Appendix A: Examples of reading, writing, and speaking tasks

Example of L2 reading-test item

Read the text below and tick the correct answer in the box provided.

For any Australian Defence member who has worked at, or passed through, Joint Task Force (JTF) 633's Camp Baird in the Middle East, there is one institution they are likely to have visited. And that's the coffee shop Bean Around the MEAO (Middle East Area of Operations). Owner Aileen Stoddart has become an honorary member of Australia's operational force, so much so that Commander JTF 633 Major General Susan Coyle presented her with an Aussie Hero Quilt, produced by a civilian support group, in November.

Ms Stoddart's link with JTF 633 began about a decade ago. The coffee shop used to be located in a small hut, but the past years has seen it expand into a building with indoor seating and a reading lounge with jigsaw puzzles and games. With mugs monogrammed with the names of regulars, and a menu that includes signature drinks created by personnel, the coffee shop run by Ms Stoddart and her team is guaranteed to remain a much-loved social hub.

7.	The information in the text says that the coffee shop Bean Around	Answer
	has	
A	been supported financially by the Australian DoD.	
В	been part of the MEAO since the very beginning.	
С	become an integral part of JTF 633's Camp Baird.	X
D	become known for naming drinks after customers.	

Example of bilevel writing-test prompt

INTRODUCTION:

Final exams, either written, oral, or practical, have formed part of academic as well as vocational education for generations. Lately, educational assessment methods have come under scrutiny, in particular regarding upper secondary school/high school. Parts of the pedagogical community now call for a change in the system, wanting to replace traditional school exams (summative assessment) completely with continuous (formative) assessments throughout the education.

TASKS:

First, **describe** common assessment procedures at your military academy. Then **discuss** what might be considered the various merits of traditional exams versus continuous assessment.

Example of L3 speaking prompt

INTRODUCTION:

The future of the historical building where the first military academy in Norway used to be situated was an issue of heated debate last winter. While some voices convincingly argued the rationale for selling this attractively located, but sadly neglected property in Oslo city centre to the highest bidder, the idea of selling the property on the open market to a private vendor triggered strong reactions among army personnel, who felt the historical building must be preserved and stay in the possession of the armed forces, regardless of the potential cost involved.

- Could you speculate what might be possible reasons why the issue of holding on to and restoring the building that housed the first military academy in Norway a building dating from the seventeen-hundreds created such debate and raised such strong feelings among officers in the army?
- To what extent was the decision to buy and preserve this building a wise one? State and support your opinion.
- There are those who would argue the time/effort/money might have been better spent on what the present-day academy needs: accommodation facilities, a bigger mess hall, new office buildings, a new gym. How would you respond to that argument?
- Could you in general discuss the value of conserving military historical objects?