



ENGLISH PREP PROGRAM

SAMPLE PROFICIENCY

Use of English	40 questions*	60 points
Vocabulary	10 questions*	
Reading	30 questions*	
Writing	One Essay	40 pts.

* The number of questions for this section can change but overall score is the same.

Time: 140 mins.

PART 1: USE OF ENGLISH

A. 1 – 10 Mark the best choice.

I'm 30 years old. I was born in 1988 in a town in the north of England. I ¹⁾ _____ there all my life, but I spend my summer holidays in Brighton ²⁾ _____. My town is not the same as it ³⁾ _____. In the 1990s, we ⁴⁾ _____ from one side of the town ⁵⁾ _____ the other in about 15 minutes. There ⁶⁾ _____ a cinema and two schools, but no factories. Then they ⁷⁾ _____ two factories and my father ⁸⁾ _____ a job in one of ⁹⁾ _____. Today our town ¹⁰⁾ _____ different and ¹¹⁾ _____ modern.

1	a) am living	b) was able to live	c) live	d) have lived
2	a) ever	b) every year	c) summers	d) this summer
3	a) has been	b) was used to be	c) did	d) used to be
4	a) could walk	b) were walked	c) have walked	d) are able to walk
5	a) in	b) for	c) to	d) at
6	a) was	b) has been	c) had	d) were
7	a) were built	b) could be built	c) built	d) have built
8	a) was found	b) found	c) has found	d) was finding
9	a) their	b) theirs	c) them	d) that
10	a) is looking	b) look	c) looked	d) looks
11	a) more	b) the most	c) as	d) a lot of

B. 12 – 20 Mark the best choice.

Two similar accidents ¹²⁾ _____ to the police this week. Yesterday at two p.m., a car ¹³⁾ _____ the main road from a narrow side street hit the sidewalk and overturned. The car ¹⁴⁾ _____ but fortunately all the passengers ¹⁵⁾ _____ without injury. Earlier this week a ¹⁶⁾ _____ accident had happened at the traffic junction near the post office. Readers will remember that accidents like that one ¹⁷⁾ _____ in that area since last December. The local authorities do not seem to realize that something has to be done as soon as possible ¹⁸⁾ _____ prevent accidents. Except for a few, our roads are ¹⁹⁾ _____ narrow, and even when the traffic ²⁰⁾ _____ heavy, other accidents will probably happen until someone decides to do something about it.

12.	a) are reporting	b) reported	c) were reported	d) were reporting
13.	a) which entering	b) was entered	c) that is entering	d) entering
14.	a) seriously damaged	b) was seriously damaged	c) damaged seriously	d) is seriously damaging
15.	a) escaped	b) were escaped	c) are escaping	d) escaping
16.	a) same	b) like	c) similar	d) alike
17.	a) have occurred	b) that will occur	c) occurred	d) which were occurred
18.	a) while	b) despite	c) so that	d) in order to
19.	a) enough	b) too	c) very much	d) too much
20.	a) won't be	b) hasn't been	c) isn't	d) wasn't

B. 21 – 25 Mark the best choice.

Can we see ²¹⁾ _____ the Earth is a globe? Yes, we can, when we watch a ship that sails out to sea. If we watch closely, as a ship ²²⁾ _____ out to the sea, we see that it gets smaller and smaller. The bottom of the ship ²³⁾ _____ first, and then the ship seems to sink lower and lower, ²⁴⁾ _____ we can only see the top of the ship, and then we see nothing at all. What is hiding the ship from us? It is the Earth. Stick a pin most of the way into an orange, and slowly turn the orange away from you. You will see the pin disappear, ²⁵⁾ _____ a ship does on the earth.

21 – 25 Choose the best answer.

21	a) that	b) which	c) where	d) this
22	a) will be sailed	b) sailing	c) sails	d) was sailed
23	a) disappearing	b) disappears	c) is disappeared	d) disappear
24	a) up to	b) by the time	c) unless	d) until
25	a) similar	b) the same	c) just as	d) alike

26 – 40 Choose the best answer to complete the sentences.

