

# **2014 Academic Challenge**

### **ENGLISH TEST - STATE**

This Test Consists of 100 Questions

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GENERAL DIRECTIONS

Please read the following instructions carefully. This is a timed test; any instructions from the test supervisor should be followed promptly.

The test supervisor will give instructions for filling in any necessary information on the answer sheet. Most Academic Challenge sites will ask you to indicate your answer to each question by marking an oval that corresponds to the correct answer for that question. Only one oval should be marked to answer each question. Multiple ovals will automatically be graded as incorrect answers.

Be sure ovals are marked as  $\bigcirc$ , not  $\bigcirc$ ,  $\bigcirc$ ,  $\bigcirc$ , etc.

If you wish to change an answer, erase your first mark completely before marking your new choice.

You are advised to use your time effectively and to work as rapidly as you can without losing accuracy. Do not waste your time on questions that seem too difficult for you. Go on to the other questions, and then come back to the difficult ones later if time remains.

### \*\*\* TIME: 40 MINUTES \*\*\*

### DO NOT OPEN TEST BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO!

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### WYSE – Academic Challenge English Test (State) – 2014

### Choose the standard spelling for each word in items 1 – 10.

- 1. a. ineluctible
  - b. inelluctible
  - c. ineluctable
  - d. inelluctable
  - e. inilluctable
- 2. a. enrapture
  - b. inrapture
  - c. enrapeture
  - d. enrappture
  - e. inrupture
- 3. e. brendled
  - b. brindeled
  - c. brandled
  - d. brindled
  - e. brendeled
- 4. a. adepose
  - b. addepose
  - c. addapose
  - d. adapose
  - e. adipose
- 5. a. calaco
  - b. calico
  - c. callaco
  - d. callico
  - e. caleco

- 6. a. ratchet
  - b. retchet
  - c. retchette
  - d. ratchette
  - e. ratchete
- 7. a. pechadillo
  - b. pecadillo
  - c. peccadillo
  - d. peccidillo
  - e. pecedillo
- 8. a. querry
  - b. queary
  - c. queery
  - d. query
  - e. queerie
- 9. a. allacrity
  - b. allecrity
  - c. alecrity
  - d. alacraty
  - e. alacrity
- 10. a. zenophobic
  - b. xenophobic
  - c. xenaphobic
  - d. zenaphobic
  - e. xeniphobic

### In questions 11-40, select the answer that best explains the word in boldface.

- 11. Where has the **miscreant** gone?
  - a. Is that little imp hiding in the closet?
  - b. Is the criminal on the lam?
  - c. Is the stain remover on the shelf over the washing machine?
  - d. Is the strange animal still in the zoo?
- 12. We were bored by the **prolix** presentation.
  - a. It was too long.
  - b. It was too detailed.
  - c. It was presented without expression.
  - d. It lacked colorful examples.
- 13. The high school **milieu** has changed since I was younger.
  - a. Educational methods are quite different nowadays.
  - b. Today's students wear very different styles of clothing.
  - c. The environment is just not the same.
  - d. Today's schools have better lunches.
- 14. My parents are *au fait* with current styles.
  - a. They lack knowledge of fads and trends.
  - b. They disapprove of what my friends wear.
  - c. They are hopelessly old fashioned in their taste.
  - d. They are very up to date.
- 15. I could not find the **ana** you told me about.
  - a. The oversized book was not on the shelf.
  - b. That type of butterfly is very rare.
  - c. The collection of miscellany had been checked out.
  - d. Molds and fungi are hard to identify.
- 16. What is at the top of the **hierarchy**?
  - a. The system of government is hard to understand.
  - b. I plan to climb to the top of the pyramid.
  - c. Is there snow atop the mountain?
  - d. The ranking confuses me.

- 17. What was the kerfuffle all about?
  - a. There was certainly an animated discussion going on.
  - b. It was evident that there was an uproar of some sort.
  - c. The demonstration lasted for hours.
  - d. I didn't understand a word on the really difficult test.
- 18. Details of the disagreement were quickly **promulgated**.
  - a. They were made known by all the parties involved.
  - b. They were gossiped about by everyone who knew anything at all.
  - c. They were analyzed to the Nth degree.
  - d. They were kept under wraps in order to avoid controversy.
- 19. Have you had your catechesis yet?
  - a. I am postponing that medical test for as long as I can.
  - b. I hear it's a horrific exam.
  - c. I am worried that medicine may make me throw up.
  - d. The priest needs to give me my instruction soon.
- 20. I have no idea how to **concatenate** these items.
  - a. I'm not sure what polishes to use to bring out their beauty.
  - b. Pricing them fairly is not an easy thing to do.
  - c. Classification of dissimilar items is not an easy thing to do.
  - d. Getting them into a reasonable order is a challenge.
- 21. His response was **equivocal**.
  - a. We had no doubt about where he stood.
  - b. He balanced the merits of both sides and then came to a conclusion.
  - c. He tried to postpone making a decision.
  - d. We could not interpret just where he stood on the issue.

