

ENGLISH PROFICIENCY SAMPLE TEST (A)**SECTION I. VOCABULARY**

Questions 1-10: Choose the best answer to make meaningful sentences.

1. The university has managed to attract a lot of students because of its excellent _____ abroad.
A. reputation B. publication C. corporation D. indication
2. Women's magazines are often _____ to be superficial especially by men who show no interest in reading them.
A. selected B. maintained C. extended D. perceived
3. The teacher complains about the students' _____ towards learning French because they don't want to study it at all.
A. attitude B. enthusiasm C. challenge D. circumstance
4. English is _____ for students of Civil Aviation department because the classes are 100 % in English and they have to pass the exams.
A. compulsory B. annual C. repetitive D. outstanding
5. My best friend is thinking about _____ dance courses in her spare time.
A. catching on B. turning down C. taking up D. calling back
6. At the meeting, even though he spoke _____, he was unable to change the minds of the other members.
A. persuasively B. shortly C. completely D. unnoticeably
7. The "No Child Left Behind Act" established in 2001 was created to keep children from _____ in school; hence, more students are successful in school.
A. letting in B. dying out C. getting by D. falling behind
8. This small battle may seem unimportant to us right now but it is very significant in the _____ of Scottish history.
A. approach B. environment C. concept D. context
9. *Stipple* is focusing on photos in four _____ categories: news, sports, entertainment or celebrities.
A. privileged B. specific C. surrounding D. responsible
10. Recent research suggests that children born to teenage mothers are more likely to be poor, and they receive _____ healthcare and education since they cannot even afford to go to a doctor.
A. unaware B. cooperative C. inadequate D. realistic

SECTION II. GRAMMAR

Questions 11-20: Read the text below and decide which answer best fits each gap.

In 1884, Sarah L. Winchester began a construction project which **(11)** _____ the lives of carpenters and builders right up **(12)** _____ she died 38 years later. The mansion—in San Jose, California—is filled with **(13)** _____ unexplained mysteries _____ it has come to be called the Winchester Mystery House. There are doors in the floor and there are staircases **(14)** _____ lead nowhere. Winchester’s fascination with the number 13 is evident **(15)** _____: bathroom number 13 has 13 windows; the kitchen sink has 13 drain holes; a 12-light gas chandelier **(16)** _____ to hold 13 lights. Every night, Winchester is said **(17)** _____ spirits, who gave her building instructions. She kept building the house to keep off the evil spirits supposedly responsible for a curse on the Winchester family. By the time she died in 1922, she had created a sprawling structure: 160 rooms; 13 bathrooms; 6 kitchens; 40 staircases; 47 fireplaces; 2000 doors; 10000 windows. Perhaps it’s only **(18)** _____ its reputation, but **(19)** _____ people have reported unexplained footsteps, cold spots, doors mysteriously slamming shut, and doorknobs turning **(20)** _____. The Winchester Mystery House surely lives up to its reputation.

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| 11. | A. used to occupy | B. should have occupied | C. would occupy | D. had better occupy |
| 12. | A. while | B. until | C. in case | D. when |
| 13. | A. more / than | B. such / as | C. too much / that | D. so many / that |
| 14. | A. Ø | B. that | C. what | D. who |
| 15. | A. everywhere | B. everything | C. nowhere | D. something |
| 16. | A. modifies | B. has modified | C. was modified | D. were modified |
| 17. | A. to have consulted | B. to be consulted | C. being consulted | D. consulting |
| 18. | A. in order to | B. nevertheless | C. although | D. because of |
| 19. | A. plenty | B. little | C. several | D. whole |
| 20. | A. on its own | B. by themselves | C. theirs | D. itself |

Questions 21-25: Choose the option which best rewrites each sentence.

21. You can cancel your ticket with a full refund only if you do so one week before your scheduled departure.

- A. Getting some of your money back is possible if you apply to the ticket agency a week before the departure date of your flight.
- B. In order to get all the money you've paid for the ticket back, the cancellation has to be done seven days prior to your plane's scheduled take-off.
- C. You can apply for a full refund for your ticket within a week if you have had a change of plans and can't make the flight.
- D. When a flight has been cancelled, you must ask for a full refund within one week of the date of departure.

