



SST6 Humanities (ACER) Test 16

Test Code: _____

Student Name: _____

Student ID: _____

PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW CAREFULLY:

You may use the back of your answer sheet for your working. This is what you are given at the real exam to use as working paper.

DO NOT WRITE ANYWHERE ELSE ON THE EXAM PAPER

This test asks you to look at ____ material and to answer all the questions on this material.

- This test paper **CANNOT BE TAKEN OUT** of the classroom
- You **MUST GIVE THE TEST PAPER BACK** before you leave the classroom
- You must **WRITE YOUR NAME AND ID** on this page and the answer sheet
- You must **PUT AWAY ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES** and any other materials that could help you on this exam
- **DO NOT TOUCH OR DRAW ON** the barcode that is on your answer sheet

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Advice for the test:

- For each question, you are given 4 or 5 possible answers marked A, B, C, D and E. Attempt to find the correct answer, and shade the corresponding bubble on the answer sheet.
- Each question is worth 1 mark, so try not to spend too long on one question – leave it for after you have finished the other questions.
- Check that the question number you are doing on the test paper is the same as the question number that you are shading on the answer sheet.
- There are no marks lost for incorrect answers, so even if you cannot solve a question, shade the box for the answer you think is most correct.

Instructions for the Answer Sheet:

- Use a B or HB pencil.
- Write your name, student ID and test code on the sheet.
- Shade the box which indicates your answer. All answers must be completed like THIS example:



- Marks will not be deducted for incorrect answers.
- No mark will be given if more than ONE answer is completed for any question.
- If you make a mistake, ERASE the incorrect answer – DO NOT cross it out.

Questions 1-6

Words

We had more than
We could use.
They embarrassed us,
Our talk fuller than our
Rooms. They named
Nothing we could see-
Dining room, study,
Mantel piece, lobster
Thermidor. They named
Things you only
Saw in movies-
The thin flicker Friday
Nights that made us
Feel empty in the cold
As we walked home
Through our only great
Abundance, snow.
This is why we said "ain't"
And "he don't."
We wanted words to fit
Our cold linoleum,
Our oil lamps, our

Outhouse. We knew
Better, but it was wrong
To use language
That named ghosts,
Nothing you could touch.
We left such words at school
Locked in books
Where they belonged.
It was the vocabulary
Of our lives that was
So thin. We knew this
And grew to hate
All the words that named
The vacancy of our rooms-
Looking here we said
Studio couch and saw a cot;
Looking there we said
Venetian blinds and saw only the yard;
Brick meant tarpaper,
Fireplace meant wood Stove,
And this is Why we came to love
The double negative.

- Lines 1 and 2 introduce the narrator's sense of
A. celebration
B. frustration
C. gratification
D. disorganisation
- To the narrator, the italicised words in lines 7 through 9 most likely represent
A. an alien world
B. familiar experiences
C. a spiritual life
D. a childhood dream
- The narrator's tone in the phrase "our only great abundance" (lines 16 and 17) can best be described as
A. proud
B. respectful
C. humorous
D. mocking
- The word "ghosts" in line 26 probably refers to
A. imaginary possessions
B. vague language
C. unwanted items
D. outdated schoolbooks
- The expression "the vocabulary of our lives" (lines 31 and 32) refers to the
A. abundance of snow
B. words learned at school
C. world of movies
D. environment of the narrator



6. The words "studio couch" and "cot" (line 38) reinforces the contrast between the world of the movies and the narrator's world of

- A. longing B. restlessness C. emptiness D. escape

Questions 7-14

Kit Carson liked Indians. In the old days he had lived with them for months at a time without seeing another white man. He had fathered a child by an Arapaho woman and lived for a time with a Cheyenne woman. But after he married Josefa, daughter of Don Francisco Jaramillo of Taos, Carson had taken new roads, grown prosperous, and claimed land for a ranch. He discovered that in New Mexico there was room at the top even for a rough, superstitious, illiterate mountain man. He learned to read and write a few words, and although he was only five feet six inches tall, his name touched the sky. Famous as he was, the Rope Thrower never overcame his awe of the well-dressed, smooth-talking men at the top. In 1863 in New Mexico the biggest man at the top was Star Chief Carleton. And so in the summer of that year Kit Carson withdrew his resignation from the Army and went to Fort Wingate to take the field against the Navahos.