- 22. The speaker attempted to ignore the **fatuous** question.
  - a. The person asking the question clearly wanted to insult the speaker.
  - b. Someone should not ask for personal information in a public situation.
  - c. Political issues were not relevant in this situation.
  - d. The question was so inane, I don't blame the speaker at all.
- 23. The speaker made a **cogent** presentation.
  - a. He demonstrated the ability to entertain an audience.
  - b. He demonstrated logical reasons for us to accept his premise.
  - c. He was clearly agitated about the situation.
  - d. He could not have been more calm and composed.
- 24. I have **exigent** matters to attend to.
  - a. They demand my immediate attention.
  - b. They aren't significant in themselves, but collectively they cannot be avoided.
  - c. They are things that others think necessary though I do not.
  - d. They involve data that requires correlation.
- 25. The administration made a **feckless** response to the situation.
  - a. Administrators knew they must act quickly.
  - b. Administrators knew they must act fearlessly.
  - c. Administrators were counterproductive in their actions.
  - d. Administrators procrastinated in taking action.
- 26. He spoke altiloquently.
  - a. Such a smooth flow of words!
  - b. Such a pompous show-off!
  - c. Such a logical argument!
  - d. Such hesitation!

- 27. A little **erudition** is always a good thing.
  - a. Being careful with your money makes it go further.
  - b. Presenting a good appearance makes a difference.
  - c. Good manners are so important.
  - d. Education and instruction are always helpful.
- 28. Virginia enjoys **bedizening** herself.
  - a. She rubs herself with fragrant lotions after every bath.
  - b. She loves wearing jewels and gaudy fashions.
  - c. She educates herself by reading books and watching documentaries.
  - d. She belittles herself in order to force others to pay compliments.
- 29. Does television have a pernicious effect?
  - a. Does it hypnotize us in some way?
  - b. Does it enlighten us about the world around us?
  - c. Is it detrimental to those who watch it?
  - d. Does it make us seek all forms of entertainment more avidly?
- 30. Daniel is very **credulous**.
  - a. He is totally trustworthy.
  - b. He accomplishes things quickly and easily.
  - c. He believes anything you tell him.
  - d. He is always in need of money.
- 31. I had a **visceral** reaction to his suggestion.
  - a. It came instinctively.
  - b. I thought about it at length.
  - c. I supported it enthusiastically.
  - d. I restrained my thoughts.
- 32. You need to **perpend** your response.
  - a. You need to restrain your response.
  - b. You need to reflect on your response.
  - c. You need to apologize for your response.
  - d. You need to explain your response.

- 33. I searched for the **mot juste**.
  - a. I wanted to say just the right thing.
  - b. It's always important to have just the right tool for a job.
  - c. The kitchen gadgets were tangled together in a drawer.
  - d. I needed to find what reason would best explain my position.
- 34. Each of us has an **idiolect**.
  - a. That type of dictionary will help us locate idioms.
  - Every person has a unique way of selecting, arranging, and pronouncing words.
  - c. Even from a distance, I can identify my friends by their style of walking.
  - d. We all have an interior monitor that lets us know when we make mistakes though it cannot always stop us from making them.
- 35. The **bildungsroman** may be my favorite kind of reading.
  - a. I like novels that deal with the maturation of a young character.
  - A novel based on a real person or incident always teaches me something.
  - c. Non-fiction books that use the techniques of fiction make for more interesting reading.
  - d. Adult novels with animals as characters are rare but enjoyable.
- 36. **Paralipsis** may not work with unsophisticated readers.
  - a. Using a weighty vocabulary may shut them out.
  - b. Excessive use of metaphor may not mean anything to them.
  - c. Skirting past details that you want them to be aware of just doesn't work with them.
  - d. The use of foreign words and phrases is not within their range of knowledge.

- 37. Do you have an **emetic** in your medicine cabinet?
  - a. I need something to relieve my headache.
  - b. I need a supporting bandage for my sprained wrist.
  - c. I need something to induce vomiting.
  - d. need something that will help with diarrhea.
- 38. Beware of **tautology** in your writing.
  - a. Fallacious arguments do not give good support to your thesis.
  - b. Needless repetition weakens your essay.
  - c. Never speak down to the reader.
  - d. Citing irrelevant evidence should be avoided.
- 39. Such avuncular charm!
  - a. He's just like an uncle.
  - b. He's such a fake.
  - c. He's very sophisticated.
  - d. He's so flirtatious.
- 40. The **roman-fleuve** created an interesting picture.
  - a. Realistic novels that picture life as it actually is are my favorite.
  - b. Romantic novels that take me away from reality are my favorite.
  - c. Novels that are about families and their interactions always intrigue me.
  - d. Novels set amid magnificent scenery in other countries help me to travel in my mind.

## Each group in items 41-45 contains four different sentences. Select the sentence that has no grammar or punctuation errors.

