Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg

Internationales Studienzentrum

Musterprüfung für die schriftliche Aufsichtsarbeit im Fach Englisch laut Satzung der Ruprecht-Karls-Universität über die Eignungsprüfung für beruflich Qualifizierte


Die Benutzung eines einsprachigen Wörterbuchs (Englisch-Englisch) ist den Teilnehmerinnen und Teilnehmern an der Prüfung erlaubt.
Teil I: Reading Comprehension

A. Text

Record number of Britons move abroad for better life

Record numbers of people are leaving Britain to live and work abroad, figures show. More than 350,000 men and women are emigrating every year, a rise of 30 per cent in 10 years.

Experts are particularly concerned that the number of people in professional occupations leaving Britain hast doubled since 1994. Figures from the Office for National Statistics show that 359,500 people migrated from Britain to other countries in 2004, up from 236,500 in 1994.

While the outflow of people was offset by 582,000 foreigners coming to live in the UK for at least a year, there are concerns that Britain is proving less attractive to migrants who it desperately needs to plug staffing shortages.

Of the people leaving the UK, 207,600 were British citizens, the highest since current records began in 1991. The number of people in the professional classes emigrating doubled almost from 69,000 to 122,000 in the same period.

More detailed figures for 2003 show that the number of people going to live in Australia, for the first time, went over the 20,000 mark. Nursing organisations have been warning that Britain’s policy of recruiting nurses from abroad is backfiring, as many of the foreign recruits are simply using the UK as a stepping stone before going to the United States, where salaries are much higher.

Figures from the Nursing and Midwifery Council show that, last year, 4,393 nurses left Britain for jobs in Australia and New Zealand – double the number who went in 1995.

Howard Caton, of the Royal College of Nursing, said: “It seems that nurses may be attracted to Australia and New Zealand early in their careers. But we are also seeing large numbers of nurses going to America. The opportunities for career advancement can be very good there. “We have heard of foreign nurses being recruited by agencies to come and work in Britain, and then, six months later, they are approached by the agency to go and work in the US.”

Poor workforce planning has also meant that hundreds of newly qualified junior doctors have found that there are no jobs for them in Britain, despite the fact that the National Health Service needs more staff. “Doctors are not going abroad for an easier life, but to start their careers. The problem is about whether they come back or not,” said Andrew Roland of the British Medical Association.

A report by the World Bank last year found that one in six graduates leaves the UK, more than any other Western country. Professor Andrew Oswald, professor of economics at Warwick University, said: “We have a severe problem in holding on to our best graduates. A junior academic economist in Britain will earn about £25,000 a year; in America they start on about £50,000 to 60,000.”

Observers said that the growth in ownership of secondary homes may also be both a cause and effect of the migration out of Britain. In the next 10 years, one in eight people who reaches retirement age is planning to move abroad, according to Alliance & Leicester International.

(The Independent, February 18th, 2006, abridged)
B. **Annotations**

- **outflow:** outward movement, outpouring
- **to backfire:** to backlash, boomerang, fail
- **stepping stone:** spring board
- **midwife:** a person trained to assist women in childbirth

C. **Questions on the text**

Answer the following questions in complete sentences. Keep to the information given in the text, but do not quote. The number of credits that can be attained for each question is indicated in brackets.

1. Retrace British emigration figures from the nineties to today. (6 cr.)

2. Explain the reasons why so many nurses leave Britain. (4 cr.)

3. Why do people emigrate to the United States? (4 cr.)

4. Apart from the nurses, which other groups of people tend to emigrate and why do they choose to go? (6 cr.)

   (language 10 cr.)
Teil II: Composition

Write about 200 to 250 words. (15 cr., language 15 cr.)

Describe the following cartoon and comment on it, referring to the negative aspects of the internet it illustrates.

It's fantastic!
I can find out the exact weather outside this exact house at this exact moment - all on the INTERNET!