

SAKARYA UNIVERSITY
ENGLISH PROFICIENCY TEST

LANGUAGE USE & VOCABULARY:

Questions 1-35. Mark the correct alternative.

As the school year ends, the exam period is on the way. Undoubtedly, exams put pressure **1.** --- both students and parents alike. Many parents hope for their children to excel academically, **2.** --- they believe a solid education provides a significant advantage in life. They want to see their children settled in a rewarding job and be financially well off. **3.** ---, this vision often does not align with the students' own aspirations. They **4.** --- aim low so as not to be disappointed if they get low marks. Nevertheless, child psychologists, who **5.** --- consulted on the matter, stress that students should aim high, but at the same time keep alternative paths open. This approach can reduce stress about grades and **6.** --- improve their chances of success over time. On the whole, there are **7.** --- practical ways parents can support their children during this period and this may prove invaluable to their children. **8.** --- being approachable and supportive, parents can help create a balanced study schedule that suits both parties. Psychologists advise **9.** --- study time to eight hours per day, ensuring children have three nutritious meals, and encouraging regular exercise. Finally, **10.** --- each exam, parents need to reassure their children to emphasize that their worth is not defined by the results.

- | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. A) in | B) off | C) with | D) on |
| 2. A) as | B) hence | C) whereas | D) in case |
| 3. A) Therefore | B) However | C) As long as | D) Consequently |
| 4. A) rather than | B) likely to | C) are used to | D) would rather |
| 5. A) had | B) was | C) have been | D) would have |
| 6. A) ultimately | B) initially | C) hardly | D) helplessly |
| 7. A) numerous | B) a great amount of | C) none of | D) a great deal of |
| 8. A) On behalf of | B) Beyond | C) In opposition to | D) Regardless of |
| 9. A) limit | B) limited | C) to limit | D) limiting |
| 10. A) owing to | B) in order that | C) as far as | D) prior to |

11. It seems we are all on the same page that we should donate our money to charities, put a lot of effort to help people who are fortunate than us.

- A) that / more
- B) which / less
- C) which / as
- D) that / most

12. I to see that the thing which out of the bushes in front of me in the dark alley was only a cat.

- A) would relieve / was jumping
- B) had relieved / was jumped
- C) have been relieved / had jumped
- D) was relieved / jumped

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13. Would you mind if I your phone for a minute to call my father?

- A) used
- B) use
- C) am using
- D) will use

14. He as carefully as he claimed he was. What caused him to collide with the parked bus then?

- A) can't have been driving
- B) shouldn't have driven
- C) isn't supposed to drive
- D) didn't need to

15. being the best lawyer in the city, Fred was ranked the top ten crime novel authors in the country.

- A) Along / for
- B) As well as / into
- C) Since / from
- D) Besides / among

16. The fact that many students work part-time raises the question of whether affects their academic performance or not.

- A) one
- B) this
- C) who
- D) when

17. Wealthy women once wore dresses made entirely lace. Now it is used mostly decoration, however.

- A) with / of
- B) into / for
- C) of / as
- D) from / to

18. Some wonder if the Internet has made it more difficult to concentrate on one task getting distracted by other things.

- A) of
- B) for
- C) without
- D) by

19. I'm quite certain that my parents my siblings are aware of the problems that I have at school.

- A) both / but
- B) neither / nor
- C) none / as well as
- D) either / no

20. A report which shows that each year nearly 280,000 adult deaths in the US by obesity.

- A) published / cause
- B) has been published / are caused
- C) had published / have been caused
- D) was published / are causing

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- 21. These days, we have been thinking of having the kitchen to have more storage space.**
A) redesign
B) redesigned
C) to redesign
D) to be redesigned
- 22. Samuel tried four different pills to get rid of his headache, which helped him at all.**
A) in
B) none of
C) neither
D) of
- 23. She managed to get a promotion within six months, which is quite impressive her lack of experience.**
A) given
B) as long as
C) unlike
D) as
- 24. the normal breaks for a hot drink and lunch, research has shown that short, informal breaks mean employees work better.**
A) As well as / whether
B) In addition / which
C) Despite / when
D) Apart from / that
- 25. The documentary about the extinction of some species was both informative and moving, it failed to reach a wider audience.**
A) yet
B) furthermore
C) unless
D) as long as
- 26. They were giving up hope when someone phoned to say their daughter had been found.**
A) in exchange for
B) on behalf of
C) on the point of
D) in return for
- 27. You apologized for your nasty behaviours in the meeting. That was a big mistake!**
A) ought to have
B) must have
C) can't have
D) had to
- 28. The young artist is determined to the legacy of her parents, who are both renowned in their fields.**
A) look up to
B) come across
C) live up to
D) take after

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29. She was reluctant to her mistakes at first but eventually admitted her role in the misunderstanding.

