Name:
Klasse/Jahrgang:

Standardisierte kompetenzorientierte schriftliche
Reifeprüfung / Reife- und Diplomprüfung / Berufsreifeprüfung

18. September 2026

Englisch

Lesen B2

Bundesministerium
Bildung

Hinweise zum Bearbeiten der Aufgaben

Sehr geehrte Kandidatin, sehr geehrter Kandidat!

Dieses Aufgabenheft enthält vier Aufgaben.

Verwenden Sie für Ihre Arbeit einen schwarzen oder blauen Stift.

Bevor Sie mit den Aufgaben beginnen, nehmen Sie das Antwortblatt heraus.

Schreiben Sie Ihre Antworten ausschließlich auf das dafür vorgesehene Antwortblatt. Beachten Sie dazu die Anweisungen der jeweiligen Aufgabenstellung. Sie können im Aufgabenheft Notizen machen. Diese werden bei der Beurteilung nicht berücksichtigt.

Schreiben Sie bitte Ihren Namen in das vorgesehene Feld auf dem Antwortblatt.

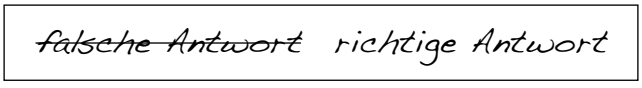
Bei der Bearbeitung der Aufgaben sind keine Hilfsmittel erlaubt.

Kreuzen Sie bei Aufgaben, die Kästchen vorgeben, jeweils nur ein Kästchen an. Haben Sie versehentlich ein falsches Kästchen angekreuzt, malen Sie dieses vollständig aus und kreuzen Sie das richtige Kästchen an.

Möchten Sie ein bereits von Ihnen ausgemaltes Kästchen als Antwort wählen, kreisen Sie dieses Kästchen ein.

Schreiben Sie Ihre Antworten bei Aufgaben, die das Eintragen von einzelnen Buchstaben verlangen, leserlich und in Blockbuchstaben. Falls Sie eine Antwort korrigieren möchten, malen Sie das Kästchen aus und schreiben Sie den richtigen Buchstaben rechts neben das Kästchen.

Falls Sie bei den Aufgaben, die Sie mit einem bzw. bis zu maximal vier Wörtern beantworten können, eine Antwort korrigieren möchten, streichen Sie bitte die falsche Antwort durch und schreiben Sie die richtige daneben oder darunter. Alles, was nicht durchgestrichen ist, zählt zur Antwort.



Beachten Sie, dass bei der Testmethode *Richtig/Falsch/Begründung* beide Teile (*Richtig/Falsch* und *Die ersten vier Wörter*) korrekt sein müssen, um mit einem Punkt bewertet werden zu können.

Jede richtige Antwort wird mit einem Punkt bewertet. Bei jeder Aufgabe finden Sie eine Angabe zu den maximal erreichbaren Punkten.

Viel Erfolg!

NAME:

ANTWORTBLATT - Lesen

Unusual structures

0	1	2	3
A			
4	5	6	7
8	9		

Von der Lehrperson auszufüllen

richtig	falsch	richtig	falsch	richtig	falsch	richtig	falsch
		1 ☐	☐	2 ☐	☐	3 ☐	☐
4 ☐	☐	5 ☐	☐	6 ☐	☐	7 ☐	☐
8 ☐	☐	9 ☐	☐				

1

___ / 9 P.

One billion oysters

	T	F	First four words
0	☒	☐	*And their reefs can*
1	☐	☐	
2	☐	☐	
3	☐	☐	
4	☐	☐	
5	☐	☐	
6	☐	☐	
7	☐	☐	
8	☐	☐	

Von der Lehrperson auszufüllen

richtig	falsch
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐

2

___ / 8 P.

NAME:

ANTWORTBLATT - Lesen

3

Escape

								Von der Lehrperson auszufüllen	
0	A	X	B		C		D		richtig	falsch
1	A		B		C		D			
2	A		B		C		D			
3	A		B		C		D			
4	A		B		C		D			
5	A		B		C		D			
6	A		B		C		D			
7	A		B		C		D			

___ / 7 P.

4

Can Barcelona's "superblocks" solve our urban problems?

