



ACADEMIC CHALLENGE FOR
ACES
ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE



EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

2023 Academic Challenge

REGIONAL ENGLISH EXAM

English Test Production Team

Douglas Brandt, Eastern Illinois University - Editor

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  , not  ,  ,  , 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

Number of Questions: 80

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

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**Academic Challenge
English Test (Regional) 2023**

For items 1-15, choose the standard spelling from the choices given.

- | | | | |
|----|--|-----|--|
| 1. | a. eysosceles
b. isoseles
c. isoceles
d. isosceles
e. isoscelese | 9. | a. semipiternal
b. sempaternal
c. semipaternal
d. sempiternal
e. sempiternal |
| 2. | a. residivism
b. recidivism
c. recidivizm
d. rescidivism
e. rescidevism | 10. | a. petraglyph
b. petroglyph
c. petroglyf
d. petriglyf
e. petraglyf |
| 3. | a. solipsism
b. sollipsism
c. solipsizm
d. sollipsizm
e. solypsism | 11. | a. visicitudes
b. vicisitudes
c. vicissitudes
d. vississitudes
e. vicissitoods |
| 4. | a. newmismatist
b. numissmatist
c. pneumismatist
d. numismatist
e. pneumismetist | 12. | a. insipient
b. incipient
c. incipiant
d. insipiant
e. insippient |
| 5. | a. cadavarous
b. cadaverus
c. cadaveres
d. cadaverrous
e. cadaverous | 13. | a. belicose
b. belikose
c. bellikose
d. bellicose
e. belicos |
| 6. | a. cacaphony
b. cacapheny
c. cacophony
d. cacophoney
e. cacafeny | 14. | a. zylophone
b. zylofone
c. xylofone
d. xylophoan
e. xylophone |
| 7. | a. obelisk
b. oblisk
c. obelisque
d. obalisk
e. abelisk | 15. | a. desuitude
b. dezuetude
c. desuetude
d. dessuetude
e. desuettude |
| 8. | a. caduceus
b. cadaceas
c. caduseus
d. kaduseus
e. kaduceus | | |

Read the passage below. Then respond to items 16-26, selecting the best possible answer for each question.

from ‘The Influence of Darwinism on Philosophy’
John Dewey

That the publication of the *Origin of Species* marked an epoch in the development of the natural sciences is well known to the layman. That the combination of the very words origin and species embodies an intellectual revolt and introduced a new intellectual temper is easily overlooked by the expert. The conceptions that had reigned in the philosophy of nature and knowledge for two thousand years, the conceptions that had become the familiar furniture of the mind, rested on the assumption of the superiority of the fixed and final; they rested upon treating change and origin as signs of defect and unreality. In laying hands upon the sacred ark of absolute permanency, in treating the forms that had been regarded as those of fixity and perfection as originating and passing away, the *Origin of Species* introduced a mode of thinking that in the end was bound to transform the logic of knowledge and hence the treatment of morals, politics, and religion. No wonder, then, that the publication of Darwin’s book, a half century ago, precipitated a crisis.

. . . .

Religious considerations lent fervor to the controversy, but they did not provoke it. Intellectually, religious emotions are not creative but conservative. They attach themselves readily to the current view of the world and consecrate it. They steep and dye intellectual fabrics in the seething vat of emotions; they do not form their warp and woof. There is not, I think, an instance of any large idea about the world being independently generated by religion.

. . . .

Darwin was not, of course, the first to question the classic philosophy of nature and of knowledge. The beginnings of the revolution are in the physical science of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. When Galileo said: “It is an opinion that the earth is very noble and admirable by reason of so many and so different alterations and generations which are incessantly made therein,” he expressed the changed temper that was coming over the world; the transfer of interest from the permanent to the changing. . . . Without the methods of Copernicus, Kepler, Galileo, and their successors in astronomy, physics, and chemistry, Darwin would have been helpless in the organic sciences. . . . The influence of Darwin upon philosophy resides in his having conquered the phenomena of life for the principle of transition, and thereby freed the new logic for application to mind and morals and life. When he said of species what Galileo had said of the earth, *e pur se muove*, he emancipated, once for all, genetic and experimental ideas as an organon of asking questions and looking for explanations.

. . . .

The Darwinian principle of natural selection cut straight under this philosophy [of natural design]. If all organic adaptations are due simply to constant variation and the elimination of those variations which are harmful in the struggle for existence that is brought about by excessive reproduction, there is no call for a prior intelligent causal force to plan and preordain them. Hostile critics charged Darwin with materialism and with making chance the cause of the universe.