7. Kit Carson was:

- A. a white man B. an Indian
C. of mixed race D. a Mexican

8. Carson's child was from:

- A. a European woman B. a Cheyenne woman
C. an Arapaho woman D. a Navaho woman

9. Carson had taken new roads" means:

- A. that he had changed his habits B. changed his life style
C. he had gone off to explore D. he had left the village

10. Carson was:

- A. never successful B. tall
C. almost illiterate D. gentle

11. "his name touched the sky" means that:

- A. Carson was not well known B. Carson was famous
C. Carson was like an Indian D. Carson was forgotten

12. Carson:

- A. never left the army B. rejoined the army
C. forgot about the army D. was promoted in the army

13. This is likely to be an extract from:

- A. a travel book B. a book of fiction
C. a scientific book D. a history book

14. The register (style of language) used by the author is mainly:

- A. informal B. formal
C. conversational D. broken English

Questions 15-24

Read and compare these two different accounts of the same event and answer the questions that follow.

Passage A

The Indian Mutiny started in 1857 and lasted only eighteen months. Indian soldiers shot their European officers, refused to obey lawful orders and restored the old Moghul Emperor Bahadur Shah 2nd. The mutiny started as a result of a mistake. To fire a new type of rifle, soldiers first had to bite through the paper cartridge. Through a misunderstanding on the part of the suppliers, the cartridges had been smeared with a grease containing a little animal fat. This deeply offended many Indian soldiers. The cow is sacred to Hindus, while the pig is unclean and offensive to Muslims.

European officers, unaware of the content of the fat, at first denied that it was derived from animals. Later, vegetable fats were used but the change was too late to stop the mutiny. The rebels soon captured Delhi, slaughtering British women and children. These and other cruel atrocities angered the British troops, who fought back bravely. Delhi was recaptured after bitter fighting. Bahadur Shah was captured but his life was spared to show the mercy of the British. Reinforcements were sent from Britain and, with the aid of loyal forces, the rebellion was quickly put down.

As a result of the incident, the system of administration in India was improved and greater promotion opportunities were created for Indian soldiers.

Passage B

The first great Indian patriotic uprising occurred in 1857. The British imperialists had for years attempted to destroy the traditions, culture and religions of India, and to replace them with a foreign language and type of society. The underlying cause of the uprising was the opposition of an enslaved people to their colonial exploiters. This hatred reached bursting point when British officers deliberately ordered Indian troops to lick animal fats. Nothing could restrain the anger of the troops.

For many months, loyal troops defeated the British on all fronts; despite frantic calls by the British for reinforcements. The imperialist troops fought with desperate savagery, adding further to their crimes against the Indian people. When they at last recaptured Delhi, three unarmed descendants of Bahadur Shah were shot in cold blood. Regardless of sex or age, no Indian was spared as the British arrogantly marched across the Country seeking revenge for their humiliation. Eventually the loyal forces were betrayed by ambitious traitors, and the uprising was put down in 1858.

Although the gallant patriotic movement did not succeed, it forced the British to pay far more attention to the rightful claims of the Indian people.

15. Compared with the second passage, passage A is:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| A. more pro-Indian | B. Less emotional |
| C. More personal | D. Less restrained |

16. The major way in which the second passage differs from the first is:

- A. By describing the British forces as imperialists.
- B. By viewing the event from an Indian point of view.
- C. In its use of a greater number of emotional adjectives and adverbs.
- D. By its failure to show the real causes of the event.

17. What effect is achieved in the first passage by saying that the event 'lasted only eighteen months' and by referring to it as an 'incident'?

- A. This seeks to show that it was the Indians who were in the wrong.
- B. It makes the British position seem stronger.
- C. It seeks to reduce the importance of the event.
- D. It reminds us that other things were happening in India at this time.

18. Which of these expressions in Passage A shows some concern for the Indian point of view?

- A. 'deeply offended' (line 5)
- B. 'lawful orders' (line 2)
- C. 'bitter fighting' (line 10)
- D. 'his life was spared' (line 11)

19. Why do both accounts mention animal fats?

- A. They were probably written by the same author.
- B. These were the immediate cause of the trouble.
- C. Both sides wanted to blame the makers of the cartridges.
- D. Both parties were looking for an excuse to start a war.

20. In the sentence 'These and other cruel atrocities angered the British troops, who fought back bravely', which word can be omitted without altering the meaning?

- A. cruel
- B. who
- C. fought
- D. bravely

21. In their references to Bahadur Shah, both passages:

- A. Show their appreciation of the old emperor.
- B. Contain untrue information intended to deceive readers.
- C. Reveal an understanding of European history.
- D. Use his capture for propaganda purposes.

22. 'Loyal forces' are mentioned; in the Second passage these men are referred to as:

- A. imperialists
- B. aliens
- C. patriots
- D. traitors

23. In the expression 'they restored Bahadur Shah 2nd' 'restored' means:

- A. put back
- B. boxed up
- C. improved
- D. got rid of

24. Two animals are mentioned in these passages. From the references, we can conclude that: A.

- Neither Hindus nor Muslims like to drink milk.
- B. Both Hindus and Muslims are vegetarians.
- C. Hindus will not kill cattle and Muslims will not eat pork.
- D. Neither Hindus nor Muslims will eat beef.

