

WYSE—Academic Challenge
English Test (State)—2020

1.
 - a. Qwell
 - b. Qwele
 - c. Quel
 - d. Quelle
 - e. Qwel

2.
 - a. Bachanalien
 - b. Bachannalian
 - c. Bachannalian
 - d. Bachenalien
 - e. Bacchanalian

3.
 - a. Discomfit
 - b. Discommfit
 - c. Discomffit
 - d. Discomfitt
 - e. Discommfitt

4.
 - a. Mercourial
 - b. Mercoeurial
 - c. Mercurial
 - d. Mercoriale
 - e. Mercorialle

5.
 - a. Ablotion
 - b. Ablution
 - c. Ablootion
 - d. Abblution
 - e. Abluytion

6.
 - a. Acetilene
 - b. Accetylen
 - c. Accetilene
 - d. Acetylene
 - e. Accetylene

7.
 - a. Foraminnifera
 - b. Forraminifera
 - c. Foramminifera
 - d. Foraminiffera
 - e. Foraminifera

- 8.
- a. Yarmmulke
 - b. Yarmulke
 - c. Yarmmulke
 - d. Yarmullke
 - e. Yarmullk

- 9.
- a. Ennui
 - b. Enui
 - c. Enuii
 - d. Ennuii
 - e. Enuui

- 10.
- a. Visicitude
 - b. Vicisitude
 - c. Visicitude
 - d. Vissicitude
 - e. Vicissitude

In items 11-30, find the answer that best develops the meaning of the word in boldface.

11. The **tedium** of his internship made John reconsider his plans to become a data entry specialist.
- a. The inconsequential tasks were unfulfilling to complete.
 - b. The management treated him rudely.
 - c. The fixed routine was incredibly boring.
 - d. The quick pace exhausted him.
12. The doctors discovered that her **torpor** was a symptom of a severe illness.
- a. Her apathy finally had a cause.
 - b. Her fever was treated with antibiotics.
 - c. The cancerous tumor turned out to be benign.
 - d. Her dizziness was not inherited.
13. After some training, the dog became **tractable** enough to be adopted.
- a. He learned how to live indoors.
 - b. His temperament had calmed considerably.
 - c. His teething days were over.
 - d. He easily obeyed commands
14. The new hydrating shampoo was a success, despite a few **anomalous** cases.
- a. The social media buzz was positively viral.
 - b. The abnormalities were fixed in a subsequent product.
 - c. The negative reviews were excessively harsh.
 - d. The all-natural ingredients were the key to fame and fortune.
15. Dante's *Divine Comedy* was the **archetype** upon which many works were based.
- a. The book spawned many derivatives.
 - b. The book was highly influential in its time.

- c. The book was a peculiar historical artifact.
 - d. The book inspired no one.
16. During her **aria**, the singer expressed her character's sorrow to the audience with great skill.
- a. The final chorus with the entire band was rousing.
 - b. The violin accompaniment was perfect.
 - c. Her solo was breathtaking to behold.
 - d. Her duet was the highlight of the evening.
17. The **sundry** items at the garage sale ranged from antique to almost brand new.
- a. The dingy quality of the items affected sales.
 - b. The lack of options quickly bored many shoppers.
 - c. The quality goods sold out immediately.
 - d. The immense variety of items was a treasure trove for curious shoppers.
18. Any talk of layoffs would always leave the entire division **harrowed**.
- a. They were filled with new resolve to save the company.
 - b. Their delight led them to be more productive.
 - c. They were filled with guilt at the thought of losing their jobs.
 - d. Their distress led them to be unable to focus on their work.
19. Recent experiments seem to **controvert** the predictions of previous theories.
- a. The theories were confirmed by the researchers.
 - b. The theories were disputed by the researchers.
 - c. The confusing results left researchers dumbfounded.
 - d. Further experiments are needed.
20. As the **potentate** sipped wine, the workers toiled in the field.
- a. The autocratic king enjoyed his life of leisure.
 - b. The wine specialist sampled several vintages.
 - c. The new supervisor enjoyed the fruits of his labor.
 - d. The new buyer was especially picky.
21. The **hidebound** rules of high school never appealed to Veronica.
- a. She never wanted to be a farmer.
 - b. She hated arbitrary discipline.
 - c. She refused to live by their narrow views.
 - d. She just wanted to graduate.
22. Joe was **chary** of his praise for his daughters.
- a. He was suspicious of others.
 - b. He rarely congratulated them.
 - c. He was proud of the children he had raised.
 - d. He was effusive with his compliments.
23. The kimono was trimmed with an **arabesque** of tiny yellow curlicues.
- a. The sharp yellow blocks added a modern splash of color.
 - b. The contrasting stitching displayed the clothier's expertise.
 - c. The felt cloth added a new twist to an historic design.
 - d. The ornate flowing lines were beautiful to behold.

