# Academic Challenge 

## 2019 Academic Challenge

 ENGLISH TEST - SECTIONAL

## 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. One oval should be marked to answer each question. Multiple ovals will automatically be graded as an incorrect answer.

Be sure ovals are marked as


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: $\mathbf{4 0}$ Minutes Number of Questions: $\mathbf{8 0}$
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## Academic Challenge

English Test (Sectional) - 2019
In Items 1-10, choose the standard spelling for each word.
1.
a. Semalina
b. Semalino
c. Semolina
d. Semolino
2.
a. Ether
b. Ethar
c. Eather
d. Ethear
3.
a. Paremeter
b. Peremeter
c. Peremater
d. Parameter
4.
a. Visceruh
b. Viscera
c. Viscara
d. Viscare
5.
a. Liturgical
b. Litttergical
c. Litergical
d. Lyturgical
6.
a. Spueme
b. Spumm
c. Spuem
d. Spume
7.
a. Letharjy
b. Lethargy
c. Lethargie
d. Letharjie
8.
a. Sunorus
b. Sunnorus
c. Sonorous
d. Sonourus
9.
a. Redolence
b. Redolance
c. Redulance
d. Redulence
10.
a. Ansester
b. Ansestor
c. Ancester
d. Ancestor

In items 11-30, find the answer that best develops the meaning of the word in boldface.
11. The rising of the sun over the sandy beaches was an empyreal display.
a. It foretold of a dangerous tide.
b. Darkness was soon abated.
c. The routines of nature were ignored by the townsfolk.
d. The sublime vista was a sight to behold.
12. They began the meeting with an invocation.
a. The song was a thrilling wake-up call.
b. The icebreakers made everyone uncomfortable.
c. The morning prayer was the signal to begin Bible study.
d. Names are an important part of introducing yourself at the company.
13. All life on Earth supposedly came from a primordial ooze in existence many millions of years ago.
a. The wildness of the past has been replaced with the repose of the present.
b. Fossil records are inconclusive.
c. It is secondary to understanding evolution.
d. That earliest formed ooze contains the key to all life on Earth.
14. They received a written directive instructing them to develop new security measures.
a. The admonishment meant they were on grounds for firing.
b. Their sales would soon increase.
c. The guiding document surprisingly did not include suggestions for implementation.
d. The emolument was not meant for them.
15. The new style of jazz was recognized by the record company vanguard as exciting and profitable.
a. The label agent was always at the forefront of musical movements.
b. The oldest musicians dismissed the style.
c. The indie scene was a frequent progenitor of exciting styles and genres.
d. The record companies could hardly keep up with the influx of music.
16. The fields were resplendent with wildflowers.
a. The farmers knew they had to harvest quickly.
b. The pathway became dense with foliage.
c. The hikers had never seen such a glowing splendor.
d. The scientists had found the perfect place to examine plant samples.
17. I changed my interests to geriatric medicine.
a. Repairing broken limbs was difficult work, but I knew I was ready for it.
b. After my grandfather passed away from cancer, I knew I had to do what I could to help.
c. My new path towards preventing germ growth would be less profitable, but I knew it was what I loved.
d. Hair replacement was my calling.
18. The politician's expensive campaign ultimately ended in ignominious defeat.
a. The scandal destroyed his candidacy.
b. Too many candidates had split the vote of his party.
c. A true waste of money in return for a humiliating loss.
d. The results were clouded by interference and controversy.
19. Cell phones are ubiquitous these days.
a. They drive up energy bills.
b. They are continually releasing new versions.
c. They deepen inequalities.
d. Everyone seems to have one.
20. The feasibility of her project was doubtful.
a. She'd have to go all the way to Antarctica and back before the school year ended.
b. Her advisors were in full support of her project.
c. She would receive whatever funding she needed.
d. Her advisors questioned the small scope of the project.
21. The society prized conformity very highly and treated dissenters of any kind very harshly.
a. Anyone who litters would be dealt with promptly.
b. Intellect was a valuable possession.
c. Differences of opinion are rare and have severe consequences.
d. Debates were held in public for all to see.
22. The head chef is an epicure who has spent over twenty years perfecting his signature dishes.
a. His anger was a source of frustration for many, including the chef.
b. His curiosity led him down winding paths.
c. His perfectionism was legendary amongst food critics.
d. His discerning palate was a guiding voice in creating the perfect meal.
23. By my reckoning, this short cut saves us five miles.
a. My best guess is often wrong.
b. My intuition is my strongest asset.
c. I am rarely wrong about my calculations.
d. The advice from my uncle will pay off.
24. The hospital added a new wing for neonates.
a. New nurses needed their own area to practice.
b. The hospital hoped that the demand for hospice care would cease.
c. Insurance rates for cancer patients soon dropped.
d. A consistent increase in the influx of newborns prompted the expansion.
25. Farther north, the Austrian alpine resort combines German classes with a variety of outdoor activities.
a. The tourist trap is campy and overbooked.
b. It is a true gem, hidden amongst the trees and mountains.
c. It used to be a training facility for Winter Olympians.
d. The ancient hotel was built in the 1920s.
26. The general placed an armed sentry at the bridge.
a. The peasant was unprepared to fight.
b. The senator was confused as to why he was enlisted.
c. The loyal guard stood watch for the entirety of the battle.
d. The inexperienced soldier was nervous at the idea of fighting.
27. On the hike, we had to cross Murphy's slough.
a. It will take days to wash the mud off our clothes.
b. The raging river was nearly impossible to ford.
c. The mountain range was a spectacular sight.
d. The forgotten path was beaten down by age.
28. The explorer gazed across the vast Artic expanse.
a. She could hardly see the distress signal in the dense fog.
b. She could not believe how expensive the trip had gotten.
c. She could barely climb the fierce peaks.
d. She could see for miles.
29. Lottery winners are chosen indiscriminately.
a. Winners often credit the occurrence to God.
b. Winners are chosen haphazardly.
c. The game is rigged.
d. People believe the occurrence was a result of the devil.
30. The judge chose to show clemency to the truly repentant embezzler.
a. The embezzler's family was locked away for years.
b. The courtroom was left aghast at the severity of the sentence.
c. His merciful decision led the embezzler to vow to never cheat again.
d. His show of force led to the judge's impeachment.

