

**Aufnahmeprüfung  
Gymnasiale Maturitätsschulen**

**Englisch mündlich**

**Zeit: 10 Minuten**

# AP SZ E 2026 - ORAL EXAM - BEWERTUNGSRASTER

|              |                       |              |              |
|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Name:</b> | <b>Oral Exam-Nr.:</b> | <b>Note:</b> | <b>Visa:</b> |
|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|

| Note                         | 2                                                                                                                                                                                | 3                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 4                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 5                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 6                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Kommunikations-<br>fähigkeit | Kann sich kaum verständigen, hat Mühe, die Fragen zu verstehen. Das Gespräch verläuft sehr harzig und wird praktisch ausschliesslich vom Examinator gesteuert. Kaum Interaktion. | Kann sich nur auf sehr einfache Art verständigen, wenn Fragen wiederholt oder anders formuliert werden. Kann einfache Fragen beantworten. Kann einfach(st)e Redemittel einsetzen, damit ein Gespräch weiter läuft. Wenig Interaktion. | Kann auf Fragen „spontan“ antworten/reagieren. Kann zusammenhängende Beschreibungen machen und sich in einfachen, routine-mässigen Situationen verständigen, dies im Umfang des gelernten Stoffes. Interaktion „passiert“.                     | Verwendet gute Standard-sprache und reagiert gut im Gespräch. Spricht verständlich und zusammenhängend. Beteiligt sich aktiv am Dialog und zeigt Initiative. Gute Interaktion.                         | Verwendet flüssige Standardsprache und zeigt Initiative und Flexibilität im Gespräch. Spricht zusammenhängend und klar, verwendet auch komplexere Nebensätze. Sehr gute Interaktion.                                      |
| Ausdruck,<br>Vokabular       | Hat einen äusserst begrenzten Wortschatz. Kann nur bruchstückhafte Sätze bilden. Ausdrücke und Strukturen sind kaum vorhanden.                                                   | Hat einen einfachen und begrenzten Wortschatz. Die Wörter können mit Hilfe gefunden werden. Zeigt kaum Variabilität in der Wortwahl, verwendet z.B. wenig Adjektive.                                                                  | Hat einen genügenden Wortschatz, um seine Gedanken verständlich auszudrücken. Thematisch und inhaltlich angemessenes Vokabular. Mittlere Variabilität in der Wortwahl.                                                                         | Vielseitiger, reicherer Wortschatz, der auch schon genauere Beschreibungen und komplexere Erklärungen ermöglicht. Gute Variabilität in der Wortwahl.                                                   | Sehr vielseitiger Wortschatz, der detaillierte Beschreibungen und komplexe Erklärungen ermöglicht. Verfügt über ein grosses Repertoire an Ausdrücken und verwendet diese gekonnt. Sehr gute Variabilität in der Wortwahl. |
| Korrektheit,<br>Grammatik    | Macht sehr viele Fehler bezüglich grammatikalischer Strukturen und Ausdrücken, welche das Verständnis behindern. Aussprache ist ebenfalls sehr fehlerhaft.                       | Die Grammatik ist nicht sattelfest, aber Strukturen sind vorhanden, wenn auch oft falsch angewendet. Aussprache kann das Verständnis erschweren.                                                                                      | Grammatik insgesamt einigermaßen korrekt, zeigt aber noch wenig Sicherheit. Macht doch noch einige grammatikalische Fehler und wendet Strukturen zum Teil falsch an. Sprache bleibt verständlich. Macht noch einige Fehler bei der Aussprache. | Hat recht grosse Sicherheit im Sprachgebrauch, macht wenig Fehler. Die Strukturen sind recht sicher angewandt. Grammatikalische Elemente sind mehrheitlich korrekt. Aussprache ist weitgehend korrekt. | Sehr grosse Sicherheit im Sprachgebrauch, macht fast keine Fehler. Verwendet gute und vielseitige Strukturen; Grammatik wird sicher angewandt. Sehr gute Aussprache.                                                      |

Notenberechnung: Durchschnitt aus drei Teilnoten, auf eine Viertelnote gerundet.

# AP SZ E 2026 - ORAL EXAM 1

There are 3 parts in the oral exam.

→ Please give this exam paper back to the examiner after your examination.

