

CELC

Practice Test A

for the

Certificate of English

Language Competency

Produced by

Anatolia College

in cooperation with

Michigan State University

and

Deree – The American College of Greece



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Notes for Test of English Writing Ability

*You may use this space to make notes or an outline for the writing test.
However, you **must** write the essay on the separate, lined paper provided.*

THINK ABOUT IT, WRITE ABOUT IT!

CELC Practice Test of English Writing Ability

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE WRITING ABILITY SECTION:

For this section of the test, a proctor has given you a special answer form.

Using a Number 2 pencil **ONLY**, write as much as you can, as well as you can, in an original composition on **ONE** of the two topics below. You have 35 minutes to complete the composition.

1. A recent study has shown that more high school students are choosing to participate in sports and other extra-curricular activities. What explains this increased interest and which activities do you think they are more attracted to? Be sure to support your answer with examples, reasons, and explanations.

OR

2. Facebook and other social media sites, as well as other means of technology, are very popular with young people. Do you think that teenagers make good use of these forms of technology or do they ever put themselves (or their peers) in danger with some of the information they post on such sites? Be sure to support your answer with examples, reasons, and explanations.



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LISTEN TO THIS!

CELC Practice Test of English Listening Ability

You should have the following items in front of you: a test answer sheet, a test booklet, and a Number 2 pencil. If you are missing any of these items, raise your hand, and a test proctor will assist you.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE LISTENING ABILITY SECTION:

- This listening section has three main parts. Part 1 consists of several short conversations, and Part 2 has longer conversations. Part 3 contains an extended monologue and an extended dialogue.
- There are 40 questions on this listening test. For each question, choose the ONE BEST answer.
- For each question, 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 this test booklet.



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Part 1: Short Conversations

For each question in your test booklet, you will hear a short conversation. Each 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:**Buying concert tickets**

What did the woman find surprising?

- a. The band she'll be seeing appears to be more popular than she thought.
- b. She couldn't find tickets for the band she was hoping to see.
- c. She waited in line for hours only to realize she was waiting in the wrong line.

Waiting for a friend

- 1. Why is Drew late for their meeting?
 - a. He didn't remember their meeting.
 - b. He was delayed because of other work.
 - c. He was handing in a project.

Power failure

- 2. Why doesn't the woman have power?
 - a. She hasn't paid her electric bill.
 - b. There's been a power failure in the area.
 - c. Her lights have gone out.

Looking for car keys

- 3. What advice does the man offer the woman?
 - a. She should select a single spot to leave her keys.
 - b. She should change the place she leaves her keys.
 - c. She should try looking for the keys again.

Margaret's housewarming party

- 4. Why does Lucy decide to go to the party?
 - a. All her friends will be there.
 - b. She doesn't want to offend Margaret.
 - c. She needs a break from studying.

Going to the movies

- 5. How does the woman react to the man's suggestion?
 - a. She agrees to see a comedy to please her friends.
 - b. She states that only action films are enjoyable.
 - c. She recommends her friends see the movie Lincoln.

At the supermarket

- 6. What does the man suggest doing?
 - a. making a different recipe
 - b. buying more flour
 - c. getting something to serve on the side

The unbearable heat

- 7. What does the woman say about the air-conditioning?
 - a. It was functioning properly the day before.
 - b. Someone has been called to have a look at it.
 - c. They need to get help to see what the problem is.

At the coffee shop

8. Why does the man think he can take the chair?
- a. The woman's friend won't find a parking space easily.
 - b. The woman's friend will probably arrive soon.
 - c. It would be better for him to find a seat elsewhere.

Pork chops for dinner

9. Why does the couple decide not to have pork chops tonight?
- a. The pork chops were in the freezer too long.
 - b. They ate them with friends last week.
 - c. They spoiled when their freezer stopped working.

Part 2 – Longer Conversations

In this section you will hear longer conversations. Before listening to each conversation you will read three to five questions. Listen to each conversation and answer the questions that appear in your test booklet.

