PARAGRAPH COMPLETION TESTS

Paragraph Completion Advanced Level Test – Quiz (Online Exercise With Answers) 2

25 questions · Choose the correct answer. Online test and answer key with explanations:
https://englishtestsonline.com/paragraph-completion-advanced-level-test-quiz-online-exercise-with-answers-2/

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 25

1. Shopping malls have produced a revolution in United States shopping and living habits in just 45 years. Before 1950, there were no malls, but now almost every city or region has at least one. In fact, shopping malls have become a part of daily life. Many people even think of them as social centers. In a way, malls have taken the place of Main Street. Shops and services which were once spread over several city blocks are now in one place at the mall. _____. Busy householders can save time by doing their shopping at the mall. And people young and old, with time on their hands, often say, "Let's go to the mall!"

A) Thus, such handicaps as transportation and location of the malls have limited the number of people who go to the malls

B) And these factors make the explanation why there are not so many people as there were in the past preferring shopping malls

C) Hence, you can always find any department you like in a mall

D) In a way, shopping malls have changed United States culture

E) Because every mall is surrounded by a large parking area

2. In 1585, Sir Walter Raleigh tried to start the first English settlement in North America. _____. Many settlers became sick and others died of hunger or in battles with the Native Americans. When another ship came from England a few years later, the newcomers found that all the settlers were dead.

A) The settlers were not glad to see the native people

B) However, the settlement was not successful

C) Therefore, they all married Indians

D) The settlement had grown

E) He managed to fulfil the American dream in the best way

3. Anthropologists used to believe that romantic love was invented by Europeans in the Middle Ages. By romantic love, they mean an intense attraction and longing to be with the loved person. _____. Others thought that it may have existed in some other cultures but only among the rich and privileged. Now, however, most anthropologists agree that romantic love has probably always existed among humans.

A) It’s not surprising, then, that stories of romance exist only in the Oriental cultures

B) 'Romeo and Juliet' is an unusual example of this

C) However, it has never taken place in history

D) Therefore, romance can be regarded as unnecessary as a literary type

E) Some anthropologists believed that this kind of love spread from the west to other cultures only recently

4. _____. There are a number of reasons for this fear. One reason is that the patient cannot see what the dentist is doing. Another reason is that the patient, who is lying back, may feel very helpless. Social factors may also increase a person's fear. People may be influenced by the general belief that dentists are scary.

A) People like seeing the dentist's shiny instruments

B) Many people are afraid of going to the dentist

C) There is an ongoing research nowadays about why people do not like to brush their teeth very often

D) I, myself, do not like the idea of instruments in my mouth

E) Doctor visit is essential especially for the old every six months

5. Are you sometimes a little tired and sleepy in the early afternoon? If so, you are not the only one. Many people feel this way after lunch. They may think that eating lunch is the cause of their sleepiness. Or, in summer, they may think it is the heat. _____. At that time, about eight hours after you wake up, your body temperature goes down. This is what makes you slow down and feel sleepy.

A) However, the real reason lies inside their bodies

B) They slept for one long period and then for one short period about eight hours later

C) Scientists have tested sleep habits in experimental situations

D) Therefore, lunch is alleged to be the sole reason for taking naps in the middle of the day

E) Many working people, unfortunately, have no time to sleep in the afternoon

6. The use of electric automobiles in the future will help reduce air pollution. This was the conclusion of a recent study by experts of a large area in the northeastern United States. The area is highly urban and includes the cities of New York and Boston. At present, the air quality is poor. However, the use of electric cars could improve the situation. By the year 2015, there will be about 3.3 million electric cars on the road in the Northeast. _____.

A) If things go on like this, there'll be more pollution in the country

B) According to the study, this will mean 20–50% less pollution

C) That's why there has been a gradual increase in the number of cars on the road

D) Moreover, a sharp reduction of air quality in the northeast is expected

E) That is to say, our future does not promise us good news

7. _____. Dishes of uncooked fish, called sushi or sashimi, are prepared at most Japanese restaurants. Japanese cooks use many kinds of fish or shellfish for their dishes. Whatever kind of fish they use, however, it must always be very fresh. To prove that the fish is fresh, some restaurants will even serve fish that is still alive.

