

MSU-CELC

PRACTICE Test for the Certificate of English Language Competency

English Language Center



Michigan State University



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Think About It, Write About it!

MSU-CELC PRACTICE Test of English Writing Ability

INSTRUCTIONS:

For this section of the test, a proctor will give you a special answer form. Make sure that your name appears correctly on the front of the form.

Using a Number 2 pencil ONLY, write as much as you can, as well as you can, in an original, 35-minute composition on **ONE** of the two topics below.

1. Some people believe that watching TV is a harmless means of entertainment, and that it even has educational value. Others feel that it is a highly passive activity and a waste of time. Which side of this argument do you agree with? Support your opinion with explanations and examples.
- OR**
2. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Support your opinion with explanations and examples.

Smoking should be banned in all public areas.



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Listen to this!

MSU-CELC PRACTICE Test of English Listening Ability

This section of the test is designed to assess your listening abilities. You should have the following items in front of you: a test answer sheet, a test booklet, and a Number 2 pencil. If you do not have these items, raise your hand, and a test proctor will assist you.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- This listening section has three main parts: Part 1 consists of several short conversations and Part 2 has longer conversations. Part 3 contains two extended dialogues.
- There are 40 questions on this listening test. For each question, choose the ONE BEST answer.
- Find the letter on the answer sheet that corresponds to the answer you have chosen. Use your pencil to completely fill in the circle for your answer.
- If you are not sure of the answer, take your best guess. Unanswered items will be scored as incorrect.
- You are allowed to take notes in this test booklet.



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Part 1: Short Conversations

For each question in your test booklet, you will hear a short conversation. The conversation has a short title to tell you what it is about. Listen to the conversation and choose the letter of the choice that best answers the question that appears in your test booklet. You will not hear the question; you will see it and read it. You will read it quietly to yourself. Use your pencil to mark your answer on your answer sheet. You are allowed to take notes in the test booklet.

Example X:**Walking Across Campus**

Mary wants to go to_____.

- a. the library
- b. her house
- c. a class

Getting permission

1. What did the father allow his daughter to do?
 - a. meet friends and study later
 - b. call her friends, but not meet them
 - c. study first, and then meet her friends

Before class

2. What does Lindsey imply?
 - a. that John should take more time to correct mistakes in his paper
 - b. that John should turn his paper in on time even if it contains errors
 - c. that John should help her with her paper

At the bank

3. How does the man react to the woman's information?
 - a. He is frustrated but polite.
 - b. He is excited and impatient.
 - c. He is satisfied.

Friend's recommendation

4. Which type of store would most likely have the gift the man wants to give to his girlfriend?
 - a. a card and gift shop
 - b. a novelty store
 - c. a bookstore

Working at the grocery store

5. Why does the woman want the man to put the bananas in the front of the store?
 - a. She hopes that people will be more likely to buy them.
 - b. The apples are old and need to be thrown away.
 - c. Bananas attract customers better than apples do.

Borrowing the car

6. Why does the son need to borrow the car?
- He wants to hang out with Bob.
 - He needs to get the details of a class assignment.
 - He can't take the bus because the trip takes more than one hour.

Missing a file

7. The woman thinks her secretary ____.
- should keep the file cabinet organized
 - should do only what she is told
 - should assume more responsibility

At the workplace

8. What is the new parking policy at this workplace?
- The company has decided no one can park near its building.
 - The company is looking for a new, cheaper parking lot.
 - The company is going to charge employees a parking fee.

Part 2: Longer Conversations

In this section you will hear a few longer conversations. After each conversation you will read 3 to 5 questions. Listen to each conversation and answer the questions that appear in your test booklet.

