

English, 2017 EC, entrance exam, version 1

Grade 12 · English · 2017 E.C.

MARKING KEY: CONFIDENTIAL

Time allowed: 120 minutes

Questions: 92

Total marks: 92

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1. After the accident, the victim was _____ and could not respond to the doctors' questions. (1)

A. contentedly
B. ✓ insensible
C. attainable
D. gloated

Answer: B

The sentence says the victim could not answer the doctors, so the missing word must describe someone who cannot respond at all. "Insensible" describes a person who has lost consciousness and feels nothing, which explains the silence. "Contentedly" is the tempting one because it also describes a state after the accident, but it is an adverb, and it means happily, which gives no reason for the victim's silence.

2. The detective tried to _____ the meaning of the mysterious message, but it was difficult to understand. (1)

A. induced
B. curtail
C. grapple
D. ✓ descry

Answer: D

"Descry" means to make out or discern something that is hard to see or understand, and the detective is trying to work out a message he cannot follow. That is what the sentence needs. "Grapple" is tempting because in English we do grapple with a hard problem, but the verb needs the preposition "with" after it, and there is no "with" in this sentence.

3. The wilderness was _____ with wild animals and treacherous paths, making it dangerous for explorers. (1)

A. ✓ savage
B. precocious
C. invigorating
D. sustained

Answer: A

The blank describes a wilderness full of wild animals and treacherous paths, so it needs a word that carries wildness and danger. "Savage" means untamed and fierce, which matches the danger the explorers face. "Invigorating" is tempting because wild country can feel refreshing, but the sentence ends by saying the place was dangerous, not pleasant.

4. The cool morning air and the fresh smell of pine trees were making the hike feel less tiring and more _____. (1)

A. draining
B. ✓ invigorating
C. exhausting
D. unpleasant

Answer: B

The phrase "less tiring and more _____" sets up a contrast, so the missing word has to be the opposite of tiring. "Invigorating" means giving energy, which balances the sentence. "Draining" is tempting because a hike does take effort, but draining means the same thing as tiring, so the contrast would collapse.

5. The city planners hoped that the new park and clean streets would _____ the area, attracting new residents and businesses.
- A. ✓ **revitalize**
- B. destroy
- C. deteriorate
- D. ignore

Answer: A

The new park and the clean streets are meant to bring new residents and businesses, so the blank needs a word for giving new life to a place. "Revitalize" means exactly that: to make something active and healthy again. "Deteriorate" is tempting because it also describes a change in the area, but it means to get worse, which is the opposite of attracting people.

6. The feeling of warmth and comfort in her home was something that couldn't be measured but was deeply felt. It was _____.
A. tangible B. material
C. obvious D. ✓ intangible

Answer: D

The feeling could not be measured but was still deeply felt, and a thing you cannot measure or touch is intangible. The prefix "in" is what carries the meaning. "Tangible" is tempting because it is the same root word, but tangible means you can touch or measure it, which the sentence has already ruled out.

7. The old castle seemed magical, as if it held secrets from ancient times, with mysterious lights flickering through the windows at night. (Underlined: magical)
- A. boring B. ordinary
C. ✓ **enchanting** D. dangerous

Answer: C

In this sentence "magical" describes a castle that feels charming and full of old secrets. "Enchanting" carries the same idea of something that puts you under a spell. "Dangerous" is tempting because of the mysterious lights at night, but the sentence never says anything harmful happens at the castle.

8. The museum displayed contemporary art, with works from living artists that reflected modern issues and ideas. (Underlined: contemporary)
- A. ✓ **modern**
- B. outdated
- C. ancient
- D. historical

Answer: A

The sentence explains itself: the works are by living artists and they deal with modern issues. "Contemporary" means belonging to the present time, so "modern" is the match. "Historical" is tempting because museums usually hold old work, but artists who are alive now cannot be historical.

9. The movie was filled with horrifying scenes of destruction, leaving the audience gasping in shock and disbelief. (Underlined: horrifying)
- A. exciting B. challenging
- C. demanding D. ✓ alarming

Answer: D

The scenes left the audience gasping in shock and disbelief, so "horrifying" here means causing fear. "Alarming" is the only choice that carries fear in it. "Exciting" is tempting because action films are exciting, but excitement does not explain shock and disbelief.

10. The nightmarish storm caused widespread panic, with dark clouds, terrifying winds, and an eerie stillness before it hit. (Underlined: nightmarish) (1)
- A. peaceful and calm
B. dream-like and pleasant
C. ✓ **terrifying and surreal**
D. bright and cheerful

Answer: C

A nightmare is frightening and unreal, and the storm brought panic, dark clouds and an eerie stillness. "Terrifying and surreal" matches both halves of that picture. "Dream-like and pleasant" is tempting because a nightmare is a kind of dream, but a nightmare is the frightening kind, so "pleasant" cannot be right.

11. After months of trying to fix the broken car and his inability to be successful, he finally resigned the fact that it would need a new engine. (Underlined: resigned) (1)
- A. ✓ **accepted**
B. excited
C. relieved
D. ignored

Answer: A

After months of failing to fix the car, he stopped fighting the situation and admitted the engine had to be replaced. To resign yourself to something is to accept it and stop struggling against it. "Relieved" is tempting because giving up a long struggle can feel like relief, but the sentence reports what he came to believe, not how he felt afterwards.

12. After fasting for 24 hours, he had an intense craving for chocolate cake. (Underlined: craving) (1)
- A. passing interest
B. ✓ **a strong desire**
C. a slight preference
D. an stimulating view

Answer: B

"Craving" is a want you feel strongly, and the sentence makes it stronger still with "intense" and with the 24 hours of fasting. "A strong desire" says the same thing. "A slight preference" is tempting because it is also about wanting, but the word "intense" rules out anything mild.