22. There have been recent studies that have linked poor dental care to a variety of other health conditions.

- A. Recent studies have found a connection between uncared teeth and different types of health problems.
- B. Recently, a study has shown that most health problems are closely related to decaying teeth.
- C. Research is being carried out to see if several serious health conditions result from neglect of one's teeth.
- D. Recent studies make it clear that brushing one's teeth regularly is the key to preventing many other diseases.

23. We won't make it to the concert in time unless we cut through the park to avoid all the rush hour traffic.

- A. If we can't get past all this traffic that is around the park, we will never arrive in time for the beginning of the concert.
- B. Because of all this rush hour traffic, we will probably be late for the concert as we can't even get to the park.
- C. The only way to escape all this rush hour traffic and arrive at the concert before it starts is to go through the park.
- D. If only we had gone through the park to get to the concert, we wouldn't have spent so much time in the rush hour traffic.

24. Almost nobody at the concert was satisfied with the performance of the singer.

- A. Except for a few people, the audience at the concert left satisfied with the singer's performance.
- B. A large number of people thought the concert was unsatisfying despite the singer's good performance.
- C. Due to the singer's poor performance, most of the audience left before the concert was even over.
- D. Nearly all of the concert audience thought the singer's performance was unsatisfying.

25. By the time I became certain what the answer was, I had already pressed the button for B.

- A. I had pressed the B button before I was completely sure of the correct answer.
- B. I pushed the button for the answer B as soon as I had no doubts that it was the right one.
- C. Until I became totally sure of the right answer, I had been preparing to push the B button.
- D. I pressed the B button, which was the correct answer, though I wasn't certain whether it was right.

SECTION III. READING

Questions 26-30: Choose the best answer according to the passage below.

Staying Fit

- 1 The most useful piece of advice to people who want to start getting fit is: don't buy an exercise bike. Typically, people who buy them use them for a week or so and then forget about them. They are effective if they are used regularly but you need to be determined. Most people will find it much easier to go for a gentle jog around the park. As well as being easy to do, jogging is also relatively cheap compared to most other sports. You don't need to buy expensive clothes if you're just going running around the park or on the beach. The main thing is that they're comfortable, and that they keep you warm in the winter and cool in the summer.
- 2 There is one piece of equipment, however, that you will have to spend time and money on, and that's your running shoes. Remember that you are not looking for a fashion item, but for something that will support your feet and protect you from injury. They can be expensive, but if they are good quality, they will last you a long time. It's always best to get **expert** advice, and the best place for that is a sports shop.
- 3 As for the actual jogging, the secret is to start gently, and not to do too much at the beginning –especially if you haven't had any exercise for a long time. Try a mixture of walking and running for ten minutes about three times a week at first. Once you are happy doing that you can then start to increase the amount you do gradually. After a few months you should hope to be able to run at a reasonable speed for twenty minutes three or four times a week.
- 4 It's important that you feel comfortable with whatever you do. If you do, you'll start to enjoy **it** and will probably keep doing it. If it makes you feel uncomfortable, you'll probably stop after a short time and return to your bad habits. In any case, training too hard is not very effective. Research has shown that somebody who exercises for twice as long or twice as hard as another person doesn't automatically become twice as fit.

26. The main aim of paragraph 1 is to _____ .

- A. prove that exercise bike is more effective than any other sports when it is used regularly.
- B. show that jogging is more practical kind of sports in many ways.
- C. emphasize that jogging is the cheapest sports ever.
- D. argue that all people should try jogging.

