

Preliminary Questions in Arabic

Directions (in Arabic): Please take your time to fill out two preliminary questions before you start the English proficiency test.

1. On a scale from 1-5 where 5 means native fluency and 1 means basic proficiency, how would you rate your ability to read, write, and speak English?
 - a. 1
 - b. 2
 - c. 3
 - d. 4
 - e. 5
2. Relative to your former classmates, how would you rate your ability to read, write, and speak English?
 - a. Better than former classmates
 - b. Similar to former classmates
 - c. Worse than former classmates

Directions (in Arabic): You have 30 minutes to complete the next 30 questions. There will be 15 grammar and vocabulary questions, 5 idiomatic expression questions, and 10 reading comprehension questions. Good luck!

I. Usage

Directions (in English): Please choose the most appropriate multiple choice answer to fill in the blank in each question.

1. Matt _____ in the office this morning.
 - a. is work
 - b. working
 - c. is working
 - d. are working
2. Sara, _____ the windows please. It's too hot in here.
 - a. opens
 - b. open
 - c. opened
 - d. will opened
3. The movie was _____ the book.
 - a. as
 - b. as good
 - c. good as
 - d. as good as
4. Who is _____, Ahmed or Mostafa?
 - a. tall

- b. taller
 - c. tallest
 - d. the tallest
5. David _____ rarely late for work.
- a. am
 - b. are
 - c. were
 - d. is
6. Mr. Lowes _____ rather not invest that money in the real estate market.
- a. would
 - b. has to
 - c. could
 - d. must
7. Brian likes bananas, _____ he does not like peaches.
- a. for
 - b. so
 - c. but
 - d. or
8. The high school soccer team _____ every day.
- a. champions
 - b. goal
 - c. practices
 - d. goalie
9. The bus _____ arrives late when it rains.
- a. every week
 - b. later
 - c. yesterday
 - d. always
10. Do you _____ where the nearest gas station is?
- a. know
 - b. no
 - c. now
 - d. not
11. Erin says she can't _____ our invitation to dinner tomorrow.
- a. angle
 - b. across
 - c. accept
 - d. almost
12. The students tried to operate the new DVD player, but they could not get _____.
- a. it started
 - b. lights to start
 - c. started it

- d. starting it
- 13. _____ time is the airplane landing?
 - a. where
 - b. what
 - c. who
 - d. how
- 14. The company will upgrade _____ computer system next month.
 - a. their
 - b. there
 - c. it's
 - d. its
- 15. Life must be lived forward, but can only be understood _____.
 - a. behind
 - b. backwards
 - c. before
 - d. balloon

II. Idioms

Directions (in English): Please choose the most appropriate multiple choice answer that matches the definition of the idiom.

- 16. Out of the blue
 - a. very excessive
 - b. no longer have to deal with a tough situation
 - c. destroy or ruin a plan
 - d. something that suddenly and unexpectedly occurs
- 17. Under the weather
 - a. to start again from the beginning
 - b. feeling ill or sick
 - c. since it rarely rains, when it does it will be a big storm
 - d. uncultured and without laws
- 18. An arm and a leg
 - a. very expensive
 - b. to have a dispute with someone
 - c. optimistic
 - d. funny
- 19. All in the same boat
 - a. a very mild punishment
 - b. when everyone is facing the same challenges
 - c. to get married
 - d. to openly and freely express your emotions
- 20. The ball is in your court

- a. a rare event or occurrence
- b. there are two choices and you have them both
- c. the game is not over
- d. it is your decision this time

III. Reading Comprehension

Directions (in English): Please read each passage carefully and choose the most appropriate multiple choice answer for each question.

Passage 1

Direction's to Eric's house

Leave Interstate 25 at exit 7S. Follow that road (Elm Street) for two miles. After one mile, you will pass a small shopping center on your left. At the next set of traffic lights, turn right onto Maple Drive. Erik's house is the third house on your left. It's number 33, and it's white with green trim.