## In items 31-35, select the sentence that has no errors in grammar, punctuation, or mechanics.

31. 

a. If you've never done it before, picking out new tires may seem just as complicated as buying an entirely new car.
b. However the process is actually incredibly simple and requires just a bit of knowledge about what tires your car takes; where you can purchase them from; and what tire features you should look for.
c. Go to a branded retailer for the best, quality tires.
d. Before settling on a specific brand: search online for reviews explaining how well the tires hold up over time.
32.
a. There are several strategies you can use to reduce your gas bill: like cutting back on you're energy usage and making your home more energy-efficient.
b. If your thermostat is set to a high temperature, your Gas Bill is bound to be expensive.
c. Do not keep the heat on in your home when its not necessary.
d. Turn off the heat when you are at work or gone on the weekends.
33.
a. Laminate flooring is beautiful, and easy to take care of.
b. Caring for your floors may seem daunting at first, but once you figure out the right techniques and materials, its simple!
c. Protect your floors by cleaning them routinely, removing stains immediately, and using furniture pads to keep your laminate floors in pristine condition.
d. Using window coverings, like blinds or curtains, to prevent direct sunlight from hitting your floors on a daily basis.
34.
a. Many perfume bottles have beautiful designs-thus making them perfect for reuse.
b. By disassembling and washing your perfume bottles, you can ready them for regular re-cycling, or a new craft project.
c. If your not the crafty sort there are even ways to pass them along to collectors and crafters online to give your perfume bottles new life.
d. To start, take the exterior cap off the perfume bottle and pull off the nozzle.
35.
a. Do you get mad when someone criticizes your favorite restaurant, sports team, or musician.
b. It's not always easy to accept that they have a different opinion nor to express your disagreement.
c. When faced with criticism of something you love its hard to keep a level head, so train yourself to take a deep breath, let it out and really listen to what the person is saying to you.
d. Make sure you keep actively listened.