13. *On Oct. 7, hundreds of Hamas fighters from Gaza rampaged through border towns in a surprise attack that killed at least 1,300 Israelis. Over the weekend, Hamas, the Islamic group that controls the Gaza Strip, mounted a highly coordinated invasion of Israel, with terrorists attacking Israeli towns and killing people in their homes and on the streets. They killed men, women and children, at home, strolling on the street or dancing at an outdoor festival, and they took more than 150 hostages. Now the region is bracing for further conflict.* (1)
- According to paragraph 1 which one of the following sentences is true? (Passage: Israel-Hamas War, paragraph 1)

- A. ✓ **On Oct. 7, hundreds of Hamas fighters from Gaza attacked and killed 1300 Israelis.**
B. Hamas fighters attacked Israeli people at battle field.
C. Hamas, the terrorist group, attacked Israeli people began from the center of its territory.
D. Israeli people were attacked by Hamas unknowingly.

Answer: A

Paragraph 1 says hundreds of Hamas fighters from Gaza attacked border towns and killed at least 1,300 Israelis, which is what option A reports. Every part of A can be pointed to in the paragraph. B is tempting because there was heavy fighting, but the paragraph says people were killed in their homes, in the streets and at an outdoor festival, so it was not a battlefield.

14. *In response to the shocking incursion, one of the broadest into Israeli territory in 50 years, Israel has been pummeling the Gaza Strip with airstrikes that have wiped out entire neighborhoods and brought the medical system to the brink of collapse. The Palestinian Health Ministry has said that as of Oct. 13 at least 1,700 Palestinians have been killed. Moreover, pummeling the Gaza Strip with airstrikes have been deadlier and more widespread than in past campaigns in Gaza and forced some 400,000 people into temporary shelters as they face dire shortages of food, water and fuel.* (1)

What does 'wiped out' as used in 'airstrikes that have entire neighborhoods...' in paragraph 2, line2 refer to?

- A. getting stand-alone
B. built up
C. ✓ **destroyed completely**
D. preserve intact

Answer: C

The paragraph uses "wiped out" about neighbourhoods hit by airstrikes, and the same paragraph says the medical system was near collapse and 1,700 people had been killed. So the phrase means destroyed completely. "Built up" is the tempting opposite, and nothing in the paragraph describes anything being built.

15. *Israel has mobilized 360,000 reservists and troops are now massing at the border, leading to speculation that Israel will soon launch a ground offensive. And in a region with a long history of conflict, Israel has also reported shelling along its borders with Lebanon and Syria, exacerbating fears of a wider conflict.* (1)

As used in paragraph 5, line 4 which word can be the best similar word to 'exacerbating'?

- A. weakening
B. moderating
C. ✓ **aggravating**
D. falling

Answer: C

Shelling along the Lebanon and Syria borders makes an already bad situation worse, and the sentence says it deepens fears of a wider conflict. "Exacerbate" means to make something bad worse, so "aggravating" is the close match. "Moderating" is tempting because it also describes a change in the level of fear, but it means to bring the fear down.

16. *Full passage as above (Reading Passage I)* (1)

Why does the author narrate the war between Hamas fighters and Israeli forces?

- A. To tell that Hamas terrorist overcame the Israeli force.
B. ✓ **To tell the incident occurred on October 7, and on October 13 and its consequences.**
C. To inform readers that the war was concluded within short period of time.
D. To show that the war benefited the Gaza residents.

Answer: B

The passage sets out what happened on Oct. 7 and what followed up to Oct. 13: the airstrikes, the siege, the order to move south, and the troops at the border. That is a report of events and their consequences. A is tempting because the attack killed many Israelis, but the passage also describes Israel's heavy response, so it never claims one side overcame the other.

17. *They killed men, women and children, at home, strolling on the street or dancing at an outdoor festival, and they took more than 150 hostages.* (1)

What does 'they' as used in paragraph 1, Line 6 refer to?

- A. Israeli people at Gaza
B. Palestinian people
C. men, women and children of Israel
D. ✓ **Hamas fighters**

Answer: D

The sentence before says the fighters attacked Israeli towns and killed people in their homes and on the streets, and "they" carries the same subject on into the next sentence, including the taking of hostages. C is tempting because "men, women and children" sits right beside "they", but those people are the victims in the sentence, and victims do not take hostages.

18. *In addition to airstrikes on Gaza, the Israeli authorities announced a 'complete siege' of the enclave. The Israeli defense minister, Yoav Gallant, vowed that 'no electricity, no food, no water, no fuel' would be allowed into Gaza...* (1)
Which one of the following is closest in meaning to the word 'siege' in paragraph 3, line 1?

- A. access
B. open
C. expose
D. ✓ **blockade**

Answer: D

The next line in the passage explains the word: no electricity, no food, no water and no fuel would be allowed into Gaza. Sealing a place off in that way is a blockade. "Access" is tempting because a siege is about what can move in and out, but access means letting things through, which is the opposite of what the minister vowed.

19. *Israel has mobilized 360,000 reservists and troops are now massing at the border, leading to speculation that Israel will soon launch a ground offensive. And in a region with a long history of conflict, Israel has also reported shelling along its borders with Lebanon and Syria, exacerbating fears of a wider conflict.* (1)

Which one of the following, according to paragraph 5 is true?

- A. Israel is preparing for a peaceful negotiation with its neighbors.
B. The mobilization of 360,000 reservists indicates a routine military exercise.
C. **The massing of troops and reported shelling along borders with Lebanon and Syria increases the likelihood of a wider conflict.**
D. Israel has decided to withdraw its forces from the borders to avoid escalation.

Answer: C

Paragraph 5 gives two facts: troops are massing at the border and shelling has been reported on the Lebanon and Syria borders. The paragraph itself links these to fears of a wider conflict, which is what C says. A is tempting because mobilising 360,000 reservists could look like pressure before talks, but the paragraph mentions a ground offensive, not negotiation.

20. *On Oct. 13, Israel's military demanded that more than a million civilians in Gaza move to the south of the blockaded coastal strip — a possible precursor to a ground invasion, which the United Nations warned could be calamitous.* (1)

What does 'which' refers in paragraph 4, Line 3?