Choosing a career

9. What information did the boy share with his guidance counselor?
- his grade point average
 - his favorite and least favorite classes
 - his father's occupation
10. What reason did the boy give for enjoying his experience at the record store?
- He received free CDs once every month.
 - He discovered different types of music.
 - His boss allowed him to arrive at work whenever he wished.
11. What is the final question that the guidance counselor asked the boy?
- She asked him what he had wanted to be when he was younger.
 - She asked him how long he wished to study in college.
 - She asked him what type of environment he wanted to work in someday.

Buying a new car

12. What was the man's main reason for buying a new car?
- He needed a much bigger car.
 - He had an accident with his previous car and needed a new one.
 - He heard that the dealer was offering a special deal on cars that day.

13. Why does the man want a four-door car?
- He wants extra room for his children.
 - He feels less crowded in a four-door car.
 - It is more convenient for his dog to get in and out.
14. Which of the following features of the car does the salesman mention?
- its color
 - its safety devices
 - its price
15. What is the benefit of the car's ability to accept an MP3 player?
- Using an MP3 player is much easier.
 - It attracts younger buyers.
 - It makes the sound of the radio much clearer.

Math requirements

16. Why does Debra not want to take math next year?
- She doesn't think she needs it.
 - She finds it very difficult.
 - She thinks math teachers are strange.
17. Why does she have to take math next year?
- She has no background in math yet.
 - It is required for psychology majors.
 - It is part of the curriculum.
18. Which statement best summarizes Debra's ability in math?
- She usually needs help with her work.
 - She usually fails math tests.
 - She is strong in math.
19. According to her father, why does Debra take a long time with her homework?
- She listens to too much music.
 - She is a perfectionist.
 - She always delays her homework.
20. Which of the following reasons does Debra's father give for studying math?
- She might specialize in math.
 - It will be useful in her major.
 - He can help her with her homework.

Part 3: Extended Discourse

In this section you will hear two extended conversations. You will listen to each conversation twice, and then you will answer several questions.

A new smoking policy at work

21. What is the woman's initial reaction to the news that there will be a new smoking policy?
 - a. She thinks that it is important to have more rules.
 - b. She doesn't believe that the new policy will make any difference.
 - c. She is unwilling to talk about it.

22. According to the man, which area should be smoke-free?
 - a. his desk only
 - b. the break room
 - c. the working areas

23. The woman is annoyed because _____.
 - a. she thinks that people are ignoring smokers' rights
 - b. she believes she should be allowed to smoke anywhere
 - c. she wants to have a separate room for smokers, but the management has refused

24. What does the man imply about the consideration of smokers' rights?
 - a. Smokers' rights are important and need to be carefully considered.
 - b. Because smoking is an activity that affects others, he disagrees with smokers' rights.
 - c. Smokers should choose carefully where they smoke to be considerate to non-smokers.

25. What do both of these coworkers feel is the best solution to this issue?
 - a. Smokers and non-smokers should be separated at work.
 - b. Smoking should be banned from all public areas, but not private areas.
 - c. Each group needs to treat the other with respect and understanding.

26. What does the woman imply about allowing smokers to continue smoking?
 - a. Smokers should have the right to do what they wish if they are considerate.
 - b. Smoking calms people down and makes them better co-workers.
 - c. There is research showing that smoking is only slightly harmful to one's health.

27. Why does the man believe there should be rules about smoking at this workplace?
 - a. Smoke-related illnesses have occurred at this company.
 - b. The smokers are less productive than the non-smokers because they take frequent breaks.
 - c. The workplace is starting to separate into two different groups.