A) Many Asians want to eat the unusual kinds of meat

B) Europeans prefer a fish cooked on a grill

C) The Japanese love to eat raw fish

D) Whole fish is only preferred by the seamen

E) There are three kinds of fish

8. Where there are people, there are almost always mice or rats. This is true in all parts of the world. These animals can be a real problem. They eat or damage supplies of food. _____. Finally, they can carry many types of diseases to humans and other animals. Therefore, you should keep your home free of mice and rats.

A) Then, you must take measures to make them stay away

B) Another solution is to clean your clothes carefully

C) In this way, it tries to keep all the food at home

D) Eventually, they may wear out your accessories

E) They can also damage clothes and furniture in the home

9. On a narrow avenue in New York City's "Little Italy" section in the early 1970s, hundreds of men, women, and children stood in long lines, wearing traditional Italian parade costumes. Many carried musical instruments. Crowds of spectators stood behind ropes, with an occasional police officer present to keep them from rushing forward. _____. Director Francis Ford Coppola was filming a scene for The Godfather.

A) Yet, this was no ordinary New York ethnic festival

B) What if a sociologist joined these spectators?

C) The movie seemed to be successful

D) Typically, when movies like this one are shot during the day, huge crowds can never be gathered to watch

E) But, the camera has not been placed yet

10. There are several ways to locate and record important information as you read. Underlining the material on a page is quickest, but taking notes makes you reorganize the reading material into an easily understood form. Outlining helps you record the structure of the ideas in your reading. Summarizing helps you to grasp the meaning of what you read most fully and to restate that meaning in a concise way. _____.

A) Each of these study techniques helps you understand the material better the first time you read it

B) At first, you will often need to look back at what you learned from your reading

C) Therefore, the more active a study technique is, the more you'll like it

D) Hence, underlining the most important ideas will help you find rapidly what you read

E) These extra special marks will make you remember your thoughts

11. Today, farmers in most of the industrialized countries grow cash crops. This means that they usually grow large amounts of only a few crops, such as soya, wheat, or corn. They sell these crops and use the money to buy what they need for their families and their farms. _____. Most farmers used to grow lots of different kinds of crops. They sometimes sold some of the crops when there was extra.

A) However, they spend the whole money for their own needs

B) People in the city needed food, too

C) In the past, farming was quite different

D) They didn't grow soya in those days

E) Therefore most of the crops are kept to feed the farmer's family

12. _____. In the United States, it is the most expensive health problem in the workplace. In all, it costs people up to $60 billion in medical expenses and lost working time. Back pain is bad for business as well. It is the cause of 40 percent of all lost workdays. That means a total of about 93 million sick days a year in the United States. Doctors now believe that exercise is the best treatment for back pain. For this reason, some companies have started special exercise programs for employees.

A) People living in the big cities cannot find enough time for exercise

B) In the last few years, cancer cases increased so much that management departments of the big companies tend to employ specialised doctors in their firms

C) Employees who suffer from fatigue are allowed to rest more in their workplaces

D) Four out of five people suffer from back pain at some time in their working lives

E) Exercising too much may lead to many health problems especially if you are old

13. The tendency to help others begins quite early. Many children become sensitive to other people's emotional states at a very young age. As they grow older, children's efforts at helping become more elaborate. Their helping behaviours often follow the examples set by those around them and are usually supported and encouraged by the norms communicated through the child's reference groups. In our culture, these norms result in praise and other rewards for helpfulness and scolding for selfishness. _____.

A) Thus, an adult's tendency to help others appears related to numerous characteristics

B) Psychologists thought it unlikely that everyone in the neighbourhood was helpful

C) The clarity of someone's need for help has a major impact on whether others provide help

D) Helping behaviour is defined as any act that is intended to benefit another person

E) Eventually, just as they internalize, or adopt, other social norms, most children come to believe that it is good to be helpful

14. The first step in reading for specific information is to look for the main idea. _____. In a longer work, you add up the main ideas of the various paragraphs in order to figure out the main idea of the whole selection. But the main idea does not give you all the information you need. Facts and details may appear within the paragraphs you read and help develop the main ideas of the paragraphs.