## In items 36-45, select the sentence group that best revises any grammatical or punctuation errors or improves the style. If you see no error, select "no change necessary."

36. Dinosaurs are what paleontologists call "charismatic megafauna:" sexy sympathetic beasts whose obliteration transfixes pretty much anyone with a pulse.
a. Dinosaurs are what paleontologists call charismatic megafauna: sexy sympathetic beasts whose obliteration transfixes pretty much anyone with a pulse.
b. Dinosaurs are what paleontologists call "charismatic megafauna": sexy sympathetic beasts whose obliteration transfixes pretty much anyone with a pulse.
c. Dinosaurs are what paleontologists call "charismatic megafauna": sexy, sympathetic beasts whose obliteration transfixes pretty much anyone with a pulse.
d. No change necessary
37. Indonesians stand on a road outside a mall in Bali's capital, Denpasar, on August 5, 2018, after a major earthquake rocked neighboring Lombok.
a. Indonesians stand on a road outside a mall in Bali's capital Denpasar, on August 5, 2018, after a major earthquake rocked neighboring Lombok.
b. Indonesians stand on a road outside a mall in Bali's capital Denpasar, on August 52018 after a major earthquake rocked neighboring Lombok.
c. Indonesians stand on a road outside a mall in Bali's capital Denpasar, on August 5 2018, after a major earthquake rocked neighboring Lombok.
d. No change necessary
38. From early buried treasure tales by Edgar Allan Poe and Washington Irving to recent novels-turned-films such as "A Simple Plan" and "No Country for Old Men", the story of stumbling upon a cache of money is a veritable genre unto itself.
a. From early buried-treasure tales by Edgar Allan Poe and Washington Irving to recent novels-turned-films such as A Simple Plan and No Country for Old Men, the story of stumbling upon a cache of money is a veritable genre unto itself.
b. From early buried treasure tales by Edgar Allan Poe and Washington Irving to recent novels-turned-films such as "A Simple Plan" and "No Country for Old Men," the story of stumbling upon a cache of money is a veritable genre unto itself.
c. From early buried-treasure tales by Edgar Allan Poe and Washington Irving, to recent novels-turned-films such as "A Simple Plan" and "No Country for Old Men," the story of stumbling upon a cache of money is a veritable genre unto itself.
d. No change necessary
39. The non-profit organization behind the Common Application a single form that students can fill out to apply to any college that uses it announced this week that starting next year it will no longer ask students about their criminal history.
a. The non-profit organization behind the Common Application, a single form that students can fill out to apply to any college that uses it, announced this week that, starting next year, it will no longer ask students about their criminal history.
b. The nonprofit organization behind the Common Application, a single form that students can fill out to apply to any college that uses it; announced this week that starting next year, it will no longer ask students about their criminal history.
c. The nonprofit organization behind the Common Application, a single form that students can fill out to apply to any college that uses it, announced this week that, starting next year, it will no longer ask students about their criminal history.
d. No change necessary
40. "It parallels what's changing in our society", Sherif said, "when we shine a light in those dirty dark corners, I think it may give us courage to shed light on other things."
a. "It parallels what's changing in our society," Sherif said. "When we shine a light in those dirty, dark corners, I think it may give us courage to shed light on other things."
b. "It parallels what's changing in our society", Sherif said: "when we shine a light in those dirty, dark corners, I think it may give us courage to shed light on other things."
c. "It parallels what's changing in our society," Sherif says. "When we shine a light in those dirty dark corners, I think it may give us courage to shed light on other things."
d. No change necessary
41. Zines do still exist: although the places that used to sell them, independent bookstores and record shops, have disappeared from the landscape, pushed out by chains which were then, pushed out by the internet.
a. Zines do still exist; although the places that used to sell them, independent bookstores and record shops, have disappeared from the landscape; pushed out by chains which were then, pushed out by the internet.
b. Zines do still exist, although the places that used to sell them, independent bookstores and record shops, have disappeared from the landscape, pushed out by chains which were then pushed out by the internet.
c. Zines do still exist; although the places that used to sell them, independent bookstores and record shops, have disappeared from the landscape: pushed out by chains which were then pushed out by the internet.
d. No change necessary
42. While driving is fast, and comfortable, biking is cheaper, and better for the earth.
a. While driving is fast and comfortable; biking is cheaper and better for the earth.
b. While driving is fast and comfortable, biking is cheaper and better for the earth.
c. While driving is fast, and comfortable; biking is cheaper, and better for the earth.
d. No change necessary
43. What I do know is that the middle of August when I was fifteen is when I first became aware of my new, musical tastes.
a. What I do know is that the middle of August, when I was fifteen is when I first became aware of my new musical tastes.
b. What I do know, is that the middle of August, when I was fifteen, is when I first became aware of my new musical tastes.
c. What I do know is that the middle of August, when I was fifteen, is when I first became aware of my new musical tastes.
d. No change necessary
44. It was here María began to learn to navigate government policies, raise funds and build effective-if unlikely-coalitions.
a. It was here María began to learn to navigate government policies, raise funds and build effective if unlikely coalitions.
b. It was here María began to learn to navigate government policies, raise funds and build effective; if unlikely, coalitions.
c. It was here: María began to learn to navigate government policies, raise funds and build effective-if unlikely-coalitions.
d. No change necessary
45. The war is far from over with the east and the rebel-held capital still out of regime hands and any victory may prove pyrrhic given the devastation wrought.
a. The war is far from over, with the East and the rebel-held capital still out of regime hands, and any victory may prove pyrrhic given the devastation wrought.
b. The war is far from over, with the east and the rebel-held capital still out of regime hands, and any victory may prove pyrrhic given the devastation wrought.
c. The war is far from over with the East and the rebel-held capital still out of regime hands and any victory may prove pyrrhic given the devastation wrought.
d. No change necessary