28. The tone of this conversation could best be described as which of the following?
 - a. polite disagreement
 - b. annoyed confusion
 - c. neutral argumentation

Reality TV

29. John and Sarah are discussing _____.
- shopping at the mall
 - different ways to become famous
 - trying out for a television program
30. Where and when will the audition be held?
- this afternoon at the mall
 - today in the cafeteria
 - tomorrow at the producers' office
31. How many people will be chosen at the audition?
- two
 - four
 - as many as the producers want
32. Why does John want to audition?
- He wants money and fame.
 - He is creative and artistic.
 - He wants to impress his family.
33. How would you describe Sarah's reaction to John's suggestion?
- She is much less enthusiastic than he is.
 - She agrees with him.
 - She doesn't think they will be accepted.
34. Playing a musical instrument, painting, and participating in athletics are mentioned as ____.
- reasons for which one might be famous
 - hobbies the speakers have
 - activities Sarah doesn't like
35. John makes the statement, "You don't have to be different from everybody to be a reality TV star," to argue that ____.
- one doesn't need special skills to be famous
 - Sarah's special skills will be an advantage
 - reality stars are easily replaceable
36. Sarah repeats John's statement, "You don't have to be different from everybody to be a reality TV star," to argue that ____.
- one doesn't need special skills to be famous
 - Sarah's special skills will be an advantage
 - reality stars are easily replaceable

37. Sarah uses the example of “villains in a movie” to argue that ____.
- not all fame is good
 - movies are more interesting than reality TV
 - reality TV is fictional
38. According to Sarah, why might the producers edit a reality TV show?
- to avoid embarrassing the people on the show
 - to create more interesting conflicts
 - so the show only lasts an hour
39. When Sarah says, “I hope you get what you want, and not *more* than you want. . .” she is implying that ____.
- John might get richer than he expects
 - John might find that reality TV has disadvantages he doesn’t expect
 - John is unlikely to be chosen for the show
40. John’s general attitude toward getting selected for reality TV is that ____.
- he knows he doesn’t stand a chance
 - his chances would be better if Sarah went with him
 - his chances are less important than the excitement of trying



THIS IS THE END OF THE PRACTICE LISTENING TEST.

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Grammar You Can Use!

MSU-CELC PRACTICE Test of English Grammar

INSTRUCTIONS:

- This English grammar test has 40 questions.
- You have 20 minutes to answer all 40 questions.
- For each question, choose the ONE BEST answer.
- Find the letter on the answer sheet that corresponds to the answer you have chosen. Use your pencil to completely fill in the circle for your answer.
- If you are not sure of the answer, take your best guess. Unanswered items will be scored as incorrect.
- You are allowed to write in the test booklet.

EXAMPLE:

Bob is a good student. He ____ every day.

- a. to study
- b. is study
- c. studies
- d. studying

The correct answer is c. You would mark “c” on your answer sheet.



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41. My parents wish that I ____ study more.
- have
 - will
 - would
 - do
42. Chess is ____ a challenging game!
- so
 - such
 - as
 - very
43. Steve found the keys he was ____.
- looked at
 - looking in
 - looked for
 - looking for
44. If Frank goes to the meeting, so ____.
- I am
 - am I
 - I will
 - will I
45. John is poor, but he spends money ____ he were rich.
- even if
 - as if
 - so if
 - yet if
46. In addition to headaches, aspirin can be used to treat several ____ complaints.
- another
 - others
 - other
 - the others
47. One way to stay healthy is by ____ at least two to three kilometers four times a week.
- walking
 - to walk at least
 - would walk
 - walk

48. Steve ____ the arts.
- isn't interesting
 - isn't interesting in
 - isn't interested
 - isn't interested in
49. Do you know when the meeting is scheduled ____?
- starting
 - to start
 - start
 - starts
50. Have you met Mary? She's a good friend ____.
- of me
 - me
 - of mine
 - mine
51. All the students are sleepy this morning. Jane is ____ one.
- the sleepest
 - the sleepier
 - her sleepest
 - the most sleepier
52. Jim ____ his father.
- looks similar
 - looking like
 - doesn't look like
 - is not alike
53. I can't find the library. Could you tell me ____ it is?
- which
 - that
 - how
 - where
54. We're sorry to have to miss your party. Something ____ that prevents us from attending.
- has been coming up
 - has just come up
 - coming up
 - comes up

