

S5 Free Writing

Write a letter to your cousin, tell them about the Second Uniform Test you have recently written. You may include your preparation, your performance and what you have learnt from the test. Think about the format of this letter. (300 words)



Dear John,

Hey there! The Second Uniform Test ended this week. You have always been asking me how to improve your score in the previous week. I would like to apologize that I didn't reply you since I was preparing the test. But anyway, if you want to score higher mark, there are some reminders and methods that you may take a look.

I would divide my tips into 3 parts, the preparations, the general attitudes and skills during exam and the reflections. First of all, let's talk about what you should prepare before your test. For me, I would not do any conventional questions directly as I believe that there are some concepts that I am still not familiar with. For instance, mechanics in Physics, the 3 Newtons laws of motion. If they were not well-memorized, you would answer the questions wrongly as you wouldn't distinguish whether which situation applies which law. It is suggested that you clarifying different concepts by using 'fill in the blanks' or diagram, especially some abstracting subjects like Physics or Chemistry. Then, you may start doing structural questions. If you find yourself sometimes don't know how to solve the problems, you can take a look at the examples in the textbook. List the resolving step clearly next to your solution so that you can have a quick review of the particular question type, which is very useful in Mathematics.

In addition, I suggest completing the exercises in the textbook every time you have learnt a new concept, so that you would discover any misconceptions you have and consolidate well immediately. When you are revising, you will find that it is more comprehensible and you can easily integrate what you have learnt due to the training. Besides, you should always countdown when you are doing any mock papers as it would practice your writing and reading speed, you will find that the speed progressively increases every time you complete a mock paper.

Next, the skills and attitudes would mostly affect your performance and the final results. Having a good quality sleep and eating breakfast are necessary as they could

provide enough energy and higher concentration. Besides fundamental preparations, there are 2 types of checking paper. One is complete the whole paper then final check, another is checking and filling in the same time. For me in the test, I would go for the second type, since it would take the lowest risk to guarantee all the marks that is possible to obtain. On the other hand, it would take longer time to complete the paper, or even not enough time to finish it. If you are careful and confident enough, it is highly recommended to go for the first method. Most importantly, don't check the answers with others since it may drastically drain your mood and influence your next exam. Apart from that, either you are well-equipped or the exam questions are extremely easy for you to tackle, never be too assured or arrogant in order to prevent careless mistakes. Like my Mathematics exam, I overestimated myself as I thought I could score full marks in the UT. Unfortunately, I scored 98 only because of an unexpected careless mistake.

Meanwhile, after receiving your result, you should check what error you have made, but not to compete your scores with others. The only way that you could enhance yourself is to analyze the reason for making the mistakes. In the UT, I found that there were some questions which I didn't know how to solve at that moment. For me, I would create a 'question bank' for storing the questions. Write a reminder next to each step when you redo it. It would prevent making the same mistake from modelling. Bear in mind, never feel frustrated or depressed if your result is not what you have expected. You have to accumulate those experiences and do self-directed exercise so that you can upgrade yourself to a higher level.

To summarize, don't exert too much pressure on your academic results. You might have your own method to do your revision and you may either take my suggestions as a reference or follow the instructed method, which you can find it on the Internet. Last but not least, don't be too nervous and worried about your tests or exams. If you want more advice regarding this, feel free to ask and I would reply you ASAP. See you!

Best regards,
Chris