- 41. a. In the days before television was universally available, poet Ogden Nash complained that he thought he would, "Never see/A billboard lovely as a tree," showing that even in his day advertising had become obtrusive and unavoidable.
  - b. Since those days, advertising has become an inescapable part of our experience of media; from movies to radio and television and most recently to "social media" like Facebook.
  - c. As a society we seem to have accepted as inevitable the idea that our television programs will be interrupted regularly by strings of four or five commercials at a time that we must endure so that the networks can pay for the real programming.
  - d. We seem not to be overly concerned that we watch nearly as much advertising as programming; in fact, we sometimes sit through the same advertisements over and over again during the same program without complaint.
- 42. a. The recent hit movie "Life of Pi," is a visually stunning interpretation of the popular novel of the same name.
  - b. In the movie, the central character Pi tells two different stories of his experience as the sole survivor of a shipwreck.
  - c. Early in the film, Pi promises that his tale will explain how he came to a revelation about religion through his experiences.
  - d. By the end of the film, the viewer is left with the problem of deciding first which of Pi's stories is most likely true, second whether it is even important to know which is true, and third how the dilemma of having two contradictory stories gives insight into the nature of God.
- 43. a. Rain, as everyone knows, can be a very good or a very bad thing, depending on the quantity and the circumstances which it falls in.
  - b. A gentle sprinkle that falls on plants starved for water after a prolonged dry spell causes the ground to turn a fresh green and makes the people who witness it feel refreshed and grateful to nature for her bounty.
  - c. A sudden downpour which delivers tons of water in a very short time can flood roads and buildings, creating financial disaster and heartache for its victims
  - d. Then, there is the sort of rain that we have been experiencing for the last three weeks: soft and refreshing in the short term, but after hours and days of constant drizzle and grey skies it leaves us longing for relief and a chance to feel really dry.
- 44. a. If you would really like to know whom your friends are, try winning a large sum of money in a state lottery.
  - b. Your friends will likely be those people who do not change their relationship with you in any substantial, or long lasting way.
  - c. Those who suddenly become solicitous of your well-being and health may be more concerned with what they believe you can do for him or her rather than expressing selfless altruism.
  - d. It may be that there really are people in the world who are not motivated in any way by greed and self-interest, but it is at best difficult to distinguish them from the rest.
- 45. a. If it were easy to create a great work of art, then art would be everywhere around us, and we would lose our appreciation for it.
  - b. If great art could be found everywhere, then it would lose it's value, museums and art galleries would become things of the past, and the works of Rembrandt and Degas could be burned to heat our homes and businesses.
  - c. But this obviously not the case; we value fine art because it is difficult, both in terms of the effort it requires to produce it and the innovation that makes it at once appealing and unique.
  - d. Paint-by-numbers may be a satisfying hobby for those who despair of real artistic talent, but it will never yield a masterpiece that generations of art lovers would venerate.

In items 46-65, you are given a sentence that may or may not contain an error or errors. Select the answer that best revises any grammatical or punctuation errors or improves the style.

- 46. By purchasing the vacant lot next door, the house we bought became much more valuable and now we have the option of expanding our home or building a separate apartment.
  - a. By purchasing the vacant lot next door, the house we bought became much more valuable, so now we have the option of expanding our home or building a separate apartment.
  - b. By purchasing the vacant lot next door, we made our house much more valuable, and now we have the option of expanding our home or building a separate apartment.
  - c. By purchasing the vacant lot next door, the value of our house was increased, and we gained the option of expanding our home or building a separate apartment.
  - d. No change necessary.
- 47. One theory of the origin of the universe says that it started as a "singularity," a mysterious place smaller than an atom and of infinite mass in which time itself did not exist—which begs the question of what came before time.
  - a. One theory of the origin of the universe says that it started in a "singularity," a mysterious place smaller than an atom, and of infinite mass in which time itself did not exist—which begs the question of what came before time.
  - b. One theory of the origin of the universe says that it started in a "singularity": a mysterious place smaller than an atom and of infinite mass in which time itself did not exist that begs the question of what came before time.
  - c. One theory of the origin of the universe says that it started as a "singularity:" a mysterious place smaller than an atom and of infinite mass in which time itself did not exist—which raises the question of what came before time.
  - d. No change necessary.
- 48. If Corrine was to be selected by the Board of Directors, she would become the first female CEO in the history of the company.
  - a. If Corrine were to be selected by the Board of Directors, she will become the first female CEO in the history of the company.
  - b. If Corrine is selected by the Board of Directors, she becomes the first female CEO in the history of the company.
  - c. If Corrine were to be selected by the Board of Directors, she would become the first female CEO in the history of the company.
  - d. No change necessary.
- 49. The antique wooden chest has set locked in our den for generations because the key is lost; we do not know what treasures it may contain, but no one is willing to risk possibly damaging the chest itself to find out.
  - a. The antique wooden chest has sat, locked, in our den for generations because the key is lost; we do not know what treasures it may contain, but no one is willing to risk damaging the chest itself to find out.
  - b. The antique wooden chest sat locked in our den for generations; because the key is lost we do not know what treasures it may contain, but no one is willing to risk damaging the chest itself to find out.
  - c. The antique wooden chest has been sitting locked in our den for generations because the key is lost; we do not know what treasures it may contain, but no one is willing to possibly risk damaging the chest itself to find out.
  - d. No change necessary.