- A. The United Nations
B. ✓ **A possible precursor to a ground invasion**
C. Israel's military demand
D. The move to the south of the blockaded coastal strip

Answer: B

A relative pronoun points back to the noun phrase nearest to it, and here that phrase is "a possible precursor to a ground invasion". It is the invasion that the United Nations warned could be calamitous. A is tempting because the United Nations is named in the same clause, but the UN is the one giving the warning, so it cannot also be the thing being warned about.

21. *In response to the shocking incursion, one of the broadest into Israeli territory in 50 years...* (1)

In response to the shocking 'incursion,' one of the broadest into Israeli territory in 50 years ...(paragraph 2, Line 1) implies

- A. The shocking incursion was a minor event compared to past conflicts.
- B. The shocking incursion was a routine occurrence for Israeli territory in 50 years.
- C. **The shocking incursion was one of the most extensive and severe attacks into Israeli territory in the last 50 years.** ✓
- D. The shocking incursion did not have a significant impact on Israeli territory in 50 years.

Answer: C

The phrase "one of the broadest into Israeli territory in 50 years" measures this attack against fifty years of earlier ones and puts it near the top of that list. C says the same in plain words. A is tempting because it also compares the attack with the past, but "broadest" means wider and larger, not smaller.

22. *For centuries, explorers and historians have been fascinated by the mysterious disappearance of an ancient civilization that once thrived in the dense rainforests of South America... [full passage]* (1)

What is the central idea of the passage? (Passage II: The Disappearance of the Ancient City)

- A. The ancient city was destroyed by war and the dwellers were displaced.
- B. ✓ **The disappearance of an ancient civilization remains a mystery.**
- C. Archaeologists have solved the mystery of the lost city.
- D. A conqueror destroyed the city and enslaved its people.

Answer: B

The passage keeps the question open from beginning to end. It lists what has been dug up and several possible causes, and it never settles on why the city was abandoned. C is tempting because archaeologists appear throughout the passage, but they are described as still trying to piece the story together.

23. *Paragraph 2: ...without a complete understanding of their language, researchers struggle to piece together the full story of this lost world. Even the city's name remains uncertain...* (1)

Why is it difficult for researchers to understand the lost civilization's history?

- A. ✓ **Their writing system remains largely interpreted.**
- B. The ruins have all been destroyed and difficult to investigate.
- C. There are no surviving artifacts.
- D. The city's location has not been found.

Answer: A

Paragraph 2 says researchers do not fully understand the civilization's language, so they cannot read what was written and cannot assemble the full story. That is the reason the passage gives. C is tempting because artifacts matter so much in archaeology, but the passage lists pottery, jewellery and tools that did survive, so it is not a shortage of objects.

24. *Paragraph 3: One prevailing theory suggests that deforestation and soil erosion may have led to agricultural decline...* (1)

What does the passage suggest about the role of the environment in the city's collapse?

- A. The city was built on unstable ground.
- B. ✓ **Climate change and deforestation may have led to food shortages.**
- C. There was a volcanic eruption that buried the city.
- D. The environment played no role in its disappearance but pandemics.

Answer: B

Paragraph 3 offers deforestation and soil erosion leading to agricultural decline, and it links that to climate change. Less farming means less food, which is what B states. C is tempting because a buried city is the familiar lost city story, but the passage never mentions a volcano.

25. *Passage II (multiple theories presented without conclusion)*

(1)

How does the author develop the mystery surrounding the lost city?

- A. ✓ **By presenting multiple theories without a definite conclusion.**
- B. By stating that researchers have solved the mystery.
- C. By describing a detailed battle scene.
- D. By focusing only on one possible cause which was highly emphasized.

Answer: A

The author lines the theories up side by side, environmental collapse, war, disease, and never picks a winner. Leaving them all open is what keeps the mystery alive. D is tempting because one theory is called prevailing, but "prevailing" only means it is the most accepted so far, and the other theories are still presented.

26. *Paragraph 2: Pottery fragments, jewelry, and primitive tools indicate that the civilization had a complex society with skilled artisans, traders, and builders. In addition, the discovery of an elaborate writing system...*

(1)

What can be inferred about the civilization based on its artifacts?

- A. They had no form of communication.
- B. They were primitive and lacked technology.
- C. ✓ **They were highly organized with skilled workers.**
- D. They were a nomadic society.

Answer: C

Pottery, jewellery, tools and an elaborate writing system are all the work of trained people, and the passage names artisans, traders and builders. Together they point to an organised society with skilled workers. B is tempting because the tools are called primitive, but a people who wrote, traded and built in stone were not lacking in skill.

27. *Paragraph 7: ...its downfall reminds us of the fragility of even the greatest civilizations. Understanding what happened... could offer important lessons for the future, helping modern civilizations avoid a similar fate.*

(1)

What lesson does the author suggest modern civilizations can learn?

- A. They should avoid making enemies.
- B. They should learn to survive without technology.
- C. ✓ **Even great civilizations can collapse if they are not careful.**
- D. They should never abandon their cities.

Answer: C

The closing paragraph calls the story a cautionary tale and says the city's downfall reminds us how fragile even the greatest civilizations are. Option C states that lesson. D is tempting because the city was in fact abandoned, but the author draws a warning about fragility, not advice about staying in one place.

28. *Archaeologists have uncovered remnants of towering stone structures, intricate carvings, and vast underground reservoirs...*

(1)

What is the meaning of 'remnants' in paragraph 1?

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| A. ✓ small remaining pieces | B. complete structures |
| C. new discoveries | D. large collections |

Answer: A

Archaeologists uncover what is left of buildings and carvings after hundreds of years underground. "Remnants" are the small pieces that remain when most of a thing has gone. "Complete structures" is tempting because the passage mentions towering stone structures, but if the buildings still stood whole there would be nothing to uncover.

29. *One prevailing theory suggests that deforestation and soil erosion may have led to agricultural decline...* (1)
What is the meaning of 'prevailing' in paragraph 3?