55. I ____ in 1962.
- am born
 - born
 - was born
 - had been born
56. He swims a lot because he thinks ____ keeps him in good health.
- is swimming
 - him swim
 - swims
 - swimming
57. All the library tables were taken. Sue could find ____ place to study.
- no
 - none
 - not
 - any
58. The morning was beautiful, but later it ____ quite windy.
- become
 - becoming
 - became
 - was become
59. I'm still working at this restaurant. I ____ here since I came to this town.
- working
 - am working
 - have been working
 - had been working
60. My sister ____ high school in 2015.
- graduate from
 - graduating from
 - has graduated from
 - will graduate from
61. The students are taking a test. They shouldn't ____.
- to disturb
 - be disturbed
 - to be disturbing
 - to be disturbed
62. After I finish my Ph.D., I hope ____ a position at a good university.
- for finding
 - to find
 - will find
 - find

63. Mark looks very tired today. He ____ gone to bed very late last night.
- should have
 - must have
 - shouldn't have
 - mustn't have
64. Bob always smiles at people when he ____ them.
- meet
 - meeting
 - meets
 - will meet
65. We've never been to India. We're especially looking forward ____ the Taj Mahal.
- to seeing
 - seeing
 - in seeing
 - to see
66. ____ his test results, Larry will either apply to a university or look for a job.
- Depend on
 - Depends on
 - Depending on
 - Dependent
67. Many college students dream of having ____ all over the country.
- enough money to travel
 - travel money for
 - all the money for travel
 - the money enough to travel
68. If Alice had been at the meeting, she ____ said exactly what she thought.
- had
 - ought to have
 - would be
 - would have
69. I want something good ____.
- eat
 - to eat
 - food to eat
 - for to eat
70. Jeremy finished ____ the proposal just ten minutes before the meeting.
- to write
 - that writing
 - writing
 - in writing

71. Before I complete my college degree, I ____ to study abroad.
- hoping
 - to hope
 - hope
 - will hope
72. You look familiar. I remember _____ you somewhere.
- seeing
 - to see
 - see
 - saw
73. By the time I met you, I ____ many places in Europe.
- visited
 - visiting
 - had visited
 - visit
74. When Alexander was at middle school, his teachers had him ____ a lot of homework.
- did
 - done
 - to do
 - do
75. John has quit smoking. He ____ smoking two packets a day before he quit.
- was
 - had
 - did
 - has
76. On my way to the English test, I met an old friend. So I stopped ____ with him.
- talking
 - to talk
 - for talk
 - and talk
77. No one ____ decide where to eat last night, so we all went home.
- shall
 - should
 - can
 - could
78. Every time Lisa looked across the restaurant, a man ____ at her.
- staring
 - was staring
 - could stare
 - is staring

79. ____ candidates interviewed for the presidency of the university had any university-related administrative experience; they were all from industry.
- None of the four
 - Some of the four
 - One of the four
 - Few of the four
80. After I finish high school, I am planning ____ around the world.
- will travel
 - traveling
 - be traveling
 - to travel



THIS IS THE END OF THE PRACTICE GRAMMAR TEST.

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Read About It!

MSU-CELC PRACTICE Test of English Reading Ability

INSTRUCTIONS:

- This reading test has four passages. Each passage is followed by several questions.
- You have 55 minutes to answer all 40 questions.
- For each question, choose the ONE BEST answer.
- Find the letter on the answer sheet that corresponds to the answer you have chosen. Use your pencil to completely fill in the circle for your answer.
- If you are not sure of the answer, take your best guess. Unanswered items will be scored as incorrect.
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Rites of Passage

Because your birthday is soon, your pen pal thought that this article might be of interest to you and emailed it to you yesterday. Read the article and answer the questions that follow.

2 Most societies celebrate a person's transition from being a child or young adult to being a
4 full adult. There is not always a specific age at which this takes place and there are many ways in
which this stage of a person's development is celebrated. Societies have developed specific rituals
and celebrations to mark this event.

