ENGLAND GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE OCR · FINAL EXAM · 50 QUESTIONS

Final Exam — Practice Test

This practice test was made by AI and there may be mistakes. If a question or answer looks wrong, use the Flag a mistake button to let Brett know so he can fix it.

1 **A letter lies on the desk, waiting to be posted. Which opening is best for a formal letter to a company?**

- A Hey you
- B Hi there, I hope this finds you well
- C Dear friend
- D Dear Sir or Madam

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2 **A train waits at the station in the early morning. Which sentence uses a dash correctly to add extra detail?**

- A The train - an old steam engine - waited at the station.
- B The train - waited at the station in the early morning fog.
- C The train waited - at the station.
- D The - train waited at the station.

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3 **A beach at dawn is quiet and empty. Which sentence best creates a calm mood?**

- A Soft waves whispered on the sand.
- B Everyone shouted and ran about
- C The beach was very noisy and busy all day long.
- D The beach had sand and sea

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4 **A candle flickers in a dark room. Which sentence uses a dash correctly for emphasis?**

- A The room was dark - except for one small candle.
- B The room - was dark and cold and empty all night.
- C The - room was dark.
- D The room was - dark.

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5 **A bicycle leans against the wall by the school gate. Which sentence uses a comma correctly?**

- A After school I ride my bicycle, home
- B After school, I ride my bicycle home.
- C After, school I ride my bicycle home
- D After school I ride, my bicycle home every day

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6 **A camera sits on the shelf beside old photographs. Which sentence uses standard English?**

- A We was at the park yesterday afternoon
- B We was at the park, innit
- C We is at the park yesterday
- D We were at the park yesterday.

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7 **An umbrella opens as the rain begins to fall. Which sentence uses a comma correctly in a list?**

A She took her coat, her umbrella, and, her bag.

B She took her coat her umbrella, and her bag to the shops.

C She took, her coat her umbrella and her bag.

D She took her coat, her umbrella and her bag.

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8 **A kite soars high in a blue sky. Which word is closest in meaning to soar?**

A sit still on the ground

B fly high

C fall down very quickly indeed

D sink slowly into the sea

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9 **Revising all night is a false economy. A tired brain cannot hold facts, and the hours you gain are lost the next day in mistakes and fog. Sleep is when the brain files away what you have learned, like a librarian shelving books. Go to bed, and let your brain do its homework. Which phrase from the extract is an example of personification?**

- A let your brain do its homework
- B the hours you gain are lost the next day
- C a tired brain cannot hold facts
- D revising all night is a false economy

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10 **What is the effect of a very long paragraph?**

- A it can feel dense and hard to follow
- B it adds a picture
- C it always makes the writing better, whatever the topic
- D it ends the text

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11 **What does chronological order mean?**

A events in reverse order

B events at random

C events in order of importance

D events in time order

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12 **How is speech usually shown in a story?**

A with capital letters only

B with speech marks

C with no punctuation at all

D with brackets around every word

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13 **What is first person narration?**

A told by you

B told by nobody

C told by he, she or they

D told by I or we

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14 **Which sentence uses a semicolon correctly?**

A It was late; and the streets were empty.

B It was; late the streets were empty.

C It was late, the streets were empty.

D It was late; the streets were empty.

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15 **Which phrase uses hyperbole?**

A I have told you twice today already

B I will tell you now

C I told you yesterday

D I have told you a million times

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16 **Which sentence uses a dash correctly?**

A The winner - was Sam.

B The winner to everyone's surprise was Sam today.

C The - winner was Sam.

D The winner - to everyone's surprise - was Sam.

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17 **Which is most formal?**

A Hey

B I am writing to complain

C I am writing to say I am really fed up

D Hi there

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18 **Which sentence uses a colon correctly?**

A The recipe: needs three things.

B The recipe needs three things, flour, eggs and milk.

C The recipe needs three things: flour, eggs and milk.

D The recipe needs: flour, eggs and milk.

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19 **The woods in October are a different country: the light falls in gold bars through the branches, bright as coins in the sun, and the ground is a carpet of rust and amber. I walk slowly, kicking leaves, listening to the jays argue overhead, and the air smells of earth and smoke. It is the one season that makes me want to stop and simply look. What mood does the extract create?**

A peaceful

B chaotic

C furious

D terrified

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20 **Which sentence uses a comma correctly in a date?**

A On Monday 3 June we left for London.

B On Monday 3 June, we left.

C On Monday, 3 June, we left.

D On Monday, 3 June we left.

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21 **What is the effect of first person narration?**

- A the reader knows what every character thinks
- B the story is always true
- C the story has no narrator
- D the reader shares the narrator's feelings

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22 **Which sentence uses a dash correctly for emphasis at the end?**

- A He had - only one thing left hope.
- B He had only one thing left - hope.
- C He - had only one thing left hope.
- D He had only one thing left, hope, and nothing else.

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23 **What is an unreliable narrator?**

- A a narrator who tells the truth all the time
- B a narrator with no opinions
- C a narrator who cannot be trusted
- D a narrator who is always right

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24 **Which sentence is in the active voice?**

- A The roof was damaged by the storm.
- B The storm damaged the roof.
- C The storm was damaged by the roof.
- D The roof was damaged.

