ENGLISH PROFICIENCY TEST FOR GRADE 10 – GRADE 12

Part I: Conversation (Items 1-6)

Short Conversations

Directions: Choose the best answer.

1. **Situation: Two friends are talking** (3 points)

Samuel: We should get up at 4:00 a.m. to arrive at the airport by 6:00 a.m.

Beth: Well, _____. We'll be waiting for a long time.

A. It won't take long

B. I guess you're right

C. I couldn't agree more

D. I beg to differ

2. **Situation: At an office** (5 points)

Boss: Elizabeth has a good education and a lot of experience, so _____ this new position.

Jane: I absolutely agree! She's the most outstanding among all the candidates.

A. she's in good shape for

B. she makes up for

C. she goes in for

D. she's gifted with

3. **Situation: At a school** (2 points)

Teacher: How come you didn't hand in your assignment?

Student: _____

A. I'm sorry I didn't know the deadline.

B. Next time I'll submit it on time.

C. I didn't come here often.

D. I've come here to hand it in.

Long Conversation

Directions: Choose the best answer.

Situation: Talking about long-term plans

Emma: What do you think you'll do when you finish college?

John: Oh, I'll probably stay in the city and look for work here. Then I'll go back home on holidays.

Emma: I love that idea, but I'll probably go closer to home to get a job. I like being close to my family and old friends. Still, _____4._____ (3 points)

John: Well, maybe you could find a job in a big city closer to home.

Emma: _____5._____ (5 points)

John: On the other hand, since you like to travel, you could possibly get a job in another country—do something exotic.

Emma: You're right. I might get really bored just doing the same old thing. I'd learn a lot overseas—even pick up another language. It's definitely something to think about.

John: Well, I guess we don't have to decide now, _____6._____ (2 points)

4. A. living in the countryside is fantastic!

   B. life in a big city is certainly tempting!

   C. finding a job in a big city is not easy at all!

   D. living in a big city close to home is out of the question!

5. A. Yeah, that would be a good happy medium.

   B. Of course, I'd rather work from home.

   C. Sure, that would be the last opportunity.

   D. Right, that would be better than doing nothing.

6. A. and it's not important at all.

   B. but we need to make an attempt to do it!

   C. so it depends on our future.

   D. since we're still in our freshman year!

Part II: Vocabulary (Items 7-12)

Directions: Fill in the blank with the most suitable word.

7. By the late 1950s scientists had already _____ enough evidence to show a clear link between smoking and cancer. (2 points)

A. accompanied B. accelerated C. accumulated D. accustomed

8. Year after year, the political system further _____ average citizens while empowering those with money. (3 points)

A. marginalizes B. anticipates C. subsidizes D. endorses

9. The ship's captain was a _____ man who spoke only to give orders. (5 points)

A. eloquent B. taciturn C. garrulous D. rowdy

Directions: Choose the word which has the closest meaning to the underlined word.

10. We joined a club that promotes cycling for fun and fitness through **advocacy** and education. (2 points)

A. charity B. development C. entertainment D. support

11. Their crimes were not driven by **malicious** calculation, but sparked by the most **mundane** disagreements that escalated out of control. (3 points)

A. deliberate – extreme
B. furious – intense
C. profound – common
D. cruel – ordinary

12. Choose the alternative which has the closest meaning to the underlined word. (5 points)

Many investors have **turned** their attention to opportunities abroad.

A. Phil **turned** his gaze towards the older man.
B. The sun had **turned** the sky a glowing pink.
C. She cycled up the street and **turned** into Long Road.
D. Dan **turned** away, hiding the fear in his eyes.

Part III: Grammar (Items 13-18)

Directions: Choose the best answer.

13. The resort _____ in an area visited by millions of tourists each year. (2 points)

A. centrally locates
B. is centrally located
C. is centrally locating
D. centrally located

14. If _____, the bird may abandon the nest, leaving the chicks to die. (3 points)

A. it disturbs
B. disturbed
C. it was disturbed
D. disturbing

15. Kobert also asked that a trustee _____to take control of the company. (5 points)

A. appoint
B. would be appointed
C. appointed
D. be appointed

Directions: Choose the underlined part that is grammatically wrong.

16. He <u>had failed</u> because of a lack <u>in</u> talent for impromptu speaking, <u>considered</u> essential for the task <u>he was contemplating</u>. (2 points)

A. B. C. D.

17. Teams build lasting <u>networks</u> throughout an organization, <u>because</u> everyone <u>gets to know</u> <u>like-mind</u> people in other departments. (3 points)

A. B. C. D.

18. The **transfer** of a business **is governed** or **effected** by the law of the country where the

A. B. C.

business is **situated in**. (5 points)

D.

Part IV: The Cloze Test (Items 19-24)

Directions: Fill in the blank with the most suitable word.

A _____19._____ (5 points) household pest has unexpected origins. A cockroach that lives in human dwellings all over the world is known as the German cockroach — but it did not come from Germany originally. A study published today in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences suggests that the creature originated in South Asia and spread globally because of its _____20._____ (3 points) for human habitats.

Swedish biologist Carl Linnaeus was the first scientist to describe the cockroach — which he named Blattella germanica — in 1776 in Europe, _____21._____ (5 points) about its German origins. “They did not originate from there, but they were domesticated there and then started to spread across the world,” says study co-author Qian Tang, an evolutionary biologist now at Harvard University in Boston, Massachusetts.