- 21. What is Eric's address?
 - a. Interstate 25
 - b. 33 Elm Street
 - c. 25 Elm Street
 - d. 33 Maple Drive
- 22. Which is closest to Eric's house?
 - a. Traffic lights
 - b. The shopping center
 - c. Exit 7S
 - d. A greenhouse

Passage 2

Date: September 21, 2011

To: Molly Jones

From: Mitch Spencer

Subject: Staff Meeting

Please be prepared to give your presentation on the monthly sales figures at our upcoming staff meeting. In addition to the accurate accounting of expenditures for the monthly sales, be ready to discuss possible reasons for fluctuations as well as possible trends in future customer spending. Thank you.

- 23. The main focus of the presentation will be _____.
 - a. Monthly expenditures
 - b. Monthly salary figures
 - c. Monthly sales figures

- d. Staff meeting presentations
- 24. Who will give the presentation?
 - a. Company president
 - b. Molly Jones
 - c. Mitch Spencer
 - d. Future customers

Passage 3

The B&B Tour

Spend ten romantic days enjoying the lush countryside of southern England. The counties of Devon, Dorset, Hampshire, and Essex invite you to enjoy their castles and coastline, their charming bed and breakfast inns, their museums and their cathedrals. Spend lazy days watching the clouds drift by or spend active days hiking the glorious hills. These fields were home to Thomas Hardy, and the ports launched ships that shaped world history. Bed and breakfasts abound, ranging from quiet farmhouses to lofty castles. Our tour begins August 15. Call or fax us today for more information. Enrollment is limited, so please call soon.

- 25. Which of the following counties is not included in the tour?
 - a. Devon
 - b. Essex
 - c. Hampshire
 - d. Fairfax
- 26. How many people can go on this tour?
 - a. 10
 - b. An unlimited number
 - c. 2-8
 - d. A limited number
- 27. What can we infer about this area of southern England?
 - a. The region has lots of vegetation
 - b. The coast often has harsh weather
 - c. The sun is hot and the air is dry
 - d. The land is flat

Passage 4

Anna Szewczyk, perhaps the most popular broadcaster in the news media today, won the 1998 Broadcasting Award. She got her start in journalism as an editor at the Hollsville County Times in Missouri. When the newspaper went out of business, a colleague persuaded her to enter the field of broadcasting. She moved to Oregon to begin a master's degree in broadcast journalism at Atlas University. Following graduation, she was able to begin her career as a local newscaster with WPSU-TV in Seattle, Washington, and rapidly advanced to national television. Noted for her quick wit and trenchant commentary, her name has since become synonymous with Good Day, America! Accepting

the award at the National Convention of Broadcast Journalism held in Chicago, Ms. Szewczyk remarked, "I am so honored by this award that I'm at a total loss for words!" Who would ever have believed it?

28. What is the purpose of this announcement?
- Invite people to the National Convention of Broadcast Journalism
 - Encourage college students to study broadcasting
 - Recognize Ms. Szewczyk's accomplishments
 - Advertise a job opening at the Hollsville County Times
29. The expression "to become synonymous with" means
- To be the same as
 - To be the opposite of
 - To be in sympathy with
 - To be discharged from
30. What was Ms. Szewczyk's first job in journalism?
- She was a T.V. announcer in Washington
 - She was a newscaster in Oregon
 - She was an editor for a newspaper in Missouri
 - She was a talk show host in Chicago

Citation: <http://www.transparent.com/learn-english/proficiency-test.html>

Answer Key:

- C
- B
- D
- B
- D
- A
- C
- C
- D
- A
- C
- A
- B
- D
- B
- D
- B

- 18. A
- 19. B
- 20. D
- 21. D
- 22. A
- 23. C
- 24. B
- 25. D
- 26. D
- 27. A
- 28. C
- 29. A
- 30. A