

JAMB Use of English Syllabus

Last Updated: 2025

General Objectives

1. Communicate effectively in both written and spoken English; and
2. Use the English Language for learning at the tertiary level.

A. COMPREHENSION/SUMMARY

Comprehension Passages and Summary

Content:

- Description
- Narration
- Exposition
- Argumentation/persuasion
- Each of the two passages to be set (one will be a cloze test) should reflect various disciplines and be about 200 words long.
- Questions on the passages will test the following:
 - (a) Comprehension of the whole or part of each passage.
 - (b) Comprehension of words, phrases, clauses, sentences, figures of speech and idioms as used in the passages.
 - (c) Coherence and logical reasoning (deductions, inferences, etc).
 - (d) Approved Reading text (The Life Changer by Khadija Abubakar Jalli)
 - (e) Synthesis of ideas from the passages.

B. LEXIS AND STRUCTURE

Lexical and Structural Elements

Content:

- Synonyms
- Antonyms
- Homonyms
- Clause and sentence patterns
- Word classes and their functions
- Mood, tense, aspect, number, agreement/concord, degree (positive, comparative and superlative) and question tags

- Punctuation and spelling
- Ordinary usage, figurative usage and idiomatic usage are to be tested.

C. ORAL FORMS

Phonological Elements

Content:

- Vowels (monophthongs and diphthongs)
- Consonants (including clusters)
- Rhymes (including homophones)
- Word stress (monosyllabic and polysyllabic)
- Intonation (words emphatic stress)