26. The children need _____ new coats. I'll buy them _____ ones we saw in Marks & Spencer _____ last Saturday.
a) some / ---- / on b) the / another / --- c) ---- / the / the d) ---- / the / ---
27. Although trains are _____ planes, I prefer trains to planes, because it is _____ to sit in a train and drink tea or read a newspaper or a book.
a) not fast as ... more fun c) not as comfortable as ... more enjoyable
b) slower than ... more comfortably than d) the best ... more enjoyable
28. The teacher spoke slowly _____ the students could write everything down.
a) due to b) so that c) in order to d) such as
29. I _____ inside until the rain _____.
a) am staying ... will stop c) have stayed ... would stop
b) stay ... is stopping d) will stay ... stops
30. *Romeo and Juliet*, which is a play written by Shakespeare, _____.
a) and it is famous all over the world c) their sad story still affects me
b) they became the symbol of love d) is about two young people in love
31. In the 17th century, with the help of the telescope, the stars _____, and with the help of the microscope, doctors _____ more about the human body.
a) examined ... learned c) were examined ... learned
b) were examined ... were learned d) examined ... were learned
32. "*Topkapi*" is one of the most famous museums _____ you can see a lot of works of art.
a) when b) where c) which d) to which
33. The climate of the world is changing _____ human activity. People destroy the environment.
a) leads to b) despite c) because of d) caused by
34. Julia usually _____ the housework in the morning; however, she _____ at the moment.
a) does ... is cooking c) does ... cooks
b) is doing ... cooks d) is doing ... is cooking
35. A: _____?
B: By Shakespeare.
a) Who was this play written by c) When did Shakespeare write this play
b) Who was written this play d) Who did this play write
36. Henry Robinson is an engineer; he works hard and enjoys it. Moreover, _____.
a) he dislikes working long hours c) he may be made redundant this year
b) he won't get a pay rise this year d) he is likely to become the chief engineer

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37. Although the climate is hot and humid in summer in Istanbul,_____.
- a) it is impossible for businessmen to wear jackets
 - b) most businessmen wear jackets in their offices
 - c) most businessmen prefer cool clothing
 - d) light colors are popular among businessmen
38. One of the disadvantages of supersonic jets is that they are costly. In addition,_____.
- a) they can fly long distances in a very short time
 - b) they have made travel around the world safer and faster
 - c) their passenger capacity is very limited
 - d) they are aesthetically beautiful vehicles
39. Working women have a lot to do at home as well as at work. As a result,_____.
- a) they have more time for their children
 - b) they often complain about being exhausted
 - c) they earn twice as much as their husbands
 - d) they have more leisure time for their hobbies
40. _____, not even her own family.
- a) Nobody has seen or heard from Alice
 - b) Everyone came to Fred and Kate's wedding
 - c) Emily visits her hometown once a year
 - d) They still keep Mary's photos on the walls

PART 2: VOCABULARY

41 – 50 Mark the word that best completes the sentence.

41. A: Have you _____ moving to another neighborhood?
B: No, I have never thought about it.
- a) considered
 - b) attempted
 - c) contacted
 - d) realized
42. Traffic rules are intended to _____ accidents. We must obey them.
- a) encourage
 - b) interrupt
 - c) preserve
 - d) prevent
43. History and mathematics are _____ in high school. All students must study these subjects.
- a) confident
 - b) spacious
 - c) compulsory
 - d) reserved
44. You have the right to _____ if you're not satisfied with the service you've received.
- a) conceal
 - b) compile
 - c) command
 - d) complain
45. In this job, you'll have to learn to _____ stress. It's a very challenging job.
- a) turn up
 - b) pay off
 - c) cope with
 - d) get on with
46. The _____ for this report is 5 p.m. tomorrow. We have to finish it by then.
- a) pressure
 - b) deadline
 - c) overtime
 - d) challenge

47. The workers _____ the pay offer and said that they didn't want more money but better working conditions.
a) rejected b) suffered c) carried out d) called off
48. Success _____ hard work. Unless you work hard, you cannot be successful.
a) terminates b) requires c) gets d) affords
49. Traffic accidents are usually the result of careless driving and can be avoided by taking a few simple _____.
a) precautions b) explanations c) instructions d) definitions
50. You shouldn't make such a quick decision, or you may _____ it later.
a) receive b) persuade c) succeed d) regret