24. The presidential decree was greeted with **rapturous** applause.
- The quiet reception was not what the president had planned.
 - The sycophants would do anything for a promotion.
 - Her supporters were dismayed by the news.
 - Her supporters were elated by the news.
25. The student **prattled** for a few minutes before sitting back down.
- His detailed analysis was more than what the instructor was asking for.
 - His rambling, confused response did not answer the instructor's question.
 - His folksy style was not suited for the classroom.
 - His jokes all fell flat.
26. **Augury** is often performed by observing a crystal ball.
- The interpretation of omens is a fixture of many genres of literature.
 - Seeing into the past is an important part of closure for some.
 - Talking to ghosts is a fraudulent enterprise.
 - The interpretation of tea leaves is an important aspect of the practice.
27. His craftsmanship wasn't worth a **picayune**.
- His woodwork is priceless.
 - He is overpaid.
 - His woodwork is worthless.
 - He is underrated.
28. The dispute **ramified** as more factions got involved.
- The dispute was soon settled in a surge of violence.
 - The dispute was ended quietly.
 - The dispute began to spread and affect all branches of government.
 - The dispute became much louder.
29. Mom **upbraided** me for not doing the dishes last night.
- Her comments were polite.
 - Her rebuke was harsh.
 - Her patient attitude is a blessing.
 - Her hastiness is stressful.
30. The once-funny joke had become a **banality** in the camp.
- The meanspirited joke was cause for reprimand.
 - The silly joke had become tired and boring.
 - The dark joke had lost its humor.
 - The vapid joke had become unoriginal.

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

- 31.
- Sunflowers are hardy easy to grow annuals brighten up any gardens with their large dramatic heads, and petals.

- b. Sunflowers can grow anywhere from 2 to fifteen feet tall depending on the variety; and, their seeds can even be harvested, and, enjoyed as a delicious snack.
 - c. To start, find a plot with full sun and shelter from the wind.
 - d. Sunflowers thrive in warm-to-hot climates, with full sun shine during the day.
- 32.
- a. Bird watching—or birding—is an increasingly popular pastime that can enrich your knowledge of birds.
 - b. All you need is a pair of binoculars, a field guide, and a willingness to observe.
 - c. You don't need fancy, binocular equipment to start watch birds.
 - d. You might decide to buy binoculars especially for birding but you use opera glasses, telescopes, or anything you have on-hand.
- 33.
- a. A vivarium is an enclosed, live, ecosystem, containing flora and fauna that are typically tropical in nature.
 - b. Done right; it can provide a burst of living beauty to your living room.
 - c. Before building your vivarium, decide which single animal species you want to feature, and then go about creating the appropriate environment for it.
 - d. Lay down healthy well draining layers of groundcover, and buy, and install, moisture, heating, and lighting systems.
- 34.
- a. With fuel prices increasing constantly, more drivers are aware of how much fuel they're cars needs.
 - b. While the exact fuel consumptions of your car changes based on your circumstances (e.g., city or highway, road conditions, tire pressure), finding out your car's fuel consumption is actually very easy.
 - c. Know that the equation for fuel consumption is "Miles Driven Divided By Amount Of Gas Used."
 - d. A cars fuel consumption is a measure of miles driven per gallon of gas.
- 35.
- a. Saying "no" to a request can be a difficult thing, especially when the person making the request is your boss.
 - b. Even if you try your best to do everything the boss asks there are times when you cant, and have to say no.
 - c. Think through your reasons: and have a clear picture of what you want to say before you approach your boss.
 - d. Rather than giving a straight-out no: search first for positive alternatives to suggest.

