

ENGLISH TEST

45 Minutes—75 Questions

DIRECTIONS: In the five passages that follow, certain words and phrases are underlined and numbered. In the right-hand column, you will find alternatives for the underlined part. In most cases, you are to choose the one that best expresses the idea, makes the statement appropriate for standard written English, or is worded most consistently with the style and tone of the passage as a whole. If you think the original version is best, choose "NO CHANGE." In some cases, you will find in the right-hand column a question about the underlined part. You are to choose the best answer to the question.

You will also find questions about a section of the passage, or about the passage as a whole. These questions do not refer to an underlined portion of the passage, but rather are identified by a number or numbers in a box.

For each question, choose the alternative you consider best and fill in the corresponding oval on your answer document. Read each passage through once before you begin to answer the questions that accompany it. For many of the questions, you must read several sentences beyond the question to determine the answer. Be sure that you have read far enough ahead each time you choose an alternative.

PASSAGE I

Take Me Outside to the Ball Game

My sons are fortunate to have grown up in a city where major league baseball is played. When I was a child, it was a five-hour, once-a-summer trek, to the nearest major league ballpark. My sons have to endure only the twenty-minute ride to the stadium that we make five or six times a year. But I think my experience needless to say was richer than theirs. The stadium I remember had a natural grass field and seats piled up high and close to the players so we could hear them mutter. Domed and bowl-shaped, my sons sit in a park where the players meander about on artificial turf that is not natural grass, and where we sat at such a distance that the game appears to be only a rumor. Fans should not have to endure these errors in aesthetics and architecture?

1. A. NO CHANGE
B. child, it was a five-hour, once-a-summer trek
C. child, it was a five-hour once-a-summer, trek
D. child it was a five-hour once-a-summer trek,
2. F. NO CHANGE
G. experience was
H. experience, needless to say, was
J. experience can be considered to be
3. A. NO CHANGE
B. My sons sit, in a park, domed and bowl-shaped
C. My sons in a park sit domed and bowl-shaped
D. My sons sit in a domed, bowl-shaped park
4. F. NO CHANGE
G. that is not real,
H. that's not grass
J. OMIT the underlined portion.
5. A. NO CHANGE
B. would set
C. sit
D. were sitting
6. F. NO CHANGE
G. in aesthetics, and architecture?
H. in aesthetics and architecture.
J. in, aesthetics and architecture!

First, the turf should go. There should be nothing artificial about baseball, least of all the grass. The odd green shade of artificial turf is a poor counterfeit of grass green. When my sons and I visit the ballpark

7

we are essential on a picnic. Why gather around a

8

carpet, in which we can do just as well at home, to

9

enjoy our hot dogs, peanuts, and sodas? 10

Second, the dome should go. While it's true
that the dome blocks out rain, it also blocks out the sun
and sky. Baseball is a pastoral sport, where players lope
across the field, where a strong player can smack a ball
seemingly to the sky. Under a dome, the game is
hermetically sealed, the players' skins look sickly,
and the hit ball is in danger of banging a rafter. Finally,
I want my sons to be closer to the game. I don't want

12

us to be forced to the edge, of a bowled stadium, like
the remnants of unwanted cereal. I want us to hear the
ball slapping the catcher's mitt, and the shortstop
yelling "I got it!" when the ball is popped up in the
infield. Let us study an outfielders face, without the

14

7. A. NO CHANGE
B. Afterwards, when
C. Then, when
D. Thus, when
8. F. NO CHANGE
G. more essentially on
H. more essential to
J. essentially on
9. A. NO CHANGE
B. in being
C. which
D. OMIT the underlined portion.
10. Which of the following sentences, if added here, would best reflect the point made in this paragraph?
F. Baseball is great.
G. We all need to get outside more.
H. We love hot dogs.
J. Give us the smell of fresh-mown grass.
11. A. NO CHANGE
B. Since it's
C. For it's
D. It's
12. F. NO CHANGE
G. (Do NOT begin new paragraph) Thus,
H. (Begin new paragraph) Finally,
J. (Begin new paragraph) For example,
13. A. NO CHANGE
B. edge of a bowled stadium, like,
C. edge of a bowled stadium like,
D. edge of a bowled stadium, like
14. F. NO CHANGE
G. outfielder's face,
H. outfielders' face,
J. outfielders face's,

aid of binoculars. When he's sprinting toward the
¹⁵
 infield to catch a short fly ball.

15. A. NO CHANGE
 B. binoculars! When
 C. binoculars; when
 D. binoculars, when

Baseball is a game as much about atmosphere as athletics. Architects need to remember stadiums are playgrounds, not office buildings. If architects play fair, they will remember that, and my grandchildren will be thankful when they take their seats in the bleachers.

PASSAGE II

Bombay Parcel Post

[1]

Recently, while visiting a friend in the bustling city of Bombay, India, I discovered that mailing a package could be a very complicated, and instructive, process. I had bought some souvenirs there that I wanted to send home. My friend, a young man who had lived in Bombay his entire life except a few years

¹⁶

spent studying in the United States, if he were to walk
¹⁷
 with me to the post office.