. . . .

No one can fairly deny that at present there are two effects of the Darwinian mode of thinking. On the one hand, there are making many sincere and vital efforts to revise our traditional philosophic conceptions in accordance with its demands. On the other hand, there is as definitely a recrudescence of absolutistic philosophies; an assertion of a type of philosophic knowing distinct from that of the sciences, one which opens to us another kind of reality from that to which the sciences give access, an appeal through experience to something that essentially goes beyond experience.

16. Dewey composed this essay as part of a celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the *Origin of Species*. That means the essay was published in which of the following years?
- 1889
 - 1899
 - 1909
 - 1919
 - 1924
17. A layman [paragraph 1] is
- an expert in a given subject.
 - someone with an extraordinary interest in a given subject.
 - someone who avoids a given subject.
 - someone without expertise in a given subject.
 - a clergyman.
18. In referring to “the sacred ark of absolute permanency” [paragraph 1], Dewey refers to
- the Biblical story of Noah’s ark.
 - an unchanging human nature.
 - unchanging human institutions.
 - unchanging human desire to know the truth.
 - philosophical and religious concepts that are assumed to be eternal.
19. When Dewey writes [paragraph 1], “Intellectually, religious emotions are not creative but conservative,” he is implying that religious emotions
- inevitably conflict with science.
 - inevitably mislead the intellect.
 - are utterly useless to our lives.
 - are more important than science.
 - support existing ideas.
20. When Dewey says [paragraph 2] that religious emotions do not form the “warp and woof” of an intellectual view of the world, he is using a metaphor from
- weaving cloth.
 - the canine world.
 - the nautical world.
 - athletics.
 - cosmology.
21. Dewey credits Galileo with initiating modern science by focusing intellectual attention on
- astronomy rather than physics.
 - ancient Greek thought rather than Christian thought.
 - the changing rather than the static.
 - Renaissance thought rather than medieval thought.
 - Western thought rather than Eastern (Asian) thought.

22. When Galileo said of the earth, “*e pur se muove* [and yet it moves],” he is referring to the fact that
- the earth will end someday.
 - the earth revolves around the sun.
 - the earth is subject to earthquakes.
 - the earth rotates on its axis.
 - the earth’s beauty moves him emotionally.
23. An organon [paragraph 3] is
- a collection of organs.
 - a system of scientific logic.
 - a theory of organic matter.
 - the study of plant and animal organs and their functions.
 - the origin and development of biological organs.
24. By “organic sciences” [paragraph 3] Dewey refers to
- physical sciences.
 - chemical sciences.
 - agricultural sciences.
 - environmental sciences.
 - biological sciences.
25. “Hostile critics charged Darwin with materialism” [paragraph 4]. Materialism is the philosophical belief that
- matter is the only reality.
 - spirit is the ultimate reality.
 - objects of perception exist independently of the perceiver.
 - abstract concepts or universals have no objective reference but exist only as names.
 - subjective arguments not based on observable data are meaningless.
26. What is the meaning of the word “recrudescence” [paragraph 5]?
- a philosophical refinement
 - an intellectual rejection
 - a reversion to a simpler, cruder stage
 - a return after a dormant or an inactive period
 - a philosophical compromise

For items 27-37, choose the one option that can be used to revise correctly the given sentence[s] according to the accompanying directions.

27. John Updike was one of the greatest American novelists of the past century. His most famous achievement was the four “Rabbit” novels. He died in early 2009.

Combine these sentences into a single sentence containing an appositive.

- John Updike, who died in early 2009, was one of the greatest American novelists of the past century ; his most famous achievement was the four “Rabbit” novels.
- John Updike, one of the greatest American novelists of the past century, died in early 2009; his most famous achievement was the four “Rabbit” novels.
- John Updike, whose most famous achievement was the four “Rabbit” novels, was one of the greatest American novelists of the past century; he died in early 2009.
- John Updike died in early 2009; he was one of the greatest American novelists of the past century, whose most famous achievement was the four “Rabbit” novels.

28. Trigonometry is a difficult subject for me. Calculus is even more difficult.

Combine these sentences by using a subordinate clause.