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. In their experiments scientists have also inadvertently started to take baby steps toward a better understanding of how body and mind: through automatic sensory experiences, physicals movements, and higher-level consciousness, are deeply and inextricably intertwined.

- a. In their experiments, scientists have also inadvertently started to take baby steps toward a better understanding of how body and mind—through automatic sensory experiences, physical movements, and higher-level consciousness—are deeply and inextricably intertwined.
 - b. In their experiments scientists have also inadvertently started to take baby steps toward a better understanding of how body and mind—through automatic sensory experiences, physical movements, and higher-level consciousness—are deeply and inextricably intertwined.
 - c. In their experiments, scientists have also inadvertently started to take baby steps toward a better understanding of how body and mind; through automatic sensory experiences, physical movements, and higher-level consciousness, are deeply and inextricably intertwined.
 - d. No change necessary
37. The Eastern Grey Squirrel is a cautious creature with its ears constantly perked and monitoring for a potential threat—be it the screech of a hawk flying above, the rapid pattering of an eager dog, or the rumbling of an oncoming car.
- a. The Eastern Grey Squirrel is a cautious creature, with its ears constantly perked and monitoring for a potential threat—be it the screech of a hawk flying above, the rapid pattering of an eager dog, or the rumbling of an oncoming car.
 - b. The Eastern Grey Squirrel is a cautious creature: with its ears constantly perked, and monitoring for a potential threat—be it the screech of a hawk flying above, the rapid pattering of an eager dog, or the rumbling of an oncoming car.
 - c. The Eastern grey squirrel is a cautious creature, its ears constantly perked and monitoring for a potential threat--be it the screech of a hawk flying above, the rapid pattering of an eager dog, or the rumbling of an oncoming car.
 - d. No change necessary
38. I believe that my teachers grading is too difficult, all she does is look for minor mistakes.
- a. I believe that my teacher's grading is too difficult, all she does is look for minor mistakes.
 - b. I believe that my teacher's grading is too difficult: all she does is look for minor mistakes.
 - c. I believe that my teacher's grading is too difficult—all she does is look for minor mistakes.
 - d. No change necessary
39. Everyday around 40,000 thunderstorms crackle around the world collectively turning earth's atmosphere into a giant electrical circuit.
- a. Every day around 40,000 thunderstorms crackle around the world, collectively turning Earth's atmosphere into a giant electrical circuit.
 - b. Everyday around 40,000 thunderstorms crackle around the world, collectively turning earth's atmosphere into a giant electrical circuit.
 - c. Every day, around 40,000 thunderstorms crackle around the world, collectively turning Earth's atmosphere into a giant electrical circuit.
 - d. No change necessary
40. A feature of the rise of social inequality in America has been the evaporation of public life, the decline in social experiences not organized around pay or profit.
- a. A feature of the rise of social inequality in America has been the evaporation of public life, the decline in social experiences, not organized around pay, or profit.

