



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 Alligator: More Than Just a Pretty Smile

[1]

Alligators are native to the southeastern United

States. They live and reside in freshwater ponds, lakes, swamps, marshes, and streams. The average male is

thirteen feet long and weighs 600 pounds, females are slightly smaller. Hatchlings are less than nine inches long and weigh about three ounces.

[2]

Less than 9 percent of all hatchlings survive their first two and a half years predators find them easy quarry. However, alligators who do reach adulthood are well suited for continued survival. Alligators have a remarkable metabolism that enables them to withstand cool weather and allows them to survive traumatic injuries, such as losing a limb. They can stay underwater without breathing for twenty-four hours. They can go a year without eating, if necessary. If they survive to reach adulthood, alligators can live fifty years.

1. A. NO CHANGE
B. The habitat where they live consists of
C. Living in the habitat of
D. They live in
2. F. NO CHANGE
G. pounds females being
H. pounds; females are
J. pounds; females being
3. A. NO CHANGE
B. years. Predators
C. years, predators
D. year's predators
4. F. NO CHANGE
G. weather, it
H. weather also it
J. weather, it also

[3]

An alligator's brain is small—about the size of a walnut. Despite this, alligators are superb and excellent⁵ hunters. They camouflage themselves merely by floating

on the surface of the water. To their unsuspecting⁶ prey, they look like harmless logs. Using highly sensitive hearing, sight, and smell, as well as touch

receptors on the sides of their jaws⁷ alligators easily identify prey. Flaps in their nose, throat, and ears

close to keep water out, so that⁸ transparent membranes

protect their eyes when it permitted⁹ them to see or hunt

underwater as well as on the surface. Alligators can go¹⁰ through water at astonishing speeds. Their jaws contain

seventy to eighty conical teeth and has a closing power of up to 1,200 pounds per square inch.

[4]

Experienced alligator hunters believe that alligators are thriving, and authorities estimate that there are well over¹¹ a million alligators in the wild.

The greatest threat to the alligator is the loss of it's¹²

habitat as wetlands are drained; to build housing¹³ for

5. A. NO CHANGE
B. superbly excellent
C. excellently superb
D. superb
6. F. NO CHANGE
G. (Do NOT begin new paragraph) Unsuspecting to their
H. (Begin new paragraph) To their unsuspecting
J. (Begin new paragraph) Unsuspecting to their
7. A. NO CHANGE
B. receptors, on the sides of their jaws
C. receptors on the sides of their jaws;
D. receptors on the sides of their jaws,
8. F. NO CHANGE
G. in which
H. and
J. since
9. A. NO CHANGE
B. while permitting
C. to have permitted
D. permits
10. The writer wants to emphasize here how quickly alligators move. Which choice would most dramatically achieve this effect?
K. NO CHANGE
G. proceed
H. streak
J. advance
11. A. NO CHANGE
B. employs
C. possesses
D. have
12. F. NO CHANGE
G. are over more than
H. is well over
J. is considerably more than
13. A. NO CHANGE
B. its
C. they're
D. there
14. F. NO CHANGE
G. drained to build housing
H. drained, to build, housing
J. drained, to build housing,

1 ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ 1

and visited it but never lived there again. [2]

[3]

The farm connects to the Civil War general and U.S. president motivated the recent restoration by a team of National Park Service historians, laborers, and archaeologists. Their goal in the project has been to restore the farm to the way it looked under the Grants' ownership.

[4]

In addition to restoring the main house's front porch and roof and stabilizing its chimneys, the repairing of windows was being performed by workers. On February 2, 1998, as the chief maintenance officer

removed a second-floor window casing he spotted a scrap of yellowed paper caught in a cavity between the window and the wall. When he gingerly unfolded the paper and read the words "Dearest Julia," he knew he had discovered something special.

[5]

[1] The letter is a fragment, stained and ragged and torn. [2] The return address indicates that Ulysses Grant mailed the letter to his wife in 1851 while he was stationed with the army in Detroit. [3] Because he wrote about household concerns, including his horse Nelly, the letter seems to be ordinary correspondence amid husband and wife. [4] According to the National Park Service, that is what makes it significant. [5] Historians at White Haven want to establish for visitors a sense of the typical everyday life of the Grant family in Missouri.