Questions 25-29

Nearly two thousand years passed since census decreed by Caesar Augustus became part of the greatest story ever told. Many things have changed in the intervening years. The hotel industry worries more about overbuilding than overcrowding, and if they had to meet an unexpected influx, few inns would have a manager to accommodate the weary guests. Now it is the census taker that does the travelling in the fond hope that a highly mobile population will stay long enough to get a good sampling. Methods of gathering, recording, and evaluating information have presumably been improved a great deal. And where then it was the modest purpose of Rome to obtain a simple head count as an adequate basis for levying taxes, now batteries of complicated statistical series furnished by governmental agencies and private organizations are eagerly scanned and interpreted by sages and seers to get a clue to future events. The Bible does not tell us how the Roman census takers made out, and as regards our more immediate concern, the reliability of present-day economic forecasting, there are considerable differences of opinion. They were aired at the celebration of the 125th anniversary of the American Statistical Association. There was the thought that business forecasting might well be on its way from an art to a science, and some speakers talked about newfangled computers and high-falutin mathematical systems in terms of excitement and endearment which we, at least in our younger years when these things mattered would have associated more readily with the description of a fair maiden. But others pointed to the deplorable record of a highly esteemed forecasts and forecasters with a batting average below that of the Mets, and the president-elect of the Association cautioned that "high powered statistical methods are usually in order where the facts are crude and inadequate, the exact contrary of what crude and inadequate statisticians assume." We left his birthday party somewhere between hope and despair and with the conviction, not really newly acquired, that proper statistical methods applied to ascertainable facts have their merits in economic forecasting as long as neither forecaster nor public is deluded into mistaking the delineation of probabilities and trends for a prediction of certainties of mathematical exactitude.

25. According to the passage, taxation in Roman times was based on ...

- A. mobility B. wealth C. population D. census takers E. education

26. The author refers to the Romans primarily in order to ...

- A. prove the superiority of modern sampling methods to ancient ones
B. provide a historical framework for the passage
C. relate an unfamiliar concept to a familiar one
D. show that statistical forecasts have not significantly improved
E. none of these

27. The author refers to the Mets primarily in order to ...

- A. show that sports do not depend on statistics
B. provide an example of an unreliable statistic
C. contrast verifiable and unverifiable methods of record keeping
D. illustrate the failure of statistical predictions
E. none of these

28. On the basis of the passage, it can be inferred that the author would agree with which of the following statements?

- A. Computers have significantly improved the application of statistics in business
- B. Statistics is not, at the present time, a science
- C. It is useless to try to predict the economy
- D. Most mathematical systems are inexact
- E. none of these

29. The author's tone can best be described as ...

- A. jocular B. scornful C. pessimistic D. objective E. critical

Questions 30-34

The land is to be read as text. But where does one start? Do we learn the basics first' memorise the line and colour of the land, then one future day be able to understand the movement of the clouds and the cries of birds in trees? Can we learn from a tree how to live? What message lies scrawled in the lobes and veins of leaves and in the hollowed striations of bark?

There is a big sycamore just outside the yard at my house. Its branches vault and spread over the house, keeping it a few degrees cooler than the ambient temperature. That tree is a blessing. A dense layer of ivy covers its trunk. Last spring a family of blue jays set up house in it. I know this because they would tell me quite emphatically that I was on their property. They would fly from tree to tree around the yard, scolding me.

In late summer the sycamore peels off large square chunks of bark, sprinkling them over the yard; they look and feel like paper. In the fall we rake bushels of its giant leaves and stand at its base looking up in awe at its bare spine-its clay-coloured bark and broad-shouldered branches outstretched over the neighbourhood. In the deep of winter the bare tree stands stiff inert but alive.

I might have a lot to learn from the sycamore - about endurance under the rhythm of weather and season, about acts congruent with the necessities of living, about the hope in the teeth of winter. The great thing about the tree is that it is never not itself. To the rigours of living it has clear and appropriate responses. I should hope to live like that.

