

2023-2024 ACADEMIC YEAR  
PROFICIENCY EXAM (MOCK)

Name & Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**PART I- VOCABULARY (10x1= 10 POINTS)**

Part A. Choose the correct option for the questions 1 – 5.

1. With Skype on my computer, I can \_\_\_\_\_ calls to my friend in Australia.  
A. meet  
B. make  
C. put  
D. talk
2. We're planning to \_\_\_\_\_ our apartment. What color do you think we should paint it?  
A. act  
B. warn  
C. decorate  
D. describe
3. If people don't communicate, it can cause \_\_\_\_\_ problems such as arguments.  
A. significant  
B. comprehensible  
C. variety  
D. flexible
4. Emma's invention was the best so, \_\_\_\_\_, she won the competition.  
A. on purpose  
B. as expected  
C. by change  
D. unfortunately
5. Nina forgot to \_\_\_\_\_ an important message, but she doesn't want to tell anybody.  
A. pass on  
B. put off  
C. join in  
D. pull of

PART B. Choose the alternative that is closest in meaning to the underlined word(s) for 6-10.

6. When he discovered how much evidence the police had against him, he thought the best thing to do was to make a confession.  
A. proof  
B. crime  
C. guilt  
D. policy

7. There were a lot of students who enrolled for the classes last year, so they hired new teachers.  
A. made up  
B. caught up  
C. set up  
D. signed up
8. I can't put up with your insulting manners any longer. You'd better keep in mind that I am not your servant.  
A. sympathize  
B. accept  
C. tolerate  
D. criticize
9. The visitors are not permitted to take photographs in certain parts of the Louvre Museum.  
A. forbidden  
B. included  
C. encouraged  
D. allowed
10. As citizens, we pay considerable amount in taxes whenever we buy anything.  
A. hardly any  
B. fairly high  
C. quite low  
D. nearly same

**PART II- STRUCTURE (15x1= 15 POINTS)**

Choose the correct option for the questions 11 – 25.

11. Normally, my father \_\_\_\_\_ work at 8 o'clock, but he \_\_\_\_\_ today. He's on holiday.  
A. is starting / isn't working  
B. starts / doesn't work  
C. is starting / doesn't work  
D. starts / isn't working
12. My husband usually gets home early, but last night he \_\_\_\_\_ home very late.  
A. arrive  
B. arrives  
C. have arrived  
D. arrived
13. As Liz \_\_\_\_\_ onions, she \_\_\_\_\_ her finger.  
A. chopped / was cutting  
B. had chopped / cut  
C. chopped / had cut  
D. was chopping / cut
14. \_\_\_\_\_ questions you try to answer in the exam, \_\_\_\_\_ is your chance of passing it.  
A. Hardly any / the less  
B. Much more / too much  
C. The more / the greater  
D. So few / that

15. With a budget of 80 million dollars, Red Cliff is \_\_\_\_\_ Asian-financed film to date.  
A. more expensive  
B. as expensive as  
C. the most expensive  
D. too expensive
16. In some parts of Turkey, the land has become \_\_\_\_\_ to cultivate due to the scarcity of rain.  
A. too poor  
B. so poor  
C. much poorer  
D. such a poor
17. Pompeii is a small ancient town in Italy \_\_\_\_\_ was destroyed in 79 AD.  
A. where  
B. which  
C. when  
D. whose
18. I'm glad that we \_\_\_\_\_ wear boring work clothes.  
A. mustn't  
B. can't  
C. don't have to  
D. shouldn't
19. Parts of our coastline \_\_\_\_\_ by the end of the decade – Experts say that there'll be less of it than there is now.  
A. will have disappeared  
B. disappear  
C. disappeared  
D. are disappearing
20. I've surprised myself because I've become a marathon runner. I hated sport all through school. In fact, I \_\_\_\_\_ usually make up an excuse when we were forced to do anything athletic.  
A. should  
B. may  
C. would  
D. will
21. I wasn't very well-organized before moving in a shipping container, and \_\_\_\_\_ Alan, so we both should make quite an effort to keep it tidy.  
A. was neither  
B. neither was  
C. so wasn't  
D. wasn't himself
22. In 1948, a scientist called Robert Ettinger wrote a short story for a magazine about a man brought back to life after centuries of \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. being frozen  
B. freeze  
C. be frozen  
D. to be freezing