- A) represent
- B) acknowledge
- C) concern
- D) acquire

30. The road by our house was sothat driving became a great challenge.

- A) down-to-earth
- B) incompetent
- C) rough
- D) dull

31. The company was accused of withholding information to mislead its investors.

- A) deliberately
- B) cordially
- C) barely
- D) compassionately

32. That seems a veryway of recording the information - do you really need all of those details?

- A) humble
- B) elaborate
- C) obscure
- D) inevitable

33. The scientist's led to a breakthrough discovery after years of hard work.

- A) frustration
- B) abundancy
- C) immersion
- D) persistence

34. In her quest for adventure, she would often creative ways to appreciate the small things in her life.

- A) set out
- B) break into
- C) make up for
- D) come up with

35. The of the new marketing campaign will be evaluated at the end of the quarter.

- A) affect
- B) effective
- C) effectiveness
- D) effectively

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Questions 36-38

Choose the alternative sentence that has the closest meaning to the given one.

36. Poverty is decreasing as a result of the economic recovery that some countries have experienced over the last ten years.

- A) In some countries, the economic growth over the last decade has resulted in poverty reduction.
- B) Due to the economic recovery in some countries, poverty will have been decreased in ten years.
- C) In some countries, during the last decade, poverty has increased despite the economic recovery.
- D) Despite the economic growth over the last ten years, poverty continues to be a serious problem in some countries.

37. But for the storm, the ship would have reached its destination on time.

- A) If there hadn't been a storm, the ship would have arrived at its destination on time.
- B) When the storm began, it was difficult to navigate the ship to its destination.
- C) The ship reached its destination on time in spite of the storm.
- D) Owing to the storm, it was difficult to navigate the ship.

38. The colder the climate is, the less diversity there is in the ecosystem.

- A) Compared to colder regions, there is less diversity in the ecosystem in warmer regions due to the heat.
- B) Due to the cold climate, all plants grow extremely slow.
- C) The diversity of plants and animals is proportional to the climate.
- D) Changes in climate affect neither plants nor animals.

Questions 39-40.

Choose the best alternative to fill in the missing part in each conversation.

39. Jayden: You've been on that computer for hours! What have you been doing?

Joseph: There's this brilliant new role-playing game and I just can't get enough of it.

Jayden:

Joseph: Oh, sorry. I didn't know there was anyone waiting to use it.

- A) That's what's been slowing down the whole network all afternoon.
- B) Don't you think it's about time you let someone else have a chance?
- C) Can you just finish up quickly? I want to lock up the office and go home.
- D) Really? Is it the one I have been looking forward to playing for a long time?

40. Carol: Any comment about Nancy's flat?

Tom:

Carol: Me too. I thought she would have preferred something more old-fashioned.

- A) She must have spent a fortune! Most of the furniture looks over 100 years old I thought.
- B) I was amazed when she said she'd done it all herself.
- C) Absolutely beautiful. I told her to be proud of herself.
- D) Well, I was surprised she'd decorated it in such a modern style.

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READING: Questions 41-60

Questions 41-46: Mark the correct alternative for the following reading text.

For five years, from December 1903 to September 1908, two young bicycle mechanics from Ohio, Wilbur and Orville Wright, repeatedly claimed to have built a machine capable of flying despite being heavier than air. Even though they demonstrated their invention and took photographs of themselves in flight, their claims were dismissed as a joke by major institutions such as *Scientific American*, the *New York Herald*, the U.S. Army, and most American scientists.

These experts rejected the Wright brothers' assertions without considering the evidence, firmly believing that flight in a heavier-than-air machine was impossible on scientific grounds. It wasn't until President Theodore Roosevelt ordered public trials at Fort Myers in 1908 that the Wrights were able to prove their invention, and the Army and scientific community had no choice but to acknowledge that their flying machine was real.

It's perhaps not surprising that two young bicycle mechanics from a small town in Ohio were ignored by the intellectuals on the more developed east coast, especially during a time when horses were still the main mode of transport. However, it is more surprising that the local newspapers in Dayton, Ohio, failed to report on the Wrights. In 1904, a local banker named Torrence Huffman allowed the Wrights to use his large farm just outside the town for their flying experiments. The land was situated near two main roads and the local railway line, meaning that hundreds of people saw the Wrights flying over the months.