[2]

Merchants of all types were selling piles of cut sugarcane, colorfully dyed cloth, metal kitchen utensils, as well as many items I could not identify.

By pulling carts, oxen were amidst the automobile
¹⁸
 traffic. Men on bicycle rickshaws jingled bells to attract business and warn other drivers of their presence. People crowded the narrow streets, conversing, carrying on business, or just sitting and

16. F. NO CHANGE
 G. with the exceptance of
 H. with the excepting of
 J. yet for

17. A. NO CHANGE
 B. walked
 C. if he would walk
 D. is walking

18. F. NO CHANGE
 G. Oxen pulled carts amidst
 H. Oxen pulled carts, being amidst
 J. Oxen were amidst while pulling carts in

watching the passing scene. 19

[3]

[1] We stopped outside the front gate of the large governmental post office of some size, and my friend showed me what to do. [2] We walked up to a line of workers, who were waiting patiently along a fence. [3] She carefully cut a piece of cotton cloth from a large bolt of the material. [4] She wrapped the package in it—a perfect fit! [5] I handed my package which I wanted to mail, to the first person in line. 23

[4]

The man next to her took my package and carefully sewed the edges of the cloth with thick, black thread. 24 My package was then passed to the next

person in line, who with equal care, he sealed its edges with small circles of melted red wax, which quickly hardened in place. When the bundle was prepared, I took it inside to the mail counter, where it was weighed, stamped,

19. Which of the following sentences, if added at the beginning of Paragraph 2, would most effectively introduce the new subject of the paragraph?

- A. Our path took us through a clash and jangle of activity.
- B. It's interesting how post offices operate in other parts of the world.
- C. I was surprised to see that oxen were still used to pull carts.
- D. The rickshaw drivers were the busiest people on the streets.

20. F. NO CHANGE

- G. office, which was quite sizable, and
- H. office, so sizable that
- J. office, and

21. Which of the choices would NOT be acceptable here?

- A. She carefully cut (NO CHANGE)
- B. She cut careful
- C. Carefully she cut
- D. She cut with care

22. F. NO CHANGE

- G. package, intending to mail it
- H. package to be mailed
- J. package

23. For the sake of the unity and coherence of Paragraph 3, Sentence 5 should be placed:

- A. where it is now.
- B. after Sentence 1.
- C. after Sentence 2.
- D. after Sentence 3.

24. The writer wants to add a sentence here that would further exemplify the worker's care and attention to his task. Given all are true, which of the following would most effectively accomplish this?

- F. He paused often to talk to me and my friend.
- G. The heavy thread made a very noticeable seam.
- H. He took the time to line up each short, tight stitch.
- J. It seemed that he took great pride in his work.

25. A. NO CHANGE

- B. care to seal
- C. care sealing
- D. care sealed

and sent on its way. ²⁶

[5]

The cost of this entire process was very reasonable,
and it took over an hour. During that time, as I talked to

²⁷

the workers—with my friend's help—in Hindi. One man

²⁸

returned my interest, and said, to me, "We will teach you
²⁹
how to do this if you wish. I am sure that with a little

practice you could learn." ³⁰ I gratefully declined.

PASSAGE III

So You Want to Be in Show Business

[1]

The actors who perform in television commercials
are some of the most fortunate people in show business.

But their faces aren't as well known as are most movie

³¹

actors'. Television commercials are big business. The
³¹
average two-minute national commercial has a shooting
budget greater than budgets for some movies. A performer
could live for a year on the wages earned from a single
commercial.

26. In order to emphasize the pride the workers took in wrapping the narrator's package, the writer intends to add to the preceding sentence the following phrase:

to their satisfaction

The phrase would most effectively serve the above-stated purpose if added after the:

- F. word *prepared* and before the comma.
G. words *took it*.
H. word *counter* and before the comma.
J. words *it was*.
27. A. NO CHANGE
B. time, when
C. time,
D. time that
28. F. NO CHANGE
G. friends help—
H. friends' help—
J. friends help
29. A. NO CHANGE
B. interest and said
C. interest; and said
D. interest and said,
30. Which of the following sentences, if added at this point, would most directly convey to the reader the impression that the post office workers do not actually think the narrator could learn how to prepare packages for the mail?
- F. He smiled mischievously, and the others chuckled.
G. The workers all seemed happy to help.
H. They made it seem so simple that for a moment I thought about giving it a try.
J. Their warm, friendly expressions led me to take them at their word.

31. Which of the choices, all true, would best support the claim made in the preceding sentence while remaining consistent with the focus of Paragraph 1?

- A. NO CHANGE
B. If they are lucky, these actors can move from commercials to film.
C. But the fact remains that actors in television commercials work just as hard at their craft as do most movie actors.
D. Performers who act in commercials are generally paid more than most movie actors.