
DIAGNOSTIC TEST

FORM BB

This test of English skills has two parts. When you finish Part One, go directly to Part Two. You have forty-five minutes to respond to sixty items, so you should not spend too much time on any one item.

Each item has four possible answers. Choose the best answer and mark the appropriate space on your answer form, making sure to blacken the space thoroughly and to erase any stray pencil markings.

PART ONE

This part of the test has thirty-five sentences. Some of them are correct; others have errors in grammar or punctuation. No sentence has more than one error.

Each sentence has four underlined segments lettered A, B, C, and D. Read the sentence carefully. If there is a grammar or punctuation error in any of the underlined parts of the sentence, blacken the space that corresponds to the letter under the underlined segment. If there is no error, blacken the D space on your answer form.

EXAMPLE:

Salmon always return to their birthplace at egg-laying time. Strong cur-
rents and high waterfalls in a river does not keep them from swimming
upstream to lay their eggs in that spot. No error.

A
B
C D

Answer: A B C D
 ○ ● ○ ○

1. When the policeman asks for my car registration, I always have it handy; I am believing in being prepared. No error.
A B
C D
2. After only a week, the new Parts Department clerk could check inventory faster than anyone else. Because she had memorized a hundred code numbers. No error.
A
B C
D
3. During his career, which ended two years ago, he gave more than five hundred performances. Now he teaches music. No error.
A B
C D
4. Liz, like many people who do not own a car, has difficulty carrying her groceries back to her apartment. No error.
A B C
D
5. We are counting on each team that goes to the tournament to do their best on the court. No error.
A B C
D
6. It's no wonder that George and him failed physics; both devoted all their time to sports, not schoolwork. No error.
A B
C D
7. As a boy, he learned from his father how to chop wood with an ax. Later, this proved to be an useful skill. No error.
A B
C D
8. Whenever a dust storm blew in, people drug all their porch furniture inside and drove the horses and cows into the barn. No error.
A B
C D

9. Many Europeans think that American politicians don't accomplish hardly nothing
A B C
 by their protracted congressional hearings. No error.
D
10. Marian Anderson said that life had taught her to obey her own rules, to forget past
A B
 injustices, to sing her very best, and the importance of acting. No error.
C D
11. Five refugee families have arrived in our small town and their delight in our peaceful
A B
 lives makes me happy that we decided to invite them. No error.
C D
12. Someday I'd like to establish my own business. If I had the capital, I will do it now.
A B C
No error.
D
13. After age sixty, many Americans find they must adjust to: misplacing important
A B
 papers, forgetting people's names, gaining hard-to-lose pounds, and trying to con-
C
 vince themselves that these problems are perfectly normal. No error.
D
14. The little boy in Ezra Jack Keats book Whistle for Willie, who looks very much like the
A
sturdy, smiling child in The Snowy Day, also resembles Peter in Peter's Chair.
B C
No error.
D
15. First, students should insert their disks. Next, they should turn on the computer.
A B
 Then you wait for the screen to ask for the password. No error.
C D
16. I expect to take my exam in October. Originally I had planned to take the exam in
A B
 August, but I decided postponing it when I realized I would need more time to
C
 prepare. No error.
D

17. Marianne watched the high school graduation ceremony with special interest this year, her return to school had made her understand the ritual's significance.
A B C
No error.
D
18. Kelly attempted to get more money for the clerks by documenting their overtime and comparing their jobs to other jobs. In addition to doing a time-and-motion study on them. No error.
A B
C
D
19. Joellyn activated the computer lab's terminals: First she turned on the main switch; then she cleared all the screens. Finally, as she entered the code at the control terminal, she couldn't suppress a grin. Twenty-seven screens flash a four-color "Welcome to the Lab" message. No error.
A B C
D
20. Three managers in our shop liked my proposal very much, but not one of them said they would be a sponsor for it at the staff meeting. No error.
A
B C D
21. We felt badly about losing the game, but we all knew that we had played well.
A B C
No error.
D
22. Even though she was take the medicine, her fever rose throughout the afternoon and reached 103 degrees by evening. No error.
A B
C D
23. In our family, anyone who drives to the ball games at the park offers a ride to the others. No error.
A B C
D
24. He planned to retire at age sixty-two, but his boss asked him to work two more years. When he refused, his boss offered increasing his salary. No error.
A B
C D