## In items 46-50, select the phrase that best describes the underlined words.

46. The inaugural celebration was well organized, with large public celebrations, elaborate private parties, and intimate gatherings.
a. Imperative mood
b. Indefinite articles
c. Subject nouns
d. Parallel construction
47. Driving through the nature reserve at dusk, grizzly bears are foraging for food.
a. Dangling modifier
b. Limiting modifier
c. Gerund phrase
d. Misplaced modifier
48. Will you pass the salt?
a. Appositive
b. Model auxiliary
c. Auxiliary verb
d. Verbal phrase
49. He talks about Shakespeare as if he were an expert.
a. Indicative mood
b. Subjunctive mood
c. Present subjunctive
d. Nonrestrictive relative clause
50. The cat climbed on the couch.
a. Predicate adjective
b. Predicate noun
c. Adjectival phrase
d. Prepositional phrase

## Dylan Thomas was a popular Welsh writer of the second quarter of the $\mathbf{2 0}^{\text {th }}$ century. Read Thomas's poem "We Lying by Seasand" and answer questions in items 51-60.

We lying by seasand, watching yellow
And the grave sea, mock who deride Who follow the red rivers, hollow
Alcove of words out of cicada shade, For in this yellow grave of sand and sea
A calling for color calls with the wind That's grave and gay as grave and sea Sleeping on either hand.
The lunar silences, the silent tide
Lapping the still canals, the dry tide-master
Ribbed between desert and water storm,
Should cure our ills of the water
With a one-colored calm;
The heavenly music over the sand

Sounds with the grains as they hurry
Hiding the golden mountains and mansions
Of the grave, gay seaside land.
Bound by a sovereign strip, we lie,
Watch yellow, wish for wind to blow away
The strata of the shore and leave red rock;
But wishes breed not, neither
Can we fend off the rock arrival, Lie watching yellow until the golden weather
Breaks, O my heart's blood, like a heart and hill.
51. Enjambment is present in
a. Lines 20-21
b. Lines 13-14
c. Lines 17-18
d. Lines 3-4
52. Line 7 deploys the word "grave" twice as
a. An adjective then noun, respectively
b. A noun then adjective, respectively
c. An example of allusion
d. An example of spondee
53. The poem's tone is
a. Derisive
b. Dolorous
c. Belligerent
d. Acerbic
54. If the "yellow" in Line 1 represents the sun, this is an example of
a. Anthimeria
b. Epigraph
c. Chiasmus
d. Synecdoche
55. Line 21 features an example of
a. Ellipsis
b. Personification
c. Truism
d. Pedantry
56. Line 18 portrays the seaside as
a. A form of imprisonment
b. A form of sublime enlightenment
c. A banal inconvenience
d. An attraction for pestilential tourists
57. The frequent repetition of the word "grave" is best characterized as
a. Pastiche
b. Metonymy
c. Antanaclasis
d. Asyndeton
58. This poem is particularly rich in
a. Nostalgia
b. Imagery
c. End rhyme
d. Maxims
59. Select the statement that is most true:
a. The poem features frequent alliteration.
b. The poem is an allegorical retelling of the Fall.
c. The poem is about an angelic visitation to the author.
d. The poem mocks those who live inland and not on the seaside.
60. The poem is
a. A villanelle
b. A sestina
c. A limerick
