

Form 63C

(December 2005)

ACT Assessment[®]

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In response to your recent request for test information release materials, this booklet contains the test questions and conversion tables used in determining your ACT scores. Enclosed with this booklet is a report listing your answers to the ACT Assessment tests and the answer key.

If you wish to order a photocopy of your answer document—including, if you took the Writing Test, a copy of your written essay—please use the order form on the inside back cover of this booklet.

We hope that you will find this information helpful.

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

The Joys of Walking

While some people are exhilarated by vigorous exercise, I am not. I love feeling fit, but I hate working out. I've tried dozens of different fitness activities, but all of them leave me bored, sore, or frustrated by my inability to do them well and how boring they were. 1

Finally, I made a deal with myself. Each day I would try to find time for a half-hour walk. Fitting it into my

schedule whenever I could. Running errands and visiting

1. The writer is considering deleting the phrase "and how boring they were" from the preceding sentence (placing a period after the word *well*). Should the writer make this deletion?
 - A. Yes, because the phrase unnecessarily repeats a point made earlier in the sentence.
 - B. Yes, because the sentence is more detailed without the phrase.
 - C. No, because the phrase describes one of the challenges of exercise.
 - D. No, because the phrase provides new and relevant information about exercise.
2. 2
 - F. NO CHANGE
 - G. walk. Which fit
 - H. walk; with fitting
 - J. walk, fitting
3. 3
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. errands, and
 - C. errands, and,
 - D. errands and,

friends if I walked would take longer to my destination,
 but I consoled myself with virtuous thoughts of how my
 body could benefit from the effort.

A funny thing happened on my way to fitness. [5]
 While I usually felt physically invigorated by my walks,
 even more satisfying were the psychological rewards.
 Walking cleared my head and brightened my spirits in a
 way no other exercise routine ever had.

[1] Walking slowed my often frenetic pace.

[2] I was trying to go too fast. [3] In spring, I'd rejoice in

the first crocuses emerging out the snow, the faint misting
 of green on tree branches just beginning to bud, the
 colorful explosion of tulips and daffodils. [4] I anticipated
 crisp fall days and the crackle of leaves in my path.

[5] As the lushness of summer gradually unfolded, I
 noticed for what seemed like the first time the homey
 smell of freshly mown grass and the warmth of sunlight
 on my face. [6] Even in bitter winter, I treasured my

walking time, and after a stressful day a stroll to
 decompress myself was often craved, I found. [10]

4. The best placement for the underlined portion would be:

- F. where it is now.
- G. after the word *longer*.
- H. after the word *myself*.
- J. after the word *body*.

5. The writer is considering deleting the preceding sentence. If the writer were to make this deletion, the paragraph would primarily lose:

- A. a shift in the subject from exercise to humor.
- B. the writer's summary of the benefits of walking.
- C. a signal that something new and unexpected will follow.
- D. a principal illustration of the relationship between the writer and exercise.

6. Which choice most effectively introduces the description that follows in this paragraph?

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. had time to savor the changes in seasons.
- H. tried to walk at the same time every day.
- J. fit a walk into my schedule.

7. A. NO CHANGE

- B. from out
- C. outside
- D. from

8. Given that all the choices are true, which one best illustrates the narrator's appreciation of nature?

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. when noisy birds would be gone from the gardens.
- H. with woolen sweaters and warm gloves.
- J. and the chance to imagine next summer's activities.

9. A. NO CHANGE

- B. I found myself craving a stroll to decompress often.
- C. I often found myself craving a stroll to decompress.
- D. to decompress myself often I found I craved a stroll.

10. For the sake of the logic and coherence of this paragraph, Sentence 5 should be placed:

- F. where it is now.
- G. after Sentence 2.
- H. after Sentence 3.
- J. after Sentence 6.

I've thought many times of the instinctive way our
bodies respond to the beat of music by wanting to get up

and dance, or how, a parent quiets a crying baby by
walking back and forth. I think that at some deep level we

humans need steady rhythmic, movement to feel centered
and content.

So now when I want to escape the busyness of my
life, I take a walk. No matter how far I go, I know that I
will return refreshed in both body and mind.

11. Which of the following alternatives to the underlined portion would NOT be acceptable?

- A. spontaneous
- B. unconscious
- C. involuntary
- D. automatically

12. F. NO CHANGE

- G. for example,
- H. meanwhile
- J. then

13. A. NO CHANGE

- B. steady, rhythmic
- C. steady, rhythmic,
- D. steady; rhythmic

14. F. NO CHANGE

- G. refreshing in
- H. a refreshment of
- J. refreshed with

Question 15 asks about the preceding passage as a whole.

15. Suppose the writer's goal had been to write a brief essay illustrating some of the benefits that walking can provide. Would this essay successfully fulfill the writer's goal?

- A. Yes, because the essay offers some of the positive effects of walking.
- B. Yes, because the essay encourages readers to get out and walk.
- C. No, because the essay presents reasons for walking, rather than the rewards.
- D. No, because the essay is limited to the physical benefits of walking.

PASSAGE II

A Family Craft

The printshops where my father worked, whether in a publishing house in Vermont or in a small-town newspaper office in Idaho, always presented the same vivid experience. The tap dance of Linotype keys the pungent scents of printing ink and cleaning chemicals, and the slapping sound of the rollers dripping with ink—

16. F. NO CHANGE

- G. keys;
- H. keys,
- J. keys—

1 every job has its hazards.

17

It was a special occasion for which I could

18

visit my father at work. However, he was a Linotype

19

operator and, the Linotype machine seemed formidable.

20

My father's hands flew across an enormous keyboard that

was unlike any I saw in other places. As he typed, the

21

machine melted chunks of metal and then formed the

molten mass into lines of metal type, bright and burning

22

hot, these lines of type—headlines, sentences, phrases—

slid out of the machine. Once cooled, these slugs (as the

lines of type are called) were taken to a table where the

typesetter fit them together by hand into a wooden frame

the size of a newspaper page. The frame was set into the

printing press, inked, and used to print pages. Afterward,

the type was cleaned in various chemicals and were put

23

back into the Linotype to be re-created as tomorrow's

24

headlines and stories.

In the early seventies, the Linotype process was phased out, and my father went to work in the business office. His company had switched to offset printing, a method that relies on photographic images rather than metal type. Since then, computers have further

17. Given that all the choices are true, which one best helps establish this essay as a nostalgic tribute?

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. these machines are very expensive.
- C. ink stains are hard to remove.
- D. many such details remain with me.

18. F. NO CHANGE

- G. which
- H. when
- J. where

19. A. NO CHANGE

- B. He, on the other hand,
- C. Gradually, he
- D. He

20. F. NO CHANGE

- G. operator and the Linotype machine,
- H. operator, and the Linotype machine,
- J. operator, and the Linotype machine

21. Given that all the choices are true, which one provides details that best help the reader visualize the keyboard?

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. something amazing to behold.
- C. like several typewriter keyboards spliced together.
- D. like the alphabet right there just waiting to be turned into words.

22. F. NO CHANGE

- G. type, then bright
- H. type, they were bright
- J. type. Bright

23. A. NO CHANGE

- B. put
- C. they were put
- D. OMIT the underlined portion.

24. F. NO CHANGE

- G. Linotype. To be re-created
- H. Linotype. Then re-created
- J. Linotype. His job to re-create