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Sample Test 2



act
assessment®

ACT Assessment®

Directions

This booklet contains tests in English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science. These tests measure skills and abilities highly related to high school course work and success in college. *CALCULATORS MAY BE USED ON THE MATHEMATICS TEST ONLY.*

The questions in each test are numbered, and the suggested answers for each question are lettered. On the answer document, the rows of ovals are numbered to match the questions, and the ovals in each row are lettered to correspond to the suggested answers.

For each question, first decide which answer is best. Next, locate on the answer document the row of ovals numbered the same as the question. Then, locate the oval in that row lettered the same as your answer. Finally, fill in the oval completely. Use a soft lead pencil and make your marks heavy and black. *DO NOT USE A BALLPOINT PEN.*

Mark only one answer to each question. If you change your mind about an answer, erase your first mark thoroughly before marking your new answer. For each question, make certain that you mark in the row of ovals with the same number as the question.

Only responses marked on your answer document will be scored. Your score on each test will be based only on the number of questions you answer correctly during the time allowed for that test. You will NOT be penalized for guessing. *IT IS TO YOUR ADVANTAGE TO ANSWER EVERY QUESTION EVEN IF YOU MUST GUESS.*

You may work on each test ONLY when your test supervisor tells you to do so. If you finish a test before time is called for that test, you should use the time remaining to reconsider questions you are uncertain about in that test. You may NOT look back to a test on which time has already been called, and you may NOT go ahead to another test. To do so will disqualify you from the examination.

Lay your pencil down immediately when time is called at the end of each test. You may NOT for any reason fill in or alter ovals for a test after time is called for that test. To do so will disqualify you from the examination.

Do not fold or tear the pages of your test booklet.

**DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET
UNTIL TOLD TO DO SO.**



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 each underlined part. 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.” 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. You cannot determine most answers without reading several sentences beyond the question. Be sure that you have read far enough ahead each time you choose an alternative.

PASSAGE I

A Natural Wonder

You sit in the bright silver moonlight on a beach where its 10,000 miles from home. You are on the east coast of Malaysia. You hear the soft, steady sound of the surf and feel the gentle touch of the warm breeze against your skin. Barefoot, you wiggle your toes into the damp sand. You cross your arms and lean forward against your upraised knees. You are waiting.

Then they come out of the sea, and are three massive turtles. They are giant leatherback turtles, seven feet long and weighing 1,000 to 1,500 pounds. They can live to be more than a hundred years old. 3 Each year they return here to lay their eggs, in the place where they themselves were hatched.

You watch as each of them slowly dig a hole and fill

1. A. NO CHANGE
B. and its
C. it's
D. OMIT the underlined portion.

2. F. NO CHANGE
G. they are
H. you see
J. OMIT the underlined portion.

3. Given that all are true, which of the following sentences, if added here, would most vividly describe the turtles' appearance and their movement from the water to the beach?
 - A. They are the largest living turtle in the world and are covered with a tough outer shell that looks like leather.
 - B. Eventually there appear three enormous turtles on the beach in front of you.
 - C. They look like huge living rocks creeping almost imperceptibly onto the sand in front of you.
 - D. There in front of you are three of the largest turtles you've ever seen.

4. F. NO CHANGE
G. they each slowly dig a hole and fill
H. they each slowly digs a hole and fills
J. they slowly dig a hole and fills

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.

1



1

it, one egg at a time, in which there are over a hundred

5

eggs. The eggs are bright white and about two inches in diameter. You were watching as each turtle then slowly,

6

laboriously, buries the eggs, turning in circle after circle,
pushing sand back into the holes with surprisingly
efficient flippers.

7

[1] You notice that the turtles' eyes are covered with a shiny liquid. [2] You know that this liquid has

8

a scientific explanation: they keep they're eyes moist and clear of particles. [3] It looks as if they've been crying. [4] Nevertheless, you may prefer to

9

think of them as emotional teary-eyed, over

10

creating new life. 11

The process takes hours, but you remain quiet and still. It is all being watched by you. You

12

are looking at the sight of these odd, slow, determined

13

beings and their prehistoric ritual. And one realizes that there is nothing quite as astounding as witnessing one of life's more subtle and elusive natural wonders.

14

- 5. A. NO CHANGE
- B. there are
- C. with
- D. OMIT the underlined portion.

- 6. F. NO CHANGE
- G. watch
- H. had watched
- J. watched

- 7. A. NO CHANGE
- B. until the eggs are buried with surprisingly efficient flippers, pushing sand back into the holes, turning in circle after circle.
- C. turning in circle after circle with surprisingly efficient flippers until the eggs are buried pushing sand back into the holes.
- D. turns in circle after circle, back into the holes pushing sand until they are buried with surprisingly efficient flippers.

- 8. F. NO CHANGE
- G. turtle's eyes
- H. turtles eyes
- J. turtles' eye's

- 9. A. NO CHANGE
- B. it keeps its
- C. it keeps their
- D. they keep its

- 10. F. NO CHANGE
- G. them as emotional, teary-eyed over
- H. them, as emotional, teary-eyed over
- J. them as, emotional teary-eyed over,

- 11. Which of the following sequences of sentences makes this paragraph most logical?
- A. NO CHANGE
- B. 1, 3, 2, 4
- C. 2, 1, 4, 3
- D. 3, 2, 1, 4

- 12. F. NO CHANGE
- G. All of it is watched by you.
- H. You watch it all.
- J. Watching all of it is you.