23. Which of the following sequences of sentences makes Paragraph 2 most logical?

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. 1, 3, 2
- C. 2, 1, 3
- D. 2, 3, 1

24. F. NO CHANGE
G. farm's connection
H. farming connects
J. farmer's connecting

25. A. NO CHANGE
B. workers repaired and fixed windows.
C. workers repaired windows.
D. remodeling by fixing windows was being done by workers.

26. F. NO CHANGE
G. casing;
H. casing;
J. casing;

27. A. NO CHANGE
B. between
C. among
D. for

1 ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ 1

[6] The letter will help them do so. 29

28. Which choice offers the most effective conclusion for Paragraph 5?

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. The letter is truly unlike any other.
- H. That everyday life is not much like ours.
- J. White Haven is important to American history.

29. Upon reviewing Paragraph 5 and finding that some information has been left out, the writer composes the following sentence:

He was then a first lieutenant; he would not become a general until 1861, during the Civil War.

If this sentence were added to the paragraph, the most logical place to put it would be after Sentence:

- A. 2.
- B. 3.
- C. 4.
- D. 5.

Question 30 asks about the preceding passage as a whole.

30. Suppose the writer's goal had been to write an essay about how the Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site has heightened public awareness of such sites. Would this essay fulfill that goal?

- F. Yes; the focus of the essay is on matters having to do with Ulysses S. Grant, who was president of the United States not long after the Civil War.
- G. Yes; the essay reveals how a body of important historical artifacts helps to shape our understanding of the country's past.
- H. No; the essay does not make any specific connection between the historic site and public awareness of the site's significance.
- J. No; the essay offers only a limited look at a slice of American history and there is nothing particularly positive in the information the essay provides about the historic site.

PASSAGE III

Extending Myself

Some people say that a woman's hair is her crowning glory. Well, my decade-old hairstyle had begun to look like a tarnished crown, so I opted for something new—
31
braided extensions. At Renee's Beauty Salon, I can not only get my hair done but also hear the latest neighborhood

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

- A. decided on
- B. wished on
- C. went for
- D. chose

news and various other local happenings.

32

It will take Renee all morning to

remake me into the image and likeness of a stately

33

and striking African American diva. She tunes in her

favorite talk show and sets to work. Renee starts by

34

cornrowing my natural hair, braiding it as close

35

to my scalp. This creates a base for the individual braided

extensions that will later be tied into the rows.

36

"These people need direction in their lives,"

Renee observes about the talk show's troubled guests.

I nod, partly, in agreement partly because my head rocks

37

back and forth as she pulls and tugs. Shifting her attention

slightly, I am asked which church I attend and invited

38

to visit her congregation.

The way Renee cornrows my hair is soothing,

39

like a scalp massage. While the loose ends of each

40

row are brought together into one final plait, which

is tucked under at the back of my head. Then

Renee, who has a degree from a beauty school,

41

inserts the thin braided extensions, one by one,

32. Given that all the choices are examples of something else discussed at the beauty salon, which one provides the most specific example?

F. NO CHANGE

G. whether Whitney Houston wears a wig or a weave.

H. other topics relevant to the community.

J. which politician is in hot water now.

33. Given that all the choices are true, which one would most effectively emphasize how dramatic the change will be?

A. NO CHANGE

B. transform me from an everyday mother of two into

C. perfect the hairstyle that will turn me into

D. ply her trade so that I end up looking like

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

F. establishes

G. proceeds

H. starts

J. gets

35. A. NO CHANGE

B. as closely

C. close as

D. close

36. F. NO CHANGE

G. extensions that eventually are going to

H. extensions, the latter of which will

J. extensions so that they will

37. A. NO CHANGE

B. nod, partly in agreement,

C. nod partly, in agreement,

D. nod, partly in agreement

38. F. NO CHANGE

G. there's a question about which church I attend, and I am invited

H. Renee asks which church I attend and invites me

J. I'm asked about the church I attend, inviting me

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

A. The way in which Renee cornrows my hair

B. Renee cornrows my hair in a way that

C. The way that Renee cornrows my hair

D. The way of Renee cornrows my hair

40. F. NO CHANGE

G. After the

H. When the

J. The

41. A. NO CHANGE

B. Renee, having graduated from a local beauty school,

C. Renee

D. OMIT the underlined portion.