

Fachgebundene Hochschulzugangsberechtigungsprüfung

Schriftliche Teilprüfung: Fremdsprache Englisch
Januar 2015

Read the following guidelines carefully and answer tasks 1 – 3 afterwards.

- Only use the paper provided by the university. Please write your name on the top left hand corner of each sheet of paper (both the task sheets and the writing paper). Do not forget to number all sheets of your writing paper.
- Please write legibly. If you want to correct something, please cross the appropriate part out neatly. Try not to over-use Tipp-Ex or ink erasers.
- For tasks 1.2 and 2: Please answer these questions in complete sentences. Do not quote directly from the text. Pay careful attention to the word limits provided and please include your word count at the end of each task.
- Please choose only one topic in number 2.
- You may use either an English monolingual dictionary or a bilingual dictionary (*English – German / German – English*). In addition, you can make use of a German spelling dictionary (Duden). Make sure that there is not any additional information in your dictionaries.
- Any attempts to deceive will lead to your immediate expulsion from the exam. In this case your exam will be marked “5,0 (*nicht ausreichend*)”.
- You have 240 minutes to complete the exam.

Good luck! 😊

1. Reading Comprehension

Read the following text carefully in order to complete tasks 1.1 and 1.2.

Slow down!

Nona Walia finds out about ‘The Slow Movement’ that’s asking people to take a few steps back from the hurdle race, and enjoy every moment of their lives.

Each one of us has felt it – the sheer exhaustion that envelops us as we rush through the day completing chores at home, beating the traffic, meeting deadlines in office and multi-tasking. At the end of the day, we may realise that we have matched the pace of the ticking clock, but lost a lot to the bargain – whether it’s peace of mind, our health or the satisfaction that one derives of a job done well or a day spent well.

Fareed Zakaria, one of the most-respected journalists in the world, after being recently accused of plagiarism, and being too busy to check the details of his column, said, “It forced me to rethink my heavy workload and slow down.” Pop diva Rihanna said in a recent interview that she was so overworked during the making of her recent album that instead of a creative high that every artiste has the right to experience and enjoy, she felt sick. “I realised I needed to cut back on work, slow down,” she said.

Why go slow?

However, the fact that life in a hurry is superficial is being felt by people these days, and it’s because of this reason that the “The Slow Movement”, a cultural revolution that began in the West in the mid-1980s, is fast catching up. The basic idea is to cut back on speed, slow down and derive satisfaction out of work, rather than just finishing it in a hurry.

Mumbai-based textile designer Padmaja Krishnan is part of this global movement. “Slow fashion looks at all that’s useless and discarded. I choose techniques that are slow and not fully controllable. I’m against mass consumerism and don’t believe that you need 20 outfits. My fashion doesn’t follow trends or seasons. I take time and joy in making clothes.” Jogi Panghaal, a slow design activist from India, says he has bridged the gap between traditional craft and modern design by being a part of the same movement. “I learn the traditional skills of tribal artisans and combine them with modern techniques. Our process is slow and we believe in conserving.”

Fad or necessity?

Slowing down isn’t just a fad or a luxury. Neither does it mean one is inefficient or ineffective. It’s more of a necessity. Believing in this movement does not mean one undoes all the advantages technology has offered to make life easier. It simply professes one should live life fully, at a slower pace. It asks each individual to own his existence. The aim is to find the right pace for each part of our daily routine.

In a recent poll, half of the British adult population confessed that their hectic life caused them to lose touch with their friends. Latest neuro-scientific research too suggests that the human brain is not very good at multi-tasking. Psychiatrist Dr Avdesh Sharma says

about multi-tasking, which is professed as a super-positive trait in today's world, "There's a tendency for people to be less and less mindful. Texting while driving, eating while
 40 talking on the phone, reading and listening to music at the same time ... it's exhausting. And you derive pleasure out of none of the activities that are keeping your mind occupied. What's the point?"