								Von der Lehrperson auszufüllen	
0	A		B		C		D	X	richtig	falsch
1	A		B		C		D			
2	A		B		C		D			
3	A		B		C		D			
4	A		B		C		D			
5	A		B		C		D			
6	A		B		C		D			
7	A		B		C		D			

___ / 7 P.

___ von 31 P.

Bitte umblättern.

1 9 P.

Read the texts about places with a difference. Choose the correct text (A-E) for each question (1-9). You can use a text more than once. Write your answers in the boxes provided on the answer sheet. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Unusual structures

A

In the pricey Asokoro district of Nigeria's capital is a two-story concrete home topped off with an airplane. Said Jamal, who lives beneath the fuselage with his wife, Liza, began work on what is now known as the Abuja Airplane House in 2002. It was the fulfillment of a decades-old promise to Liza – knowing her love of international travel, Said planned to build her a home shaped like a plane. The original vow was made when the couple married in 1980, but the subsequent task of raising seven children put the plans on hold. When Said finally found time to build his dream home, he took it slowly, aiming for an accurate replica of an aircraft's fuselage. The plane is about 100 feet (30.5 m) long, and each wing sports two engines. A cozy room in the cockpit offers city views.

B

There's a bar inside one of the trees on the Sunland mango farm. It has draft beer and a dart board, and can fit up to 15 people comfortably. The tree in question is a particularly large Adansonia digitate, a baobab found across sub-Saharan Africa. With a height of 72 feet (22 m) and a circumference of 154 feet (47 m), the Sunland baobab is big enough to walk around in. A "wine cellar" carved into the baobab keeps bottles at a constant 72°F (22.2°C). You might think the tree would suffer from having a bar installed in its belly. Baobabs, however, develop natural hollows in their trunks, so there wasn't much hacking and carving required. The tree still produces leaves and fruit every year.

C

Along a silent stretch of Route 90, with only power lines and tumbleweeds for company, is a fully stocked Prada boutique. Prada Marfa is a site-specific sculpture by Scandinavian artists Michael Elmgreen and Ingar Dragset. The shelves of the 15 x 25-foot (4.5 x 7.6 m) store are filled with Prada handbags, but none of the products are for sale, and the shop's door doesn't ever open.

The store was originally intended to be installed and left to the elements, so it would gradually deteriorate and be absorbed into the landscape. However, three days after the store's unveiling, vandals broke into Prada Marfa and stole every item on display. The products were replaced, the window glass thickened, and the concept tweaked: Representatives from the Art Production Fund and nonprofit cultural organization Ballroom Marfa now drop by periodically to pick up trash and paint over graffiti.

D

In a field behind a fence lies a 79-foot-tall (24 m), sinister-looking pyramidical frustum – a pyramid with the top cut off. This gray structure, and the clusters of exhaust towers beside it, look like an occult monument, or perhaps a bit of Egyptian architecture misplaced in the Great Plains. In fact, they are the remnants of an antimissile complex constructed during the Cold War.

The Stanley R. Mickelsen Safeguard Complex, as it was known, was built to house anti-ballistic missiles capable of intercepting incoming Soviet rockets. Radar inside the topless pyramid scanned the skies while 100 missiles underground sat ready to launch against a Russian attack.

E

During the 1980s, police used the bulbous, 15-foot-wide (4.6 m) hollow trunk of a 1,500-year-old boab tree as a temporary jail for Aboriginal prisoners en route to sentencing in the small town of Derby. Long before its use as a makeshift prison, the tree was part of an indigenous legend. The story goes that the boab, once tall and prideful, learned humility when the spirits turned it upside down, causing its roots to grow into the sky.

According to the texts, which place...

has a family history?	0	
is maintained at regular intervals?	1	
was built at a different time than intended?	2	
was used by officials?	3	4
was built in difficult times?	5	
needed few changes to transform its function?	6	
was adapted due to crime?	7	
fails to fit into its time and surroundings?	8	
is significant for native culture?	9	

2 8 P.

Read the text from 2019 about how an ocean species can help protect and restore the environment. First decide whether the statements (1-8) are true (T) or false (F) and put a cross (☒) in the correct box on the answer sheet. Then identify the sentence in the text which supports your decision. Write the first 4 words of this sentence in the space provided. There may be more than one correct answer; write down only one. The first one (0) has been done for you.