6 Some of the celebrations are religious, but not all religions celebrate rites of passage in the
same way or at the same age. For example, in the Baha'i faith, children are considered mature at the
8 age of 15 and it is at that age that they follow the religious laws of fasting and prayer. In other
religions, such as Judaism, the age is 13. This is marked by a religious ceremony and a large
10 celebration at which there is food and often dancing. At 13, a Jewish child is considered to have all
of the rights and responsibilities of a Jewish adult and must follow the strict laws of the religion.

12 There are also non-religious "coming-of-age" celebrations. In the western world, there are
usually two possibilities, age 18 or 21. In the U.S., for example, people can vote at the age of 18,
14 but they cannot drink alcohol until twenty-one. There is one more important age in the U.S.—and
that is age 16 when in most States, one can obtain a drivers license. At the age of 16, there are often
16 "Sweet Sixteen" parties for girls. There are many ceremonies that go along with these parties. One
is a "Candle Ceremony" in which sixteen candles are put on a birthday cake. What is important is
18 that each candle can represent someone who influenced the girl in a positive way. The girl
announces who the important person is and may say something about that person and how they
influenced her.

20 There are also shoe ceremonies or even tiara ceremonies at a girl's 16th birthday celebration.
In the shoe ceremony, the girl, who is wearing flat shoes, is symbolically given high heel shoes,
22 brought to her on a pillow by her father. This may be followed by a father-daughter dance, much
like the father-daughter dance that is often seen at a wedding.

24 But some cultures even celebrate a baby's first haircut as a major milestone in a person's
development. However, even the age of first haircuts differs from culture to culture. For example,
26 in North America, some Native American tribes mark the first haircut with a ritualistic springtime
dance. In some cultures, the first haircut occurs around a child's first birthday; in other cultures, it
28 is when the child begins to speak clearly.

30 Often, these events, both religious and non-religious, are an excuse for large parties,
sometimes with hundreds of people present and many gifts being given to the "new" adult.

81. According to the passage, what do most societies celebrate?
- being a child
 - becoming an adult
 - a baby's first haircut
 - a child's first utterance
82. What do Jewish and Baha'i children have in common?
- They receive driver's licenses at the same age.
 - They become full adults at age 15.
 - They have to follow the laws of their religions when they become adults.
 - They have to fast and pray at all celebrations.
83. In terms of religious celebrations, when does a Jewish child become an adult?
- at age 13
 - at age 15
 - at age 16
 - at age 21
84. What is said about the laws that a Jewish adult must follow?
- There are too many to be remembered.
 - They are simple to understand.
 - They demand a lot.
 - They are unclear.
85. What is the significance of candles on a birthday cake for a sixteen-year-old girl?
- They represent people who have had an influence on her parents.
 - They represent important events in the girl's life.
 - They represent individuals who have had a significant effect on the girl.
 - They represent the sixteen wishes that the girl has made.
86. Which of the words below could best replace the phrase **go along with** in line 15?
- start
 - accompany
 - celebrate
 - finalize
87. The shoe ceremony probably symbolizes ____ .
- a girl's reaching womanhood
 - a girl having good posture
 - a girl having large enough feet for high heels
 - a girl being old enough to dance
88. The word **milestone** in line 24 is closest in meaning to ____ .
- need
 - requirement
 - time
 - stage

89. When is the most probable time for a North American tribal ritualistic dance celebrating a haircut?
- a. December
 - b. April
 - c. September
 - d. July
90. The word **occurs** in line 27 is best replaced by the words ____.
- a. takes part
 - b. takes time
 - c. takes place
 - d. takes off

The Twin Phenomenon

In your new school, two of your classmates are twins. You notice how similar they are and you become curious about twins. You find the following article. Read the article carefully and answer the questions that follow.