27. The word “expert” in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____ .

- A. ignorant
- B. amateur
- C. trained
- D. clumsy

28. Based on the information in paragraph 3, people should start doing exercise gradually because _____ .

- A. if they aren’t experienced enough, too much sports at first may not be good for them
- B. practicing walking and running together for only ten minutes is the best way
- C. they can run faster than ever for twenty minutes only months later
- D. only if they are happy with jogging, they can do it as much as they can

29. Which of the following statements about jogging is NOT true?

- A. When jogging makes people comfortable, they never go back to bad habits.
- B. It is a cheaper kind of sports when compared to the other sports that people do.
- C. When you practice it more and more, it will make you fitter and healthier gradually.
- D. Although running shoes are already expensive items, people who prefer jogging tend to spend a lot more money to buy the popular ones.

30. The word “it” in paragraph 4 refers to _____ .

- A. an uncomfortable action
- B. the bad habits that people have
- C. the things that people don’t like
- D. the activity that people feel relaxed with

Questions 31-35: Choose the best answer according to the passage below.

Body Language: Basics

- 1 How you move and gesture says as much about you as what comes out of your mouth. A firm or a limp handshake? Jenny Smith, 34, an assistant vice-president at a bank in New York, was interviewing candidates for a position which required a person with certain abilities and good communication skills. One of the most important things for Jenny Smith was what signals the candidates gave during the interview.
- 2 One candidate in particular stood out, but not in a good way. While she could have been very intelligent, her body language sent out very different messages. Her handshake was more of a finger shake, her eye contact was weak. To Jenny, what the candidate said didn't matter because her body language said everything: she wasn't suitable for the position. The candidate may have been quite **appropriate**, but she didn't manage to get that across. So, our body language may not do us justice. But there are some signals which are very common and are worth a thousand words.

- 3 For example, a handshake can say much more than 'hello, nice to meet you'. The most important part of a handshake is palm-to-palm contact. It's even more important than how strong your handshake is. The palm-to-palm contact makes people seem honest: it seems to say 'I am sincere'. A weak handshake –when the palms don't touch– makes you seem unfriendly, insincere.
- 4 But people sometimes use body language to give each other the wrong impression. Somebody who has a firm handshake may be pretending to be sincere, and somebody with a weak handshake may just be a bit shy and nothing more. So, we can say that the messages people give away to the others around them might sometimes be given involuntarily.
- 5 Body language can also be overdone. While eye contact gives an impression of friendliness, too much eye contact or eye contact which is too intense can make people feel uncomfortable. So, it is obvious that body language is actually a curious issue and you cannot be so sure what people want to say with their body movements.

31. From the first paragraph, we understand that _____ .

- A. the only important thing for Smith was what signals the candidates gave during the interview
- B. a firm handshake was what matters most for the candidates while giving interview
- C. a person's body movements were as much significant as what they said for Smith
- D. the position people applied for required only good communication skills

32. The word "appropriate" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____ .

- A. proper
- B. incapable
- C. irrelevant
- D. manageable

33. The aim of paragraph 4 can be to show that _____ .

- A. people giving firm handshake always pretend to be sincere
- B. people with a weak handshake are all shy people
- C. body language always gives wrong impression to others
- D. body language is sometimes misleading

34. Which of the following statements CANNOT be inferred from paragraph 5?

- A. You can always trust in body language when you want to make a guess about people.
- B. Eye-contact is the one of the ways to make sure others that you are a friendly person.
- C. You may probably disturb people if you have an intense eye-contact with them.
- D. Body language isn't the most reliable way when you want to know people you meet.

35. The main purpose of the text is to _____.

- A. state the functions of body language
- B. make the readers see that body language is always reliable
- C. prove that during job interviews, using body language helps you to get the job
- D. emphasize the roles of body language when you want to make new friends

Questions 36-45: Choose the best answer according to the passage below.