- A. least popular
B. weakest
C. unproven
D. ✓ **most widely accepted**

Answer: D

A prevailing theory is the one that holds the field, the explanation most researchers currently accept. That is why the passage introduces it first among the possible causes. "Unproven" is tempting because the theory is not confirmed, but that idea comes from the word "suggests" later in the sentence, not from "prevailing".

30. *Paragraph 2: ...the discovery of an elaborate writing system suggests that they had a rich literary tradition. However, without a complete understanding of their language...* (1)

In paragraph 2, what does 'they' refer to in the sentence: 'However, without a complete understanding of their language, researchers struggle to piece together the full story of this lost world'?

- A. researchers
B. ✓ **the civilization's people**
C. artisans
D. the ruins

Answer: B

The language belongs to the people who spoke and wrote it, and the sentence before credits them with a rich literary tradition. So "their" points to the civilization's people. A is tempting because "researchers" is the subject of the same sentence, but the researchers are the ones struggling to understand that language, so it cannot be their own.

31. *Ultimately, the story of the vanished city serves as a cautionary tale. Whether destroyed by nature, war, or disease, its downfall reminds us...* (1)

In paragraph 7, what does 'its' refer to in the sentence: 'Whether destroyed by nature, war, or disease, its downfall reminds us of the fragility of even the greatest civilizations'?

- A. ✓ **the ancient city**
B. the environment
C. the researchers' work
D. modern civilizations

Answer: A

The paragraph opens with "the story of the vanished city", so "its downfall" is the fall of that city. The rest of the sentence, destroyed by nature, war or disease, describes what happened to the city. D is tempting because modern civilizations appear at the end of the paragraph, but they are the ones being warned, and they have not fallen.

32. Abenezer: The government should prioritize the security of its people. Burkitu: _____ but we also need to consider the current infrastructure. (1)

- A. I completely disagrees
B. ✓ **I couldn't agree more.**
C. I agree less with you
D. Oh! I don't think so

Answer: B

"I couldn't agree more" is the strongest way to agree in English, and the "but" that follows adds a further consideration rather than an objection, which is a normal move after agreeing. A is tempting because "but" often follows a disagreement, but "I completely disagrees" has a subject and a verb that do not match, so it cannot be the answer.

33. Bikiltu: Traveling is the best way to learn about different cultures. Hasen: _____ I think reading and documentaries can be just as informative. (1)

- A. ✓ **I have some reservations**
B. I see your point
C. I agree with you
D. Travelling is so tiresome

Answer: A

Hasen goes on to offer reading and documentaries as being equally informative, so he is pushing back on Bikiltu's claim. "I have some reservations" prepares the listener for that objection. "I see your point" is tempting because it is polite and common, but it normally needs a "but" before the objection, and there is none in Hasen's line.

34. Obsa: Now I start to believe that laughter is really a miraculous medicine! Ayantu: I beg your pardon. Obsa: _____ (1)
Laughter, my dear, better than drugs, has the power to boost immunity and stimulate different organs in the body to work effectively. What should Obsa say before his explanation?

A. ✓ **Let me explain this in other way, please follow me.**

B. I know what you mean about laughter.

C. Would you mind repeating that please?

D. Would you mind following me please?

Answer: A

"I beg your pardon" tells Obsa that Ayantu did not follow him, and what he says next is a second, fuller explanation of laughter. So the missing line must offer to explain again. C is tempting because it is also about repeating, but it is the listener who asks for a repeat, and here Obsa is the one speaking.

35. Doctor: _____ Bonsa: About four days now. (1)

A. What is your problem?

B. How often do you see these symptoms?

C. Have you seen these symptoms for about four days?

D. ✓ **How long have you had these symptoms?**

Answer: D

"About four days now" gives a length of time, so the question has to ask about length. The present perfect in "How long have you had these symptoms?" fits something that started in the past and is still going on. B is tempting because it also asks about time, but "how often" would be answered with something like "twice a day".

36. Burka: I don't enjoy watching movies. Singiten: _____ (1)

A. I like watching soccer more than you.

B. ✓ **Neither do I. I'm interested in reading novel.**

C. Watching movie is boring so do I.

D. I was sleeping all the day yesterday.

Answer: B

Burka makes a negative statement, and "Neither do I" is the way to agree with a negative in English. The rest of the line then says what Singiten prefers instead. C is tempting because it repeats the same opinion in other words, but "so do I" agrees with a positive statement, not a negative one.

37. Stranger: Excuse me, can you help me? Resident: Certainly, it's about a five-minute walk. Stranger: _____ (1)

A. I am looking for the museum.

B. How much does it cost to walk to museum?

C. ✓ **How do I get to the museum?**

D. Is there any school around here?

Answer: C

The resident's reply gives the way and how long it takes on foot, so the turn that belongs in the blank must ask for directions to the museum. A is tempting because it does name the museum, but it is a statement rather than a question, and it would not draw the answer "it's about a five-minute walk".

38. New comer: Excuse me, _____ Bedasa: Take a taxi from here and get down at the second junction. The University is on the right when you go down from Ambo preparatory school. (1)

A. is there ambo university around.

B. ✓ **how do I get to Ambo University.**

C. how much does it costs to go to Ambo University

D. how far is Ambo university?

Answer: B

Bedasa answers with a route: take a taxi, get down at the second junction, the university is on the right. Only a question about the way produces that kind of answer. D is tempting because a route does tell you something about distance, but "how far" would be answered with a distance or a travel time.

39. Jima: How often do you visit your parents? Diribe: _____ (1)

A. I am sometimes with them.

B. ✓ **Twice a month.**

C. I visited them when I was time.

D. I visited them last week.

Answer: B

"How often" asks about frequency, and "twice a month" is a frequency. The other choices answer different questions. D is tempting because it names a time, but "last week" answers "when did you visit", not "how often do you visit".