23. There were some terribly strong winds in our town last week. Fortunately, it happened at night and no one \_\_\_\_\_ by the storm.
- got injured
  - had themselves injured
  - had injured them
  - got them injured
24. You wouldn't have missed the beginning of the play if you \_\_\_\_\_ home earlier.
- must have left
  - should have left
  - had left
  - left
25. \_\_\_\_\_ its more stressful nature, running your own business is definitely very pleasing.
- Even though
  - Since
  - Despite
  - However

### PART III- READING COMPREHENSION (10x2= 20 POINTS)

Choose the correct option for the questions 26 – 35. There is ONLY one correct option.

#### Text 1

Read the article. Choose the best option the following questions.

#### SEA ICE

1 Sea ice is found in **remote** polar oceans. On average, sea ice covers about 25 million square kilometers of the earth, or about two-and-a-half times the area of Canada. Because most of us do not live in the polar regions, we may live for several decades and never see sea ice. Although it may not directly affect us, it is a critical component of our planet because it influences climate, wildlife, and people who live in the Arctic.

2 Sea ice is simply frozen ocean water. It forms, grows, and melts in the ocean. In contrast, icebergs, glaciers, ice sheets, and ice shelves all originate on land. Sea ice occurs in both the Arctic and Antarctic. In the Northern Hemisphere, it can currently **exist** as far south as Bohai Bay, China, which is actually about 700 kilometers closer to the Equator than it is to the North Pole. In the Southern Hemisphere, sea ice only develops around Antarctica, occurring as far north as 55 degrees south latitude. Sea ice grows during the winter months and melts during the summer months, but some sea ice remains all year in certain regions. About 15 percent of the world's oceans are covered by sea ice during the year.

4 Even though sea ice occurs primarily in the polar regions, it influences our global climate. Sea ice has a bright surface, so much of the sunlight that strikes it is reflected back into space. As a result, areas covered by sea ice don't absorb much solar energy, so temperatures in the polar regions remain relatively cool. If gradually warming temperatures melt sea ice over time, fewer bright surfaces are available to reflect sunlight back into space, more solar energy is absorbed at the surface, and temperatures rise further. This chain of events starts a cycle of warming and melting. This cycle is temporarily **halted** when the dark days of the polar winter return, but it starts again in the following spring. Even a small increase in temperature can lead to greater warming over time, making the polar regions the most sensitive areas to climate change on Earth.

5 Sea ice also affects the movement of ocean waters. When sea ice forms, most of the salt is pushed into the ocean water below the ice, although some salt may become trapped in small pockets

between ice crystals. Water below sea ice has a higher concentration of salt and is more **dense** than surrounding ocean water, and so it sinks. In this way, sea ice contributes to the ocean's global "conveyor-belt" circulation. Cold, dense, polar water sinks and moves along the ocean bottom toward the equator, while warm water from mid-depth to the surface travels from the equator toward the poles. Changes in the amount of sea ice can disrupt normal ocean circulation, thereby leading to changes in global climate.

**26. How is sea ice created?**

- A. They are pieces of icebergs.
- B. They are pieces of glaciers.
- C. They are pieces of ice shelves.
- D. They are made from seawater.

**27. Where can sea ice not be found?**

- A. North Pole
- B. South Pole
- C. On the land
- D. North of Bohai Bay

**28. Why is sea ice important?**

- A. Because it can be an obstacle on shipping routes.
- B. Because it affects global warming.
- C. Because it covers world's oceans.
- D. Because it melts during the summer.