- b. A feature of the rise of social inequality in America has been the evaporation of public life the decline in social experiences not organized around pay or profit.
 - c. A feature of the rise of social inequality in America has been the evaporation of public life: the decline in social experiences, not organized around pay or profit.
 - d. No change necessary
41. Bereavement Leave isn't federally mandated for any workers, thus it's largely a matter of whether employers choose to provide it.
- a. Bereavement Leave isn't federally mandated for any workers; thus, it's largely a matter of whether employers choose to provide it.
 - b. Bereavement leave isn't federally mandated for any workers: thus it's largely a matter of whether employers choose to provide it.
 - c. Bereavement leave isn't federally mandated for any workers; thus, it's largely a matter of whether employers choose to provide it.
 - d. No change necessary
42. After ignoring my alarm clock, I got up late this morning I didn't have time for breakfast.
- a. After ignoring my alarm clock, I got up late this morning; I didn't have time for breakfast.
 - b. After ignoring my alarm clock I got up late this morning. I didn't have time for breakfast.
 - c. After ignoring my alarm clock I got up late. This morning I didn't have time for breakfast.
 - d. No change necessary
43. At universities across the country Graduate Student Workers perform essential labor.
- a. At universities across the country, graduate student workers perform essential labor.
 - b. At universities across the country, Graduate Student Workers perform essential labor.
 - c. At universities across the country; Graduate student workers perform essential labor.
 - d. No change necessary
44. Horses stand apart, because of their versatile roles in human society, which came to include transportation; plowing; warfare; and status.
- a. Horses stand apart, because of their versatile roles in human society, which came to include transportation, plowing, warfare, and status.
 - b. Horses stand apart because of their versatile roles in human society which came to include transportation; plowing; warfare; and status.
 - c. Horses stand apart because of their versatile roles in human society, which came to include transportation, plowing, warfare, and status.
 - d. No change necessary
45. There's a clear case to be made for nationalization simply to restore greyhound's services; rather, than allow further cutbacks.
- a. There's a clear case to be made for nationalization simply to restore Greyhound's services, rather than allow further cutbacks.
 - b. There's a clear case to be made for nationalization simply to restore greyhound's services; rather, than allow further cutbacks.

- c. There is a clear case to be made for nationalization simply to restore greyhound's services: rather than allow further cutbacks.
- d. No change necessary

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

46. Watching television is one of the many ways people relax after a long day.
- a. Appositive
 - b. Gerund phrase
 - c. Absolute phrase
 - d. Participle phrase
47. Before Ryan went to college, he worked several dead-end jobs.
- a. Dangling modifier
 - b. Infinitive phrase
 - c. Prepositional phrase
 - d. Conjunctive phrase
48. Covered in beautiful lilacs, Brandon admired the local park's lush garden.
- a. Gerund phrase
 - b. Misplaced modifier
 - c. Adverb phrase
 - d. Intransitive verbal phrase
49. Orange tables and yellow chairs added a pop of color to the Livingston's patio.
- a. Compound subject
 - b. Independent clause
 - c. Compound predicate
 - d. Present participle
50. We had been working in the garden all morning.
- a. Past progressive tense
 - b. Simple past tense
 - c. Past perfect progressive tense
 - d. Past perfect tense

Read the following selection from Edgar Allan Poe's poem "The Haunted Palace" and answer questions in items 51-60. The poem was published in a literary magazine and is recited by a character in Poe's short story "The Fall of the House of Usher."

Poe: "The Haunted Palace"

- 1 In the greenest of our valleys,
By good angels tenanted,
Once fair and stately palace --
Radiant palace --reared its head.
In the monarch Thought's dominion --
It stood there!
Never seraph spread a pinion
Over fabric half so fair.

- 9 Wanderers in that happy valley
Through two luminous windows saw
Spirits moving musically
To a lute's well-tuned law,
Round about a throne, where sitting
(Porphyrogene!)
In state his glory well befitting,
The ruler of the realm was seen.
- 17 But evil things, in robes of sorrow,
Assailed the monarch's high estate;
Ah, let us mourn, for never morrow
Shall dawn upon him, desolate!)
And, round about his home, the glory
That blushed and bloomed
Is but a dim-remembered story
Of the old time entombed.
- 25 And travellers now within that valley,
Through the red-litten windows, see
Vast forms that move fantastically
To a discordant melody;
While, like a rapid ghastly river,
Through the pale door,
A hideous throng rush out forever,
And laugh --but smile no more.

51. This poem is divided into

- a. Tercets
- b. Octaves
- c. Quintets
- d. Sestets

52. If the poem is read aloud with modern pronunciation, what kind of rhyme occurs between "estate" in Line 18 and "desolate" in Line 20?