25. Isn't it strange that a forbidden pleasure loses its allure when its no longer forbidden? No error.
 A B C D
26. Louisiana is more like the tropics than many people realize. Though the state occasionally has a nice, dry weather, its rainy season lasts all year. No error.
 A B C D
27. The contestant in the first heat stayed underwater for only sixty seconds I was positive I could last longer than that. No error.
 B C D A
28. The job of maneuvering a tractor trailer through the mountains demand drivers who have strong nerves, quick reflexes, and good judgment. No error.
 A B C D
29. She became ill because she drank water that she hadn't boiled it. When she got back home, she had to see a doctor. No error.
 A B C D
30. We should to eat less fast food. Tonight we will eat some fish and fresh vegetables, and we may eat the same thing tomorrow. No error.
 A B C D
31. Two hours ago I put the quilt on the floor so that Chris could lay the baby on it and lie down himself; they have both been lying there ever since. No error.
 A B C D
32. When we returned from our vacation, we realized that the door wide open. Fortunately, nothing had been stolen. No error.
 A B C D
33. Because of the recession, he had a hard time finding an employment. Finally he got a job with the government. No error.
 A B C D

34. When Lucille told the new man to unload the truck, the new man wanted to know
what he was suppose to do first. No error.

35. A book chosen by a child will keep their attention, so let a child choose the book to
be read aloud. No error.

PART TWO

This part of the test has twenty-five sentences. Some of them are correct; others have errors in grammar or punctuation.

Each sentence has one underlined segment. Below the sentence are four ways of writing the underlined part. If the underlined segment is correct, choose A (No change). If the underlined segment needs to be corrected, choose the best way to write the underlined part and indicate the corresponding letter (B, C, or D) on your answer form.

EXAMPLE:

Picture books help a child develop recognition skills. By looking at the picture, they learn how to connect what they see with what they read.

- A. No change.
- B. Picture books help children develop recognition skills. By looking at the picture, they learn
- C. Picture books help children develop recognition skills. By looking at the picture, he or she learns
- D. Picture books help a child develop recognition skills. By looking at the picture they learn

Answer: A B C D
 ○ ● ○ ○

36. Nonsmokers often assume that smokers, who want to quit, can do so fairly easily.
- A. No change.
 - B. smokers (who want to quit)
 - C. smokers — who want to quit —
 - D. smokers who want to quit
37. After working feverishly to capture the prosecution's cross-examination, the new photographer's film was not accepted by the television station.
- A. No change.
 - B. the television station would not accept the new photographer's film.
 - C. the film of the new photographer was not accepted by the television station.
 - D. the new photographer could not get the television station to accept her film.
38. The Mississippi River system it is the third largest in the world.
- A. No change.
 - B. system, is
 - C. system is
 - D. system, it is
39. The world's most productive industrial nations are known as the Group of Seven. These nations leaders meet each year.
- A. No change.
 - B. These nation's leaders
 - C. These nation's leader
 - D. These nations' leaders
40. At Hillary's summer camp, the major activity for both the staff and the campers was backpacking in the mountains.
- A. No change.
 - B. were
 - C. are
 - D. have been
41. The sergeant ordered my best buddy and me to stand guard duty on our night off.
- A. No change.
 - B. my best buddy and I
 - C. my best buddy and myself
 - D. I and my best buddy