A) In a one-paragraph selection, you gather all the sentences to find the main idea

B) To make the best use of these facts and details, you have to be able to remember them

C) And they may all be found out at the beginning, in the middle or at the end of the paragraph

D) Readers used to separate major facts and details from the minor ones in order to determine the topic

E) A course that requires several books may demand different kinds of reading for those several books

15. To read well, you need a strong vocabulary. To build a strong vocabulary, you need to read well. These sentences are a paradox. _____. Together, they state the challenge facing anyone trying to improve reading skills. In order to read confidently, you have to know many words. Yet the best way to expand your knowledge of words is to read often. As you improve your skills in one, you improve your skills in the other.

A) Most of us have vocabularies that allow us to read widely from the everyday sources of information that surround us

B) That is, they seem to express opposite points but, nevertheless, are both true

C) The first step to take in improving your vocabulary is to recognize that it is not possible for you to know the meaning of every word you see

D) But often you really need to find out exactly what these two words mean

E) Then, why don't you learn to use the context?

16. The amount of time people spend researching, checking prices, visiting stores, and seeking advice from friends tends to rise in proportion to the value of the product they're thinking of buying. _____. So why are some people now walking into car showrooms and ordering a vehicle without even asking for a test drive? Or turning up at an electrical store and pointing out the washing machine they want without seeking advice from a sales assistant? Welcome to a new style of shopping shaped by the Internet.

A) Some companies are already adjusting their business models to take account of these trends

B) People should be careful about what people around them think of their new properties

C) A new car is one of the biggest purchases people make, and buyers typically spend four to six weeks mulling over their choices

D) If you look at the internet's wider influence over what people spend their money on, then the figures escalate out of sight

E) According to America's Online Publishers Association, more than 90% of people aged between 18 and 54 say online purchasing was a wonder of the 20th century

17. The sheer number of vehicles on the roads of Western countries hugely lessened the appeal of driving. _____. Meanwhile, the country's road network has expanded by nowhere near as much. With increased traffic density has come tougher speed regulations. Motorists with what was described jauntily in the 1960s as a “brisk” driving style are increasingly feeling the heavy hand of the law closing over their driving licences.

A) Driving a car was no longer a liberating, life-enhancing experience

B) When the magazine started in 1997, there were 156 track days for cars in London

C) But the interest in driving has been decreasing gradually throughout Europe

D) A famous American company had opened a car factory by 2001 in Dallas

E) In Britain, traffic density has grown by over 70% during the past couple of decades

18. Dogs acting as guides for the blind are now a familiar sight in most cities. _____. In 1982 an innovative programme was established to provide deaf adults with dogs to alert them to sounds in the home such as the doorbell, alarm clock, telephone or smoke alarm. Instead of barking, they use a paw to gain attention and then lead the deaf person to the sound source.

A) Many blind people who have dogs say that they will find confidence and make new friends

B) The practical value of a hearing dog is immediately obvious but the therapeutic value should not be underestimated

C) Less familiar are “Hearing Dogs For Deaf People” but in Britain more than 600 such animals exist

D) Although the programme is expensive to run, it has clearly made an enormous difference

E) The deaf person also needs time to adapt to the dog with the help of the trainers

19. Running out of exotic places to visit or more extreme thrills for an even bigger adrenaline rush? _____. When it arrives, space tourism will offer the ultimate in bragging rights. If things go as planned, flights into suborbital space ought to be more or less routine within three years—at least for those ready to stump up the $200,000 fare. But despite the price, the jostling to be at the front of the queue has already begun.

A) SpaceShipOne is a rocket ship that's carried to a high altitude beneath the belly of a mother jet

B) By the time the missions begin, many wealthy businessmen will take their turns for the flights

C) Out of those billions of people on the planet, very few have actually ventured across the boundary between the Earth's atmosphere and its surrounding space

D) For those who can afford it, a wholly new travel experience is coming up over the horizon

E) The craft is what is known as a suborbital vehicle

20. _____. Programme selection becomes easier, with a menu of channel options displayed on the screen—like the index of track titles on a CD. Digital systems in general are also more robust than their analogue equivalents. For instance, a CD or DVD player can make an old scratched disc—even one with holes drilled through it—work as well as a pristine one. A DTV receiver can do similar tricks—by ignoring, say, signals that arrive late at the antenna after reflection from tall buildings. On an analogue set, such reflections create “ghost” images on the screen. A DTV receiver also ignores the kind of random interference that causes “snow” on an analogue screen.