- 13. Which of the choices best emphasizes the writer's intense involvement in witnessing this process?
- A. NO CHANGE
- B. watching
- C. immersed in
- D. curious in

- 14. Which of the choices is most consistent with the style established in the essay?
- F. NO CHANGE
- G. it is then apparent
- H. one can see
- J. you realize

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.



Question 15 asks about the essay as a whole.

15. Suppose the writer had been assigned to write an essay explaining the reproductive methods of different species of turtles. Would this essay successfully fulfill the assignment?
- A. Yes, because the essay focuses on the turtles and their egg-laying process.
 - B. Yes, because the essay describes the reproductive methods of giant leatherback turtles.
 - C. No, because the essay restricts its focus to the writer's experience of witnessing the egg-laying process of giant leatherback turtles.
 - D. No, because the essay omits mention of any turtle behavior connected with their means of reproduction.

PASSAGE II

Prepared for Anything

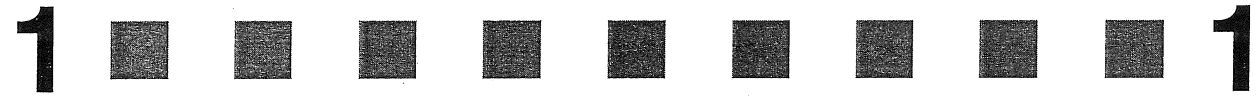
My mother is a justice of the peace; that means she has the power to perform weddings. She has to be prepared for anything, because ¹⁶weddings these days can range from formal evening gown affairs to barefoot frolics during which the bride's dog might play the part of the ring bearer. She loves them all. ¹⁷

Mom keeps a crazy conglomeration of wedding gear; rubber boots; a swanky, black formal; blue jeans; dignified dresses, in three pastel colors; sneakers; beach sandals, and a ski hat. ¹⁸ Every item—except that ski hat—¹⁸ has come in handy at least once.

The rubber-boot wedding until now was one of the most exciting and, despite the boots, ¹⁹romantic ceremonies so far. It took place on a wide pond. When Mom arrived, the guests had already been ferried

16. F. NO CHANGE
 G. put on the ball and chain.
 H. join couples up in matrimonial wedlock.
 J. do the nuptial thing.
17. Which of the choices best introduces a central theme of the essay and provides an appropriate transition between the first and second paragraphs?
- A. NO CHANGE
 - B. Or, a younger brother could be ring bearer.
 - C. The bride usually has a maid or matron of honor.
 - D. But it is usually the father who gives the bride away.
18. F. NO CHANGE
 G. gear; rubber boots, a swanky, black formal, blue jeans, dignified dresses in three pastel colors, sneakers,
 H. gear: rubber boots; a swanky black formal; blue jeans; dignified dresses, in three pastel colors; sneakers;
 J. gear: rubber boots, a swanky black formal, blue jeans, dignified dresses in three pastel colors, sneakers,
19. A. NO CHANGE
 B. (Place after *was*)
 C. (Place after *ceremonies*)
 D. OMIT the underlined portion.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.



out to a leaky, flat-bottomed boat made
20

festive with flowers and pink balloons. 21

They may be more expensive, but helium balloons do
22
look festive. My mother and the bridesmaids, all suitably
22
booted, paddled out in a canoe. Finally, dramatically, the
bride and her parents arrived under sail. 23

24 Except for the beach setting, the bride had informed her, everything was to be traditional. The bride wore a long, queenly gown and veil, but she had not considered on the wind, which would have lifted her veil clean off if my mother hadn't had the good sense to hold it on. In the wedding photograph Mom appears to be blessing the bride, of whom a slightly harried expression
25
is disclosed by the wind.

Thus Mom's favorite weddings was a wonderful
26
blending of cultures and traditions: the bride and groom were Hungarian immigrants dressed in American denim; the ceremony of two-minute duration which was in
27
English was followed by hours of Hungarian celebrations.

20. F. NO CHANGE
G. boat for it has been made
H. boat, which it was made
J. boat. Making it
21. Given that all are true, which of the following sentences, if added here, would best enhance the narration of events in this paragraph?
A. Festivity is a good thing at weddings.
B. The groom and best man rowed up in a dinghy.
C. The bride and parents came later.
D. The bride didn't come in a flat-bottomed boat.
22. F. NO CHANGE
G. Flowers are also expensive, but they do look festive.
H. Helium balloons come in many colors.
J. OMIT the underlined portion.
23. Which of the following sentences, if added here, would best conclude the paragraph and support the main idea of the paragraph as expressed in its first sentence?
A. By the time the wedding was over, everyone was damp.
B. The crows cawed across the pond, the water sloshed, and the mosquitoes bit remorselessly.
C. My mother said not even all those wet galoshes undermined the romance of the starlit evening.
D. A flute duet performed by friends of the bride was nearly drowned out by the hiss of the wind in their dresses.
24. Which of the following sentences best continues to develop and support the theme of the essay while providing a smooth transition between the preceding paragraph and this one?
F. One of my mother's favorite weddings was held in the desert and another at the seashore.
G. My mother's second maritime wedding demanded the swanky formal and the sandals.
H. My mother sported a swanky formal and sandals.
J. My mother likes strange weddings.
25. A. NO CHANGE
B. which a slightly harried expression
C. a slightly harried expression of whom
D. whose slightly harried expression
26. F. NO CHANGE
G. Therefore,
H. Nevertheless,
J. Another of
27. A. NO CHANGE
B. two-minute ceremony
C. two-minute ceremony that took only a minute and was
D. ceremony that took two minutes and that was

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.