Many of the astonished railway passengers wrote to the local papers, asking who the young men flying near the railway were, and why no news about them had appeared in the papers. Eventually, the local papers were bombarded with inquiries and began complaining about the nuisance, yet the editors still ignored the story and sent neither reporters nor photographers.

In 1940, Dan Kumler, the city editor of the *Dayton Daily News* during the flights, gave an interview in which he openly explained his refusal to publish anything about the Wright brothers thirty-five years earlier. Kumler said, "I guess we just didn't believe it. Of course, you must remember that the Wrights at the time kept things very secret." The interviewer responded in disbelief, asking, "You mean they kept things secret by flying over an open field?" Kumler paused, smiled, and admitted, "I guess the truth is we were just plain stupid."

41. What do we learn about the Wright brothers in the first paragraph?

- A) They said they had built a flying machine.
- B) They gave lots of flying demonstrations.
- C) They laughed at the ideas in the *Scientific American*.
- D) They took photographs of themselves.

42. How did Theodore Roosevelt become involved with the Wright brothers?

- A) He insisted that the trial should be in a public court.
- B) He concluded that the brothers were telling the truth.
- C) He ordered the press to tell the truth about the plane.
- D) He ordered the brothers to test the plane in public.

43. What does the writer find surprising about the flying experiments?

- A) the lack of interest shown by local newspapers
- B) the attitude of the experts
- C) the lack of flying experiments in the East
- D) the skill of bicycle mechanics

44. Torrence Huffman helped the Wright brothers by...

- A) lending them money to buy some land.
- B) letting them use some of his land.

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- C) giving them some of his farmland.
- D) allowing them to buy some land.

45. Why did people write to the newspapers?

- A) to ask why people were flying near the railway line
- B) to make sure that it was the Wright brothers who were flying
- C) to ask why the flights had not been reported in the papers
- D) to complain about the nuisance caused by these flights

46. Why was the interviewer surprised by the first answer given by Dan Kumler?

- A) The interviewer knew that the Wrights had opened the gates to the field.
- B) The interviewer thought the Wrights had wanted to keep their flights secret.
- C) The interviewer did not believe what Kumler had told the Wrights.
- D) The interviewer thought that anybody could have seen the Wrights flying.

Questions 47-52: Mark the correct alternative for the following reading text.

For centuries, it was believed that ancient humans domesticated animals by capturing and breeding them for desirable traits. By selecting tame individuals to reproduce, humans made some animals less wild and more dependent. This process led to the domestic species we know today, many of which have lost their natural instincts and survival skills.

Recent research, however, suggests this explanation is incomplete. While humans did capture and breed wild animals, researchers now believe that animals also played a role in their domestication. For instance, wolves and wild horses may have initiated the process by lingering near human settlements, feeding on waste, and becoming accustomed to human activity. Animals that tolerated humans were more likely to reproduce, leading to generations that adapted to human presence and were easier to tame.

This revised view suggests domestication required animals willing to live near humans, making it a cooperative process rather than purely human-driven.

The domestication of cats seems to partially align with this theory. A traditional explanation is that as early farmers in the Near East stored grain, rodents gathered to feed on it, attracting wildcats that hunted them. Over time, humans and cats grew accustomed to each other, resulting in tame cats. However, recent studies question this idea. Wildcats typically avoid human settlements and don't share territories. Experts are unsure whether wildcats actively participated in their domestication.

What is clear is that long after humans had domesticated other species like dogs, sheep, and cattle, they eventually tamed cats by breeding the least aggressive individuals. This selective breeding produced cats with increasingly domestic traits.

47. What was the traditional belief about how domestication began?

- A) People found animals living near them and adopted them as pets.
- B) Ancient humans selectively bred wild animals for useful characteristics.
- C) Animals naturally lost their survival instincts over time.
- D) Wild animals willingly began living in human settlements.

48. How did recent research change the understanding of domestication?

- A) It suggested that domestication was an entirely natural process.
- B) It highlighted animals' active role in adapting to humans.
- C) It proved that all wild animals were naturally suited for domestication.
- D) It showed that animals became tame without human intervention.

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49. What is one traditional theory about how cats became tame?

- A) Wildcats followed humans to hunt large prey.
- B) Early farmers bred wildcats for their hunting skills.
- C) Wildcats preyed on rodents attracted to stored grain.
- D) Humans provided food to attract wildcats to settlements.