- Trigonometry is a difficult subject for me, but calculus is even more difficult.
- Calculus is a more difficult subject for me than trigonometry.
- Trigonometry is a less difficult subject for me than calculus.
- Although trigonometry is a difficult subject for me, calculus is even more difficult.

29. Texting is a complex activity. So is driving. One should not do both at the same time.

Combine these sentences by using a conjunctive adverb.

- Both texting and driving are complex activities; therefore, one should not do both at the same time.
- Because both texting and driving are complex activities, one should not do both at the same time.
- Both texting and driving are complex activities, and one should not do both at the same time.
- One should not text and drive at the same time, since both are complex activities.

30. I owed a large number of library fines I could not take out more books before I paid the fines so I paid them.

Correct the run-on sentence.

- I owed a large number of library fines I could not take out more books before I paid the fines; so I paid them.
- I owed a large number of library fines, I could not take out more books before I paid the fines, so I paid them.
- Because I owed a large number of library fines, I could not take out more books before I paid the fines; consequently, I paid them.
- I owed a large number of library fines, I could not take out more books before I paid the fines; so I paid them.

31. Something which I believe is that it is good to be an effective writer. As a matter of fact, to be a good writer can be very useful in my career.

Revise these sentences to minimize their wordiness.

- Something I believe is that it is good to be an effective writer. In fact, I believe to be a good writer can be very useful in my career.
- Something which I believe is that being an effective writer is good. As a matter of fact, being a good writer can be very useful in my career.
- What I believe is that it is good to be an effective writer. In fact, I believe to be a good writer can be very useful in my career.
- I believe it is good to be an effective writer. In fact, being a good writer can be very useful in my career.

32. The responsibilities of teachers include having a sound knowledge of their subject, to care about their students, grade students fairly, and they need to have patience.

Improve the structure of this sentence by using parallelism.

- The responsibilities of teachers include to have a sound knowledge of their subject, to care about their students, grade students fairly, and they need to have patience.
- The responsibilities of teachers include having a sound knowledge of their subject, caring about their students, grading students fairly, and having patience.
- The responsibilities of a teacher include having a sound knowledge of their subject, caring for their students, to grade students fairly, and having patience.
- The responsibilities of a teacher include having a sound knowledge of their subject, caring for their students, and grading students fairly; they also need to have patience.

33. The play *A Streetcar Named Desire* was written by Tennessee Williams, the male lead was played by Marlon Brando, and the female lead was played by Jessica Tandy.

Convert this sentence to one in which all the verbs are in the active voice.

- The play *A Streetcar Named Desire* was written by Tennessee Williams, Marlon Brando played the male lead, and the female lead was played by Jessica Tandy.
- The play *A Streetcar Named Desire* was written by Tennessee Williams, and Marlon Brando and Jessica Tandy played the leads.
- Tennessee Williams wrote the play *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and its leads were played by Marlon Brando and Jessica Tandy.
- Tennessee Williams wrote the play *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Marlon Brando played the male lead, and Jessica Tandy played the female lead.

34. I like to walk. It is a pleasant, unstressful way to exercise, and one can do it with friends.

Revise these sentences into a single sentence including a gerund.

- I like to walk; it is a pleasant, unstressful way to exercise, and one can do it with friends.
- I like to walk because it is a pleasant, unstressful way to exercise and can be done with friends.
- I like walking; it is a pleasant, unstressful way to exercise, and one can do it with friends.
- I like to walk – it is a pleasant, unstressful way to exercise, and one can do it with friends.

35. If you want to be successful in life, one must set reasonable goals. Finally, one must adapt the means to your own talents.

Revise these sentences for consistency in pronoun number and person.

- If you want to be successful in life, you must set reasonable goals for yourself. Then you must plan the means to achieve the goals. Finally, you must adapt the means to your own talents.
- If one wants to be successful in life, you must set reasonable goals for yourself. Then you must plan the means to achieve the goals. Finally, you must adapt the means to your talents.
- If people want to be successful in life, they must set reasonable goals for themselves. Then you must plan the means to achieve the goals. Finally, they must adapt the means to their own talents.
- If you want to be successful in life, you must set reasonable goals for yourself. Then one must plan the means to achieve the goals. Finally, one must adapt the means to one's own talents.

36. The Supreme Court was once liberal, but now it is conservative.

Revise the sentence by using the past perfect tense.

- The Supreme Court is now conservative, but it once was liberal.
- The Supreme Court is now conservative, but it had once been liberal.
- The Supreme Court is now conservative, but it has been liberal.
- The Supreme Court is now conservative, but it used to be liberal.