From the lonely child with no one to play with, to the busy parent or professional, many people at some time in their lives have exclaimed, “I need a twin!” But how do twins themselves see this phenomenon of nature? As it turns out, not only do twins feel a need for each other, but it may be that they have little choice in feeling that need! As a parent of twins, I can tell you that the remarkable research and stories you hear about identical twins are true: twins are connected in ways that are both mystifying and charming.

Researchers can examine **heritability**, that is, aspects of our personalities that appear to be inherited when we are born. They do this by comparing family members, especially identical twins with fraternal twins, or with ordinary brothers and sisters. Identical twins share 100% of their genes, while fraternal twins share only 50%, as do ordinary brothers and sisters. Researchers speculate that if genes are important to how people’s personalities develop, identical twins should be twice as similar to each other as fraternal twins or ordinary brothers and sisters. The evidence shows they are at least twice as similar! In fact, researchers really cannot explain some of the remarkable similarities between twins and their behavior. Some of the most interesting research was done on twins separated at birth, reported in the well-known Minnesota Twin Study.

One famous pair of twins from the Minnesota Twin Study by Thomas J. Bouchard was called the “Jim” twins. Each twin was adopted separately by working-class families in the U.S. Both families named the boys James. As adults, both men became policemen. Both men married and divorced women named Linda, and later remarried women named Betty. One named his son James Allen, while the other named his son James Alan. These two men did not meet until they were middle-aged, in their late 40s. Among the other remarkable coincidences they discovered were that they owned the same model car and had similar hobbies and skills.

What can explain these remarkable coincidences? No one knows for certain yet. **Does it seem likely that genetics would determine the names of the people you might marry during your lifetime**, or what cars you would buy? What other explanation could there be? Let’s consider my twin sons, who were adopted at the age of 4½. When they were very young, my wife and I noted that they tended to turn at the same time in their sleep, although they were in separate beds. They also turned in the opposite direction, which is logical considering they are mirror-image twins – identical twins who are reverse images of each other instead of being exactly identical. Consider these coincidences. At age 5, one twin fell and broke one of his upper front teeth. One week later, the other twin, the younger one, fell and broke the same tooth. Both boys then had infections and had the other front tooth removed! Several years later, when they were nearly 10, the older twin had to have an emergency operation. What happened next? One week later, the younger twin had to have the same emergency operation! Both boys had the same operation within eight days of each other. The fact that they can talk in harmony and complete each other’s sentences is charming. The fact that they seem destined by fate to share the same accidents or illnesses seems really strange! How strong is the connection between twins? **Heredity** does not seem to provide a suitable answer. But unless we also imagine a world in which **predestination** plays a role, the genetic connection would appear to be the most logical. The mystery is far from solved, wouldn’t you say?

91. The author knows so much about twins because he is a(n)_____.
- genetics researcher
 - father of twins
 - psychological researcher
 - interested author
92. What is **heritability** in line 7, according to the passage?
- money from our family
 - behavior we learn from our parents
 - behavior we appear to inherit at birth
 - the possibility of having twins
93. Who did Thomas Bouchard study in the Minnesota Twin Study?
- fraternal twins separated at birth
 - reverse image twins
 - identical twins separated at birth
 - fraternal twins and identical twins
94. What do researchers who study twins hope to discover?
- the extent of the role of genetics in personality
 - the differences between genetics and heredity
 - the effects of parenting on adopted twins
 - the effects of adopting twins on other siblings
95. Which of the following was not mentioned as a coincidence related to the “Jim” twins?
- sons with the same names
 - pets with the same names
 - wives with the same names
 - twins with the same names
96. Which is the best definition of mirror-image twins?
- They are identical in every way.
 - They are inverted images of each other.
 - They are also known as fraternal twins.
 - They often move opposite to the other.
97. What can we understand from the question highlighted in lines 23-25?
- The nature of the coincidences does not confuse scientists.
 - Perhaps one’s marriage partner is determined by heredity.
 - The author believes twins share a sense of self-determination.
 - The genetic explanation for twins’ behavior is not sufficient.
98. What coincidental occurrences were NOT mentioned as having affected the author’s twin sons?
- having operations within days of each other
 - breaking teeth within days of each other
 - drawing identical pictures while apart from each other
 - turning in bed at the same time when young