40. Tola: My father has been experiencing a severe common cold. What shall I do? Jirata: _____ (1)

A. Common cold is common for older people, so don't worry about it.

B. ✓ **Why don't you take him to hospital?**

C. I suggest you take it as essay he will recover after a time.

D. This was happened to my father last week and I took him to hospital.

Answer: B

Tola asks what he should do, so the reply has to give advice. "Why don't you ..." is a common way to suggest an action in English, and taking his father to hospital is that action. A is tempting because it sounds reassuring, but it tells Tola to do nothing, which does not answer his question.

41. Mohammad: What do you think is the best action to reduce global warming? Chalut: _____ (1)

A. Global warming is the most threat in the world nowadays.

B. ✓ **I think everybody should start changing their ways of life.**

C. I think developed countries are responsible for global warming.

D. Global warming can cause devastation in the world.

Answer: B

The question asks for the best action to reduce global warming, so the answer must name an action. Changing the way people live is an action anyone can take. C is tempting because responsibility is part of the real debate, but naming who is to blame is not itself an action that reduces warming.

42. Firaol: I'm thinking about taking a vacation next month. What do you think? Gutu: _____ (1)

A. When do you want to take a vacation?

B. I believe vacation is part of our daily life, so it is a good decision.

C. ✓ **If I were you, I'd definitely choose a tropical destination.**

D. Next month will be convenient time to take a vacation.

Answer: C

Firaol asks for an opinion on his plan, and "If I were you, I would ..." is the standard English way to give advice. C also moves the plan forward by suggesting where to go. A is tempting because it keeps the conversation going, but it asks a new question instead of answering the one Firaol asked.

43. Student: Do you mind if I ask you for some advice? Teacher: _____ (1)

- A. ✓ **Of course not. Please go ahead.** B. I don't have time for this right now.
C. Why would you need my advice? D. Sure, but make it quick.

Answer: A

"Do you mind if I ...?" asks whether something will bother you, so the way to agree is to say no. "Of course not" refuses the bother, and "please go ahead" grants the request. D is tempting because "Sure" sounds like a friendly yes, but after "Do you mind", a yes means the teacher does mind.

44. Guru: Did you enjoy the movie we watched last night? Letba: _____ (1)

- A. No, what you mean it was fantastic! I love the plot.
B. Yes, I love it! What about you?
C. ✓ **Yes, it was fantastic! I loved the plot.**
D. Thank you for your invitation.

Answer: C

Guru asks about last night, so the answer stays in the past: "it was fantastic" and "I loved the plot". B is tempting because it opens with the right "Yes", but "I love it" moves into the present, which does not match a film watched the night before.

45. Shop owner: Our customers are unhappy with our service. What ideas do you suggest? Marketing Officer: _____ (1)

Shop Owner: That's a fantastic idea. It will reflect our concern for their needs.

- A. I'd like to give some suggestions.
B. What are we going to change?
C. I don't understand why they are not happy.
D. ✓ **Shall we invite them to meet with us?**

Answer: D

The shop owner calls the reply a fantastic idea that shows concern for customers' needs, so the reply must hold a suggestion. Inviting the unhappy customers to a meeting is that suggestion. A is tempting because it uses the word "suggestions", but it only announces them and never gives one, so there is no idea for the owner to praise.

46. Journalist: Did you know that Manchester United sacked their manager? Player: _____ (1)

- A. ✓ **This is a shock! Who told you?**
B. Does he want to be sacked?
C. Chelsea club also did the same.
D. He had a row with the owners of the club.

Answer: A

The journalist opens with "Did you know", which shows the news is new to the player, so a reaction of surprise followed by a question fits. D is tempting because it explains why the manager was sacked, but it makes the player sound as though he already knew, which contradicts the question he was asked.

47. Bekuma: Are you still living in Finfinnee? Furtu: _____ (1)

- A. Frankly speaking, Finfinnee is a nice place for living.
B. This is my 4th year in Ambo.
C. ✓ **No, I moved to Adama about years ago.**
D. Yes, I had been living in Shambu before I moved to Ambo.

Answer: C

"Are you still living in Finfinnee?" is a yes or no question, and "No, I moved to Adama" answers it directly and says where he lives now. D is tempting because it starts with "Yes", but the rest of it says he moved to Ambo, so the answer contradicts its own first word.

48. Musa: How is your father? I heard he has been hospitalized. Robale: _____ He seems to need further investigation. (1)
- A. He is very well
B. God knows
C. He is not here
D. ✓ **Not very well**

Answer: D

The second half of Robale's line says his father seems to need further investigation, so the report on his health has to be a poor one. "Not very well" fits. A is tempting because it is a normal answer to "How is your father", but a man who is very well would not need more tests.

49. Obsa: _____ Moti: Let's take a bus. It's impossible to get a taxi during rush hour. (1)
- A. Which one is affordable? A taxi or a bus?
B. Is a bus more comfortable than a taxi?
C. ✓ **Should we take a taxi or a bus to the downtown?**
D. Should you take a taxi or a bus to the downtown?

Answer: C

Moti answers "Let's take a bus", which picks one of two options and includes both speakers. Only C offers that choice and uses "we". D is tempting because it asks the same thing, but "should you" leaves Moti out of the plan, while "let's" puts both of them in it.

50. Word order: At/top/voice/the/man/his/of/demanded/the/admission/shouting (1)
- A. At the top voice, the man demanding shouting his admission of.
B. The man demanding, shouting his admission of at the top voice.
C. ✓ **Shouting at the top of his voice, the man demanded admission.**
D. Shouting his voice, at the top the man demanded admission of.

Answer: C

The words form one participial phrase, "Shouting at the top of his voice", followed by a main clause with a subject and a finite verb, "the man demanded admission". A is tempting because it opens with the same idea, but "demanding" leaves the sentence with no finite verb, so it never becomes a full sentence.

51. Word order: was/performance/impressed/with/quite/her/i (1)
- A. I was impressed quite her with performance.
B. ✓ **I was quite impressed with her performance.**
C. Her performance I was quite with impressed.
D. I impressed her quite with performance was.

Answer: B

The verb group is "was impressed", and an adverb like "quite" goes between the two parts of it, so we get "was quite impressed". The phrase "with her performance" then follows the participle. A is tempting because it keeps "I was impressed" together, but it cuts "her" away from "performance" and lands "quite" in the wrong slot.