- 50. Air conditioning is a great modern invention, at least most of the time, however, when the outside temperature is the same or lower than the temperature set on the thermostat, circulation in the house stops, tempting the occupants to open all the windows allowing Mother Nature to circulate fresh air.
  - a. Air conditioning is a great modern invention at least most of the time, however; when the outside temperature is the same or lower than the temperature set on the thermostat, circulation in the house stops, tempting the occupants to open all the windows to allow Mother Nature to circulate fresh air.
  - b. Air conditioning is a great modern invention, at least most of the time; however, when the outside temperature is the same or lower than the temperature set on the thermostat, circulation in the house stops, tempting the occupants to open all the windows to allow "Mother Nature" to circulate fresh air.
  - c. Air conditioning is a great modern invention, at least most of the time; however, when the outside temperature is the same or lower than the temperature set on the thermostat, circulation in the house stops, tempting the occupants to open all the windows to allow Mother Nature to circulate fresh air.
  - d. No change necessary.
- 51. We often hear the argument that if the government had cut all excess spending in the budget, we would now have plenty of money for essential services; the difficulty with that argument is that we cannot agree on what constitutes "excess spending."
  - a. We often hear the argument that if the government would have cut all excess spending in the budget, we would have plenty of money for essential services; the difficulty with that argument is that we cannot agree on what constitutes "excess spending."
  - b. We often hear the argument that if the government would cut all excess spending in the budget, we would have plenty of money for essential services; the difficulty with that argument is that we cannot agree on what constitutes "excess spending."
  - c. We often hear the argument that if the government cut all excess spending in the budget, we would have plenty of money for essential services; the difficulty with that argument is that we cannot agree on what constitutes "excess spending".
  - d. No change necessary.
- 52. When Mark Twain has the Duke of Bilgewater in Huckleberry Finn say, "To be, or not to be; that is the bare bodkin," he is creating a parody of Hamlet's famous soliloquy in Shakespeare's play.
  - a. When in *Huckleberry Finn* Mark Twain has the Duke of Bilgewater say, "To be, or not to be; that is the bare bodkin," he is creating a prosody of Hamlet's famous soliloquy in Shakespeare's play.
  - b. When Mark Twain has the Duke of Bilgewater in *Huckleberry Finn* say, "To be, or not to be; that is the bare bodkin," he is creating a parody of Hamlet's famous soliloquy in Shakespeare's play.
  - c. When in "Huckleberry Finn" Mark Twain has the Duke of Bilgewater say, "To be, or not to be; that is the bare bodkin," he is creating a parody of Hamlet's famous soliloquy in Shakespeare's play.
  - d. No change necessary.

- 53. I like having dogs around most of the time, but they would be alot nicer if they were less noisy and didn't eat so much; perhaps what I really need is a stuffed toy poodle to keep me company.
  - a. I like having dogs around most of the time, but they would be a lot nicer if they were less noisy and didn't eat so much; perhaps what I really need is a stuffed toy poodle to keep me company.
  - b. Most of the time, I like having dogs around, but if they were less noisy and didn't eat so much they would be a lot nicer; so perhaps what I really need is a stuffed toy poodle to keep me company.
  - c. I like having dogs around alot, but they would be nicer if they were less noisy and didn't eat so much; perhaps what I really need is a stuffed, toy poodle to keep me company.
  - d. No change necessary.
- 54. Very large houses, built in communities where the architecture is repeated over and over again, are sometimes scornfully referred to as "McMansions," a reference to McDonalds restaurants where all the food items of the same type meet exactly the same standards and look identical.
  - a. Very large houses built in communities where their architecture are repeated over and over again are sometimes scornfully referred to as "McMansions", a reference to McDonald's restaurants where all the food items of the same type meet exactly the same standards and look identical.
  - b. Very large houses built in communities, where the architecture is repeated over and over again, are sometimes scornfully referred to as "McMansions:" a reference to McDonalds restaurants where all the food items of the same type meet exactly the same standards and look identical.
  - c. Very large houses built in communities where the architecture is repeated over and over again are sometimes scornfully referred to as "McMansions," a reference to McDonald's restaurants where all the food items of the same type meet exactly the same standards and look identical.
  - d. No change necessary.
- 55. In the United States, everyone is guaranteed the right to vote if they are citizens, if they are at least eighteen years old, and have not been convicted of a felony.
  - a. In the United States, everyone is guaranteed the right to vote if he or she is a citizen, if he or she is at least eighteen years old, and has not been convicted of a felony.
  - b. In the United States, everyone is guaranteed the right to vote if he or she is a citizen, is at least eighteen years old, and has not been convicted of a felony.
  - c. The United States guarantees everyone the right to vote if they are citizens, if they are at least eighteen years old, and if they have not been convicted of a felony.
  - d. No change necessary.
- 56. In his book *The Universe in a Nutshell*, Stephen Hawking describes his theory that a black hole will eventually disappear because particles radiate out of it over time; however, we will likely never see the death of a black hole because the process takes billions of years.
  - a. In his book *The Universe in a Nutshell*, Stephen Hawking describes his theory that a black hole will eventually disappear because particles radiate out of them over time; but we will likely never see the death of a black hole since the process takes billions of years.
  - b. In his book *The Universe in a Nutshell*, Stephen Hawking describes his theory that a black hole will eventually disappear because particles can radiate out of them over time, but we will likely never see the death of a black hole because the process takes billions of years.
  - c. The book *The Universe in a Nutshell* describes Stephen Hawking's theory that a black hole will eventually disappear because particles radiate out of it over time; but we will likely never see the death of a black hole because the process takes billions of years.
  - d. No change necessary.

