

Test 1 answer key with extra explanations

Reading and Use of English

Part 1

Questions 1–8

1 The correct answer is A: ‘suspect’ means ‘think that something might be true’. The verb ‘wonder’ can mean this too, but is followed by ‘if’ or ‘whether’, not ‘that’. The other two verbs do not have this meaning.

2 The correct answer is B: The phrasal verb ‘led to’ means ‘went towards’. The other verbs all have to have people as subjects, though ‘ran into’ could be used for water, e.g. a river can ‘run into’ a lake.

3 The correct answer is D: ‘considerably’ is an adverb meaning ‘a lot’ / ‘a great deal’. ‘excessively’ means ‘far too much’, which does not make sense here. Neither of the other two adverbs make sense here, either.

4 The correct answer is C: ‘accompanied by’ can be followed by a person or an object. ‘attended by’ can only be followed by people. The verbs ‘provided’ and ‘supplied’ both have to be followed by ‘with’.

5 The correct answer is B: The phrase ‘make your way’ means ‘get to a place’. None of the other verbs fit here.

6 The correct answer is B: If you are ‘determined’ to do something, you want to do it very much, and you won’t let anyone or anything stop you. The adjectives ‘committed’ and ‘dedicated’ have similar meanings, but are followed by ‘to’ + a gerund/a noun (to doing/ something). ‘intend’ is usually used as a verb in the active form (‘I intend to do something’).

7 The correct answer is A: ‘apparently’ means that something seems to be true. The other adverbs do not have this meaning and do not make sense in this sentence.

8 The correct answer is C: The phrasal verb ‘turn out’ is used when something is different from what was initially thought. In this sentence, it means that the tunnel may be even deeper than expected. ‘end out’ does not exist as a phrasal verb, and ‘set out’ and ‘come out’ have different meanings.

Questions 9–16

9 The correct answer is ‘come’: The phrasal verb ‘come up with (an idea / a plan / a solution)’ means to have an idea, usually in response to a problem that needs solving. ‘come out with’ means ‘to say or announce something’, and is not correct here.

10 The correct answer is ‘well’: The idiom ‘as well as’ means ‘in addition to something’. Here, Dr Rajagopalan Vasudevan has also come up with a way to improve road quality, in addition to re-using plastic waste.

11 The correct answer is ‘which’: The relative pronoun ‘which’ is used here to refer to the noun ‘method’. The relative clause is non-defining, so ‘that’ is not correct here.

12 The correct answer is ‘any’: ‘hardly any changes’ means ‘almost no changes’. ‘no’ can’t be used after ‘hardly’ because the word means ‘almost no/not’.

13 The correct answer is ‘into’: The preposition ‘into’ is used here to say that the plastic changes from one form (large pieces) and becomes another (small pieces). ‘to’ is not correct here.

14 The correct answer is ‘with’: The preposition ‘with’ follows the verb ‘combine’. Other prepositions can’t be used here.

15 The correct answer is ‘too’: The structure ‘too + adjective/adverb to + verb’ is tested here.

16 The correct answer is ‘how’: Here, the adverb ‘how’ means ‘the way in which’ something is done, or should be done. ‘where’ does not make sense here, because he is instructing engineers on his method.

Part 3

Questions 17–24

17 The correct answer is ‘criticising/criticizing’: A present participle is needed after ‘I’m not’ to complete the present continuous verb form. ‘criticism’ is a noun so it would be incorrect here.

18 The correct answer is ‘championships’: A plural noun is needed here to describe the competitions that chess players take part in. If the article ‘a’ were inserted before the word ‘chess’, then the noun needed in the gap would be singular.

19 The correct answer is ‘energetic’: An adjective is needed after ‘be’ here. ‘energised’ wouldn’t make sense in this gap.

20 The correct answer is ‘competitors’: A noun which means ‘people who take part in competitions’ is needed here. Because the auxiliary verb ‘are’ comes after the gap, the noun must be plural.

21 The correct answer is ‘intellectual’: An adjective is needed to describe the noun ‘demands’.

22 The correct answer is ‘unwillingness’: A noun is needed here. It is the subject of the verb ‘does not affect’. The writer is not willing to describe chess as a sport, so ‘willingness’ would be incorrect here because it has the opposite meaning.

23 The correct answer is ‘admiration’: A noun is needed after the possessive adjective ‘my’. The gerund ‘admiring’ is not a possible alternative here, because it cannot be followed by ‘for’.

24 The correct answer is ‘strength’: A noun is needed to follow the adjective ‘mental’.

Part 4

Questions 25–30

25 The correct answer is ‘to get | used to’ OR ‘to become | used to’: The phrase ‘get used to’, meaning ‘become familiar with’, is tested here.

26 The correct answer is ‘the boy | whose sister’: The use of the relative pronoun ‘whose’ is tested here.

27 The correct answer is ‘keep an/your eye | on’: The phrase ‘keep an eye on’, meaning ‘look after’, is tested here.

28 The correct answer is ‘was | not to bring’: ‘was’ is needed after the noun ‘advice’, and has to be followed by a full infinitive in the structure tested here. A negative infinitive is needed in this sentence, because the teacher does not want the students to bring too much money.

29 The correct answer is ‘as soon as | we arrive/are/’re’: ‘as soon as’ means ‘immediately’ and is followed by the present simple when talking about the future. The verb can be ‘arrive’ or ‘be’ in this sentence.

30 The correct answer is ‘far as | I am/’m concerned’: The phrase ‘as far as someone is concerned’ is tested here. It is used to express someone’s personal opinion.