- a. Eye rhyme
- b. Identical rhyme
- c. Rich rhyme
- d. Internal rhyme

53. What is the rhyme scheme of Stanza 2?

- a. ABCDABCD
- b. AABCCDD
- c. ABABCD
- d. ABCBCDED

54. The word "porphyrogene" in Line 14 is Poe's version of the word "porphyrogenite," which likely refers to

- a. A medieval court bard
- b. Extremely wealthy person

- c. Daughter of a king
 - d. Son of a reigning emperor
55. Line 4 contains an example of
- a. Personification
 - b. Alliteration
 - c. Metonymy
 - d. Hyperbole
56. Who are most likely the “vast forms” of Line 27?
- a. The “evil things” of Line 17
 - b. The “spirits” of Line 11
 - c. The “good angels” of Line 2
 - d. The “seraph” of Line 7
57. What is the “law” of Line 12?
- a. Regulations for travelers into the valley
 - b. Spiritual laws and moral rules
 - c. Dictations of the ruler of the realm
 - d. Music regulating a group dance
58. “Litten” in Line 26 is an archaic form of the word
- a. Burnt
 - b. Lit
 - c. Bitten
 - d. Painted
59. What are the “evil things, in robes of sorrow” in Line 17?
- a. The poem does not specify
 - b. The “hideous throng” of Line 31
 - c. An invading army
 - d. A civil war
60. This Gothic poem mostly closely aligns with which literary tradition?
- a. Baroque
 - b. The Alliterative Revival
 - c. Romantic
 - d. Postmodern

Read the following selection from James Joyce’s novel *Ulysses* and answer questions in items 61-70. Joyce is widely recognized as the key creator of Irish Modernism, developing an Irish identity which resists English colonialism. In the selection below, the character Stephen Dedalus converses with Mr. Deasy, the headmaster of the college where Stephen works. Mr. Deasy mocks the English because he believes they are being abused in turn by successful Jewish figures in the English economy. Stephen, a fictional stand-in for Joyce himself, responds to this anti-semitic rant below:

1 --A merchant, Stephen said, is one who buys cheap and sells dear, jew or gentile, is he not?

 --They sinned against the light, Mr Deasy said gravely. And you can see the darkness in their eyes. And that is why they are wanderers on the earth to this day.

5 On the steps of the Paris stock exchange the goldskinned men quoting prices on their gemmed fingers. Gabble of geese . . . Vain patience to heap and hoard. Time surely would scatter all. A hoard heaped by the roadside: plundered and passing on.

--Who has not? Stephen said.

--What do you mean? Mr Deasy asked.

10 He came forward a pace and stood by the table. His underjaw fell sideways open uncertainly. Is this old wisdom? He waits to hear from me.

--History, Stephen said, is a nightmare from which I am trying to awake.

From the playfield the boys raised a shout. A whirring whistle: goal. What is that nightmare gave you a back kick?

15 --The ways of the Creator are not our ways, Mr. Deasy said. All human history moves towards one great goal, the manifestation of God.

Stephen jerked his thumb towards the window, saying:

--That is God.

Hooray! Ay! Whrrwhee!

20 --What? Mr Deasy asked.

--A shout in the street, Stephen answered, shrugging his shoulders.

61. This prose style develops what style?

- a. Heroic prose
- b. Poetic prose
- c. Theatrical prose
- d. Stream-of-consciousness

62. Joyce's use of punctuation is

- a. Dickensian
- b. Dickinsonian
- c. Minimalist
- d. Brutalist

63. How are hyphens used in this passage?

- a. They indicate dialogue
- b. They indicate internal monologue
- c. They indicate a telepathic conversation
- d. They indicate authorial intrusion

64. What is happening outside the room where the conversation is happening?

- a. A race riot
- b. A factory workers' strike
- c. A parade supporting Irish independence
- d. A ballgame

65. How does Stephen feel about capitalism and other money-making efforts, according to Lines 5-7?

- a. They are frightening
- b. They are attractive
- c. They are ridiculous
- d. They harm the environment