Tang and his colleagues analyzed the genomes of 281 German cockroaches collected from 17 countries, including Australia, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Ukraine and the United States. They used the similarities and differences between the genomes to calculate when and where different populations _____22._____ (3 points).

They found that the closest living _____23._____ (2 points) of the German cockroach is probably the Asian cockroach Blattella asahinai, which is still found in South Asia. Blattella germanica probably _____24._____ (2 points) from it around 2,100 years ago.

19. A. ubiquitous B. thriving C. capricious D. calamitous

20. A. hostility B. indemnity C. infinity D. affinity

21. A. hence it was an assumption B. hence the assumption
C. such assumption was D. so was the assumption

22. A. may be established B. had to be established
C. might be established D. might have been established

23. A. related B. relationship C. relative D. relation

24. A. split off B. splits off C. splitted off D. splitting off

Part V: Reading Comprehension (Items 25-30)

Directions: Read the following passage and answer the questions.

A growing demand for shark steaks and shark-fin soup has for the first time in 400 million years put the scourge of the sea at the wrong end of the food chain. Commercial landings of this toothsome fish have doubled every year since 1986, and shark populations are substantially decreasing. This is not a case of good riddance at all. Sharks do for gentler fish what lions do for the wildebeest: they check populations by feeding on the weak. Also,

sharks apparently do not get cancer and may therefore harbor clues to the nature of that disease.

Finally, motherhood is an issue of concern. Sharks are viviparous. That is, they bear their young alive and swimming (not sealed in eggs) after gestation periods lasting from nine months to two years. Shark mothers generally give birth to litters of from eight to twelve pups and bear only one litter every other year.

This is why sharks have one of the lowest fecundity rates in the ocean. The female cod, for example, spawns annually and lays a few million eggs at a time. If three quarters of the cod were to be fished this year, they could be back in full force in a few years. However, if 75% of the sharks were hunted by humans, the population would not recover for 15 years.

So, late this summer, if all goes according to plan, the shark, like the bald eagle and the buffalo, will be on the list of managed species. The federal government will cap the U.S. commercial catch at 5,800 metric tons, about half of the 1989 level, and limit sportsmen to two sharks per boat. Another provision discourages finning, the harvesting of shark fins alone, by limiting the weight of fins to 7 percent of that of all the carcasses.

Finning **got under the skin of** environmentalists, and the resulting anger helped to mobilize support for the new regulations. Finning itself is a fairly recent innovation. Shark fins contain noodle-like cartilaginous tissues that Chinese chefs have traditionally used to thicken and flavor soup. Over the past few years rising demand in Hong Kong has made the fins as

valuable as the rest of the fish. Long strands are prized, so unusually large fins can be worth considerably more to the fisherman than the average price of about $10 a pound.

But can U.S. quotas protect shark species that roam the whole Atlantic? The blue shark, for example, migrates into the waters of something like 23 countries. John G. Casey, a biologist with the National Marine Fisheries Service Research Center in Narragansett, R.I., admits that international coordination will eventually be required. But he supports U.S. quotas as a first step in mobilizing other nations. Meanwhile, the commercial fishermen are not waiting for the new rules to take effect. "There's a pre-quota rush on sharks," Casey says, GO "and it's going on as we speak."

25. According to the passage, why are shark populations at greater risk than cod populations? (2 points)

A. Shark are quickly becoming fewer in number.

B. The demand for sharks is higher than that of cod.

C. It is much easier to catch sharks than to catch cod.

D. The reproduction rate of sharks is lower than that of cod.

26. According to the passage, which of the following statements is NOT TRUE? (3 points)

A. A decrease in shark populations would hinder cancer research.

B. Plunging shark populations might probably affect the marine food chain.

C. A decrease in shark populations might cause some fish populations to go unchecked.

D. It might take more than a decade for shark populations to recover if three quarters of the sharks were fished.

27. If a new viviparous species were born and were determined to have extremely low fecundity rates on land, we might expect that _____ (3 points)

A. the new species would soon become extinct.

B. the new species might be declared an endangered species.

C. the total population of the new species would not increase.

D. None of these events would be expected with certainty.

28. Which of the following word has the closest meaning to “got under the skin of” in paragraph 5? (2 points)

A. disappointed B. harmed C. helped D. annoyed

29. It can be inferred from the passage that _____ (5 points)

A. research efforts on cancer will be hampered if shark populations plummeted.

B. U.S. quotas on shark fishing will have limited effectiveness in protecting certain shark species.

C. the populations of bald eagles and buffaloes have been declining at the same rate as those of sharks.

D. some practices of Chinese chefs have infuriated environmentalists.

30. What is the author's attitude toward the efforts to protect shark populations? (5 points)

A. strong advocacy

B. intense opposition

C. complete impartiality

D. great curiosity

Grade 10 - Grade 12 Answer Key

Item	Score	Answer	Item	Score	Answer
1	3	D	16	2	B
2	5	A	17	3	D
3	2	A	18	5	D
4	3	B	19	5	A
5	5	A	20	3	D
6	2	D	21	5	B
7	2	C	22	3	D
8	3	A	23	2	C
9	5	B	24	2	A
10	2	D	25	2	D
11	3	D	26	3	A
12	5	A	27	3	D
13	2	B	28	2	D
14	3	B	29	5	B
15	5	D	30	5	C