PART 3: READING COMPREHENSION

A. 51 – 56 Choose the best sentence / part of a sentence that best completes each paragraph.

51. Many people are afraid of snakes. It is true that poisonous snakes can make you ill or even kill you, but there are actually very few poisonous snakes. Most snakes are harmless. In fact, they are usually afraid of people. If you meet a snake in your garden, it will probably _____.
a) bite to kill you c) slide quickly away
b) not move until it attacks you d) remain calm until you attack him
52. Imagine a baby about five months old. It can cry, smile, and it can eat and sleep. Did you know it can also count? A recent psychological research shows that a small baby can even add and subtract small numbers of objects. People generally think that these abilities are learned much later, but in fact they _____.
a) do not exist until adulthood c) are already present in small babies
b) are learned only by five-year-old children d) do not exist in small babies
53. The value of gold depends on the common belief that gold will continue to be valuable. As long as demand for gold remains steady, the price will be steady. If demand is high, it will continue to increase in value. However, if people should someday lose faith in gold, _____.
a) the demand for gold would go up c) more gold would be needed for industry
b) the price of gold would fall sharply d) the euro would be worth less than before
54. For an ordinary tourist, Iceland is not an ideal place to visit. The scenery, for instance, is bare; there are no trees, no plants – though many consider it beautiful in its own way. Also, winters are extremely severe, and summers are short and cool, _____.
a) with beautiful sunny beaches c) and normally it is too hot to sleep
b) and many products are imported d) with constant strong winds

55. To an outsider, Istanbul may at first seem like a typical Western city. The Western dress, the many new buildings, the traffic problems all make the city seem highly modern. But there is another side to this great city – its rich past as the capital of the Ottoman Empire. In the narrow backstreets, the bazaars, and the mosques,_____.
- a) this past seems very near and real c) it is unthinkable to feel the history
b) tourists see the 21th century Istanbul d) the European atmosphere can be felt
56. Many people who are good at music are good at languages as well. That should not be surprising as the study of music and the study of language have a lot in common. Both require a “good ear”. They also require you to reproduce sounds you have heard. Finally, when you learn music or language, you have to_____.
- a) be able to play a musical instrument c) learn a complex set of rules
b) be able to speak a second language d) either learn a language or play an instrument

B. 57 – 58 Find the main idea.

The global demand for water has tripled since 1950. The rapid growth of population is one of the reasons for the increased demand for water. On average, each person consumes 40 million liters of water in a lifetime. As the number of people grows, so does the need for water for agricultural and household use. The rapid development of technology is another reason for the increased consumption of water. Factories and food production facilities need water to function.

57. The main idea of the paragraph is_____.
- a) We need more water for agricultural and household use
b) The global demand for water has tripled since 1950
c) Factories, food production facilities use large amounts of water
d) Necessary measures should be taken for the overuse of water

Lake Baikal is the largest lake in the world and it is located in southern Siberia, in Russia. It is 636 kilometers long, 80 kilometers wide, and it has a coastline of 2,100 kilometers. The lake’s rocky basin consists of 20 percent of the world’s fresh water. The lake is also very deep, with its deepest point at about 1,650 meters. Furthermore, it is the oldest lake in the world. It is estimated that the lake is at least 25 million years old.

58. The main idea of the paragraph is_____.
- a) Lake Baikal is the world’s oldest and largest lake
b) At its deepest point, Lake Baikal is more than 1,55 meters deep
c) 20 percent of the fresh water in the world comes from Lake Baikal
d) Located in Siberia, Lake Baikal is Russia’s tourist attraction

PASSAGE 1:



1 Fingerprinting, as a method of identifying people, is becoming *obsolete*, and newer, more effective methods of identification are taking **its** place. These methods are called biometric identification.

2 Vein pattern is one form of biometric identification. This method requires the person to make a fist with his or her hand. Then, using a special light, the unique pattern of blood veins on the back of his or her hand is analyzed.

3 Another way to identify people is through body odor. Chemicals called “volatiles” make up each person’s unique human smell. Body odor can be taken from a part of the hand and changed into a model and this can be used to identify the person.

4 Personal signatures are also used for biometric identification. The name of this method is misleading, though, as it is not the completed signature that identifies the person, but the act of signing. This method analyzes the way the pen is held, the amount of time it takes to complete the signature, the amount of pressure on the pen, and how many times the pen is lifted from the paper.

59 – 64 Mark the best choice according to the information given in the text.