**29. Which statement is true?**

- A. Most people have seen sea ice.
- B. Sea ice can be seen as far as the equator.
- C. Sea ice reflecting the sun heats up the water.
- D. Salt makes water heavier.

**30. Which option is not a reason for sea ice affecting the climate?**

- A. It melts during the summer.
- B. It has a bright surface.
- C. It keeps the water cool.
- D. It keeps the poles cool.

Text 2

Read the article. Choose the best option the following questions.

**The Gig Economy**

- 1 Technically, the word *gig* means job, but these days it has a special flavour of its own. As linguist Geoff Nurnberg states in a National Public Radio commentary, in the 1950s it referred to “any job you took to keep body and soul together while your real life was elsewhere.” In other words, a gig was not necessarily part of a career, nor was it work that defined you. In recent years, however, it has come to mean any kind of temporary job. It makes sense, then, that the word is now part of a new work-related term: *the gig economy*. The U.S. Bureau of Labour Statistics (BLS) defines *gig* in this context as “a single project or task for which a worker is hired, often through a digital marketplace, to work on demand.” This might include working on one project at a time until each is finished, writing for publications or websites, or having a catering business that operates only

when a job is offered. Common fields that employ freelancers include graphic design, information technology, technical writing, and construction. In the U.S., there has been a noticeable rise in this type of work arrangement over the past decade.

- 2 The benefits of this system make it appealing, particularly to young single people. It enables them to choose their own schedules, to limit their work to interesting projects (as long as they earn enough to pay their bills), and to accumulate experience in different kinds of work. Nowadays we often hear about people working for a period and then traveling for a period, and so on. This kind of lifestyle would be impossible for someone working for a company in a fixed full-time position, which usually includes only two or three weeks' vacation per year. Such permanent employees are otherwise expected to be present to make decisions and fulfil ongoing responsibilities. On the other hand, the drawbacks of freelance work are clear: there is much less security than in traditional careers, and there are generally no traditional employee benefits such as private health insurance plans and paid sick days. Furthermore, freelance incomes tend to fluctuate, which can be stressful. Unfortunately, many people who would prefer a more traditional working life have been forced to take on a collection of lower-paying part-time jobs out of necessity rather than out of a desire for professional freedom. For them, a series of gigs is a minus instead of a plus.
  - 3 It is difficult for the U.S. government to track the number of freelance workers accurately, or the rate of increase in the gig sector. However, data from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the government's tax administration, does offer some clues. Most people operating very small, unincorporated businesses with no employees can be classified as members of the gig economy, and between 2003 and 2013 there was notable growth in such "nonemployer businesses" in all industry sectors. In the category not associated with any one industry, called the "other services" sector, there was an increase of nearly 1 million nonemployer businesses during that same period. As the BLS notes on its website, many of the jobs reflected in this last sector would be considered gig employment, such as repair work and individual babysitting jobs. And with the rapid growth of companies like Uber, Lyft, and Airbnb, it appears this business trend will continue to increase on a large scale as the labour force and economy adjust.
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31. Why might the gig economy appeal more to single people than to married people?
    - A. Freelance work is better for people who have no dependents and fewer responsibilities.
    - B. Married people don't usually like to travel, and freelance work is best for those who like to travel.
    - C. Single people can meet other singles more easily doing freelance work.
    - D. It enables people to have a permanent job.
  32. Why might it be stressful to have a fluctuating income?
    - A. Not having the same boss could make a worker feel stressed.
    - B. Not ever being able to predict your income could cause worry about savings and bills.
    - C. It could be stressful if some projects pay better but are less interesting than others.
    - D. It could give harm to family relations. ,
  33. Why does the data from the IRS offer clues rather than clear facts about the gig economy?
    - A. The reading suggests that much of this data is hidden from the IRS.
    - B. The gig economy is a mysterious topic which has more clues than facts.
    - C. The gig economy is not possible to understand.
    - D. We can only infer that the increases cited are related to gig work.
  34. What increased by about 1 million workers between 2003 and 2013 in the U.S.?
    - A. nonemployer businesses
    - B. other services
    - C. incorporated businesses
    - D. all of the above

35. How would you characterize the overall point of view of this article?
- A. It praises the gig economy a lot.
  - B. It is skeptical of the gig economy as a new system.
  - C. It is a balanced view of the gig economy trend.
  - D. It criticizes the gig economy totally.