A) Digital television has many advantages

B) Television broadcasters are great fans of digital transmission

C) Viewers do not care whether their favourite television show arrives at their television set as binary digits or analogue waves

D) A DTV has its downsides in terms of its discouraging expense, its huge size and its demanding luxuries on the other furniture around it

E) When you play a CD, the digital music you hear is being delivered at a rate of 1.4 megabits a second

21. Today, there are many options for travel. The poor travel by bus or, rather, they used to. If you don't mind arriving in Peoria, Illinois, in the middle of the night at some crime-ridden downtown terminal, there is no cheaper way of criss-crossing America. Nowadays, the poor travel by air. Low-cost airlines are great for those on a tight budget. But in Europe and Asia, the premium way to travel today is by train. _____.

A) With low-cost airlines multiplying like rabbits, the options and the prices are remarkable

B) No self-respecting businessman in Frankfurt, Paris or Osaka would dream of enduring the tedium of even first-class air travel if there were an express train available to get him to his destination more quickly

C) Therefore, cars can no longer compete on journeys of more than 200 miles with the airlines

D) Americans will have to put up with the air shuttle, motor car or rattly old train

E) Nevertheless, predictions that speeds of 300 mph will soon be common and are being made by engineers in Asia in some leading rail companies

22. _____. In fact we still find lightning thrilling and fascinating. It is now also an important area of research for scientists who are trying to uncover its secrets and are looking for ways to predict storms and protect people against lightning strikes.

A) In the eighteenth century people were given dramatic proof that lightning really can strike the same place twice

B) It's not surprising that people in the past were afraid of lightning and thought that it was a sign of anger from their gods

C) In March 1993, Florida and other states of America were struck by driving blizzards and severe lightning storms

D) Even the most advanced forecasting systems can sometimes be caught out when the weather springs one of its surprises

E) Many people, including scientists, claim to have seen ball lightning and are in no doubt about its existence

23. Over the past 5000 years, different civilisations and cultures across the world have created at least 700 different forms of writing. To our eyes, most of these scripts look quite distinct, and people who can read only one script cannot understand another. _____. Nearly all of them originated from just four sources: the ancient scripts of Egypt, Mesopotamia, China and Mexico.

A) This made it possible for central governments to organise large populations and economies

B) There is, however, still a lot of controversy about which of the four ancient scripts came first

C) With it came the ability to keep administrative records and pass messages over long distances

D) Ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs in fact combined pictograms with logograms

E) However, if the evolution of the world's writing systems is traced back through time, things become clear

24. Greed, desire, anguish and devotion all played a part in the development of the tulip from a wildflower of central Asia and the Caucasus to the worldwide phenomenon it is today. When merchants first brought it to the flower markets of Europe, it caused a sensation. Thousands of intensely competitive tulip growers' societies opened in England in the nineteenth century. _____. Holland was another setting for perhaps the most mysterious of the events. What might be called "Tulipmania" engulfed the country and has puzzled historians and economists ever since.

A) Other buyers, taking the advice of contemporary alchemists, laid powdered paint around the bulbs

B) The Dutchman Carolus Clusius created a tulip collection so fine that he couldn't bring himself to sell it

C) There is no denying that the flower had an eventful history full of mystery and drama

D) Tulipmania is supposed to have ended when the firm brought an end to the three years of frenzied trading in the flower

E) On the other hand the tulip became the ultimate status symbol in much the same way as a fast sports car might be today

25. Two epic poems are attributed to Homer, the Iliad and the Odyssey. Ranked among the great works of Western literature, these two poems together constitute the prototype for all subsequent Western epic poetry. Scholars tried to analyse the two works by various tests, usually to show that they were strung together from older narrative poems. _____.

A) Recent evidence suggests that the Iliad is the work of a single poet and the Odyssey belongs to a poet who lived slightly after the author of the Iliad

B) Modern scholars generally agreed that there was a poet named Homer who lived before 700 BC, probably in Asia Minor

C) Therefore, the study of Homer is required of all Greek students

D) In this way, Homer's heroes are worshipped in many parts of Greece because of their courage

E) Every scholar in Greece agrees that no other poet has been able to surpass Homer yet

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