- 57. Technology is changing so fast that within usually two years of buying the latest and greatest smartphone, owners, feeling that it is outdated and no longer chic experience a compulsion (encouraged by discounts from distributers like AT&T and Verizon) to discard it and buy the newer models.
  - a. Technology is changing so fast that within usually two years of buying the latest and greatest smartphones, owners, feeling that they are outdated and no longer chic, experience a compulsion (encouraged by discounts from distributers like AT&T and Verizon) to discard them and buy new models.
  - b. Technology is changing so fast that within usually two years of buying the latest and greatest smartphone, an owner, feeling that they are outdated and no longer chic, experience a compulsion (encouraged by discounts from distributers like AT&T and Verizon) to discard it and buy a new model.
  - c. Technology is changing so fast that within usually two years of buying the latest and greatest smartphone, owners, feeling that it is outdated and no longer "chic," experience a compulsion (encouraged by discounts from distributers like AT&T and Verizon) to discard it and buy a new model.
  - d. No change necessary.
- 58. Whatever their opinion of Barak Obama as a politician and as President, almost everyone in the country agree that the election in 2008 of a man of African-American heritage was an important turning point in the history of civil rights.
  - a. Whatever his opinion of Barak Obama as a politician and as President, almost everyone in the country agrees that the election in 2008 of a man of African American heritage was an important turning point in the history of civil rights.
  - b. Whatever their opinions of Barak Obama as a politician and as President, almost everyone in the country agree that the election in 2008 of a man of African American heritage was an important turning point in the history of civil rights.
  - c. Whatever the prevailing opinion of Barak Obama as a politician and as President, almost everyone in the country agrees that the election in 2008 of a man of African American heritage was an important turning point in the history of civil rights.
  - d. No change necessary
- 59. The traffic on our street is not very heavy because it is closed for repairs two blocks from our house, so people who would ordinarily drive through our neighborhood are now taking the long way around.
  - a. The traffic on our street is not very heavy because it is closed for repairs two blocks from our house so people who would ordinarily drive through our neighborhood are now taking the long way around.
  - b. Because our street is closed for repairs two blocks from our house, the traffic is not very heavy, so people who would ordinarily drive through our neighborhood are now taking the long way around.
  - c. Because our street is closed for repairs two blocks from our house the traffic is not very heavy, so people, who would ordinarily drive through our neighborhood, are now taking the long way around.
  - d. No change necessary.

- 60. We need to hire someone to sit at the front desk and answer questions from customers, but we want a person who can not only learn all the complex information she will need but also a person with a more than usually unique personality who will be memorable without being offensive.
  - a. We need to hire someone to sit at the front desk and answer questions from customers, and we want not only a person who can learn all the complex information he or she will need but also a person who can be personable and memorable at the same time.
  - b. We need to hire an employee to sit at the front desk to accurately answer questions from customers, but we want a person who can not only learn all the complex information needed but also a person with a more than usually unique personality who will be memorable without being offensive.
  - c. We need to hire someone to sit at the front desk and answer customers' questions, but we want a person who can not only learn all the complex information he or she will need but also a person with a more than usually unique personality who will be memorable without being offensive.
  - d. No change necessary.
- 61. Unwarranted delays in the delivery of merchandise from our shipping department to the customer who ordered it can cause multiple problems including irritation on the part of said customer and, more importantly, discouragement of the customer from desiring to order from our firm in the future.
  - a. Delays in the delivery of merchandise from our shipping department to the customer who ordered it can cause multiple problems, including irritation on the part of said customer and, more importantly, discouragement of the customer from desiring to order from our firm in the future.
  - b. Long delays in the delivery of merchandise from our shipping department may irritate the customer and, more importantly, could cause the customer not to order from our firm in the future.
  - c. Long delays in shipping can anger a customer and may discourage him from ordering from us again.
  - d. No change necessary.
- 62. All the students in my class are performing well, but there is one lady in particular whom I believe is so talented that she really could move on to the next higher course with no further instruction from me.
  - a. All the students in my class are good performers, but there is one lady in particular who I believe is so talented that she really should move on to the next higher course with no farther instruction from me.
  - b. All the students in my class are performing well, but there is one lady in particular who I believe to be so talented that she really could move on to the next higher course with no further instruction from me.
  - c. All the students in my class are performing well, but there is one person in particular whom I believe to be so talented that she really could move on to the next higher course with no further instruction from me.
  - d. No change necessary.

- 63. The rain has been coming down steadily for several weeks now and flooding has become a serious threat in the South side of the city; each of the citizens who have called City Hall in the past few days are concerned about the possibility that the levies may fail.
  - a. The rain has been coming down steadily for several weeks now, and flooding has become a serious threat in the south side of the city; each of the citizens who have called City Hall in the past few days is concerned about the possibility that the levies may fail.
  - b. The rain has been coming down steadily for several weeks now and flooding is a serious threat in the South side of the city; each of the citizens who has called City Hall in the past few days are concerned about the possibility that the levies may fail.
  - c. The rain has been coming down steadily for several weeks and flooding is now a serious threat in the South side of the city; each of the citizens who has called City Hall in the past few days is concerned about the possibility that the levies may fail.
  - d. No change necessary.
- 64. What is now the United States had started with a coalition of colonies which become so convinced that they are being abused and taken advantage of by the mother country, England, that they decide to rebel and declare their independence.
  - a. What is now the United States had started with a coalition of colonies that became so convinced that they were being abused and taken advantage of by the mother country, England, that they decide to rebel and declare their independence.
  - b. What is now the United States started with a coalition of colonies that become so convinced they were being abused and taken advantage of by the mother country, England, that they decided to rebel and declare their independence.
  - c. What is now the United States started with a coalition of colonies which become so convinced that they are being abused and taken advantage of by the mother country, England, that they decided to rebel and declare their independence.
  - d. No change necessary.
- 65. The mayor or any of the councilmen who are present may request that visitors be excluded from the meeting if the subject of the discussion is related to sensitive personnel matters such as the possibility of firing a city employee.
  - a. The mayor or any of the councilmen who are present may request that visitors are excluded from the meeting if the subject of the discussion is related to sensitive personnel matters such as the possibility of firing a city employee.
  - b. The mayor or any of the councilmen present may request that visitors are excluded from the meeting if the subject of the discussion is related to sensitive personnel matters like the possibility of firing a city employee.
  - c. The mayor or the councilmen who are present may request that visitors be excluded from the meeting if the subject of the discussion is related to sensitive personal matters like the possibility of firing a city employee.
  - d. No change necessary.