One billion oysters

The Billion Oyster Project has worked since 2014 to rebuild oyster reefs in the waters surrounding New York City. The creatures are natural purifiers: A single adult oyster can cleanse about 50 gallons of water per day. And their reefs can provide a habitat for other marine life and help protect New York's shores against storm surge during rough weather.
The group has so far restored about 30 million oysters to local waters. But that's still a tiny fraction of what used to thrive in the area. "Without the oyster reefs, the whole shoreline is fundamentally changed," the group's executive director, Pete Malinowski, told CNN Business' Rachel Crane. "We think oyster reefs can be part of an integrated approach to resiliency and proactive planning for climate change." Malinowski said his team is seeing promising signs. Last year, there was a "dramatic" increase in the number of wild oysters that latched on to Billion Oyster Projects' reefs. "For restoration to be successful, you need the recruitment of wild oysters from the system," Malinowski said. It could help the population grow exponentially. Like the group's name implies, it hopes to one day return one billion oysters to New York's waterways.

Billion Oyster Project partners with more than 70 restaurants in New York City. The businesses save up their oyster shells rather than tossing them, and a collection partner for the Billion Oyster Project rounds them up and carts them off to Governors Island, a small island due east of the Statue of Liberty. The shells are then left outside for at least a year. This allows the elements to naturally cleanse them of organic matter before they are sent to the New York Harbor School, a maritime-focused public high school on Governors Island, which is heavily involved in the project. Students grow and hatch baby oysters that are then attached to the cleaned shells. The shells and larvae are grouped together and strategically placed somewhere off New York's coastline. Billion Oyster Project has started twelve reefs so far, some close to shore, and others out in deeper waters.

Engaging the community — particularly young students — throughout the process is a top priority. The group works with more than 75 public schools across all five New York City boroughs, and students take field trips out to reef sites or research stations to learn how to measure water quality and track oyster growth. "Our work with schools and communities gets people down to the water's edge and starts to reestablish the relationship that New Yorkers used to have with the ecosystem," Malinowski said.

Billion Oyster Project is funded through a variety of grants from state and city backers. The National Science Foundation also recently renewed support for the project, offering a two-year $4.5 million grant.

Hundreds of years ago, New York Harbor teemed with more than 200,000 acres of live oyster reefs. The mollusks cleaned and filtered the water, naturally removing pollutants. Dolphins, seals and other creatures, drawn to the vibrant ecosystem, swam just off the shore of Manhattan. "When Europeans first arrived in New York Harbor, there were oyster reefs everywhere and there were so many fish that they couldn't physically get out of the way of the boats," Malinowski said. "In about 100 years, we had harvested all the native oysters from the harbor. All those oysters were eaten, consumed locally by New Yorkers, and shipped all over the world as food." Oysters were a favorite treat among New York City's skyrocketing population in the 19th century. Street vendors and restaurants began to hawk the cheap, salty seafood.

By the 1900s, New York Harbor was polluted and practically lifeless. It wasn't until 1972, with the passage of the Clean Water Act, that the law prohibited dumping waste or raw sewage into the harbor. Only recently has the water become clean enough to support shellfish like mussels, oysters and clams.

0	The oyster banks in the sea can function as a barrier against harmful waves.
1	According to a group of experts, oyster colonies can contribute to managing upcoming environmental challenges.
2	Repairing the coast can only be achieved with oysters bred especially for this project.
3	Some eateries take their oyster leftovers to a special drop-off place themselves.
4	The oyster casings are put into saltwater for a long time.
5	One major aim is to get the locals involved in the project.
6	An official organization decided for the first time to help the project financially.
7	In NYC’s past, a quickly increasing number of inhabitants enjoyed eating oysters.
8	Legal steps had to be taken to improve the water quality in the area.

3 7 P.

Read the following story. Then choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for each question (1-7). Put a cross (☒) in the correct box on the answer sheet. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Escape

Time was of the essence. Everything had gone according to plan except that the guard, today of all days, had changed his routine, stepping out for an unauthorized smoke. For what felt like an eternity he had despaired of ever making it to the gap in the fence. Just when it seemed that all the meticulous planning had been in vain, his chance had come and here he was on this deserted beach, behind schedule certainly, but heading for the pick-up point. There was not a moment to lose. Unless he reached the pier at the agreed time, he would be back in his cell before nightfall.