59. What would be the best title for this reading?
- a) Fingerprinting is Less Common c) Biometric Identification: Pros and Cons
b) Methods of Biometric Identification d) Vein Patterns as Biometric Identification
60. Which of the following is the best definition for “**obsolete**” as used in line 1?
- a) outdated b) modern c) more effective d) accurate
61. In line 2, what does “**its**” refer to?
- a) identifying people c) biometric identification
b) effective methods d) fingerprinting
62. From the passage, we understand that _____ for identification.
- a) experts use vein patterns from all over the body
b) volatiles, which are chemicals, are methods
c) if changed into a model, smell from the hand can be used
d) the completed signature itself, not signing, is used

63. Which of the following is **NOT TRUE**?
- a) Everyone’s vein patterns are identical.
 - b) Vein patterns cannot be analyzed with a normal light.
 - c) Fingerprinting is one of the oldest methods of identification.
 - d) Personal signature method analyzes the way a person signs his or her name.
64. According to the information given in the text, you **CANNOT USE** _____ for biometric identification.
- a) blood vein patterns on the hand
 - b) the smell of the body
 - c) artificial chemicals
 - d) the act of signing

PASSAGE 2:



1 For a long time, Zaha Hadid was known as ‘the paper architect’, someone whose grand designs never left the page to become real buildings. But in recent years her buildings have sprouted up like mushrooms all over the world: the Guangzhou Opera House in China, a car factory in Germany, a contemporary art museum in Rome, a transport museum in Scotland, and the Aquatics Centre for the 2012 Olympics in London.

2 Hadid is now one of the most sought after architects of our age. She is also one of the few women to have made it in a profession still dominated by men. In Britain, where Hadid lives (she was born in Iraq in 1950), less than 15% of practicing architects are women. A lot more than that enter the profession, but either because of difficulty in getting recognized or because of the deep conservatism surrounding most British architecture, over half of **them** leave. But being “a woman in a man’s world” seems to have given Hadid extra strength. At times she felt she was banging her head against a wall trying to get her designs accepted, but she **persevered**. Famous for her fierce independence, one of her former tutors called her ‘a planet in her own orbit’.

3 Pinning down her individual style is difficult. Certainly she has been influenced by the modern trend in architecture that likes to play with the traditional shape of buildings and fragment them, creating unpredictable angles and surfaces. Working in this way, she and her fellow architects have produced various rather off the wall spaceship-like structures that seem to defy the normal laws of engineering, but which have intrigued and excited the public.

65 – 70 Mark the best choice according to the information given in the text.

65. It can be understood from the passage that Hadid_____.
- a) has become a “paper architect” in recent years
 - b) has always been a successful architect
 - c) had never intended to be a real architect
 - d) has achieved great success as an architect
66. According to the passage,_____.
- a) there are more male architects than females in Britain
 - b) men always encourage female architects
 - c) Hadid was immediately accepted as a successful architect in Britain
 - d) all of Hadid’s works are highly traditional with predictable surfaces
67. Which of the adjectives would be appropriate to describe Hadid’s character?
- a) ordinary
 - b) vulnerable
 - c) self-confident
 - d) self-pitying
68. Which of the following can be said for Hadid’s architectural style?
- a) She uses clear-cut geometrical shapes in her designs.
 - b) She has some interesting designs that appeal to public interest.
 - c) She obeys the laws of engineering, as well as architecture.
 - d) She has been influenced by traditional trends in architecture.
69. “**persevere**” (Paragraph 2, line 7) probably means_____.
- a) give up due to problems
 - b) keep on despite difficulties
 - c) go on for nothing
 - d) take off due to difficulties
70. “**them**” (Paragraph 2, line 5) refers to_____.
- a) male architects
 - b) male and female architects in Britain
 - c) male and female architects in Iraq
 - d) female architects

PASSAGE 3:



1 There is no more welcome sight on beaches all over the world than a lifeguard. You can spot lifeguards a mile off because they wear highly *conspicuous* red-and-yellow uniforms, and somehow they manage to look better than the rest of us too.

2 “Last year, we only had to make five rescues,” says head lifeguard Rod Terry, 22. “Another year, we helped 29 people in the space of three hours. You never know what you’re going to be called upon to do, which is why you need lifeguards who can cope with any situation.” You’d think, of course, they perform some public heroics, but Rod refuses such suggestions.

