

Writing sub-test

Practice test 1

Please print in **BLOCK LETTERS**

Candidate number

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Family name

Other name(s)

City

Date of test

Candidate's signature

Occupational English Test

WRITING SUB-TEST: NURSING

TIME ALLOWED: READING TIME: 5 MINUTES

WRITING TIME: 40 MINUTES

Read the case notes and complete the writing task which follows.

Notes:

Ms Osburn is an elderly patient at the Newport Community Health Centre. You are the attending nurse.

Patient details

Name: Monica Osburn

Age: 69 years

Marital status: Divorced

Family: One daughter (married)

First attended centre:
September 2003

Last attended centre:
January 2010

Diagnosis: Hypertension, depression

Social background:

Present: lives alone; rented house in Newport

Moving to rented one-bedroom unit in Woodville close to daughter (daughter's request)

Income: aged pension

Long history excessive alcohol intake, ↑ when anxious

Medical history: Hypertension (10 years)
Depression (2 years)
Periodic problems with self-administration of medication

Medications: Anti-hypertensives and anti-depressants

Nursing management and progress:

Regular monitoring by community nurse in Woodville to ascertain medication compliance and alcohol intake

Discharge plan: Establish contact with medical practitioner after move
Monitor medication compliance, alcohol intake and diet
Encourage expansion of family and social activities — elderly citizens' clubs, voluntary groups, etc.

Writing task:

Using the information in the case notes, write a referral letter to the Community Nurse, Community Health Centre, Woodville, outlining relevant information and requesting continued care.

In your answer:

- **Expand the relevant notes into complete sentences**
- **Do not use note form**
- **Use letter format**

The body of the letter should be approximately 180 - 200 words.

Occupational English Test

WRITING SUB-TEST: NURSING
SAMPLE RESPONSE: LETTER OF REFERRAL

Community Nurse
Community Health Centre
Woodville

21 March 2010

Dear Community Nurse

Re: Mrs Monica Osburn

This letter is to introduce Mrs Osburn, a 69-year-old woman, who has been a client of the Newport Community Health Centre for the past six years.

Mrs Osburn has been treated for hypertension over the last ten years and for depression for the past two years, for which she currently takes anti-hypertensives and anti-depressants. She has agreed with her daughter's suggestion that she move to Woodville, where they may have more regular contact. Periodically, Mrs Osburn has experienced problems with self-administration of medications and may require assistance with this aspect of her treatment. She currently lives alone in a rental house.

Mrs Osburn has experienced periods where her alcohol consumption has been too high and her anxiety sometimes causes her to drink even more. It is vitally important that this is carefully monitored in addition to her medication intake and dietary habits. More contact with her daughter and family may reduce the incidence of these depressive episodes and I believe that she will appreciate your suggestions for possible expansion of her social contacts: elderly citizens' club, voluntary organisations etc. I would also recommend getting in touch with a GP who is mindful of Mrs Osburn's circumstances.

Thank you for agreeing to accept her management. If you require further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Nurse

Writing sub-test

Practice test 2

Please print in **BLOCK LETTERS**

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Family name

Other name(s)

City

Date of test

Candidate's signature

Occupational English Test

WRITING SUB-TEST: NURSING

**TIME ALLOWED: READING TIME: 5 MINUTES
WRITING TIME: 40 MINUTES**

Read the case notes and complete the writing task which follows.

Notes:

You are the Charge Nurse on duty at the Children's Hospital. You have been caring for this patient, Ann, an infant.

Patient Details

Name: Ann Ballard

Age: 22 months

Next of Kin: Christine Ballard (mother)

Admission date: 16 March 2010

Discharge date: 22 March 2010

Diagnosis: 2nd degree burns to right trunk & arm following accidental scalding with hot water

Family: Lives with mother and 4yr old brother (Tom)

Background: Mother (28 yrs) separated from husband 4 mths ago
Financial difficulties following separation
Housing: 3 bedroomed house in new housing development
Family reliant on public transport
Socially isolated (Christine's parents interstate, has few friends)
Christine ?depressed
Children spend alternate weekends with father

Medical history and medications:

Nil medications

Nil significant history

No known allergies

Management and progress during hospital stay:

2 x daily Silvazine dressings to affected area

IV fluids for 24 hrs post admission and then oral fluids

Medications: Prophylactic antibiotic cover & analgesia

Mother referred to hospital social worker

Discharge plan: Daily Silvazine dressings
No discharge medications
Monitor mother's mental state
Introduce to local supports (e.g., mothers' group/activities, local childcare centre, etc.)
Appointment with local financial counsellor (for financial problems)

Writing task:

Using the information given in the case notes, as the Charge Nurse on duty, write a letter to the family's local maternal and child health nurse, outlining relevant information and requesting follow-up on discharge. Address the letter to Greenville Maternal and Child Health Centre, Main Rd, Greenville.

In your answer:

- **Expand the relevant notes into complete sentences**
- **Do not use note form**
- **Use letter format**

The body of the letter should be approximately 180 - 200 words.

Occupational English Test

WRITING SUB-TEST: NURSING

SAMPLE RESPONSE: LETTER OF REFERRAL

Maternal and Child Health Nurse
Greenville Maternal and Child Health Centre
Main Rd
Greenville

20 March, 2010

Dear Nurse,

Re: Ann Ballard

Ann Ballard was admitted to the Children's Hospital on 16 March 2010 with 2nd degree burns to her right arm and trunk after being accidentally scalded with hot water.

Her stay was uncomplicated, following the usual course of dressings, analgesia and prophylactic antibiotic cover.

Ann will be discharged from hospital on 22 March 2010. She will require ongoing daily Silvanzine dressings to the affected area. No other treatment is required.

Ann's mother, Christine Ballard, has recently separated from her husband and appears to be very isolated. She also has financial problems and would benefit from meeting with a financial counsellor for assistance with these problems. The staff are concerned that Christine may be suffering from depression.

Christine would also benefit from your support and monitoring. In particular, your assistance with linking her into local support services and networks would, I believe, assist in reducing her isolation.

Thank you for being involved with the family's ongoing care. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

Charge Nurse

Writing sub-test

Practice test 3

Please print in **BLOCK LETTERS**

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City

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Candidate's signature

Occupational English Test

WRITING SUB-TEST: NURSING

TIME ALLOWED: READING TIME: 5 MINUTES

WRITING TIME: 40 MINUTES

Read the case notes and complete the writing task which follows.

Notes:

You are the Charge Nurse at the North West Rehabilitation Hospital overseeing Mr O'Connor.

Patient Details

Name: Mr Andrew O'Connor

Age: 74 years

Date: 19 March 2010

Marital Status: Married

Religion: Catholic

Admission Date: 2 December 2009

Discharge Date: 22 March 2010

Diagnosis: L CVA (stroke) → right side hemiplegia (paralysis)

Social/Family History:

Retired baker

71 yr old wife, Mary, has angina

2 married children, do not live nearby

Lives in 3-bedroomed family home in Lake Park

Prior to stroke recreational activities included fishing & golf

Medical History and Medications:

See Dr's notes (to be forwarded)

Management and Progress during Hospital Stay:

Slow progress despite intensive physiotherapy and occupational therapy

Still requires assistance with dressing, toileting, getting in & out of bed

Mobilises slowly with frame. Can feed himself

Mood swings (angry / tearful / happy)

Family meeting held 09/03/10. Advised nursing home placement. Family refused

OT home assessment 11/03/10. Modifications carried out including hand rails in bathroom & toilet & bed rails