A wailing sound up ahead startled him but to his relief it was only seals, a pup and its mother. At his approach, she humped her bulk into the waves, leaving her pup behind. And now he noticed the gulls strutting up and down defiantly, waiting to claim their prize.

He stood looking down at the glistening, slug-like form of the seal pup. With baleful eyes it blinked up at him. The mother circled near the shore, wailing in distress. He consulted his watch: ten minutes to reach the pier. They couldn't afford to hang around waiting for him, even under cover of the mist. The gulls had lined up now, silent but brazen. They glared at him with beady, angry eyes. His mind flashed back to that night in the lane: Jimmy's gang standing over the dark mound that was Trevor on the wet cobblestones, keeping him in their sights, no words necessary to convey to him what would happen if he dared to intervene, if he tried to save Trevor's life.

What was the correct course of action? Something told him shoving a beached seal pup back into the water was the wrong thing to do, even if the mother was nearby. Beached seals were injured or sick. Weren't you supposed to alert the authorities, seek expert help? He snorted in disgust and passed his hand over his damp hair. The scenario of that night was replaying itself: as then, who could he alert now, even anonymously, without incriminating himself? The minutes were slipping by. As on that fateful night, self-preservation urged him to run. The damage is done, it told him, there's nothing you can do, save yourself.

But no sooner had he stepped past the seal pup than the gulls closed in, vicious beaks at the ready. The next thing he knew, he was in a rage, flailing and swearing at them, forcing them to flutter to a safe distance; they chattered in annoyance at his interference. He dropped to his knees, pushed his hands under the pup and heaved for all he was worth. The rank smell of its breath filled his nostrils as it yelled in answer to its mother's frantic calls. He gagged and grunted, almost sobbing with the physical effort and the thought that his chances of escape were dwindling with every second that passed.

And then, when he was certain he had failed again, the creature suddenly inched forward. With renewed energy, he leaned into its body and pushed again and again until suddenly it lurched clumsily towards the sea. Slumped there on his knees, panting, he watched as a wave lifted the pup and carried it to its mother.

Without looking at his watch, he staggered to his feet, and ran, ran for his life.

0 The protagonist's strategy

A meets with an unexpected problem.
B depends on the warden's addiction.
C seems to be working out perfectly.
D gave him plenty of time.

1 When the protagonist hears a loud noise, he

A expects to encounter some animals.
B fears there might be people around.
C hopes his friends have found him.
D decides to ignore it for the time being.

2 The seal mother

A is not concerned by the man.
B knows the gulls are not interested.
C shows signs of great worry.
D goes out to catch food for the pup.

3 The gulls remind the protagonist of

A a group of criminals intending to kill a man.
B police officers ready to arrest a killer.
C predators greedily eating their last kill.
D hunters boasting about their achievements.

4 The protagonist believes that

A once back in the water the pup will be fine.
B salt water will clean the pup's wounds.
C its mother will know what to do with the pup.
D health issues are why the pup is stuck.

5 Like in the past, the need to save himself makes the protagonist want to

A overcome his fear.
B support the winner.
C collect evidence for later.
D leave the scene quickly.

6 Reacting to the gulls coming nearer, the protagonist

A throws stones at them.
B becomes very angry.
C comforts the pup.
D shouts for help.

7 The protagonist

A realizes he has time to spare.
B easily shoves the pup into the water.
C risks his freedom to save the pup.
D fails the pup as he did his friend.

4 7 P.

Read the text about a new idea for city planning. Then choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for each question (1-7). Put a cross (☒) in the correct box on the answer sheet. The first one (0) has been done for you.

Can Barcelona's "superblocks" solve our urban problems?

The world's biggest cities have larger populations and higher economic outputs than some countries. But as they grow in size and complexity, cities are also facing thorny challenges that threaten the health and happiness of residents. Congestion, pollution and a lack of community spaces have become major drags on people's aspirations and experiences of urban living.

In response, cities must manage their resources and priorities to create sustainable places for visitors and residents, and foster innovation and growth. Enter Barcelona – the capital of Catalonia, in Spain – where a bold stroke of urban planning first introduced "superblocks" in 2016.

Superblocks are neighbourhoods of nine blocks, where traffic is restricted to major roads around the outside, opening up entire groups of streets to pedestrians and cyclists. The aim is to reduce pollution from vehicles and give residents much-needed relief from noise pollution. They are designed to create more open space for citizens to meet, talk and do activities.