It is a strange thing, this business of daily living, carrying our self-consciousness around us like a scarf, never noticing anything but ourselves echoing in the closed hollows of our minds, We wake and go about our lives, hardly remembering where we are or where we come from. And then a voice like a bird's wakes us and we wonder at the world and our lives in it

30. The word is "vault" used to suggest the tree's

- A. weight B. size
- C. origin D. location
- E. none of these

31. The phrase "acts congruent with the necessities of living" refers to life's

- A. troubles B. hopes
- C. responsibilities D. relationships
- E. none of these

32. The fourth paragraph suggests that one quality of the sycamore is its

- A. respect
- B. love
- C. sympathy
- D. fortitude
- E. none of these

33. Which line or lines contain the answer to the question in line 3, "Can we learn from a tree how to live?"

- A. "There is ... house." (line 5)
- B. "They would ... me." (lines 8 and 9)
- C. "To the rigours ... responses." (lines 16 and 17)
- D. "We wake ... from." (lines 19 and 20)
- E. None of these

34. What does the last paragraph suggest?

- A. Self-centeredness narrow our perspective
- B. Nature is self-conscious
- C. Daily living is a complex process
- D. Wild creatures understand the wonders of the world
- E. None of these

Questions 35-45

A team of Russian scientists has challenged the theory that the woolly mammoths became extinct 10,000 years ago at the end of the Ice Age. The scientists have reported that the beasts may have survived until 2000 BC on an island off the coast of Siberia, where researchers uncovered 29 fossilized woolly mammoth teeth ranging in age from 4,000 to 7,000 years. The question to be asked now is how did these prehistoric pachyderms survive in their island environment? One possibility is that they adapted to their confined surroundings by decreasing their bulk. This theory is based on their smaller tooth size, which has led scientists to believe that they were only 6 feet tall at the shoulder compared with 10 feet of their full-sized counterpart. But would this be enough to enable them to survive thousands of years beyond that of other mammoths? Researchers are still working to uncover the reasons for this isolated group's belated disappearance.

35. With which topic is this passage mainly concerned?

- A. Some scientists have challenged a theory.
- B. Some small teeth have been discovered.
- C. Some mammoths lived longer than others.
- D. Some pachyderms survived on an island.

36. According to the passage, some researchers suggest that mammoths became extinct

- A. about 2,000 years ago
- B. about 4,000 years ago
- C. about 7,000 years ago
- D. about 10,000 years ago

37. The word "woolly" as used in the passage refers to the animal's

- A. body size
- B. feet size
- C. hair
- D. teeth

38. The word "uncovered" is closest in meaning to which of the following?
- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| A. unearthed | B. unburdened |
| C. undisturbed | D. unfolded |
39. The word "adapted" could best be replaced with
- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| A. leapt | B. penetrated |
| C. revealed | D. accommodated |
40. The word "confined" could best be replaced with
- | | |
|---------------|-----------|
| A. imprisoned | B. swampy |
| C. restricted | D. fenced |
41. The author uses the word "counterpart" to refer to
- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| A. mammoths with more woolly covering | B. mammoths in an earlier time |
| C. mammoths with smaller teeth | D. larger mammoths on the island |
42. Which of the following could best replace the word "enable"?
- | | |
|--------------|-----------|
| A. authorize | B. enjoin |
| C. undertake | D. allow |
43. The "belated" is closest in meaning to which of the following?
- | | |
|------------|------------|
| A. delayed | B. early |
| C. sudden | D. gradual |
44. According to the scientists, the woolly mammoths may have managed to survive because they
- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| A. shed their hair | B. grew smaller teeth |
| C. became herbivores | D. decreased in size |
45. According to the passage, the reason for the disappearance of the mammoths on the island is
- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A. that the temperature changed | B. not yet known |
| C. that they were isolated | D. that larger mammoths killed them |

Questions 46-48

Cars zoom past. Laden trucks lumber and clatter to and from the wharf. Fremantle is a busy port buzzing with movement, everyone but me with somewhere to go. While I was inside some zealous prison worker asked me if I knew where I was going.

46. The wharf is:
- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| A. in the next suburb | B. distant |
| C. close by | D. in another town |
| E. none of these | |
47. The narrator is:
- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| A. alone | B. without a purpose |
| C. a stranger | D. all of these |
| E. none of these | |

48. 'zealous' means

- A. conscientious
- B. unkind
- C. very hard working
- D. cruel
- E. none of these

Questions 49-50

The social contract theory of society is based on a simple idea: people always act in rational self-interest. A rational individual will realize that a group is stronger than an individual and thus individual interests will best be served by working together with others. A society forms when individuals enter into a contract with each other to pool their collective talents and energies for the good of each member. The social contract stipulates that each member contribute to the good of the group in order to reap individual benefits. However, the social contract theory alone cannot explain the workings of society. If each member of the society truly acted only in rational self-interest, a society could never function.

49. The last line of the passage an example of:

- A. a deductive conclusion
- B. a complex analogy
- C. a logical paradox
- D. an extended metaphor
- E. none of these

50. Which of the following statements would most strengthen the author's argument?

- A. People often consider the needs of others when determining What best their self-interest.
- B. Many societies spell out their social contracts in the form of a constitution.
- C. Some societies function without any form of organized law enforcement.
- D. Many people, when given the opportunity, will break a contract in order to achieve their goals.
- E. None of these