d. In free verse

## Mary Sidney Herbert, Countess of Pembroke, was a highly successful poet and literary figure of the English Renaissance. Read the following selection from Herbert's "The Doleful Lay of Clorinda" and answer questions in items 61-70.

Ay me, to whom shall I my case complain, That may compassion my impatient grief? Or where shall I unfold my inward pain, That my enriven heart may find relief? Shall I unto the heavenly pow'rs it show, Or unto earthly men that dwell below?

To heavens? Ah, they, alas, the authors were, And workers of my unremedied woe:
For they foresee what to us happens here,
And they foresaw, yet suffered this be so.
From them comes good, from them comes also ill,
That which they made, who can them warn to spill.
To men? Ah, they, alas, like wretched be,
And subject to the heavens' ordinance:
Bound to abide whatever they decree.
Their best redress is their best sufferance.
How then can they, like wretched, comfort me, The which no less need comforted to be?

Then to myself will I my sorrow mourn,
Sith none alive like sorrowful remains:
And to myself my plaints shall back return
To pay their usury with doubled pains.
The woods, the hills, the rivers shall resound
The mournful accent of my sorrow's ground.
Woods, hills, and rivers now are desolate,
Sith he is gone the which them all did grace:
And all the fields do wail their widow state,
Sith death their fairest flow'r did late deface.
The fairest flow'r in field that ever grew,
Was Astrophel; that was, we all may rue.
61. The poem is best described as a
a. A dirge
b. A lament
c. A panegyric
d. A paean
62. The poem's rhyme scheme is
a. AABBCC
b. $A B A B C D$
c. $A B B A C D$
d. $A B A B C C$
63. Stanzas 2 and 3 each begin with
a. Palinode
b. Paralipsis
c. Hypophora
d. Hamartia
64. The poem is mainly about
a. The speaker's fear of life alone
b. The speaker's grief for a death
c. The speaker's fear of their never marrying
d. The speaker's sadness at their being spurned
65. The best synonym for the word "doleful" is
a. Tenebrific
b. III-advised
c. Assuaging
d. Convictive
66. According to the second stanza, why does the speaker not complain to the heavens?
a. It is storming
b. She does not want to invoke God's wrath
c. They are unfeelingly in charge of everyone's fate
d. She brought her grief upon herself
67. Lines 21-22 feature a metaphor involving
a. A lover who complains too much
b. Moneylending and grief
c. Writing poetry and mourning
d. A lover who does not care about the speaker's problems
68. "Enriven" in Line 4 most likely means
a. Unshriven
b. Misdriven
c. Restriven
d. Cloven
69. Stanza 5's main point is that
a. The whole world is worse off without Astrophel
b. Astrophel's fields lay barren without a farmer
c. The speaker will never bear a child without Astrophel
d. The speaker cannot care for Astrophel's manor grounds
70. What is the best interpretation of Line 13?
a. Clorinda cannot speak to men, as they like her appearance too much
b. Clorinda must socialize with men in order to marry
c. Clorinda cannot find solace from mortals, who have the same problems as her
d. Clorinda is determined to become a nun