99. Based on the reading, what is the meaning of **predestination** in line 38?
- A person's freedom to make life choices is imaginary.
 - One person arrives at a destination ahead of another.
 - Twins have no choice in sharing heredity.
 - A person's life is determined by heredity.
100. Which of the following best summarizes what is known about the similarities between twins?
- Most twin behavior can be explained by genetic science.
 - 100% of fraternal twins' genetics is shared.
 - Science cannot account for all of the coincidences shared by twins.
 - Fraternal twins and identical twins behave very differently.

Getting a Driver's License

A young Californian, Alan, wants to get his driver's license. His father told him that many countries require a person to be 18 years old to get a driver's license. This inspired Alan to do some research about driving laws related to teens in various countries to compare with California laws. Alan then wrote the following letter to his father.

Dear Dad,

2 Okay, I have done some research online about getting a driver's license. I Googled "driving
3 rules" for various countries like Japan, England and Germany, like you told me. I found out that in
4 Japan, you have to be 17 years and 10 months old, or two months before your 18th birthday. Why
5 don't they just make it 18? You also have to study twenty-six hours in class and do thirty-four hours
6 of driving practice if you want to drive a manual transmission car, or just thirty-one hours practice
7 for an automatic transmission car. Either way, that's a lot of hours! You also have to score 90 out
8 of 100 on the written driver's test. In addition, I found out that the Japanese do not accept the US
9 driver's license, but they will recognize an international driver's license from the US. Oh yeah –
10 the price for the driving class is over \$3,000! That doesn't even include the cost of the license.

11 I was curious, so I investigated China, too. You have to be 18 there, but for the first year,
12 you have to put a sign on your car that says you are a learner driver. They used to not even allow
13 first-year drivers to get on the expressways, but now they do. That's a pretty tough system!

14 I then looked at the rules for the UK. You have to be 17 there. In Northern Ireland, part of
15 the U.K., a first-year driver has to have a sign on the car that says he or she is a beginner driver, like
16 in China. Also, for that entire first year, you can't drive over 45 mph! England doesn't have those
17 restrictions, but everywhere in the UK, you have to study nearly 50 hours to get the license. Talk
18 about being strict!

19 Germany is part of the European Union, where the minimum age is 17 or 18 depending on
20 the country. I didn't get to read about how many hours of lessons they need, because I started
21 reading about the rules in the US.

22 In the US, each state makes its own rules. For example, in Montana, where they have very
23 few people and lots of space, you only have to be 14 ½ years old to get a full driver's license! In a
24 lot of states, you can get a learner's permit at age 15, but then there may be license restrictions until
25 you're 18. Here in the state of California, I can get my learner's permit in a few months, but I
26 couldn't drive my friends around without you or Mom in the car until I'm 18. So, if it's okay with
27 you, I'll take the driving classes in school when I'm 16, but I'll wait until you tell me I can get a
28 license. Public transportation is great in San Francisco, so I guess I'm lucky to be living here!

29 Thanks, Dad!

30 Alan

101. Which of the following is NOT true of the driving rules in England?
- You must be 17 years old to drive.
 - You are not allowed to drive over 45 mph.
 - You are required to study 50 hours in order to receive your license.
 - England and Northern Ireland have slightly different regulations.
102. Choose the word that is closest in meaning to **various** in line 3?
- competing
 - similar
 - developed
 - different
103. According to the information in this passage, which of the following countries is the most strict when it comes to getting a driver's license?
- China
 - The United States
 - Germany
 - Japan
104. Choose the word that is closest in meaning to **investigated** in line 11.
- compared
 - examined
 - proposed
 - ignored
105. Choose the word that is closest in meaning to **entire** in line 16.
- complete
 - restricted
 - minimal
 - difficult
106. In line 20, what does the pronoun **they** refer to?
- European Union members
 - United States citizens
 - United Kingdom residents
 - German citizens
107. How old is Alan?
- younger than 16
 - 16
 - 18
 - Older than 18
108. What is Alan's main purpose in writing this letter?
- to show his father that he is serious about this issue
 - to convince his father to let him get his driver's license immediately
 - to complain about driving rules in the U.S.
 - to tell his father why public transportation is important