**PART IV- LISTENING (10x1.5= 15 POINTS)**

**Part A: Listen to conversation 1 and choose the correct answers according to Listening 1 (36-40).**

36. Five years ago \_\_\_\_\_ students had mental health problems.
- A. twice as many
  - B. half as many
  - C. 20% of
  - D. 40% of
37. Before university, Victor was used to \_\_\_\_\_
- A. his mother doing things for him.
  - B. cooking and doing housework.
  - C. living on his own.
  - D. spending his time with his friends.
38. At university he felt that \_\_\_\_\_
- A. other students were more popular than him.
  - B. he was lazier than he used to be.
  - C. he should be enjoying himself more.
  - D. he was an introvert student.
39. At school Caroline \_\_\_\_\_
- A. didn't use to worry about things.
  - B. would drink a lot of coffee.
  - C. used to get better grades than other students.
  - D. used to stay up late for studying.
40. At one point, she felt unable to \_\_\_\_\_
- A. work all night.
  - B. attend lectures.
  - C. talk about her problems.
  - D. make new friend.

**Part B: Listen to conversation 2 and choose the correct answers according to Listening 1 (41-45).**

41. How does Jenny know this story?
- A. She knows Jake.
  - B. She read about it.
  - C. She heard about it from a friend.
  - D. She watched a TV program about it.
42. Jake and his family went skiing in \_\_\_\_\_
- A. the same state that they live in.
  - B. Portland.
  - C. a different state.
  - D. the south-east of the USA.

43. When Jake got lost, his parents \_\_\_\_\_
- A. weren't skiing.
  - B. were behind him.
  - C. were in front of him.
  - D. were on a different slope.
44. The first thing that happened was that \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Jake built a shelter.
  - B. Jake heard helicopters.
  - C. Jake lost a ski.
  - D. remembered the TV shows he had seen.
45. Jake's main problem was \_\_\_\_\_
- A. the wind.
  - B. the snow
  - C. the crevasses.
  - D. the low temperatures.

#### PART IV- WRITING (20 POINTS)

Choose ONE of the topics below. Write an opinion essay with the following question. Write about 180-220 words. Put a check for the topic that you choose.

**TOPIC A:** ☐

In the past, when cities weren't as big as they are now, most people were born in the countryside and grew up there. Today however, the population in the cities are rising every day and people are growing up without being in the nature. Some people say that this is harmful for the development of children and argue that more people should move to the countryside. What is your opinion?

**TOPIC B:** ☐

When I was young, most of my elders told me that to become successful in life, I would have to work very hard. Now that I am older, I realize hard work isn't enough to become very successful, a person also needs to be lucky. Some people disagree however and say, "People make their own luck". Which one is more important, hard work, luck, or a combination of both?

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120 minutes

[illegible]

WRITE YOUR ANSWERS (A, B, C or D) ON THE CHART BELOW

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

**GRADE INFO**

Part 1 Vocabulary (1-10): 10 questions x 1 point = \_\_\_\_\_ / 10 points

Part 2 Structure (11-25): 15 questions x 1 point = \_\_\_\_\_ / 15 points

Part 3 Reading (26-35): 10 questions x 2 points = \_\_\_\_\_ / 20 points

Part 4 Listening (36-45): 10 questions x 1.5 points = \_\_\_\_\_ / 15 points

Part 5 Writing: \_\_\_\_\_ / 20 points

Part 6 Speaking: \_\_\_\_\_ / 20 points

**TOTAL= \_\_\_\_\_ / 100 points**