3 “As far as we’re concerned, we’d rather stop someone getting into trouble than have to get them out of it.” One of the lifeguards in Rod’s team is 24-year-old Becky Surridge. She says, “One minute you can find yourself dealing with minor cuts, and the next with a situation where one group of people on the beach is annoying another group. You have to handle things sensitively too. Even if **they** do talk tough, we lifeguards have no legal authority with which to back up their words.” “We can only advise,” adds Rod. “If someone wants to ignore a red flag, they’re free to do so.” A red flag is what the lifeguards put out when the wind gets stronger and the sea’s too rough for swimming. Exactly when that moment is reached is something that Rod alone decides. A lifeguard since the age of 14, first as a volunteer, he’s now a paid member of the town council’s leisure services department. ‘You take into account a variety of things: you listen to the weather reports and forecasts, and you assess the strength of the wind.’ Other factors to be considered, depending on location, of course, are the dangers that may be lurking in the water.

4 The majority of swimmers take notice of a red flag, but there are always those who don’t, and long before **they** start really getting into trouble, lifeguards will be on their way out to them, bringing them to the safety of the beach. They also help swimmers suffering from cramp brought on by swimming too soon after a meal, or *fatigue* caused by swimming out too far.

5 At any one time, there are eight lifeguards on duty, either scanning the waves or patrolling the beach. The team works five days a week, and constantly has to rotate tasks as this facilitates maximum degrees of attention. The other thing that keeps the lifeguards alert is the fact that they all get on well together. ‘It’s not as if we’re all sitting there in silence,’ says Lisa. ‘We’re always talking to each other, either in person or down the two-way radio.’

6 In fact, each summer season is something of an old friend’s reunion; this is the seventh year Pete has worked here, while it’s the fifth for Rebecca. In wintertime, they go off round the world – Pete’s been surfing in Mexico, and Rebecca’s just back from Bali, Hawaii, and New Zealand. It’s a case of not yet wanting to give up their seasonal, sunlit round of beaches. ‘There’s plenty of time for a proper job later,’ says Rebecca.

71 – 75 Mark the best choice according to the information given in the text.

71. Rod Terry says that lifeguards should be able to _____.
a) do all sorts of athletic moves c) do some public heroics
b) take legal action d) handle an emergency easily
72. According to the information in paragraph 3, lifeguards _____.
a) punish groups who disturb each other
b) cannot punish people who disobey the rules
c) help only those who have cuts on the beach
d) look after a restricted number of people
73. The_____influences a lifeguard’s decision to put up a red flag.
a) quality of the sea water c) number of lifeguards on duty
b) weather condition d) number of people on the beach
74. Which of the following sentences is **NOT TRUE** about lifeguards?
a) They need to listen to weather reports and forecasts.
b) They try to help people before they really get into trouble
c) They decide when to put out a red flag all lifeguards together
d) They may do the work voluntarily or get paid for it
75. How do lifeguards maintain their levels of concentration?
a) They take a long break each day.
b) They work no more than four days a week.
c) They ask other lifeguards’ opinions on their work.
d) They switch among the duties involved in their job.
76. Lifeguards typically_____.
a) get a proper job at another place in winter
b) never work at the same beach a second time in summer
c) travel to different but sunny and warm places in winter
d) spend winters somewhere close to their summer workplace
77. **“they”** (Paragraph 3, line 5) refers to_____.
a) people on the beach c) lifeguards on Rod’s team
b) lifeguards in general d) people with minor cuts
78. **“they”** (Paragraph 4, line 2) refers to_____.
a) lifeguards c) the majority of swimmers
b) swimmers who do not ignore red flag d) swimmers who ignore the red flag
79. **“conspicuous”** (Paragraph 1, line 2) probably means_____.
a) carefully hidden b) easily seen c) barely noticeable d) highly trained
80. **“fatigue”** (Paragraph 4, line 4) probably means_____.
a) freshness b) tiredness c) vitality d) disinterest

PART 4: WRITING

In this part of the exam, you will be asked to write a well-organized five-paragraph essay of 300 words on the following essay types. You will be given TWO of these essay types and asked to choose ONE of them.

- Opinion
- Problem & Solution
- Advantage and/or Disadvantage
- Cause and/or Effect

END OF THE EXAM