### Select the phrase or statement that best describes the underlined words in items 66-70.

- 66. <u>In Shakespeare's Othello, lago says, "Who steals my purse steals trash; 'tis something,</u> <u>nothing; 'Twas mine, 'tis his, and has been slave to thousands.</u>"
  - a. The title of the play should be in quotation marks.
  - b. The first part of the quote is a fragment because of the relative pronoun "who."
  - c. The first independent clause in the quotation uses a noun clause as its subject.
  - d. The quote should include single quotation marks inside the double marks to indicate that these words are not only taken from the play, but are also the exact words of the character lago.

- 67. <u>Shortly after the party started</u>, a number of young people <u>who had not been invited</u> appeared at the door and were allowed to join the crowd already there.
  - a. The first underlined word group is an adverb phrase that modifies the main verb of the sentence.
  - b. The second underlined word group is an adjective phrase that modifies the noun "number."
  - c. The first underlined word group must be relocated so that it appears after "door."
  - d. The second underlined word group should be enclosed in commas because it is non-restrictive.
- 68. I have a <u>cat who loves to lay down on my keyboard while I'm attempting to carefully type</u>; I think I need one of those computer programs that claim to identify and erase cat typing automatically.
  - a. There is a grammatical error in the underlined portion involving a misused verb form.
  - b. There are two grammatical errors in the underlined portion involving different verb forms.
  - c. The underlined portion should include a comma after "cat" because the clause that follows is non-restrictive.
  - d. The underlined portion includes two infinitive phrases and one dependent clause.
- 69. According to Dr. George Carp, the total population of fish in the ocean may decrease dramatically if Americans change their diets to include one serving of seafood <u>every day.</u><sup>2</sup>
  - a. The superscript number is the number of the page in Dr. Carp's article on which this specific claim can be found.
  - b. The superscript number indicates that the reader should look at the List of Works Cited for more information about the source of this claim.
  - c. In MLA style, the superscript number directs the reader to a footnote that provides additional, but not essential, information about this subject.
  - d. "Everyday" should be one word.
- 70. "Over the river, and through the wood,/To Grandfather's house we go" is the opening of a famous poem by Lydia Maria Child. If the underlined portion were a complete sentence, it would be best labeled:
  - a. A standard sentence.
  - b. A complex sentence.
  - c. A cumulative sentence.
  - d. A periodic sentence.

Read these selections by two American short story masters and answer questions 71-80 about them. Your answers should be based on what you read in these paragraphs, not on subsequent action in the story if you should happen to be familiar with one or both of the stories.

"To Build a Fire" by Jack London

Day had broken cold and grey, exceedingly cold and grey, when the man turned aside from the main Yukon trail and climbed the high earth bank, where a dim and little-traveled trail led eastward through the fat spruce timberland. It was a steep bank, and he paused for breath at the top, excusing the act to himself by looking at his watch. It was nine o'clock. There was no sun nor hint of sun, though there was not a cloud in the sky. It was a clear day, and yet there seemed an intangible pall over the face of things, a subtle gloom that made the day dark, and that was due to the absence of sun. This fact did not worry the man. He was used to the lack of sun. It had been days since he had seen the sun, and he knew that a few more days must pass before that cheerful orb, due south, would just peep above the skyline and dip immediately from view. The man flung a look back along the way he had come. The Yukon lay a mile wide and hidden under three feet of ice. On top of this ice were as many feet of snow. It was all pure white, rolling in gentle undulations where the ice jams of the freeze-up had formed. North and south, as far as his eye could see, it was unbroken white, save for a dark hairline that curved and twisted from around the spruce-covered island to the south, and that curved and twisted away into the north, where it disappeared behind another spruce-covered island. This dark hairline was the trail—the main trail—that led south five hundred miles to the Chilcoot Pass, Dyea, and salt water; and that led north seventy miles to Dawson, and still on to the north a thousand miles to Nulato, and finally to St. Michael on Bering Sea, a thousand miles and half a thousand more.

### "The Cask of Amontillado" by Edgar Allan Poe

The thousand injuries of Fortunato I had borne as I best could, but when he ventured upon insult I vowed revenge. You, who so well know the nature of my soul, will not suppose, however, that I gave utterance to a threat. At length I would be avenged; this was a point definitely settled—but the very definitiveness with which it was resolved precluded the idea of risk. I must not only punish but punish with impunity. A wrong is unredressed when retribution overtakes its redresser. It is equally unredressed when the avenger fails to make himself felt as such to him who has done the wrong.

It must be understood that neither by word nor deed had I given Fortunato cause to doubt my good will. I continued, as was my wont to smile in his face, and he did not perceive that my smile now was at the thought of his immolation.

- 71. Both selections are taken from the opening paragraphs of the two short stories. Because of that, you can be sure that they are concerned with
  - a. developing the plot.
  - b. providing exposition.
  - c. creating suspense.
  - d. establishing all the characters to play a part in the story.
- 72. Which statement best reflects the point of view used in the story?
  - a. Both are told in first person.
  - b. Both are told in third person.
  - c. London's story is told from the point of view of a camera looking objectively at the story's content, while Poe's story is told in first person by a witness who observed the action of the story.
  - d. The London story has an omniscient narrator who contrasts with the first person narrator of the Poe story.