50. Why is the traditional theory about cat domestication questioned by recent studies?

- A) Wildcats typically avoid living near humans or sharing food sources.
- B) Rodents were not a significant food source for wildcats.
- C) Cats were domesticated long before humans stored grain.
- D) Wildcats did not develop physical changes during domestication.

51. What distinguishes the domestication of cats from other animals like dogs or cattle?

- A) Cats were the first animals to be domesticated.
- B) Cats were domesticated without human intervention.
- C) Humans bred cats selectively for their less aggressive behavior.
- D) Cats showed no physical changes during domestication.

52. What does the text suggest about the overall domestication process?

- A) It was entirely controlled by humans selecting traits.
- B) It required mutual adaptation between humans and animals.
- C) Animals domesticated themselves without human involvement.
- D) It occurred only after agriculture was invented.

Questions 53-60: Mark the correct alternative for the following reading text.

What do Einstein, Leonardo da Vinci, Julius Caesar, and Napoleon have in common? They were all left-handed! Historically, left-handed individuals, known as southpaws, faced fear, neglect, and even punishment because using the left hand was seen as something negative. In fact, the Latin word for "left" is "sinister." Due to this bias, many left-handed people were forced to use their right hand, which caused significant challenges in school, such as frustration, behavioral issues, and higher drop-out rates. This may have contributed to the false stereotype that left-handed individuals are less intelligent—a notion far from reality. Scientists studying the brain have discovered differences between the left and right hemispheres. They believe that individuals who rely more on the left side of their brain are often more intelligent, better at using language, and quicker at solving problems. However, studies also suggest that left-brain-dominant individuals may have weaker memories.

So, what about left-handed people? Interestingly, they tend to use both sides of their brain more equally. In contrast, right-handed individuals rely more on the left side. Left-handed individuals have a larger connection between the two brain hemispheres, allowing information to flow more efficiently between them. The left side of the brain governs speech, language, writing, logic, math, and science, while the right side is responsible for music, art, creativity, perception, and emotion. Since left-handed people utilize both hemispheres effectively, they often excel in both creative and scientific fields.

Approximately 10% of the global population is left-handed, with males being twice as likely as females to be left-handed. Fortunately, left-handedness is no longer viewed as a problem by parents and teachers. Instead, it is considered as a potential asset. When allowed to learn and grow in ways that suit their strengths, left-handed individuals often **thrive** academically. Who knows? The next Einstein or da Vinci might be a lefty!

53. Why were left-handed people treated unfairly?

- A) They were believed to be less intelligent.
- B) The society viewed left-handedness as unfavourable.
- C) They couldn't perform well in creative fields.
- D) It was thought they caused fear.

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54. Which of the following is NOT a result of forcing a child to change their handedness?

- A) Quitting school
- B) Getting angry
- C) Better handwriting
- D) Doing bad things in class

55. How does the use of brain hemispheres differ between left-handed and right-handed individuals?

- A) Left-handed individuals rely entirely on the left hemisphere.
- B) Right-handed individuals use both hemispheres equally.
- C) Left-handed people use both hemispheres more evenly.
- D) Right-handed individuals have a larger brain structure.

56. Why might left-handed people do well in both creative and scientific fields?

- A) They have a dominant left hemisphere.
- B) Their brains allow for efficient communication between hemispheres.
- C) They rely only on the right hemisphere for creativity.
- D) They avoid traditional learning methods.

57. Why is left-handedness no longer seen as a drawback?

- A) It is now understood as a rare condition.
- B) Parents and teachers recognize its potential strengths.
- C) The society no longer values intelligence and creativity.
- D) Right-handed individuals have similar advantages.

58. What optimistic prediction is made about left-handed individuals?

- A) They are likely to dominate creative fields.
- B) They are likely to become the next great thinkers or innovators.
- C) They will eventually outnumber right-handed individuals.
- D) They may lose their distinct brain structure over time.

59. What is the main idea of the text?

- A) Left-handed people have been mistreated but are now recognized for their unique strengths and potential.
- B) Left-handed individuals rely entirely on the right hemisphere of their brain, making them more creative.
- C) Right-handed people dominate in both creative and scientific fields due to their brain structure.
- D) The challenges faced by left-handed people in the past have led to a decline in their population.

60. The word 'thrive' could be a synonym for....

- A) occur
- B) fancy
- C) decline
- D) progress

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LISTENING: Questions 61-80

Part 1: You will listen to an interview with a man called David Shaw, who is a professional ceramicist, making pottery objects out of clay. For questions 61-67, mark the correct answer according to the recording.