66. The aesthetic of this passage would be best described as

- a. Neo-classical

- b. Baroque
 - c. Victorian
 - d. Avant-garde
67. Who was not one of Joyce's near-contemporaries?
- a. Virginia Woolf
 - b. William Butler Yeats
 - c. Allen Ginsberg
 - d. T.S. Eliot
68. Stephen is a history lecturer; how does he feel about history?
- a. He desires to understand history for what it truly was
 - b. He wishes he could disengage from it
 - c. He views history as a series of divinely-ordered events
 - d. He suffers from incurable nostalgia
69. How does Stephen feel about God?
- a. He thinks God is nowhere and everywhere
 - b. He struggles with lapses in his Christian faith
 - c. He hopes to convert to Judaism to better approach God
 - d. He is a devout Christian
70. According to Stephen, who has "sinned against the light"?
- a. Jews
 - b. Christians
 - c. All humans
 - d. The English

Read the following selection from the anonymous *Cloud of Unknowing* and answer questions in items 61-70. The text is from late fourteenth-century England and is a philosophical discussion of how humans ought to engage with the divine. The passage below follows a section which entreats readers to acknowledge the existence of the eponymous Cloud of Unknowing.

- 1 And ween not, for I call it a darkness or a cloud, that it be any cloud congealed of the humours that flee in the air, not yet any darkness such as is in thine house on nights when the candle is out I mean not thus. For when I say darkness, I mean a lacking of knowing: as all that thing that thou knowest not, or else that thou hast forgotten, it is dark to thee; for thou seest it not with thy ghostly eye. And for this reason it is not called a cloud of the air, but a cloud of unknowing, that is betwixt thee and thy God.
- 7 And if ever thou shalt come to this cloud and dwell and work therein as I bid thee, thee behoveth as this cloud of unknowing is above thee, betwixt thee and thy God, right so put a cloud of forgetting beneath thee; betwixt thee and all the creatures that ever be made. Thee thinketh, peradventure, that thou art full far from God because that this cloud of unknowing is betwixt thee and thy God: but surely, an it be well conceived, thou art well further from Him when thou hast no cloud of forgetting betwixt thee and all the creatures that ever be made. As oft as I say, all the creatures that ever be made, as oft I mean not only the creatures themselves, but also all the works and the conditions of the same creatures I take out not one creature, whether they be bodily creatures or ghostly,

nor yet any condition or work of any creature, whether they be good or evil: but shortly to say, all should be his under the cloud of forgetting in this case

- 18 Memory or thinking of any creature that ever God made, or of any of their deeds either, it is a manner of ghostly light: for the eye of thy soul is opened on it and even fixed thereupon, as the eye of a shooter is upon the prick that he shooteth to. And one thing I tell thee, that all thing that thou thinketh upon, it is above thee for the time, and betwixt thee and thy God: and insomuch thou art the further from God, that aught is in thy mind but only God.

71. What does “ween” in Line 1 most likely mean?
- Blaspheme
 - Believe
 - Calumniate
 - Proselyte
72. In general terms, this passage suggests that the Cloud of Unknowing is
- A beneficent presence
 - A demonic presence
 - Only an illusion which humans have invented
 - The essence of Christ
73. Line 20 contains a good example of
- Anaphora
 - Oxymoron
 - Deus ex Machina
 - Simile
74. According to the author, contemplation of the world
- Separates a person from God
 - Is necessary in order to proselytize
 - Is good if that contemplation focuses on family members
 - Is good if that contemplation is about the betterment of society
75. The term “creature” in Lines 12-18 refers to
- Animals
 - Unholy people
 - All things
 - The inventions of humans
76. What is the “ghostly eye” of Line 5?
- The sight of ghosts
 - The spiritual mind
 - The mix of humors in the air
 - The projected target of an arrow
77. The anonymous author of this text was likely not a near-contemporary of
- Geoffrey Chaucer
 - The *Beowulf* author
 - The *Gawain*-poet
 - Julian of Norwich

78. The first sentence of this passage in Lines 1-3 hinges upon
- Pathos
 - Logical reasoning
 - Positive definitions
 - Negative definitions
79. The word “peradventure” in Line 10 likely means
- Certainly
 - Unfortunately
 - Perhaps
 - Due to
80. For this author, ocular theory and spiritual contemplation are
- Deeply linked
 - Irrelevant to one another
 - Empirical pursuits
 - Incompatible