In his best-selling book, *In Praise of Slow. How A Worldwide Movement is Challenging the Cult of Speed*, Canadian journalist and author Carl Honore talks about the negative
 45 impact of life in the fast lane. "Today, one can do a course on speed yoga, speed dating, speed meditation, but the fact is that you can't hurry up relationships." He says that children also suffer. "Children need slowness even more than adults do. It's in the moments of quiet, of unstructured time, of boredom even, that kids learn how to look into themselves, how to think and be creative, how to socialise. We are doing a great
 50 disservice to our children by pushing them hard to learn things faster and by keeping them so busy. They need time and space to slow down, to play, to be children."

Slow is the new fast

The cult of speed actually ends up slowing us down, because a slightest hiccup may stress us to the extent that we lose our temper, and instead of thinking of solutions, we
 55 slow our minds down with more problems. Christine Louise Hohlbaum, author of *Power of Slow*, says, "Slow is actually faster whilst fast is merely exhausting! When you slow down long enough to actually think, you make smarter decisions; this leads to better outcomes and thereby saves you time in the long run. You learn the art of managing expectations."

60 As Gandhi once said, "There's more to life than increasing its speed."

Words: 808

(Abridged from: *Times Life! A Supplement of Sunday Times of India*
 September 23, 2012, p. 4)

1.1 Reading comprehension: *true or false*

Please indicate by ticking the appropriate box whether the following statements are true or false. (10 BE)

	true	False
1 "The Slow Movement" encourages people to cut back on speed and enjoy their lives.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 Pop diva Rihanna said that she was not able to complete her album because she was overworked.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 Padmaja Krishnan is the owner of a Slow Food Café in Delhi.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4 "The Slow Movement" can be seen as a passing fashion.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- 5 A survey in Britain shows that due to their stressful lives people have less and less social contact.
- 6 Multi-tasking is a way of working more efficiently, which results in more leisure time for people.
- 7 Dr Avdesh Sharma is a famous journalist and best-selling author.
- 8 To do everything as fast as possible is important for children as they still have to learn how precious time is.
- 9 Living in the fast lane is the only way to enjoy life to the full.
- 10 Slowing down can actually mean saving time because your work will have better results when you make your decisions without stress or pressure.

1.2 Reading comprehension: Working with the text

Answer the following questions in complete English sentences. Keep to the information given in the text, but do not quote directly. Write about 40 words for each answer.

- 1.2.1 What is "The Slow Movement"? (3 BE/content)
- 1.2.2 How does Padmaja Krishnan describe "Slow Fashion" ? (4 BE/content)
- 1.2.3 What is the negative impact of life in the fast lane according to Carl Honore? (3 BE/content)

2. Composition

Write 350 to 400 words on one of the following topics. (10 BE/content)

- 2.1 What is your opinion about "The Slow Movement"? Draw on your personal experience.
- 2.2 "We live in a culture in which being overworked has become a status symbol." (Edgar S. Cahn, a pioneer of The Slow Movement, who asks people to invest time, instead of money). Discuss.

- 2.3 The actress and writer Mae West once said, "Anything worth doing is worth doing slowly." Discuss.

3. Translation

Translate the following text German.

In this speed-obsessed age, each one of us crams too many things into each minute to race through life. The Slow Movement advocates a cultural shift toward slowing down life's pace, and enjoy living, rather than rushing through life.

Lessons in slowing down:

- ➔ How you start your day is how you spend it. So if you reach for your smartphone before you even brush your hair, you might want to reconsider your morning routine.
- ➔ Eat sitting down and never eat in the car or en route to somewhere else. Be mindful about what you consume. Enjoy it as it will soon be a part of you.
- ➔ Learn to say "no" in a polite way to invitations, and requests.
- ➔ Consider retiring your TV set. How much time do you spend in front of your TV whilst complaining you have no time? Three hours gained right there.

Christine Louise Hohlbaum, author of *Power of Slow*

words: 157

GESAMTBEWERTUNG

Inhalt

1.1 Text comprehension: <i>true or false</i>	10 BE
1.2 Working with the text	10 BE
2. Composition	10 BE

Sprache (1.2 Working with the text + 2. Composition)

Sprachrichtigkeit (<i>accuracy</i>)	20 BE
Ausdrucksvermögen (<i>fluency, complexity</i>)	10 BE

Übersetzung

3. Translation	30 BE
----------------	-------

SUMME: 90 BE