61. What does David say is an absolute requirement for people considering a career in ceramics?

- A) They must feel a passion for it.
- B) They must be physically very fit.
- C) They must have enough patience.
- D) They must have the necessary talent.

62. David says it took him a long time to...

- A) develop his own style.
- B) make his business profitable.
- C) decide to work at ceramics full-time.
- D) earn money from his own works.

63. What does David find most enjoyable about his job?

- A) the fact that the results are unpredictable
- B) the feedback he gets from his customers
- C) the knowledge that he creates useful pieces
- D) the feeling of being satisfied

64. What does David say he finds particularly difficult?

- A) doing administrative tasks
- B) finding time to research new ideas
- C) finishing new commissions on time
- D) getting high-quality materials

65. What reason does David give for his recent success as a ceramicist?

- A) He's been luckier than other ceramicists.
- B) He's put in more effort than in the past.
- C) He's started to follow certain fashions.
- D) He has got help from some experts.

66. How does David feel about the possibility of teaching ceramics?

- A) He fears it might distract him.
- B) He's unsure about finding time.
- C) His family does not want him to do it.
- D) He feels unprepared for it.

67. David advises people who want a career in ceramics to...

- A) talk to established ceramicists.
- B) go to ceramics exhibitions.
- C) attend a ceramics course.
- D) do and improve on their own.

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Part 2: You are going to listen to someone getting advice from a friend. For questions 68-73, mark the correct answer according to the recording.

68. What did Clara check on Ben?

- A) He wasn't in the class on that day.
- B) He's missed a few classes.
- C) He has a lot of assignments to deliver.
- D) He has some concentration issues.

69. What does Ben do at the beginning of the conversation?

- A) He thinks the problem is too hard for him.
- B) He tries to avoid talking about the exact problem.
- C) He doesn't want to talk anything about the problem at the start.
- D) He pretends that he has no solution to his problem.

70. In what way does Ben's anxiety affect his normal life?

- A) He feels silly.
- B) He can't remember some important things.
- C) He never wants to be indoors.
- D) He is worried about some simple things.

71. What is the astonishing thing about panic attacks, according to Clara?

- A) How many people have them.
- B) That they make you feel so awful.
- C) That people keep their panic attacks secretly.
- D) Why people have them more than they used to.

72. How does Clara figure out that Ben's problem is panic attacks?

- A) She used to have the same problem in the past.
- B) She is also having the same problem these days.
- C) She and Ben stay in the same flat together.
- D) She knows someone else who has the same problem.

73. What does Clara warn Ben about the advice she will give?

- A) It will be difficult to admit.
- B) It won't be easy to follow.
- C) It isn't very practical.
- D) It will take a few years.

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Part 3: You are going to listen to Simon talking about how he learned several languages in a variety of different ways. For questions 74-80 mark the correct answer according to the recording.

74. Why does the speaker enjoy learning languages?

- A) It is required for academic success.
- B) He finds them both essential and interesting.
- C) It helps him get jobs in new countries.
- D) He wants to master every language he encounters.

75. What method does the speaker prefer for learning languages?

- A) Attending formal classes.
- B) Practicing grammar exercises daily.
- C) Engaging in conversations and using dictionaries.
- D) Watching movies with subtitles.

76. How did television help the speaker learn Spanish?

- A) It taught him advanced vocabulary quickly.
- B) He used it to practice pronunciation exercises.
- C) Repeated phrases and visuals made learning easier.
- D) He followed news programs for daily life vocabulary.

77. What strategy did the speaker use when talking to people in public places?

- A) He avoided speaking until he was confident.
- B) He planned his sentences in advance.
- C) He relied on translators for assistance.
- D) He practiced with friends first.

78. What aspect of the Spanish language did the speaker find particularly difficult?

- A) Pronunciation of specific sounds.
- B) Grammar rules and sentence structures.
- C) Daily life informal expressions and idioms.
- D) Spelling and written communication.

79. What attitude do locals generally have towards language learners, according to the speaker?

- A) Indifference towards their efforts.
- B) Criticism of their mistakes.
- C) Encouragement and understanding.
- D) Impatience with their struggles.

80. What might be the main message of the recording?

- A) Learning languages requires attending formal classes and mastering grammar.
- B) Immersion, daily practice, and interacting with locals are effective ways to learn a new language.
- C) Watching television and reading newspapers are principal methods to improve language skills.
- D) Learning a new language is easy if you focus solely on vocabulary and avoid making mistakes.

-----This is the end of the test -----