37. The doctor told his patient he would need to take the medicine for a month, and then improve his diet and get more exercise.

Change the sentence to one with a plausible direct quotation.

- The doctor told his patient, "You will need to take your medicine for a month, and then improve your diet and get more exercise."
- The doctor told his patient, "You will need to take your medicine for a month, and then improve his diet and get more exercise."
- The doctor told his patient, "to take his medicine for a month and then improve his diet and get more exercise."
- The doctor told his patient "to take his medicine for a month, and then improve his diet and get more exercise."

For items 38-47, select the best option for revising the underlined portion for each item, if correction is needed.

38. Jane said that help would be provided for whomever asks for tutoring.

- who
- those who
- whom
- whoever
- no correction needed

39. Thomas Edison had invented the light bulb, I think, didn't he?

- use present perfect tense
- use conditional perfect tense
- use emphatic verb tense
- use past tense
- no correction needed

40. To knock out the window, we needed a large brick.
- Knocking out the window,
 - For to knock out the window,
 - Knock out the window,
 - If knocking out the window,
 - no correction needed
41. As soon as I hung out my sign, five people rush in to buy tomatoes.
- five people have rushed in
 - five people did rush in
 - five people rushed in
 - five people would have rushed in
 - no correction needed
42. I wish that I would have bought that hat.
- that I bought
 - that I should have bought
 - that I did buy
 - that I had bought
 - no correction needed
43. Her anxiety alleviated, Marcia sat down to a quiet dinner with only her cat.
- Her anxiety was alleviated,
 - Her anxiety alleviate,
 - Her anxiety being alleviate,
 - Her anxiety in being alleviated,
 - no correction needed
44. I read the novel *Moby Dick* in only two weeks.
- the novel, "Moby Dick",
 - the novel 'Moby Dick'
 - the novel *Moby Dick*
 - the novel "*Moby Dick*"
 - no correction needed
45. My only sister Roxanne is coming to visit me next July.
- My only sister, Roxanne
 - My only sister, Roxanne,
 - My only sister Roxanne,
 - My only sister; Roxanne
 - no correction needed
46. In the unreal world of TV, makes advertising so powerful.
- make advertising
 - advertising
 - imagination makes advertising
 - advertising becomes made
 - no correction needed
47. Movies of the 21st century are technically better.
- are technically improved.
 - are technically prettier.
 - are technically higher grade.
 - are technically of a higher standard.
 - no correction needed

For items 48-60, follow the directions for each question.

48. The mark "lc" on a manuscript means that
- a word should be capitalized.
 - a word is misspelled.
 - a sentence should be less complicated.
 - a word should be in small letters.
 - this is a redundant passage.
49. A false statement or a false line of reasoning is called
- perjury.
 - an exaggeration.
 - a fallacy.
 - an understatement.
 - a generalization.

50. “Assuming what needs to be proved” is called
- asserting the obvious.
 - misleading the reader.
 - beating about the bush.
 - begging the question.
 - obfuscating.
51. *Name the error in this sentence:*
When I laid down to read, my dog kept pestering me.
- verb form
 - inappropriate slang usage
 - logic
 - pronoun reference
 - incorrect objective case
52. Which of the following should be italicized?
- a poem title
 - a novel title
 - a theme title
 - a song title
 - all of the above
53. Which one of these is an example of an indefinite pronoun?
- whom
 - yourself
 - that
 - everybody
 - them
54. *In the following sentence the degree of comparison is _____.* She definitely bakes a better cake than her brother.
- superlative
 - imperative
 - hyperlative
 - comparative
 - none of the above
55. *Name the error in the following sentence:* When she got her voice all revved up, she sang like a canary.
- jargon
 - googledogook
 - mixed metaphor
 - over-preciseness
 - precious diction
56. *Identify the tense and mood of the underlined verb in the following sentence:* I have told you fifty times not to write in the margins of the textbook.
- past perfect subjunctive
 - present perfect imperative
 - past perfect indicative
 - present perfect indicative
 - past indicative
57. A verb preceded by “to” and used as a noun is called a [an] _____.
- finite verb
 - infinitive
 - subjunctive
 - participle
 - intensive
58. *The error in the following sentence occurs in _____.* The teacher gave tickets to the play to my best friend and I.
- number
 - spelling
 - case
 - tense
 - diction

59. A [An] _____ subject consists of two nouns or pronouns joined by *or* or *nor*.
- alternative
 - coordinate
 - correlative
 - disjunctive
 - bifurcated
60. *The error in the following sentence is _____.* Neither my friends nor my mother are interested in polo.
- verb agreement
 - pronoun reference
 - punctuation
 - diction
 - none of the above

Read the following poem carefully and respond to items 61-73 that follow.