42. Anyone who has Mr. Markham for senior English knows on the first day that they will have a busy year ahead.
- A. No change.
 - B. Anyone who have Mr. Markham for senior English know
 - C. All students who have Mr. Markham for senior English know
 - D. Everybody who has Mr. Markham for senior English knows
43. Babies whose mothers breast-feed them, the mothers usually give them immunity to some diseases.
- A. No change.
 - B. Usually, babies whose mothers breast-feed them, the mothers give them
 - C. Babies whose mothers breast-feed them, usually, the mothers give them
 - D. Mothers who breast-feed their babies usually give the babies
44. My brother always says is easy to find a date, but he's never been a girl.
- A. No change.
 - B. always says it is easy
 - C. always say it is easy
 - D. says always is easy
45. Picture books are important to a child in three ways: to stimulate imagination, encouraging learning, and they are enjoyable.
- A. No change.
 - B. stimulating imagination, encouraging learning, and they are enjoyable.
 - C. to stimulate imagination, to encourage learning, and they are enjoyable.
 - D. They stimulate imagination, they encourage learning, and they are enjoyable.
46. After the workers had finished tearing off the old roof shingles and black paper scraps were piled in the yard.
- A. No change.
 - B. After the workers had finished tearing off the old roof shingles, and black paper scraps
 - C. After the workers had finished tearing off the old roof, shingles and black paper scraps
 - D. After the workers had finished tearing off the old roof shingles and black paper scraps,

47. The first three sections of the foreign service examination raised my hopes considerably, the last section dashed them completely.
- A. No change.
 - B. considerably the
 - C. considerably, however, the
 - D. considerably; the
48. My sister's vacation routine never varied; she always basked in the sun for an hour before she helped set up camp.
- A. No change.
 - B. varied, she
 - C. varied; because she
 - D. varied she
49. An enormous old oak tree with green large leaves stood outside her house.
- A. No change.
 - B. An enormous old oak tree with large green leaves
 - C. An old enormous oak tree with green large leaves
 - D. An old enormous oak tree with large green leaves
50. After the movie, we went to a restaurant on Bright Street. A restaurant was called Charlie's.
- A. No change.
 - B. Restaurant
 - C. The restaurant
 - D. Some restaurant
51. Before Dad commented on my plan to get married after high school graduation, he asked me whether or not I planned to go to college and have a career?
- A. No change.
 - B. did I plan to go to college and have a career.
 - C. did I plan to go to college and have a career?
 - D. whether or not I planned to go to college and have a career.
52. Most children have observed various forms of cheating that their families accept. Such as, the failure to report certain items on income tax forms.
- A. No change.
 - B. accept; such as, the failure
 - C. accept. Such as: failing
 - D. accept, such as the failure

53. Since Sol delighted in physically difficult outdoor activity, so, it was logical for him to apply for the job of forest ranger.
- A. No change.
 - B. activity, it
 - C. activity; so it
 - D. activity. So it
54. In the alley behind the burned houses was a small pile of furniture that the families had saved from the fire.
- A. No change.
 - B. were
 - C. are
 - D. have been placed
55. I have gained hands-on experience that will help me in my college courses and achieve my goals in the business field.
- A. No change.
 - B. do well in my college courses and achieve my goals
 - C. in my college courses and in my goals
 - D. in my college courses and to achieve my goals
56. His name appeared on the list of men who were condemned to die on the governor's desk before 7:00 a.m.
- A. No change.
 - B. His name appeared on the list of men who were condemned to die; the list was on the governor's desk before 7:00 a.m.
 - C. Before 7:00 a.m., his name appeared on the list of men who were condemned to die on the governor's desk.
 - D. On the list of men who were condemned to die on the governor's desk before 7:00 a.m., his name appeared.
57. Important structural damages often appear first in small signs. A half-destroyed joist, for example, may reveal itself by a single carpenter ant.
- A. No change.
 - B. joist for example, may
 - C. joist; for example, may
 - D. joist; for example may

58. The work was exciting, but she was exhausting by the end of the day.
- A. No change.
 - B. excited, but she was exhausted
 - C. exciting, and she was exhausting
 - D. exciting, but she was exhausted
59. Convinced of his client's innocence, every possible tactic was used by the lawyer to delay the trial.
- A. No change.
 - B. a delay of the trial was sought by every possible tactic by the lawyer.
 - C. the trial was delayed by every possible tactic by the lawyer.
 - D. the lawyer used every possible tactic to delay the trial.
60. Before the coach would accept our apologies, we had to convince him that we had ran five laps of the track.
- A. No change.
 - B. ran
 - C. had run
 - D. have run