The Global Warming

- 1 Until recently, the evidence that the world's weather is becoming more extreme and harder to predict was largely anecdotal, without the support of any factual proof, and often angrily argued over. The majority of scientists pointed out that drawing conclusions based on a couple of extremely hot summers or a particularly damp spring was not something trustworthy. There have always been occasional weather extremes, and, although it's tempting to believe the contrary, single events do not **indicate** a general change to the climate.
- 2 However, a study by the World Weather Organization suggests that there may well be factual evidence to support the idea that the world's weather patterns are changing. By recording weather events over the past two decades, the organization has been able to ascertain that the number, although not necessarily the strength of, such extreme weather events as floods, droughts, and tornadoes has risen. Moreover, it predicts that weather events we now consider unusual will have become the norm by the end of the next decade.
- 3 The world's climate has been setting new records over the last year. Just over 500 tornadoes hit the United States in May, causing untold damage, and breaking the previous monthly record by more than 100. A heatwave in India killed hundreds, with temperatures rising to an astonishing 49 degrees Celsius, and also breaking all sorts of records. Meanwhile, heavy rainfall in Sri Lanka resulted in terrible floods and many **casualties**. And parts of Europe recorded average summer temperatures five degrees above what would normally be expected.
- 4 Looked at separately, none of these events is particularly **remarkable**, but when put together they represent a clear and worrying change to the world's climate. As a general rule, the World Weather Organization only compiles and reports its statistics. However, the figures for the last year were so alarming that the organization felt compelled to issue a warning of sorts. It pointed out that the increase in the world's temperature was greater between 1900 and 2000 than it had been for any other 100-year period during the past 1,000 years. Not only that, but temperatures from 1976 to 2000 rose at a faster rate than the previous 75 years when the surface temperatures warmed up in an uneven way.
- 5 So, what or who is to blame? The World Weather Organization avoids this question, defining its own role as a gatherer rather than an interpreter of information. The study recognizes that global warming is taking place, and points out that the figures are irrefutable in this respect, but **it** has no opinion about whether global warming is a natural phenomenon or one that humans are directly responsible for.

36. Which of the followings is NOT the purpose of the text?

- A. Stating that global warming is something real.
- B. Showing that the unusual weather conditions take place.
- C. Pointing out the ones responsible for the climate change.
- D. Emphasizing that the World Weather Organization supports the idea that the world's climate is changing.

37. It is obvious in the passage that _____.

- A. though the events do not matter much individually, when they are taken into consideration together, it is alarming in terms of global warming
- B. temperatures from 1976 to 2000 increased at a faster rate than 100-year period during the past 1,000 years.
- C. the single events on their own strongly indicate that there is a climate change affecting the whole world.
- D. the increase in the world's temperature was greater before 1900 when compared to 2000's.

38. We CANNOT infer from the passage that _____.

- A. extreme weather conditions have always happened
- B. hot weather in India killed many people
- C. unusual weather conditions will be seen as normal in the following years
- D. the World Weather Organization prefers to make comments on the information they get

39. We CANNOT infer from the paragraph 4 that _____.

- A. between 1900 and 2000, it was the hottest years recorded throughout the world's history
- B. last year's statistics were so scary that the World Weather Organization warned people
- C. the compiled weather events going around the world cause a feeling of uneasiness about the climate
- D. in the last quarter of 20th century, the temperature rose sharply when compared with the previous 75 years

40. The passage is mainly concerned with _____.

- A. how the global warming effects the life of people
- B. how the World Weather Organization works
- C. unusual weather conditions of all times
- D. the rapid climate change

41. Which of the followings is TRUE for the passage?

- A. The U.S.A. was hit by less than 500 tornados in spring time.
- B. India was the only country where a heatwave killed hundreds.
- C. Floods in Sri Lanka were the most terrible ones recorded throughout the history.
- D. In some places of Europe, the temperature in summer time was quite a bit higher than the usual.

42. The word “indicate” in paragraph 1 means _____.

- A. improve
- B. show
- C. deny
- D. hide

43. The word “casualties” in paragraph 3 means _____.

- A. benefits
- B. fortunes
- C. disasters
- D. earthquakes

44. The word “remarkable” in paragraph 4 means _____.

- A. comforting
- B. surprising
- C. refreshing
- D. encouraging

45. The word “it” in paragraph 5 refers to _____.

- A. The World Weather Organization
- B. The global warming
- C. The climate change
- D. The study