- 73. Which statement best describes the Poe story?
  - a. The narrator feels the need to explain just why he seeks revenge on Fortunato so that he can feel justified.
  - b. The narrator has an angry tone as he discusses Fortunato's actions against him.
  - c. The narrator speaks as though he's addressing someone he knows and who knows him.
  - d. The narrator cannot be trusted as one telling the truth.
- 74. What is the effect of London's reference to "the man"?
  - a. We immediately know that the character represents all mankind.
  - b. The reader feels a certain distance from the character since he has no name.
  - c. It keeps us from caring what happens to this character.
  - d. It shows the humility of the character.

- 75. What constitutes a difference between these two selections?
  - a. London is intent on describing the setting of his story while Poe is more concerned with plot.
  - b. London describes the hardship that faces his character, while Poe describes the hardship previously suffered by his character.
  - c. London is concerned with character against nature, while Poe is concerned with character against himself.
  - d. London tries to gain the reader's emotional involvement while Poe assumes that the reader will be emotionally involved as the story develops.
- 76. In Poe's story, the character thinks it important that
  - a. the reader understand his motives.
  - b. the reader have a picture of the character who opposes him.
  - c. he take revenge in such a way that it will not be discovered.
  - d. that his threat be taken seriously.
- 77. Which statement is true of London's story?
  - a. The man is worried about being able to make the trek ahead of him.
  - b. The man has extensive knowledge of the Yukon and its dangers.
  - c. The man is used to comfortable living, so lacks the conditioning needed for the trek ahead.
  - d. The man is inured to the cold and the lack of sun.

- 78. What device does London use to tell his story?
  - a. He uses metaphors and similes that help create a picture.
  - b. He uses short, pithy sentences that have a static rhythm.
  - c. He repeats words for emphasis.
  - d. He offers background information that helps the reader understand the character.
- 79. What device does Poe use to tell his story?
  - a. He immediately reveals the main character's intent, though he does not reveal how the character will carry it out.
  - b. He uses ironic contrasts between what the reader knows and what the character doesn't know.
  - c. He uses a narrator whom we find charming and engaging.
  - He provides the reader with an elaborate backstory so that the narrator's motives can be understood.
- 80. Which of the following is NOT a characteristic of the short story?
  - a. It is meant to be read in one sitting.
  - b. The action is condensed.
  - c. It involves character, setting, and plot.
  - d. All of the characters are developed with complexity.

### Read the following selection from "Slavery in Massachusetts" by Henry David Thoreau and answer questions 81-90.

I listen to hear the voice of a Governor, Commander-in-Chief of the forces of Massachusetts. I hear only the creaking of crickets and the hum of insects which now fill the summer air. The Governor's exploit is to review the troops on muster days. I have seen him on horseback, with his hat off, listening to a chaplain's prayer. It chances that that is all I have ever seen of a Governor. I think that I could manage to get along without one. If *he* is not of the least use to prevent my being kidnapped, pray of what important use is he likely to be to me? When freedom is most endangered, he dwells in the deepest obscurity. A distinguished clergyman told me that he chose the profession of a clergyman because it afforded the most leisure for literary pursuits. I would recommend to him the profession of a Governor.

I had thought that the Governor was, in some sense, the executive officer of the State; that it was his business, as a Governor, to see that the laws of the State were executed; while, as a man, he took care that he did not, by so doing, break the laws of humanity; but when there is any special important use for him, he is useless, or worse than useless, and permits the laws of the State to go unexecuted. Perhaps I do not know what are the duties of a Governor; but if to be a Governor requires to subject one's self to so much ignominy without remedy, if it is to put a restraint upon my manhood. I shall take care never to be Governor of Massachusetts. I have not read far in the statutes of this Commonwealth. It is not profitable reading. They do not always say what is true; and they do not always mean what they say. What I am concerned to know is, that that man's influence and authority were on the side of the slaveholder, and not of the slave - of the guilty, and not of the innocent - of injustice, and not of justice. I never saw him of whom I speak; indeed, I did not know that he was Governor until this event occurred. I heard of him and Anthony Burns at the same time, and thus, undoubtedly, most will hear of him. So far am I from being governed by him. I do not mean that it was anything to his discredit that I had not heard of him, only that I heard what I did. The worst I shall say of him is, that he proved no better than the majority of his constituents would be likely to prove. In my opinion, he was not equal to the occasion.

- 81. "I listen to hear the voice of a Governor, Commander-in-Chief of the forces of Massachusetts. I hear only the creaking of crickets and the hum of insects which now fill the summer air." These sentences indicate that
  - a. Thoreau has faith in the governor's ability to speak and command respect.
  - b. Thoreau values rhetoric and its place in a democratic society.
  - c. Thoreau is frustrated that the governor remains silent about a current situation.
  - d. Thoreau does not want to hear another of the governor's bombastic speeches.

- 82. "They do not always say what is true, and they do not always mean what they say." This sentence is an example of
  - a. a periodic sentence.
  - b. a balanced sentence.
  - c. a cumulative sentence.
  - d. a standard sentence.
- 83. "What I am concerned to know is, that that man's influence and authority were on the side of the slaveholder, and not of the slave — of the guilty, and not of the innocent — of injustice, and not of justice." This sentence is notable for its use of
  - a. allusion.
  - b. deductive reasoning.
  - c. parallelism.
  - d. imagery.