→ *You can take notes but try to speak freely.*

## Part I - CONVERSATION

**Free Time Activities** What is your favorite way to spend free time? Do you prefer spending time alone or with friends? Why? Talk about hobbies you enjoy, whether you like being social or having quiet time, and how you balance different activities. Do your free time preferences change depending on your mood?

## Part II - PICTURE DESCRIPTION

Choose two pictures and describe them.



### **Part III - EXPRESS YOUR OPINION**

**Read the following text. Describe what it's about in your own words and give your opinion on it.**

#### **The benefits of pets**

People of all ages find that having a pet improves their mood, lowers their stress, and eases loneliness. Pets provide love and companionship to their owners in good times and bad.

Every pet owner instinctively knows that pets make them feel good, whether it's a dog greeting you at the door or a cat purring contentedly in your lap. The benefits of animal companions range from heart health to helping with stress.

Pet owners say that they feel less alone compared to people who don't own pets. Pets can also help you connect with other people around you. For example, dog owners tend to connect with people in their community.

Having a pet means having to take care of their needs every day. For people struggling with anxiety or depression, routines offer an important feeling of control. For children, taking care of a pet builds a sense of responsibility.

Pets can help your body as well as your mind. Many dog owners have better overall physical health thanks to the exercise they get with their pets.

## AP SZ E 2026 - ORAL EXAM 2

There are 3 parts in the oral exam.

→ Please give this exam paper back to the examiner after your examination.

→ *You can take notes but try to speak freely.*

### Part I - CONVERSATION

**Dream Travel Destination** If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go? What would you like to see or do there? Explain what attracts you to this place - is it the culture, nature, food, or history? Would you want to travel alone, with family, or with friends? What would be the first thing you'd do when you arrived?

### Part II - PICTURE DESCRIPTION

Choose two pictures and describe them.



### **Part III - EXPRESS YOUR OPINION**

**Read the following text. Describe what it's about in your own words and give your opinion on it.**

#### **A later school start**

This year, California became the first US state to delay school start times, with public high schools required to start classes no earlier than 8:30 a.m. Other states are considering also making the change.

"There are improvements across the board: grades improve, attendance goes up and graduation rates go up," says Lisa Lewis, a parent and journalist. "Studies have shown that teens get more sleep when school starts later, with benefits to their physical and mental health, as well as academic performance."

Opponents to later start times say they can cause problems with bus routes, parent work schedules and after-school sports.

"Kids are more likely to eat breakfast, and teachers find kids smiling and awake to learn in first lesson," Boeke says. "Mood, academic performance and attendance rates all improve. A half-hour doesn't seem like a lot of time, but it makes a big difference," she says.

"Many students go to bed late because of the demands of their coursework and out-of-school activities, so extra time in the morning sets them up for a more productive day."

Regular lateness can be an issue for sleep-deprived teens. But starting school later makes it easier for students to arrive on time.

## AP SZ E 2026 - ORAL EXAM 3

There are 3 parts in the oral exam.

→ Please give this exam paper back to the examiner after your examination.

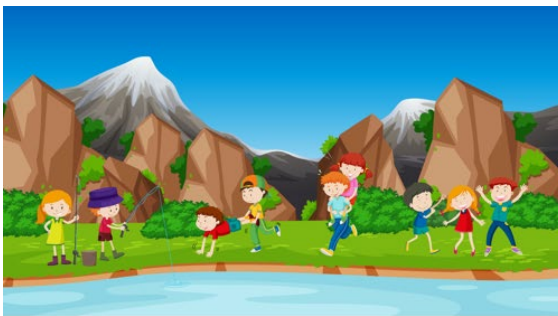
→ *You can take notes but try to speak freely.*

### Part I - CONVERSATION

**Screen Time and Phone Use** Do you think teenagers spend too much time on their phones? How much screen time do you think is healthy? Consider what you use your phone for the most: social media, games, communication, or learning. Do you ever feel like you should use it less? What are the positive and negative effects of constant phone use?

### Part II - PICTURE DESCRIPTION

Choose two pictures and describe them.



### **Part III - EXPRESS YOUR OPINION**

**Read the following text. Describe what it's about in your own words and give your opinion on it.**

#### **4-day school week in Bern**

A school in Belp, Switzerland, will pilot a four-day school week with fewer holidays starting in 2026. The voluntary program will offer 46 weeks of school per year, with longer daily hours, and just six weeks of holidays instead of thirteen, easing the challenges of working parents. Researchers from the Bern University of Teacher Education will evaluate the project after a six-year trial.