52. Paragraph coherence: a. But most of all, I love basketball because the game gives me a chance to yell at the refs. b. Basketball is fast, exciting, and unpredictable; a large lead can be lost in a single minute, and many games are decided by a single point. c. Because the basketball team has few members, I can become acquainted with each player's personality. d. Basketball is appealing for several reasons. e. I also love watching a player leap gracefully to the basket and dunk the ball. (1)

A. b d c a e

B. c e b a d

C. b e a c d

D. ✓ d b c e a

Answer: D

Sentence d announces the topic and promises several reasons, so it has to open the paragraph. Sentences b, c and e then give the reasons: the pace of the game, knowing each player, and the graceful dunk. Sentence a begins with "But most of all", which marks the last and strongest reason, so it closes. A is tempting because b is a lively sentence, but it gives one reason and cannot introduce a list it never announces.

53. Paragraph coherence: a. First of all, gold is beautiful. Therefore, it is suitable for jewelry, coins, and ornaments. b. Gold is prized not only for its beauty but, more importantly, for its utility. c. Gold is used for hundreds of industrial applications, from earphones to super computers. d. Gold never needs to be polished and will remain beautiful forever. e. More important than its beauty is the usefulness of gold for science and industry. (1)

A. ✓ b a d e c

B. c b a d e

C. d e c a b

D. c e a d b

Answer: A

Sentence b is the topic sentence, because it names both beauty and utility and says which one matters more. Sentences a and d then handle beauty, with "First of all" marking where that part begins. Sentence e turns the paragraph to usefulness and c supplies the industrial examples. B is tempting because c is a strong factual sentence, but a paragraph that opens with earphones and supercomputers has nothing left to introduce.

54. Correct punctuation: "I will tell you the truth, she said, if you come here." etc. (1)

A. "I will tell you the truth, she said, if you come here."

B. "I will tell you the truth, she said, if you come here."

C. "I will tell you the truth," she said, if you come here."

D. ✓ "I will tell you the truth," she said, "if you come here."

Answer: D

When "she said" breaks a quotation in two, each half needs its own pair of quotation marks: one pair around "I will tell you the truth," and a second pair around "if you come here." C is tempting because it closes the first half correctly, but it never opens the second half, so the marks do not pair up.

55. Correct punctuation and capitalization: Mr. Ahmed, the principal, addressed the students. etc. (1)

A. ✓ **Mr. Ahmed, the principal, addressed the students.**

B. Mr Ahmed the principal, addressed the students

C. mr ahmed the principal addressed the students.

D. Mr. Ahmed the principal addressed the students.

Answer: A

"Mr." is an abbreviation and takes a full stop, and "the principal" is an appositive that renames Ahmed, so it sits between two commas. D is tempting because it gets the capital letters and the abbreviation right, but it drops both commas, so the appositive runs into the rest of the sentence.

56. Correct punctuation: Only five people attended the meeting; Robe, Mohammad, Sena, Bultu, and Daba. etc. (1)
- A. Only five people attended the meeting; Robe, Mohammad , Sena, Bultu, and Daba.
 - B. ✓ **Only five people attended the meeting: Robe, Mohammad , Sena, Bultu, and Daba.**
 - C. Only five people attended the meeting, Robe, mohammad , Sena, Bultu, and Daba.
 - D. Only five people attended the meeting: Robe, Mohammad , Sena, Bultu, and Daba

Answer: B

A colon introduces a list when the words before it already make a complete sentence, and "Only five people attended the meeting" is complete. The sentence then needs a full stop at the end. D is tempting because it uses the colon correctly, but it leaves off the final full stop.

57. Correct punctuation: Bariso could not pay the light bill; therefore, the company shut off his electricity. etc. (1)
- A. ✓ **Bariso could not pay the light bill; therefore, the company shut off his electricity.**
 - B. Bariso, could not pay the light bill therefore the company shut off his electricity.
 - C. Bariso could not pay the light bill: therefore, the company shut off his electricity.
 - D. Bariso, could not pay the light bill therefore; the company shut off his electricity.

Answer: A

"Therefore" is a linking adverb joining two complete sentences, so the punctuation is a semicolon before it and a comma after it. C is tempting because it also separates the two halves, but a colon introduces an explanation or a list, and it is not used in front of "therefore".

58. Paragraph type: "...Dr. Eba stands tall and thin, with an oval-shaped face. His large eyes and pointed nose draw attention..." This is most likely (1)
- A. ✓ **descriptive writing**
 - B. narrative writing
 - C. expository writing
 - D. argumentative writing

Answer: A

The extract tells us what Dr. Eba looks like: tall and thin, an oval face, large eyes, a pointed nose. Writing whose purpose is to show how a person or a place appears is description. B is tempting because a person is being written about, but nothing happens and there is no sequence of events, which narration needs.

59. "...One day a strange thing happened in my village. It was summer and for some reason I had been hot and irritable all morning. ..." This is most likely (1)
- A. expository writing
 - B. argumentative writing
 - C. descriptive writing
 - D. ✓ **narrative writing**

Answer: D

The extract tells what happened one day in the village, and it sets the season and the writer's mood before the event. Telling a story of events in order is narration. C is tempting because "hot and irritable" describes a feeling, but the description is there to open the story, not to stand on its own.

60. Which one of the following is an example of expository writing?

(1)

- A. The horse is a majestic creature with a muscular build, a sleek coat, expressive eyes...
- B. **To make tea, steep a tea bag or loose tea leaves in hot water for a few minutes, then remove the tea and enjoy your drink.**
- C. I find it difficult to align my perspective with yours because your negative outlook...
- D. The women are dressed in elegant, vibrant attire adorned with colorful beads...

Answer: B

Expository writing explains or informs, and option B explains how to make tea, step by step. Options A and D describe how a horse and some women look, and C argues a position. A is tempting because it is full of information about horses, but the information is about appearance, which makes it description.