- 84. "A distinguished clergyman told me that he chose the profession of a clergyman because it afforded the most leisure for literary pursuits. I would recommend to him the profession of a Governor." These two sentences represent Thoreau's
  - a. sardonic wit.
  - b. teasing humor.
  - c. practical advice.
  - d. serious concern.
- 85. The dots between the paragraphs indicate
  - a. graphic decoration.
  - b. a pause for the reader to get his/her breath.
  - c. a means of marking the move from one paragraph to another.
  - d. that a large portion of the essay has been omitted.
- 86. Thoreau's major concern apparently has to do with the fact that the governor
  - a. does not support anti-slavery legislation currently proposed.
  - b. has supported a slave owner in his claims upon a particular slave.
  - c. is basically a do-nothing concerned only with ceremonial duties.
  - d. represents a party that Thoreau had opposed in the most recent election.
- 87. Much of the language used by Thoreau makes use of
  - a. hyperbole.
  - b. colorful language.
  - c. humor.
  - d. litotes.

- 88. "I never saw him of whom I speak; indeed, I did not know that he was Governor until this event occurred. I heard of him and Anthony Burns at the same time, and thus, undoubtedly, most will hear of him." These sentences indicate
  - a. Thoreau's lack of awareness of state politics.
  - b. Thoreau's characterization of the governor as a do-nothing executive.
  - c. Thoreau's indifference to the activities of the governor.
  - d. Thoreau's interest in the inner workings of government.
- 89. "... if to be a Governor requires to subject one's self to so much ignominy without remedy ..." In this phrase, ignominy means
  - a. lack of information.
  - b. difficult decision making.
  - c. criticism from the public.
  - d. humiliation and disgrace.
- 90. In this selection, Thoreau uses
  - a. mainly long and complex sentences.
  - b. mainly short, pithy statements.
  - c. a mixture of long and short sentences.
  - d. inflated vocabulary.

#### Read the two poems that follow, then answer questions 91-100.

"Never Give All the Heart" By William Butler Yeats

Never give all the heart, for love Will hardly seem worth thinking of To passionate women if it seem Certain, and they never dream That it fades out from kiss to kiss; For everything that's lovely is But a brief, dreamy, kind delight. O never give the heart outright, For they, for all smooth lips can say, Have given their hearts up to the play. And who could play it well enough If deaf and dumb and blind with love? He that made this knows all the cost, For he gave all his heart and lost.

#### "When I was One-and-Twenty" by A.E. Housman

When I was one-and-twenty I heard a wise man say, "Give crowns and pounds and guineas But not your heart away; Give pearls away and rubies But keep your fancy free." But I was one-and-twenty, No use to talk to me.

When I was one-and-twenty I heard him say again, "The heart out of the bosom Was never given in vain; 'Tis paid with sighs a plenty And sold for endless rue." And I am two-and-twenty, And oh, 'tis true, 'tis true.

### 91. A similarity between these two poems is that both

- a. suggest that women only play at love.
- b. reflect the rashness of youth in falling in love.
- c. deal with disappointment in love.
- d. avow that love is worth all the emotional pain it costs.
- 92. A dissimilarity is that
  - a. One is in free verse while the other rhymes.
  - b. One is a sonnet while the other is not.
  - c. One focuses on fulfilled love; the other does not.
  - d. The speaker in one offers advice while the speaker in the other poem receives advice.

- 93. Yeats' poem states that
  - a. the joy of falling in love lasts briefly, then fades.
  - b. young lovers should take advantage of the time they have together.
  - c. we all grow old and love becomes less important.
  - d. love is all we have to make life worthwhile.
- 94. Housman's poem suggests that
  - a. we must take advantage of the opportunity to experience love while we are young.
  - b. a young person may disregard advice only to learn the truth of it painfully.
  - c. young people should enjoy their youth as it does not last forever.
  - d. marriage is not something to be entered into lightly.
- 95. The speaker in Yeats' poem has this attitude toward women:
  - a. They are goddesses to be revered.
  - b. They avow to be in love, yet are often only playing with a man's heart.
  - c. They are schemers who are out to get what they can from the men who love them.
  - d. They should be dealt with in the same way they deal with others.
- 96. The speaker in Housman's poem has experienced
  - a. disappointment in love.
  - b. the fulfillment of love.
  - c. the deep jealousy that love can bring.
  - d. the bliss of love.
- 97. Which word or phrase applies to Yeats' poem?
  - a. Shakespearean sonnet
  - b. Aubade
  - c. Burns stanza
  - d. Rhymed couplets
- 98. What word or phrase applies to Housman's poem?
  - a. Two stanzas in which every other line rhymes
  - b. Four quatrains each with its own rhyme scheme
  - c. Villanelle
  - d. Petrarchan sonnet
- 99. What sentence best reflects the notion of keeping "your fancy free"?
  - a. I don't want my parents to help me choose a spouse; it needs to be my own decision.
  - b. They say I'm fickle; I like one guy (girl) one day and another the next.
  - c. I want to do what I want to do when I want to do it.
  - d. I like to let my imagination roam freely; it helps me to be creative.
- 100. What statement would Yeats agree with, given what he writes in his poem?
  - a. Love might be painful, but it is a passion to be valued.
  - b. It is difficult to stay in love with the same woman for all of your life.
  - c. Someone who is besotted with love puts himself in a position to be toyed with.
  - d. Women may fall in love with you for what you are, but they will then try to change you.