Mary Antin was an educator and author in the first half of the $20^{\text {th }}$ century. Her family left their home in modern-day Belarus to escape abuses which the Russian Empire carried out against Jewish populations. She wrote about her experience of immigration and toured the country giving talks on the subject. Read the following selection of her book The Promised Land and answer questions in items 71-80.
made aware of the past that lay forgotten,--if a letter from Russia, or a paragraph in the newspaper, or a conversation overheard in the street-car, suddenly reminded me of I might have been,--I thought it miracle enough that I, Mashke, the granddaughter of Raphael the Russian, born to a humble destiny, should be at home in an American metropolis, be free to fashion my own life, and should dream my dreams in English phrases. But in the beginning my admiration was spent on more concrete embodiments of the splendors of America; such as fine houses, gay shops, electric engines and apparatus, public buildings, illumincations, and parades. My early letters to my Russian friends were filled with boastful descriptions of these glories of my new country. No native citizen of Chelsea took such pride and delight in its institutions as I did . . . .
America is the youngest of the nations, and inherits all that went before in history. And I am the youngest of America's children, and into my hands is given all her priceless heritage to the last white star espied through the telescope, to the last great thought of the philosopher. Mine is the whole majestic past, and mine is the shining future.
71. To which genre does this book most likely belong?
a. Biography
b. Autobiography
c. Bildungsroman
d. Historical novel
72. The overall tone of the passage is
a. Suspicious
b. Ambivalent
c. Disconcerted
d. Awed
73. This passage is composed in the
a. First person
b. Second person
c. Third person
d. Second person plural
74. In Line 7, what does it mean that Antin "passed as an American among Americans"?
a. She felt lonely walking the streets alone
b. She enjoyed watching people pass her on the streets
c. She blended in with people on the streets
d. She regretted passing up opportunities in America
75. Why does Antin begin the book with Lines 1-6?
a. She wants to say that she feels like a different person than she was.
b. She needs to establish her firm belief that she died and came back to life through a miracle.
c. She sets up her mother, not herself, as the true heroine of the text.
d. She feels she must admit that she changed her identity to escape a previous life of crime.
76. As a child, what did Antin admire most about the United States?
a. The frequent use of the English language
b. Material trappings
c. The delicious food
d. The quality of education
77. According to Lines 16-17, how does Antin's feelings compare with those of the natives?
a. She is more fascinated with the mental institution than they are.
b. She feels that she is exactly like them.
c. She is more fearful and wonderstruck by the city than they are.
d. She appreciates local opportunities more than they do.
78. What does Antin say is her rightful heritage in Lines 18-21?
a. The Yiddish and Hebrew languages
b. As much wealth as she can amass
c. America's history and opportunities
d. A precious telescope brought to America by her father
79. What is the best descriptor of Antin's diction?
a. Colloquial
b. Formal
c. Pedantic
d. Jargonistic
80. How does Antin feel about her move to America?
a. Happy and optimistic
b. Regretful and nostalgic
c. Aggrieved and skeptical
d. Confused but resigned