109. What can we understand from the highlighted sentence in lines 22-23?
- that Montana is a dangerous place to drive
 - that 14½ is the best time to get a driver's license
 - that it is safer to drive in a place with few people than in a populated area
 - that other states should allow teenagers to skip the stage of driving with a learner's permit
110. Where is Alan living at present?
- San Francisco
 - Montana
 - Germany
 - Northern Ireland

Brianna has many pen pals throughout the world, including you! This is an email that she sent to all of you a while back. Read it and answer the questions that follow.

An Email to Pen Pals

2 Friday

4 Dear everyone,

6 Thanks to all of you for sending New Year's greetings. I was happy to hear from you and I hope you
8 have a good year. Today is a public holiday and we had no school. So, I went with some of my friends
10 to see a movie last night. The evening turned into an adventure and I am now in trouble at home.

12 At first we couldn't decide what movie we wanted to see. Some wanted to see "The Man from Outer
14 Space," a science fiction movie. Others wanted to see "Langley Park," a new romantic comedy. And
16 others wanted to see "Criminals on the Run," a gangster movie. But, most of us wanted to see a
18 documentary about Antarctica. Well, fortunately, I got my way. We took a bus to the theater, but
20 because of the holiday and because it was raining, the busses were crowded. Two busses passed without
stopping!! By the time we got to the theater, all of the tickets were sold out.

So, we had to **give up** on going to see a movie. We decided to go for dinner, but our favorite restaurant
was full and we had to wait for a table. **To make a long story short**, I got home past my **curfew** and my
parents were furious. I cannot go out for a week except to go to school. In my language, we say that I
am "**grounded**". Write soon because I have nothing to do but study and answer emails.

Love,
Brianna

111. When was this email likely written?
- January
 - April
 - July
 - October.
112. What movie did they decide to see?
- The Man from Outer Space
 - Langley Park
 - Criminals on the Run
 - A documentary on the Antarctica
113. Why did they eventually not see a movie?
- The movie was cancelled
 - The movie was playing later than they thought.
 - There were no more tickets.
 - They were hungry.
114. Why do you think the busses didn't stop?
- It was raining.
 - The busses were full.
 - The drivers were tired.
 - The busses didn't want to pick up students.
115. What does **give up** in line 14 probably mean?
- change plans
 - pay more money
 - argue for seats
 - see the late show
116. What does **to make a long story short** in line 15 probably mean?
- to take a lot of time to tell a long story
 - to get to the point
 - to miss the main point
 - to tell a short story
117. What does the word **curfew** in line 15 most likely mean?
- time to be home
 - time to eat
 - time to do homework
 - time to do work around the house
118. How do you think Brianna's parents felt about the situation?
- They were sad that she didn't see the movie.
 - They were happy that she had a good dinner.
 - They were angry because she was late.
 - They wished that the weather had been nicer.

119. What does **grounded** in line 17 most likely mean?
- a. made to lie on the floor
 - b. not allowed to leave the house
 - c. not allowed to eat
 - d. not allowed to use the internet
120. Why do you think that Brianna wrote this email?
- a. She wanted to please her parents.
 - b. She wanted to let her friends know her ups and downs.
 - c. She wanted to make new friends.
 - d. She decided that using the internet was more fun than going out.



**THIS IS THE END OF THE TEST.
PLEASE WAIT FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.**