ENGLAND GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE EDEXCEL · UNIT 1 · 25 QUESTIONS

Shakespeare — 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 so it can be fixed.

1 **A bicycle with a flat tyre waits by the gate. Which word is a verb in this sentence: The boy mended the bicycle quickly?**

- A quickly
- B bicycle
- C the
- D mended

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2 **A lighthouse keeper writes a diary entry. Which tense is best for a diary about today?**

- A the passive voice
- B past tense
- C future tense only
- D the imperative mood

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3 **Autumn leaves crunch underfoot on the path. Which sentence best shows the sound of the leaves?**

A The path was quite long.

B The leaves crackled and crunched underfoot.

C The garden was full of trees.

D Autumn is a season of the year with leaves everywhere.

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

A a question mark

B an apostrophe to show possession

C a full stop to end the sentence there

D a comma

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5 **A birthday cake arrives as a surprise. Which sentence creates the most excitement?**

- A It was a birthday cake.
- B Suddenly the door flew open.
- C Cakes are made with flour.
- D The cake was on the table in the middle of the room.

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6 **A letter has been written to complain about a broken kettle. Which sentence uses an apostrophe correctly?**

- A It is the shop's fault.
- B It is the shops fault.
- C Its the shop's fault.
- D Its the shops fault, and I want a refund today

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7 **Who kills Mercutio?**

A Romeo

B the Prince

C Tybalt

D Benvolio

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8 **What is blank verse?**

A a song sung by the chorus

B rhymed lines of four beats each

C a poem of fourteen lines

D unrhymed lines of five beats

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9 **Were women allowed to act on the Jacobean stage?**

A yes, but only queens and ladies

B yes, women played all the parts on stage

C no, boys played the women's parts

D no, only the king could act

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10 **What is the effect of a short sentence?**

A it adds detail

B it creates impact

C it confuses the reader

D it makes the writing longer and slower

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11 **What is foreshadowing?**

A a list of characters

B a summary at the end

C a description of what has already happened

D a hint of what is to come

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12 **In the forest the trees stood close together, a dark wall of trunks, and the path wound between them like a snake in the grass. The young prince walked alone, his sword at his side, listening to the owls call to one another in the dark. He had come to this place to think, yet every rustle in the leaves made his heart leap, and he wished he had not come alone. What mood does the extract create?**

A frightened

B triumphant

C relaxed

D joyful

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13 **What does AO1 assess in English Literature?**

A how writers use language, form and structure

B your response with evidence

C the context of the time

D spelling and punctuation

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14 **Who is Romeo?**

A the son of Lord Montague

B the son of Lord Capulet, head of the house

C the nephew of the Friar

D the Prince of Verona

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15 **What is an act?**

A a single line spoken on stage

B the whole play from start to finish

C a song between the scenes

D a large section of a play

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16 **What was the Gunpowder Plot?**

A a battle fought in Scotland in 1605

B a plan to crown a new king in London in 1605

C a plan to blow up Parliament in 1605

D a play written in 1605

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17 **Which of these is onomatopoeia?**

A buzz

B bee

C honey

D sting

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18 **What does chronological order mean?**

A events in reverse order

B events in time order

C events at random

D events in order of importance

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19 **What is context?**

A the number of chapters in the book

B the time, place and ideas around a text

C the words and phrases a writer chooses to use

D the events of the plot in order

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20 **Who is Juliet?**

A the nurse's daughter

B the daughter of Lord Capulet

C the Prince's sister

D the daughter of Lord Montague

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21 **What is dramatic irony?**

A the play ends happily for everyone

B every character knows the same as the audience

C the actors forget their lines on stage

D the audience knows more than a character

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22 **Why might Shakespeare have written Macbeth for King James?**

A to insult the new king in public

B to win the favour of the new king

C to ask the king for money for a theatre

D to warn the king about France

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23 **Why might a writer start in the middle of the action?**

- A to grab attention
- B to save paper
- C to make the story longer and slower
- D to confuse the reader

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24 **The soldier came home from the wars, his cloak torn and his boots caked with mud, and found his village changed. The fields where he had played as a boy were now a sea of tents, and strangers camped where his friends had lived. He stood at the gate of his own house, a stranger in his own land, and wondered whether any man truly comes home from war. In the extract, the word ‘caked’ most closely means**

- A cleaned
- B covered
- C painted
- D washed clean

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25 **What should every paragraph in an essay include?**

A a summary of the whole text

B a new character

C a point supported by evidence

D a quotation with no explanation at all

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ANSWER KEY

1.	D	**10.**	B	**19.**	B
2.	B	**11.**	D	**20.**	B
3.	B	**12.**	A	**21.**	D
4.	D	**13.**	B	**22.**	B
5.	B	**14.**	A	**23.**	A
6.	A	**15.**	D	**24.**	B
7.	C	**16.**	C	**25.**	C
8.	D	**17.**	A		
9.	C	**18.**	B		

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