At the store looking for a gift

10. Why is the customer at the store?
- a. to choose a gift for a close friend
 - b. to buy someone a birthday present
 - c. to find a solar charger
11. Why doesn't the woman know what to buy?
- a. The man is not that well known to her.
 - b. She does not want to make a mistake.
 - c. The store only has gifts for children.
12. Why does the woman feel that she has to buy this person something?
- a. She's been invited to his birthday party.
 - b. She's a very close friend of his.
 - c. She wants to show she's honest.
13. What does the customer finally decide to do?
- a. get something for herself too
 - b. ask to see a better gift
 - c. take the solar panel device

Preparing a meal

14. Why do the speakers have to be careful what they prepare for dinner?
- a. They haven't had dinner guests before.
 - b. They have no idea what food their guests like.
 - c. One of their guests will not eat certain foods.
15. According to the woman, why has Mary changed her diet?
- a. It's healthier and she wants to lose weight.
 - b. It's better for the planet.
 - c. She considers it wrong to kill animals.
16. Why doesn't the woman carry her leather bag when she's with Mary?
- a. She's afraid that she will become violent.
 - b. She doesn't want to upset her.
 - c. She feels that it will make her envious.

At an Italian restaurant

17. Why is the customer given an Italian menu?
- The restaurant has only Italian menus.
 - The waiter has no English menus left.
 - The waiter thinks she can read Italian.
18. Why doesn't the waiter tell the woman about the entire menu?
- She wants him to place her order as soon as possible.
 - He wants her to finish as soon as possible.
 - She is only interested in the pasta dishes.
19. Why is the woman surprised?
- She realizes that gnocchi is made out of potato.
 - She thought what she ordered was the main course.
 - The restaurant doesn't serve wine until later.
20. Why does the woman order only one dish?
- She doesn't want to gain weight.
 - She doesn't have time to eat more.
 - She thinks there will be enough food for her.

At the travel agency

21. Why does the travel agent think that it's a good idea to go to London?
- She thinks the boss's advice should be followed.
 - She believes everyone should take a vacation once in a while.
 - She says the good weather will make sightseeing enjoyable.
22. What does the travel agent say about the man's options?
- He could leave at 4 a.m. from Newark Liberty International Airport.
 - He will pay more to take a longer flight.
 - He would have to pay \$1,400 per ticket.
23. Why does the man choose to fly to Brussels before flying to London?
- He thinks it's a good opportunity to visit the city.
 - He'll save money on his ticket by changing flights there.
 - He wants to visit his family there.

Part 3 – Extended Discourse

In this section you will hear an extended monologue and an extended dialogue. Before listening to the passage you will read questions that appear in your test booklet. You will listen to each passage twice, and then you will answer a series of questions.

A talk on bullying

24. How does the speaker describe bullying?
- when someone harms someone else by accident
 - when someone hurts someone to take revenge
 - when someone harms someone just to be cruel
25. What does the speaker say about the listeners' past experiences with bullying?
- Most people hate to remember their experiences of being bullied.
 - Some people remember examples of bullying their classmates.
 - They are sure to remember the bully in their school yard.
26. How does the speaker describe physical bullying?
- It's one of the most noticeable forms of bullying.
 - It's one of the least problematic forms of bullying.
 - It is considered bullying only if it is easily seen.
27. Why can verbal bullying be difficult to identify?
- It is less frequent than physical bullying.
 - It often occurs when teachers are not present.
 - It typically happens away from the school.
28. What is one example of cyber-bullying?
- when students make fun of someone else's phone or laptop
 - when a bully tries to hack into a classmate's social media page
 - when children spread lies about another child online
29. What is one of the effects of cyber-bullying?
- Victims might try to persuade their classmates that the rumors are untrue.
 - Victims might avoid contact with the outside world.
 - Victims might blame the school for what has happened to them.
30. What are the general consequences of bullying?
- Children may be upset by the bullying for a long time.
 - People end up believing that children are naturally cruel.
 - We learn that this an accepted form of behavior.
31. How do some adults contribute to the bullying problem?
- They don't take bullying seriously.
 - They encourage bullies to continue misbehaving.
 - They act as bullies towards other adults.