Questions 31–36

31 The correct answer is D: The writer says: ‘The only radio [Jamie] heard in his house was a local radio station for middle-aged people, which goes some way to explaining what influenced him as he was growing up’. When Scott was growing up, he was a child, so middle-aged people were of a previous generation. We have to assume that the radio station was playing music. **A** is incorrect because the writer says that Scott had to choose between music and tennis. **B** is incorrect because the writer does not say that Scott did not have access to musical instruments at home. **C** is incorrect because Scott does not say or suggest he regretted his decision not to play tennis professionally.

32 The correct answer is A: The following points are all made in the second paragraph: Scott left school at 17 to try and become a successful performer; he was enthusiastic about having a career as a performer; he wrote songs during classes and practised while his friends were out playing; he split with his friend in order to be signed up by a recording company. All this emphasises how determined Scott was. **B** is incorrect because Scott’s dad was understanding. **C** is incorrect because it took time for Scott to start to be successful, it did not happen quickly or easily. **D** is incorrect because although Scott may have been a better musician than his friend, the writer does not say this, or emphasise a great difference between the two friends as regards talent.

33 The correct answer is C: Scott says he has been ‘in the wrong place at the wrong time’ when it comes to his career as ‘an artist’ (a performer). **A** is incorrect because Scott only became a songwriter when he couldn’t succeed as a performer, despite trying hard. **B** is incorrect because Scott suggests that it was a matter of luck: bad luck that he did not succeed as a performer, and good luck that he did well as a songwriter. **D** is incorrect because Scott does not say anything about this.

34 The correct answer is D: Scott says that writers should not be ashamed of trying to write a popular song. He implies that a popular song does not have to be a bad song. **A** is incorrect because Scott does not say that only a few writers can do this. **B** is incorrect because Scott does not say that only those songs can succeed. **C** is incorrect because Scott does not say that this is an absolutely necessary condition.

35 The correct answer is C: The writer says that ‘It is refreshing ... to hear someone speak so bluntly’. So the writer is pleased to hear Scott say exactly what he thinks, and admires him for it because according to him, this is unusual in the pop-music industry. **A** is incorrect because the writer says that Scott has a natural ability to write popular songs, not that his songs are very good. **B** is incorrect because although the writer mentions that Scott ‘just gets on with it [his writing]’, the writer does not say that he respects this. **D** is incorrect because there is no mention of the writer’s approval of Scott’s ambition.

36 The correct answer is B: ‘this’ refers to going into the studio with someone (to do some work). **A** is incorrect because it does not make any sense. **C** is incorrect because the style is not mentioned until the end of the paragraph. **D** is incorrect because the plan is to write a particular kind of song, but it is the work they are doing that is on the global level, not the plan.

Questions 37–42

37 The correct answer is F: ‘differences like this’ in option F refers to what is described in the two sentences before the gap. ‘It is a task’ in the sentence after the gap refers to ‘the challenge of transforming a three dimensional globe into a two dimensional flat map’ in option F.

38 The correct answer is C: ‘this’ in option C refers to ‘[reducing] the size of the regions near the poles’ in the sentence before the gap. The sentence after the gap explains the statement in option C: ‘it doesn’t completely solve the problem’.

39 The correct answer is A: The ‘triangles’ in option A are the ‘geometrical shapes’ mentioned in the sentence before the gap. ‘These’ in the sentence after the gap refers to the triangles in option A.

40 The correct answer is E: ‘This’ in the sentence after the gap refers to what is described in option E. In the second sentence after the gap, ‘similarly distorted’ refers to ‘curve upwards ... instead of going straight across’ in option E.

41 The correct answer is G: ‘This’ in the sentence after the gap refers to ‘cutting the world into even smaller chunks’ in option G. ‘even smaller chunks’ refers back to the globe being divided into 96 equal triangles (as stated in option A).

42 The correct answer is D: ‘this’ in option D refers to the fact that it has been incorporated into Japanese textbooks, as stated in the sentence before the gap. ‘Meanwhile’ in the sentence after the gap refers to the time before it is (perhaps) adopted more widely.

Questions 43–52

43 The correct answer is D: The writer says ‘I pick up ideas from a range of dancers and styles’.

44 The correct answer is B: The writer says ‘There are lots of rather silly misconceptions about ballet dancers’.

45 The correct answer is D: The writer says ‘I don’t regret missing out on doing sport and not going to parties, though – I’m a far better dancer as a result.’

46 The correct answer is A: The writer says ‘my parents weren’t happy with the dance school, and invested time and energy into finding a new one. I didn’t see what the fuss was about because I got on well with my teacher and I was disappointed when the new one turned out to be much stricter’.

47 The correct answer is C: The writer says ‘a dancer is doing a number of things at any given moment’ and ‘lifting the stomach up while tensing leg muscles and relaxing the neck’.

48 The correct answer is A: The writer says ‘I’ve learnt to respond more positively to negative comments I get’.

49 The correct answer is D: The writer says ‘While most people, including even the best ballet dancers, might think the routine of having to train for several hours every day is tough, I find it strangely reassuring and comforting rather than boring or restrictive’.

50 The correct answer is C: The writer says ‘I remember being taken by my teacher to visit a professional ballet school and being intimidated by how good the girls were there, almost to the point of giving up’.

51 The correct answer is A: The writer says ‘I didn’t take to [ballet] initially and there was little sign that I’d ever develop a genuine passion for it. I eventually began to show some promise’.

52 The correct answer is B: The writer says ‘I used to get very nervous beforehand, though, to the point where I could barely perform, but I’ve since learnt a few strategies I can apply, to good effect’.