Although this may be new to Switzerland, the idea of a four-day school week has already been tested across Europe and in the USA.

It is said that reduced weekly hours could also help improve productivity of students and promote a better work-life balance for teachers. James Reeves, a British manager who is campaigning for a four-day week, said “Teachers are burning out at extremely high rates. A four-day week isn’t about doing less – it’s about working smarter, protecting staff well-being, and improving outcomes for students.”

A general 4-day working week, not just in schools, is also gaining popularity in some countries across the world. However, many countries agree that it is only possible in certain areas of work and not suitable for everyone.

## AP SZ E 2026 - ORAL EXAM 4

There are 3 parts in the oral exam.

→ Please give this exam paper back to the examiner after your examination.

→ *You can take notes but try to speak freely.*

### Part I - CONVERSATION

**School Subjects** What subjects do you enjoy most at school? What makes a subject interesting or boring for you? Think about whether you prefer practical subjects or theoretical ones, and what role the teacher plays in making a subject enjoyable. Are there subjects you used to dislike but now enjoy, or the other way round?

### Part II - PICTURE DESCRIPTION

Choose two pictures and describe them.



### **Part III - EXPRESS YOUR OPINION**

**Read the following text. Describe what it's about in your own words and give your opinion on it.**

#### **Australia to ban social media for under 16 year-olds.**

From December 2025, under-16s in Australia will be banned from using social media including Tiktok, X, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and Snapchat. They will not be able to set up new accounts, and existing profiles must be deactivated. The ban - the first of its kind - is being watched closely by other countries.

A study in 2025 found that 96% of children aged 10-15 used social media, and that seven out of 10 of them had been exposed to harmful content and more than half said they had been the victim of cyberbullying.

However, children and parents will not have to pay for breaking the rules. Instead, social media companies will face fines of up to 50 million Aus. dollars for serious misuse.

Others argue that educating children about how to navigate social media would be much more effective. Some teens told the BBC they would simply set up fake profiles ahead of the deadline.

Denmark has announced plans to ban social media for under-15s, while Norway is considering a similar proposal. France has also recommended banning under-15s from social media, and a social media "curfew" for 15- to 18-year-olds.

## AP SZ E 2026 - ORAL EXAM 5

There are 3 parts in the oral exam.

→ Please give this exam paper back to the examiner after your examination.

→ *You can take notes but try to speak freely.*

### Part I - CONVERSATION

**Friendship Qualities** Describe your best friend. What qualities do you think are important in a friendship? Consider qualities like loyalty, honesty, humor, and shared interests. How did you become friends? What do you do together? Have you ever had a disagreement, and how did you resolve it?

### Part II - PICTURE DESCRIPTION

Choose two pictures and describe them.



### **Part III - EXPRESS YOUR OPINION**

**Read the following text. Describe what it's about in your own words and give your opinion on it.**

#### **Tech-free Fridays**

Tech-Free Fridays is a growing movement in the English-speaking world among schools where one day a week is dedicated to fully offline learning. No screens. No devices. Just paper, pens, conversation, and reflection. This experiment is now catching on in classrooms worldwide. And the results? Surprisingly powerful.

Since the Covid pandemic pushed digital tools to the top of learning, students have become used to spending hours staring at screens: watching tutorials, completing assignments, and socializing digitally.

While these tools are undoubtedly helpful, they've also contributed to more mental and emotional stress. Studies now show that excessive screen time can lead to anxiety, disrupted sleep, lower attention spans, and reduced face-to-face communication skills among learners.

Schools using this model have reported a number of encouraging outcomes like improved focus, better interaction, lower stress levels and stronger creativity. Teachers also report that students come back after the weekend more refreshed.

Tech-Free Fridays offer a simple but powerful answer. They signal that mental health matters, that human connection still belongs in the classroom.

Technology is here to stay. But so is the need for presence, quiet, and reflection.

## AP SZ E 2026 - ORAL EXAM 6

There are 3 parts in the oral exam.

→ Please give this exam paper back to the examiner after your examination.

→ *You can take notes but try to speak freely.*

### Part I - CONVERSATION

**Future Career** If you could have any job in the future, what would it be? What steps do you need to take to achieve this goal? Think about what skills or education you'll need, whether this job matches your personality, and if it's a realistic choice. Has your dream job changed over the years?

### Part II - PICTURE DESCRIPTION

Choose two pictures and describe them.