61. Sentence comprehension: 'Had I had money, I would have bought a new house.' means:

(1)

- A. I was in need of buying a new house that I could afford to get it.
- B. **I was prohibited from buying a new house because of the insufficient money I have.**
- C. I was capable of buying a new house regardless of the money I have.
- D. Regardless of the money I had I couldn't buy a new house that I was in need of it.

Answer: B

"Had I had money" is a third conditional with the "if" left out, and the third conditional talks about a past situation that did not happen. He had no money, so no house was bought, which is what B reports. C is tempting because it also mentions the money, but it claims he was able to buy the house, and the third conditional says the opposite.

62. Sentence comprehension: 'Don't forget to buy Robe a present for her birthday.' means:

(1)

- A. Robe forgot her birthday present.
- B. I want you to remember to Robe's address.
- C. **I want you to remember to buy Robe a gift.**
- D. Robe must buy you a gift for your birthday.

Answer: C

"Don't forget to buy" is an instruction to remember to do something that has not been done yet. Option C keeps both halves: remembering, and buying a gift for Robe. A is tempting because it uses the word "forgot", but it moves the forgetting to Robe and into the past, while the original speaks to the listener about what still has to be done.

63. Which one of the following sentences in parts of a formal letter could state the reason for writing?

(1)

- A. **I am writing to invite you to speak to students during our school charity week.**
- B. I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.
- C. I hope you will consider my request to talk at our school about raising money for charity.
- D. I appreciate the time and effort you have taken to review this letter.

Answer: A

A formal letter states its purpose early, and "I am writing to invite you to speak" names the reason for the letter in a single line. That opening is the standard way to do it. C is tempting because it also mentions the talk, but it asks the reader to consider a request, which belongs later, after the reason has been given.

64. Which of the following is part of a formal letter that represents the main message of the letter? (1)

- A. salutation
- B. closing
- C. ✓ **body**
- D. subject line

Answer: C

A formal letter opens with a salutation and ends with a closing. The body sits between them and carries the message the writer sent the letter to deliver. D is tempting because a subject line does announce the topic, but it is a short label at the top, not the message itself.

65. Next year by this time, he _____ his degree and be starting his new job. (1)

- A. complete
- B. will complete
- C. ✓ **will have completed**
- D. will be complete

Answer: C

"Next year by this time" fixes a point in the future, and the degree is finished before that point is reached. The future perfect, "will have completed", is the form for an action finished before a future time. B is tempting because it is also future, but "will complete" puts the finishing at that time rather than before it.

66. Fromsa: "Hey, I missed you at the party last night. Where were you?" Jalane: "Excuse me, I was busy with classes, so I had _____ time for your party." (1)

- A. many
- B. a little
- C. few
- D. ✓ **little**

Answer: D

"Time" here is uncountable, which rules out "many" and "few". Jalane is explaining why she missed the party, so she means there was not enough time, and "little" without "a" carries that negative sense. B is tempting because "a little" is the same word, but "a little" means some, which would not excuse her absence.

67. Which one of the following sentences is written grammatically correct? (1)

- A. She wore a long, beautiful, blue silk evening dress.
- B. She wore a beautiful, blue silk, long, evening dress.
- C. ✓ **She wore a beautiful, long, blue silk evening dress.**
- D. She wore a blue silk, evening, beautiful, long dress.

Answer: C

English puts adjectives in a fixed order: opinion, then size, then colour, then material, then what the noun is for. "Beautiful, long, blue silk evening dress" follows that order exactly. A is tempting because it reads smoothly, but it puts the size, "long", in front of the opinion, "beautiful".

68. The AU headquarters had hardly _____ time these days because of the recent political turmoil. (1)

- A. ✓ **any**
- B. some
- C. many
- D. a few

Answer: A

"Hardly" already carries a negative meaning, and a negative word pairs with "any", not with "some". "Hardly any time" means almost no time, which fits a headquarters dealing with political turmoil. B is tempting because "some time" is a normal phrase on its own, but "some" does not follow a negative word like "hardly".

69. _____ had a broken leg, he continued to attend all his classes. (1)
- A. Nevertheless
B. ✓ In spite of the fact that
C. Because of
D. Because of

Answer: B

The two halves of the sentence pull against each other: a broken leg on one side, still attending every class on the other. "In spite of the fact that" is a conjunction, so it can open the first clause and lead into the second. A is tempting because "nevertheless" also signals contrast, but it is a linking adverb and cannot join two clauses by itself.

70. Ifa Boru Special Boarding Secondary School students learn French _____ enhance their educational opportunities. (1)
- A. so that
B. for the reason
C. ✓ in order to
D. as to

Answer: C

The blank is followed by "enhance", the bare form of the verb, and the clause gives the reason for learning French. "In order to" introduces a purpose and takes the infinitive after it. A is tempting because "so that" also gives a purpose, but it needs a full clause after it, such as "so that they can enhance".

71. Scientists have found a big body of water under the planet's surface, _____ they think it's not the only body of water they will find. (1)
- A. ✓ what's more
B. as
C. so as
D. so that

Answer: A

The second half adds a further piece of news to the first: this is probably not the only body of water they will find. "What's more" is the phrase English uses to add a point like that. D is tempting because "so that" also links two ideas, but it introduces a purpose, and finding more water is not the purpose of the first discovery.

72. Dr. Ayantu is the most experienced doctor in the surgery, _____ everybody treats her with respect. (1)
- A. because
B. as
C. ✓ so
D. however

Answer: C

Being the most experienced doctor is the cause, and the respect she receives is the result. "So" is the word that introduces a result. A is tempting because "because" also links a cause with a result, but it has to be followed by the cause, and in this sentence the cause comes first.

73. Had you helped your neighbors during their problems and developed social bonding, you _____ to this extent. (1)
- A. won't have been isolated
B. would have isolated
C. ✓ wouldn't have been isolated
D. we're not isolated

Answer: C

"Had you helped" is a third conditional with the "if" left out, so the main clause takes "would have" plus a past participle. He is isolated because he did not help, so the result has to be negative: "wouldn't have been isolated". B is tempting because it has the right "would have" shape, but it drops the negative and makes him the one doing the isolating.