Ozymandias
Percy Bysshe Shelley

I met a traveler from an antique land
 Who said: Two vast and trunkless legs of stone
 Stand in the desert . . . Near them, on the sand,
 Half sunk, a shattered visage lies, whose frown, 4
 And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
 Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
 Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
 The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed: 8
 And on the pedestal these words appear:
 "My name is Ozymandias, king of kings:
 Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!"
 Nothing beside remains. Round the decay 12
 Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare
 The lone and level sands stretch far away. 14

61. In line 1, an "antique land" means
- an outdoor museum.
 - a mall filled with antique artifacts.
 - a theme park.
 - a site of an ancient culture.
 - a land populated with old people.
62. The traveler has seen
- a cemetery.
 - a display of statuary.
 - a sand formation.
 - a rock formation.
 - a broken stone figure.
63. In lines 3-8 the sentence containing the words "the hand that mocked them" means that
- the artist laughed at the statue.
 - the traveler laughed at the statue.
 - the artist felt confused by the subject.
 - the sculptor understood the character of the subject.
 - the sculptor did not understand the character of the subject.
64. In line 4 "shattered visage" means that
- the face was broken.
 - the base was in pieces.
 - the face has a scar on it.
 - the body was in pieces.
 - the arms were in pieces.

65. The expression on the statue's face was
- friendly.
 - vacant.
 - dignified.
 - imperious.
 - objective.
66. The form of this poem is that of a [an]
- rondeau.
 - lyric.
 - epic.
 - narrative.
 - sonnet.
67. The original statue would have been a
- king on his throne.
 - king being crowned.
 - king and his retinue.
 - king and his consort.
 - king and his dog.
68. The description suggests that the landscape is
- an arid climate.
 - a mountainous region.
 - adjacent to a lake.
 - near a famous campsite.
 - a cold region.
69. Who are "ye Mighty" in line 11?
- the king's army
 - other kings
 - the king's heirs
 - the king's religious leaders
 - the king's council
70. The tone of the last six lines is
- degrading.
 - ironic.
 - bitter.
 - unconcerned.
 - funny.
71. Line 11 suggests that the king believed that
- his accomplishments could not be duplicated.
 - his rivals would not appreciate his accomplishments.
 - his council would never fund his proposals.
 - his plans were too complicated to be completed.
 - his subjects loved the things he had accomplished.
72. Which of these themes is not embodied in this poem?
- Power is transitory.
 - Kings are ultimately benevolent.
 - Power corrupts.
 - Rulers tend to be self-centered.
 - Self-delusion is easy for the powerful.
73. The poet's attitude seems to be
- anti-monarchical.
 - pro-monarchical.
 - imperial.
 - colonial.
 - exploratory.

For items 74-80, select the definition below each term that most precisely and accurately matches the meaning of the underlined word in the sentence.

74. At the age of twenty, Lawrence had an epiphany.
- a serious disease
 - a well-paying job
 - a spiritual revelation
 - a major disappointment
 - a loving relationship
75. The ambitious young man hoped for a sinecure.
- a position that would make full use of his abilities
 - a position with few responsibilities but significant compensation
 - a position that has chance for advancement
 - a position that contributes to world benefit
 - a position that would bring him fame
76. Some people have accused me of narcissism.
- sexual indiscretion
 - hyperbolic idealism
 - inordinate self-love
 - excessive timidity
 - strong envy
77. Mary asked me to meet her at the basilica.
- church
 - train station
 - airport
 - hotel
 - art museum
78. Austin had a reputation as a sycophant.
- a humanitarian who cares for the disadvantaged
 - an animal-lover who seeks to prevent suffering
 - a religious person who tolerates differences of opinion
 - a flatterer who seeks favors
 - an athlete who practices good sportsmanship
79. The mayor's acceptance speech was more like a homily.
- comic routine
 - political advertisement
 - self-justification
 - sermon
 - plea for tolerance
80. The popular song struck me as lachrymose.
- tearful
 - frantic
 - martial
 - exotic
 - sensual