### **Part III - EXPRESS YOUR OPINION**

**Read the following text. Describe what it's about in your own words and give your opinion on it.**

#### **Tracking your kids**

Apps like Find My and Life360 make it easy for adults to monitor their child's every move. The GPS technology pinpoints the location of your phone, smartwatch, or other device. Your parents can see where you are in real time. According to Life360, more and more in the United States now use its service. Many parents feel that location-tracking apps provide a safety net. If their children need help, it will be easy for their parents to find them.

But not everyone thinks tracking kids is a good idea. Plenty of students, as well as experts, say location-sharing apps make it harder for teens to practice being independent. The apps can also get in the way of teens learning to be more responsible, some experts say.

Being tracked with an app doesn't make life easier for teens like Jeremiah Vecchioni. The 18-year-old from Knoxville, Tennessee, says he feels like he doesn't have any privacy.

Plus, tracking teens can backfire. Some kids try to get around the apps. Jeremiah, for one, admits he sometimes gets so tired of being tracked that he leaves his phone behind when he goes out. "I know it's not good to lie, but I need to feel like I'm not being watched all the time," he explains.

## AP SZ E 2026 - ORAL EXAM 7

There are 3 parts in the oral exam.

→ Please give this exam paper back to the examiner after your examination.

→ *You can take notes but try to speak freely.*

### Part I - CONVERSATION

**Learning Languages** Do you think it's important for young people to learn a foreign language? What are the advantages and disadvantages? Consider how languages can help with travel, career opportunities, and understanding other cultures. Is it difficult or easy for you to learn languages? What's the best way to practise?

### Part II - PICTURE DESCRIPTION

Choose two pictures and describe them.



### Part III - EXPRESS YOUR OPINION

**Read the following text. Describe what it's about in your own words and give your opinion on it.**

#### **The world's happiest country**

The 2025 "World Happiness Report" is out, and once again, Finland has been named the happiest country in the world for the eighth year in a row.

All the Nordic countries were in the top 10 once again. The United States has hit a new low, falling to number 24—its worst ever ranking. Switzerland was in 13th position.

So what is Finland's secret? "Taking care of people's social needs and the feeling of belonging to a community is a big part of our national character," said Heli Jimenez, director of international marketing at "Visit Finland".

Other reasons include a strong healthcare system and a deep connection to nature. Sauna culture helps, too: nearly 90% of Finns use saunas on a weekly basis. The country also benefits from low corruption, strong education, and a culture that values work-life balance.

And even though Finland and the Nordic countries are known for their cold and dark winters, they have long summer days that balance it out.

This year's report also highlights another problem, a huge rise in loneliness—especially among young adults.

"Sharing is caring, and eating with other people can also boost happiness", says the report. "Those who share more meals with others have significantly higher levels of life satisfaction, and lower levels of negativity."

## AP SZ E 2026 - ORAL EXAM 8

There are 3 parts in the oral exam.

→ Please give this exam paper back to the examiner after your examination.

→ *You can take notes but try to speak freely.*

### Part I - CONVERSATION

**Household Responsibilities** How do you usually help at home? Do you think teenagers should have responsibilities at home? Why or why not? Talk about household jobs you do regularly, whether you think they're fair, and how they prepare you for independent living. Do you get any pocket money for helping, or is it just expected?

### Part II - PICTURE DESCRIPTION

Choose two pictures and describe them.



### Part III - EXPRESS YOUR OPINION

**Read the following text. Describe what it's about in your own words and give your opinion on it.**

#### **Classical music – a new trend?**

Why are Gen Z and Alpha suddenly listening to classical music again?

Many people think of classical music as the most old-fashioned kind of music. However, experts say that a new generation of listeners is crossing the divide between popular music and classical music and trying some Beethoven or Mozart alongside their favourite tracks by Taylor Swift or Drake.

Modern media, especially social media, have changed how younger listeners discover music. TikTok launched the hashtag late in 2022 with a guest playlist by Hans Zimmer (a German composer who's written music for more than 100 films, such as *The Lion King*) and a live performance by Lang Lang, a classical pianist who has more than 250,000 followers on TikTok.

Many younger listeners first seek out classical music because of the soundtracks of their favourite films, often those scored by Zimmer, John Williams, or Ennio Morricone. The soundtracks of video games are now having the same effect. Some listeners say they've fallen in love with classical music thanks to their favourite games.