74. His friends expect _____ good from Jamal as he always goes against their ideas.

(1)

- A. ☒ nothing
- B. something
- C. not anything
- D. none of anything

Answer: A

"Expect nothing good" says his friends look for no good at all from Jamal, which follows from his always going against their ideas. English also prefers a single negative word in this position. C is tempting because "not anything" carries the same meaning, but there is no verb for "not" to attach to, so "expect not anything good" is not English.

75. Unfortunately some children were brought _____ badly by their parents and don't know right from wrong.

(1)

- A.** in **B.** out
C. on **D.** ✓ up

Answer: D

"Bring up" is the phrasal verb for raising a child, and the sentence is about parents whose children do not know right from wrong. The other particles make different verbs. A is tempting because "bring in" is a real phrasal verb, but it means to introduce something or someone, not to raise a child.

76. _____ out of the sea in front of us, the sun started to warm our faces.

(1)

- A. To be risen B. Rose
C. ✓ Rising D. Rise

Answer: C

The opening phrase describes the sun, which is also the subject of the main clause, so it takes the present participle: "Rising out of the sea in front of us, the sun started to warm our faces." B is tempting because "rose" is the past tense of the same verb, but a finite verb there would give the sentence two main verbs and nothing to join them.

77. The _____ calories you consume, the more exercise you need to do to burn.

(1)

- A. most
B. ☒ more
C. fewer
D. the most

Answer: B

The pattern is "the more ..., the more ...", and the second half of the sentence already has "the more exercise". The first half has to repeat the same comparative to complete the pair. C is tempting because "fewer" is the correct comparative for countable nouns like calories, but it reverses the logic: fewer calories would call for less exercise, not more.

78. What will you do if Megersa is out when you come? She asked me _____

(1)

- A. What would I do if Megersa was out when I came?
B. What I will do if Megersa is out when I come.
C. ✓ **What I would do if Megersa was out when I came.**
D. What Megersa would do if I was out when he came?

Answer: C

In reported speech the tense steps back, so "will" becomes "would" and "is" becomes "was", and the reported question takes statement word order with no auxiliary at the front. The pronouns also shift, from "you" to "I". B is tempting because it has the right statement word order, but it keeps "will" and "is", so nothing has been stepped back.

84. I wish I _____ a quieter place to study, as the noise around me makes it hard to concentrate.

(1)

- A. ✓ had B. has
C. had had D. has had

Answer: A

After "I wish", a present situation that is not true takes the past simple. The speaker does not have a quiet place now, so the form is "I wish I had a quieter place to study". C is tempting because "had had" also looks past, but the past perfect after "wish" is for regret about the past, and the noise is a problem right now.

85. The book, _____ had been sitting on my shelf for years, turned out to be an incredible read.

(1)

- A. that B. where
C. ✓ which D. whose

Answer: C

The clause is set off by commas, which makes it a non-defining relative clause, and it refers to a thing. Non-defining clauses about things take "which", never "that". A is tempting because "that" often replaces "which", but only in defining clauses, which carry no comma.

86. _____ he feels stressed, he takes a walk in the park to clear his mind.

(1)

- A. ✓ Whenever
B. While
C. Since
D. After

Answer: A

"Whenever" means every time, and the sentence describes a habit: each time stress comes, he walks in the park. The present simple in both halves supports that reading. D is tempting because "after" also links the two events in time, but it points to one occasion rather than the repeated habit.

87. I enjoy _____ to spiritual songs while working.

(1)

- A. ✓ listening B. to listen
C. listen D. listened

Answer: A

"Enjoy" is one of the verbs that must be followed by the "-ing" form, so the sentence is "I enjoy listening to spiritual songs". B is tempting because many verbs, such as "want" and "hope", do take "to" plus the verb, but "enjoy" is not one of them.

88. When will you give us the next tutorial, sir? Teacher: I'll _____ give it next week.

(1)

- A. able to
B. could
C. can
D. ✓ be able to

Answer: D

After "will", the verb has to be in its base form, and the base form of "am able to" is "be able to", giving "I'll be able to give it next week". C is tempting because "can" carries the same meaning, but two modal verbs cannot sit side by side, so "will can" is not possible in English.

89. Which one of the following sentences is written grammatically correct? (1)

- A. ✓ **He quickly finished his homework at home this morning.**
- B. He finished quickly his homework at home this morning.
- C. This morning he finished quickly his homework at home.
- D. Quickly he finished his homework at home this morning.

Answer: A

The adverb "quickly" goes in front of the main verb, and the verb has to stay next to its object, "finished his homework". Option A keeps both rules. B is tempting because it places "quickly" close to the verb it describes, but it splits "finished" from "his homework".

90. The new community center _____ by the end of the year, providing a space for various activities and events for all ages. (1)

- A. will complete
- B. complete
- C. ✓ **will be completed**
- D. has complete

Answer: C

The community centre does not finish itself, someone finishes it, so the verb has to be passive: "will be completed by the end of the year". A is tempting because it is also in the future, but "will complete" is active and would make the centre the one doing the building.

91. As KEY is to KEYBOARD, BRICK is to _____ (1)

- A. Floor
- B. ✓ **Wall**
- C. Fence
- D. Kiln

Answer: B

A key is one of the many identical units that make up a keyboard, and a brick is one of the many identical units that make up a wall. The relationship in both pairs is part to whole. D is tempting because bricks are baked in a kiln, but a kiln is where a brick comes from, not the thing a brick helps to build.

92. As RAIN is to FLOOD, STUDY is to _____ (1)

- A. ✓ **Knowledge**
- B. Book
- C. School
- D. Pen

Answer: A

Rain gathers drop by drop until it produces a flood, and study gathers lesson by lesson until it produces knowledge. Both pairs move from a steady input to the large result it builds up to. B is tempting because books and study belong together, but a book is a tool you study from, not the result that study produces.

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