There are currently only six superblocks in operation, including the first, most prominent one in Eixample. Reports suggest that – despite some early push back – the change has been broadly welcomed by residents, and the long-term benefits could be considerable. A recent study carried out by the Barcelona Institute for Global Health estimates that if, as planned, 503 potential superblocks are realised across the city, journeys by private vehicle would fall by 230,000 a week, as people switch to public transport, walking or cycling.

The research suggests this would significantly improve air quality and noise levels on the car-free streets: ambient levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO_2) would be reduced by a quarter, bringing levels in line with recommendations from the World Health Organisation (WHO). The plan is also expected to generate significant health benefits for residents. The study estimates that as many as 667 premature deaths from air pollution, noise and heat could be prevented each year. More green spaces will encourage people to get outdoors and lead a more active lifestyle.

This, in turn, helps to reduce obesity and diabetes and ease pressure on health services. The researchers claim that residents of Barcelona could expect to live an extra 200 days thanks to the cumulative health benefits, if the idea is rolled out across the city. There are expected to be benefits to mental health, as well as physical health. Having access to such spaces can stave off loneliness and isolation – especially among elderly residents – as communities form stronger bonds and become more resilient.

It was Salvador Rueda, director of the Urban Ecology Agency of Barcelona, who first championed the introduction of superblocks – and he argues that the idea could be used in any city. Even so, authorities looking to expand the concept in Barcelona or beyond will need to be mindful of some concerns. Changes like these require capital investment. Even as the car-free streets are transformed with urban furniture and greenery, the remaining major roads will likely have to accommodate heavier traffic.

Further investments in local infrastructure – such as improving surrounding roads to deal with more traffic, or installing a smart traffic management system – could be required to prevent serious congestion. Then the question remains, how to finance such investments – a higher tax rate is unlikely to be popular. What's more, whenever a location becomes more desirable, it leads to an increase in property demand. Higher prices and rent could create pockets of unaffordable neighbourhoods. This may lead to use of properties for investment purposes and possibly, displacement of local residents.

0 Cities which are constantly expanding

A have greater problems than highly populated states.
B attract more residents with higher incomes.
C make their residents feel more isolated.
D have an impact on their residents' well-being.

1 To deal with challenges, large cities need to

A meet strict environmental goals.
B make good use of what is available to them.
C build a robust economy.
D provide attractive facilities for tourists.

2 In Barcelona's "superblocks",

A traffic only has access to the edge of the block.
B traffic is only allowed for delivery purposes.
C residents can decide when roads are open to traffic.
D residents are protected by law against high levels of traffic noise.

3 The superblocks are intended to

A offer affordable living for locals.
B provide places away from the tourist spots.
C reduce the need for owning a private car.
D enable residents to easily socialise.

4 If the project is completed, one analysis predicts it will

A considerably attract new health-conscious residents.
B become a model for other big cities.
C noticeably reduce traffic in the long run.
D require the introduction of more buses and bike paths.

5 Establishing superblocks could

A boost the district's economic situation.
B improve the neighbourhood's energy balance.
C lower mortality caused by environmental factors.
D lead to better medical infrastructure.

6 In order to implement this project, decision makers must

A get financial support from companies.
B plan new roads for the different traffic situation.
C introduce similar building plans in several other cities.
D take certain issues into consideration.

7 The introduction of superblocks might raise

A housing costs for residents.
B the value of real estate throughout the city.
C the city's attraction for people from other parts of Spain.
D the need for cheaper social housing.

Bildquellen

Aufgabe 2: © RusAKphoto / www.shutterstock.com

Textquellen

Aufgabe 1: Foer, Joshua et al.: *Atlas Obscura. An explorer's guide to the world's most unusual places*. New York: Workman Publishing Company 2016, S. 203, S. 216, S. 305, S. 315, S. 232 (adaptiert).

Aufgabe 2: Wattles, Jackie: Cleaning New York's filthy harbor with one billion oysters. https://edition.cnn.com/2019/01/16/tech/billion-oyster-project/index.html [13.03.2026] (adaptiert).

Aufgabe 4: Autor/in nicht genannt: Superblocks: Can Barcelona solve our urban problems? https://aspioneer.com/superblocks-can-barcelona-solve-our-urban-problems/ [13.03.2026] (adaptiert).