Gen Z musicians didn't grow up shopping for CDs: Instead, they check out what's trending on TikTok or listen to Spotify playlists depending on their mood. Their mood might be well-suited to a soundtrack of classical music. If listeners want music to relax or cry to, then classical music can offer them that, too.

## AP SZ E 2026 - ORAL EXAM 9

There are 3 parts in the oral exam.

→ Please give this exam paper back to the examiner after your examination.

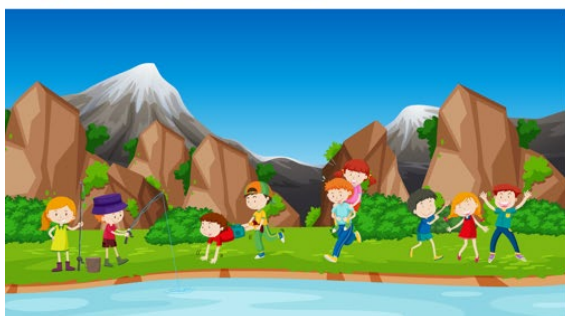
→ *You can take notes but try to speak freely.*

### Part I - CONVERSATION

**Music and Mood** What kind of music do you listen to? How does music affect your mood? Discuss your favorite artists or types of music, whether you use music to relax or energize yourself, and if you play any instruments. Do you discover new music through friends, apps, or other ways? Can music help you study or does it distract you?

### Part II - PICTURE DESCRIPTION

Choose two pictures and describe them.



### **Part III - EXPRESS YOUR OPINION**

**Read the following text. Describe what it's about in your own words and give your opinion on it.**

#### **The importance of sleep**

Research shows that today's teenagers sleep less than ever before. Nearly 80% of American teenagers aren't getting the necessary eight to ten hours of sleep a night, and experts say it's affecting important areas like mental health and school attendance.

The first step to a better bedtime routine is dealing with technology. "Get the temptations and technology out of the bedroom," an expert says. "My phone is my alarm clock" is something a lot of parents hear. The solution: buy an alarm clock.

Put screens away an hour before bedtime. Try to get to bed around the same time each night and start winding down at least 30 minutes before. During that time, silence notifications, take a warm shower, read a book. Avoiding caffeine and energy drinks in the afternoon and evening is also important.

Sleep is also central for emotional processing, which is why sleep-deprived teens are more likely to be anxious or depressed.

Lack of sleep affects physical and athletic ability as well. Teens who get more sleep perform better in sports, and when they do get injuries, they have a quicker recovery time.

"Kids need to be educated more about sleep, their brain health and emotional health, and how it all ties together," says the expert. "Tell your kids, 'You'll do better in school, better in sports, you'll look better after a good night's sleep.' Because until they want to help themselves, they won't do it."

## AP SZ E 2026 - ORAL EXAM 10

There are 3 parts in the oral exam.

→ Please give this exam paper back to the examiner after your examination.

→ *You can take notes but try to speak freely.*

### Part I - CONVERSATION

**Sports and Physical Activity** Do you play any sports or do any physical activities? Why is it important (or not important) to stay active? Talk about sports you enjoy or have tried, whether you prefer team sports or individual activities, and how exercise makes you feel. Do you think schools put too much or too little value on sports?

### Part II - PICTURE DESCRIPTION

Choose two pictures and describe them.



### **Part III - EXPRESS YOUR OPINION**

**Read the following text. Describe what it's about in your own words and give your opinion on it.**

#### **Is gaming such a bad thing?**

There are many negative stereotypes about games and gamers.

In the 50 years since Atari introduced its first video game, there has been plenty of research on the effects of video games on our brains, and it's not all bad.

One of the benefits is better problem-solving skills. To play a game is to come up against problems and work out a solution to them. "Evidence shows that playing any kind of video game increases children's creativity," wrote the researchers.

Video games can also teach you to see failure as a learning opportunity. "Being immersed in these gaming environments teaches players an essential basic lesson: facing failure also brings rewards," the researchers said, adding that gamers respond to failure with "excitement, interest, and joy."

A 2021 survey using gameplay data found a "small positive relation between game play and mental well-being." The kind of game you're playing is usually a factor. Some games are more relaxing than others, for example, and playing games online with friends has more social benefits than solo play.

But too much social media use has a few downsides that gaming does not.

"The effects of screen time and overuse of social media on psychological and social problems were larger than the effects of gaming," researchers reported.