Research Language Skills Assessment (RLSA) has two parts, the speaking and the writing part.

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**Speaking Task** (approximately 6 minutes)

You will be required to deliver an oral presentation on a given topic to professors and research students in a seminar. The presentation should be academic in nature, including at least four academic sources. The sources should be appropriate, critically analysed, and cited according to academic conventions. The presentation should be logically organized with a clear theme.

The topic will be given on the date/time of your enrolled session.

This task is to test your presentation skills (not reading skills). Reading from a written script is not acceptable.

Your presentation should last around 6 minutes and should be video-recorded and submitted to OneDrive via Learn@PolyU within 7 calendar days after the topic is released. Before submission, you need to ensure your presentation has satisfied the following criteria. Failing to meet any of the criteria may result in penalties.

1. You have followed the *Video Recording and Submission Guidelines* to ensure the visual and sound quality of your recording.

2. You have integrated effective PowerPoint slides into your recording.

3. You have included an image of your student ID card on the first slide of your PowerPoint. If your Student ID card is currently not available, please insert an image of the page of your passport which shows your photo.

4. Your submission is not a voiceover PowerPoint. You, the presenter, need to appear in the recording.

In addition, only **one** submission is allowed. Please check your recorded presentation very carefully before the submission. If you have any questions about the test, please contact the ELC at rpg.enquiry@polyu.edu.hk

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**Writing Task** (1 hour)

You are required to write one part of a research paper (between 400-450 words). You will have 1 hour to complete this part. The arguments in your writing should be based on the information in the four given extracts and your own general knowledge on the topic (where appropriate). You should present your arguments clearly, analytically and persuasively. You should also use appropriate cohesive devices to develop logical connections between sentences and paragraphs. You do not need to include an introduction or a conclusion.

Since this paper is based on research, adopting an academic style (i.e., appropriate tone and style) in your writing is essential. You should cite at least three of the extracts below in your writing. One of your citations should be in the form of a direct quotation. This quotation should be no more than one-sentence long. Other citations should involve summarising and/or paraphrasing. No reference list is required.

You will have **1 hour** to complete this test. The topic of the assessment, i.e. the question paper will be distributed at the test venue of your enrolled test session. Your writing needs to be submitted via Learn@PolyU within 1 hour after the test paper is released. Any submission later than the deadline will not be accepted.

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**What is the grading scale for the RLSA?**

The RLSA follows a 5-Band scale. Students' scores are given according to a performance band from Band 1 (highest) to Band 5 (lowest). There is no "pass" or "fail" score.

**What are the assessment criteria?**

<u>Speaking:</u>

**Content (20%):** task fulfilment; relevance and comprehensiveness of information provided about topic; logic and justification of arguments; showing thorough research; use of authoritative and up-to-date sources; timing

**Delivery (50%):** cohesion and coherence; overall structure; sequence and presentation of ideas; audience engagement and verbal and non-verbal techniques; integration of citations into presentation

**Language (20%):** academic style and tone; accuracy and range of vocabulary; accuracy and appropriateness of grammatical structures

**Pronunciation and fluency (10%):** accurate pronunciation and fluent speech

<u>Writing</u>:

**Content (15%):** task fulfilment; relevance and comprehensiveness of information provided about topic; logic and justification of arguments; word length

**Organisation (25%):** inter and intra paragraph coherence; overall structure; sequence and presentation of ideas

**Language (30%):** academic register; accuracy and range of vocabulary; accuracy and appropriateness of grammatical structures

**Referencing (30%):** critical use of academic sources; integration of sources in appropriate context and referencing style