Writing Test K17 Spring • time: 1 hour • Name

General directions: This test is being taken outside the classroom. Honor Code principles apply: observation of the time limit and no use of outside language resources (people or information facilities) unless specifically allowed. Provide the following documentation when you return your test:

date of test _______________ time started (hour:minute) ___________ time finished (h:m) ___________

Person who vouches for you (friend, family member, boss, etc.): relationship _________________________

that person’s signature ___________________ and name printed ___________________________

Part 1 (20%)

Below are some speech-lines from recent dialogs. In the spaces opposite the speech-lines, write your own speech-lines to go with the ones already printed. If the space appears on the right-hand side, write a REPLY there, in German, to what you see on the left-hand side. If the blank appears on the left-hand side, write something there, in German, that could lead someone to say what you see on the right-hand side. Each pair of lines is a separate exchange; the pairs are not all part one long dialog. What you write does NOT have to be taken exactly from the dialogs in the book. Your language will be judged on how well it makes use of the resources introduced so far. Brief, vague answers like “Ja” or “Danke” will not receive full credit no matter how linguistically correct they are. Here are two examples of appropriate speech-lines:

Herr Ober, wir möchten zahlen.  Ist das alles zusammen?

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Wollen Sie einen Becher oder eine Tüte?

Sie fahren schon übermorgen weg?

Sind die vier Plätze alle zusammen?  Nein, ...

Oh, das tut mir leid, aber für heute sind wir schon ausverkauft.

Part 2 (20%)

At the top of the next page is a table that represents a recent dialog. Each box represents what someone says as part of the conversation that includes the one dialog part you see printed at the right. Three of the boxes are empty, aside from descriptions in ( ) of what that person talks about. So Person 1 says something about being “worn out,,” then Person 2 replies to that with “Für mich…zuviel.” Then Person 1 replies to what Person 2 just said, and finally Person 2 replies to that reply. In the 3 almost-empty boxes write in German what Person 1 might say to start the conversation, what Person 1 might say in reply to what Person 2 first says, and then what Person 2 says to finish the conversation. Use the cues in English to guide your writing in German. You don’t have to recreate the dialog exactly as it is in the original. Your dialog will be judged on the sense that its content makes, and to what degree the quantity and quality of the language you use approaches that of the original.
Person 1

(Has gotten worn out seeing a lot of “worthwhile” tourist attractions.)

Person 2

Für mich ist das zuviel. Und dann sitzen wir am Nachmittag in einer Konditorei und essen zuviel.

(Suggests a couple healthy pursuits.)

(Adds some other healthy pursuits.)

Part 3 (60%)

Surprise! Surprise! Someone you like is spending a few months in a German-speaking country, and has a birthday coming up. The person could be a family member, fellow student, etc., and could be living in a bed-and-breakfast, a university dormitory, etc. It doesn’t matter which, but it will help your writing if you choose someone and somewhere specific and try to envision the situation in detail.

You have obtained contact information for someone who lives near your birthday-kid, because you want to arrange something special for that big event that is happening away from home, and want it to be a surprise (a pleasant one, of course). You’ve narrowed the idea down to two possibilities: a party in the nearby Konditorei and a concert of music which the center of attention will enjoy.

Write a message to your on-site accomplice. Explain why you are writing and request help staging the big surprise. Describe in loving detail what you want to have happen, where it is to take place, who will be involved, what the Big Moment during the celebration will be, and how all the ingredients of the grand plot are to be orchestrated. It is not your contact’s job to come up with the details; you have to specify them, and of course you want to because it’s for someone you like, someone who you know so well that you know exactly what will produce the desired spectacular effect.

Try exploring this line of thought as you begin drafting your message: “I’ve got this great idea for the birthday surprise. Sure, it’s going to take a lot of skill and effort to bring the whole thing off. But their jaws are going to drop all the way to the floor when…”