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25 **What is the purpose of a newspaper editorial?**

A to list the television programmes

B to give the paper's opinion

C to sell tickets

D to print the weather

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26 **Which word is informal?**

A will

B shall

C gonna

D going to

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27 **The train climbed out of the city and into the hills, and the rain came down in grey curtains across the lochs. Sheep stared at us from the fields, unimpressed, and the sky pressed low over the water. I had a book open on my knee, but I barely read a page, because the view kept pulling my eyes back to the window. In the extract, the word ‘unimpressed’ most closely means**

A very excited

B quite frightened

C not interested

D deeply asleep

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28 **Which sentence shows possession by one girl?**

A The girl's book was open.

B The girl,s book was open.

C The girls' book was open and full of notes.

D The girls book was open.

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29 **A market stall sells apples, pears and plums. Which punctuation mark should follow the word apples in a list?**

- A a question mark
- B a comma
- C a full stop to end the sentence there
- D an apostrophe to show possession

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30 **Which sentence uses a comma correctly?**

- A She laughed and, then she left.
- B She laughed and then she left the room.
- C She laughed, and then, she left.
- D She laughed, and then she left.

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31 **An umbrella is described as a shield against the storm. What language device is this?**

A a list of rainy-day objects

B a rhetorical question

C a simile using the word like

D a metaphor

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32 **A letter is the best form for a complaint. What should a formal letter include at the top?**

A A drawing of the broken kettle

B A joke to make the reader laugh out loud

C The writer's address

D The reader's favourite colour

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33 **The newspaper has become the daily bread of the nation: every morning, men and women crowd around to hear the news read aloud. Some fear that cheap print will spread foolish ideas, but I hold that a people who read are a people who think. A free press is the surest guard of liberty, and no government should fear it. Which phrase from the extract is a metaphor?**

A a people who read are a people who think

B every morning, men and women crowd around

C no government should fear it

D the daily bread of the nation

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34 **How do you turn an active sentence into a passive one?**

A remove all the verbs from the sentence

B make the object the subject

C add an exclamation mark

D make it a question

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35 **How can a writer show a character's thoughts?**

A through a list of the character's clothes

B through inner monologue

C through the page number

D through the chapter title

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36 **Which sentence is punctuated correctly?**

A After the rain the sun, came out.

B After the rain the sun came out and dried the ground.

C After the rain, the sun came out.

D After, the rain the sun came out.

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37 **What is bias in non-fiction?**

A writing that is always true

B writing that gives both sides fairly

C one-sided writing

D writing with no opinions

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38 **What is the main clause in this sentence: When the bell rang, we went in?**

A when the bell rang

B we went in

C we went

D when the bell

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39 **A beach is busy with families on a hot day. Which sentence is in the passive voice?**

A The children built the sandcastle on the beach in the morning

B The sandcastle stood on the beach

C The children built the sandcastle

D The sandcastle was built by the children.

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40 **A guitar plays a gentle tune in the evening. Which word is an adverb in this sentence: He played the guitar softly?**

A softly

B played

C he

D guitar

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41 **What is a good way to compare writers' attitudes?**

A quote evidence from both texts

B quote only from the text you like best

C ignore the attitudes

D guess without evidence

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42 **In the sentence The tall tree fell, which word is the adjective?**

A tall

B fell

C the

D tree

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43 **What is a metaphor?**

A one thing described as another

B a comparison using the words like or as

C a repeated sound at the start of words

D a word that sounds like its meaning

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44 **Which phrase is the most formal?**

A I want you to

B I need it now, please, as soon as possible

C I would be grateful if

D give me

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45 **What is the narrator's viewpoint?**

- A the list of characters in the story, in order of appearance
- B the number of pages
- C the position from which the story is told
- D the title of the story

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46 **What can a pair of dashes do?**

- A show a spelling mistake
- B add extra information
- C end a sentence with a question
- D start a new paragraph

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47 **Which of these is a metaphor?**

A the classroom was noisy

B the classroom was like a zoo

C the classroom was a zoo

D the classroom was big

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48 **Which word best describes the smell of rain on dry earth?**

A sweet

B bright

C earthy

D loud

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49 **Cycling to school is faster than you think, healthier than the bus, and cheaper than both. A ten-minute ride wakes you up better than any alarm, sharp as cold water on your face, and you arrive with your brain already switched on. The roads are not perfect, and rain is a fact of life, but a waterproof jacket solves that. Give it a try for one week. Which phrase from the extract is a simile?**

A healthier than the bus, and cheaper than both

B give it a try for one week

C sharp as cold water on your face

D cycling to school is faster than you think

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50 **What is hyperbole?**

A deliberate exaggeration

B a comparison using like or as

C a question with no answer

D a list of three things

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ANSWER KEY

1.	D	**18.**	C	**35.**	B
2.	A	**19.**	A	**36.**	C
3.	A	**20.**	C	**37.**	C
4.	A	**21.**	D	**38.**	B
5.	B	**22.**	B	**39.**	D
6.	D	**23.**	C	**40.**	A
7.	D	**24.**	B	**41.**	A
8.	B	**25.**	B	**42.**	A
9.	A	**26.**	C	**43.**	A
10.	A	**27.**	C	**44.**	C
11.	D	**28.**	A	**45.**	C
12.	B	**29.**	B	**46.**	B
13.	D	**30.**	D	**47.**	C
14.	D	**31.**	D	**48.**	C
15.	D	**32.**	C	**49.**	C
16.	D	**33.**	D	**50.**	A
17.	B	**34.**	B		

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