to succeed. If I fail, no one will say, „She doesn't have what it takes.“ They will say, „Women don't have what it takes.“ (Clare Boothe)*

**Choose one of the topics below (either WRITING II or III) and do both the assigned tasks.**

### WRITING II: Drugs

#### II.1. Report (250-300 words)

You are spending a year as a student at an English school. Only a few weeks after your arrival you have already discovered that drugs and drug-taking are very common at this school. You don't really want to put up with that situation and try to change schools. Before you are allowed to do so the headmaster of the school asks you to write a report about

what kinds of drugs were involved

what exactly happened

how you feel about it

how you want the school to react

#### II.2. Letter of application(200–250 words)

You are looking for an unusual job this summer. Being a person who likes to help others, you are immediately attracted to the following job advertisement, which you decide to answer:

*You like working with young people? You are not afraid of former drug addicts? Then you are right for us. We organize summer camps for young drug addicts who have undergone detoxification and should find their way back into society.*

*You must be 18-21 and hard-working. You should like hiking, sports and games and play an instrument. You should also love to be amongst people, because you will hardly ever be on your own.*

*In return for your engagement we will give you*

*free accommodation in camp*

*free 2-hour English lessons every second evening*

*£10 pocket money a week*

*free flight to England*

### WRITING III: Racism

#### III.1. Article (200-250 words)

You are spending a year abroad and you are attending a college in Montgomery (USA). You have already observed several acts of racism on the campus. As you are shocked by what is going on, you readily agree to write an article for the college magazine, which is producing a special edition on racism. Students have been asked to write articles on the following topic:

Racism at school: What is going on at our college?

Have you experienced racism yourself or observed racist acts?

What could and should we do?

The best articles will be published next month.

#### III.2. Story (250-300 words)

You enter a story writing competition in the latest edition of Youth Today Magazine. You should write a short story about some act of racism that you have observed in your own country. Use the following sentence to end your story:

*...and I knew that it would never stop.* The best story writer wins a trip to South Africa.

## **Reifeprüfung aus Englisch, Klasse 8ab (Prof. Mag. Thomas Stadler)**

WRITING I: OPINION ESSAY (350-400 words)

Immigrants in Austria

"In 2009 the naturalizations of foreign nationals reached an all-time-low of 9 900. It plummeted by 22.2 per cent compared to 2008. "Statistics Austria" explains the sixth successive drop since the record-year in 2003 (45,112 were given Austrian citizenship) by a decreasing number of applicants and stricter criteria of integration, as legally imposed in 2006, which the applicants have to meet." (Die Presse/13th February, 2010)

In your opinion, which are the criteria to be fulfilled by foreigners to become accepted as reasonably well-integrated members of Austrian society?

How do you feel about the view that many foreigners take on Austrian citizenship only to reap the benefit of social amenities?

**Choose one of the topics below (either WRITING II or WRITING III) and do both of the assigned tasks.**

### **WRITING II: Drugs**

II.1. Report

As a street-worker you have become familiar with the sad story of a heroin-addicted teenager who has just been arrested for drug trafficking. Before the suspect is to face legal charges, he/she is transferred to a rehabilitation clinic where he/she will also undergo psychological treatment. In a report to the psychotherapist of the clinic you describe the physical, mental and social situation of your client. (250-300 words)

II.2. Letter of application (Aufgabenstellung wie Gruppe Prof. Mag. Maria Wechselberger)

### **WRITING III: Violence and children**

III.1. Informal letter to a friend

A concerned parent is in great despair since her/his child seems to be trapped in its own violent cyber-world. In a letter to a friend she/he gives vent to her/his frustration and anxieties about the child's worrying behaviour. (200-250 words)

III.2. Newspaper article

The ordeal of a 12-year-old youngster has finally come out in the open. For years this young child was suffering under domestic violence, right under the noses of neighbours, teachers, classmates and even social workers. None of them was able to prevent this humanitarian disaster. You, as an ambitious journalist, have been put on the case to bring light on this "gloomy affair". Write this article and also find a suitable headline. (250-300 words)

## Reifeprüfung aus Englisch, Klasse 8b/I (Prof. Mag. Hermann Gems)

### A) Opinion essay: Do modern electronic media influence social interaction?

*Traditionally, neighborhoods, buildings, and rooms have confined people, not only physically, but emotionally and psychologically as well. Now, physically bounded spaces are less significant as information is able to flow through walls and rush across great distances. As a result, where one is has less and less to do with what one knows and experiences. Electronic media have altered the significance of time and space for social interaction. Certainly, physical presence and direct sensory contact remain primary forms of experience. But the social spheres defined by walls and gates are now only one type of interactional environment. (Extract from: No sense of place: The impact of electronic media on social behavior)*

Your essay should include the following points (among other ideas):

- a definition of the quotation above
- the role of electronic media in the lives of - especially young - people
- how they influence communication and social interaction
- electronic media versus print media

(350 - 400 words)

### B) Choose one of the two topics below (either one or two) and do both the assigned tasks:

**Topic one: Racism 8a** (Aufgabenstellung wie Prof. Maria Wechselberger)

#### Topic two: Leisure

*Leisure or free time is a period of time spent out of work and essential domestic activity. It is also the period of recreational and discretionary time before or after compulsory activities such as eating and sleeping, going to work or running a business, attending school and doing homework, household chores, and day-to-day stress. (Wikipedia)*

**Task one:** Write an article for your school magazine in which you suggest to lower form students sensible ways of spending their free time after a strenuous day at school. (200-250 words)

**Task two:** Write a science fiction story about how you imagine a family leisure activity in 100 years' time. Your story should begin with the following sentence: When our dad came home last Friday evening, everything seemed to indicate that it would be another boring weekend again ... (250-300 words)