Being yourself

32. Why did Larry go to Berlin?
- He went to organize an art exhibition.
 - His boss asked him to take a break from work.
 - His boss sent him there on business.
33. Why might the London gallery be closing down?
- Customers are slow in paying for their purchases.
 - Business there is not doing very well.
 - Larry finds it too tiring to go there frequently.
34. Why does Lucy think that Larry might be tired of traveling?
- She knows that he does a lot of traveling.
 - He's been traveling for years against his wishes.
 - He doesn't get paid very well for the extra work.
35. What does Larry enjoy most about his job?
- meeting interesting people
 - creating different types of art
 - going to art shows
36. Why does Lucy remind Larry about their trip to London?
- to show that he needs help when traveling
 - to show how sociable he is
 - to suggest they travel together more often
37. What does Larry say about life in high school?
- He used to hide in the library during breaks.
 - He took too much time to finish his homework.
 - He didn't spend very much time with his peers.
38. Why is Lucy surprised when she finds out about Larry's past?
- She expected him to have had many friends in high school.
 - She was unaware his parents wanted him to do extremely well in school.
 - She never had any idea that Larry used to play a musical instrument.
39. Why was music very important for Larry?
- It was a way that he could connect with friends.
 - It helped him express himself creatively.
 - It helped him earn a college scholarship.
40. What made Larry change as a person?
- living with several good friends in college
 - finding a field of study that interested him
 - realizing his need to share interests with others



**THIS IS THE END OF THE PRACTICE LISTENING TEST.
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GRAMMAR YOU CAN USE!

CELC Practice Test of English Grammar

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE GRAMMAR SECTION:

- This grammar test has 40 questions.
- You have 20 minutes to answer all 40 questions. For each question, choose the ONE BEST answer.
- For each question, 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. The list of students earning academic awards this year _____ yet.
- haven't been prepared
 - hasn't been prepared
 - hasn't prepared
 - weren't being prepared
42. I wish I _____ out last night. Now, I have to stay up all night to finish my homework.
- hadn't gone
 - didn't go
 - went
 - had gone
43. _____ a taxi for over 25 years. It's time for him to retire.
- He's been driven
 - He was driving
 - He's driving
 - He's been driving
44. I really don't know what _____ to make him so angry.
- they did
 - did they do
 - have they done
 - they are done
45. We decided not to paint the house _____ it was raining.
- because of
 - as a result
 - since
 - though
46. I _____ remembered your birthday. I'm sorry I didn't call you!
- must have
 - must have had
 - should have
 - should have had
47. Do you mind _____ the window? It's really hot in here!
- opening
 - open
 - to open
 - opens
48. You _____ take an umbrella with you after all. It didn't rain!
- didn't need to
 - needn't
 - shouldn't
 - mustn't
49. I'd like to know how _____ from the train station to the airport.
- can I get
 - should I get
 - far to get
 - I can get
50. You really shouldn't _____ the water running when you're brushing your teeth.
- have left
 - leave
 - be left
 - left
51. We regret _____ that the flight to Paris has been canceled.
- announced
 - to have announced
 - to announce
 - be announcing
52. I'll never _____ this dorm food! It's terrible!
- used to eat
 - be used to eat
 - used to eating
 - get used to eating
53. I've been trying _____ my computer for an hour, but I'm not having any luck.
- fixing
 - fix open
 - to fix
 - to be fixing
54. My brother is interested in physics and astronomy—very much _____ you!
- similar to
 - like
 - the same
 - alike

55. I can't find my glasses! I _____ them at home.
- had to leave
 - must have left
 - should have left
 - must leave
56. I know you want to stay out late, but you need to discuss _____.
- with your father about it
 - about it with your father
 - it about your father
 - it with your father
57. _____ my brother and me, I'm a better piano player.
- Among
 - With
 - Of
 - Between
58. Aren't you concerned _____ the harm that smoking can cause?
- of
 - with
 - about
 - for
59. Are you interested _____ skiing this weekend?
- to go
 - in going
 - for going
 - to go for
60. I think the dog has had _____ to eat today. She looks a little sick.
- too many
 - too much
 - as many
 - as much
61. It was raining so hard _____ I couldn't see anything through the window.
- because
 - so
 - that
 - for
62. _____ the police warning about the dangerous road conditions, we decided to drive to the mountain for the day.
- Although
 - Even though
 - Despite
 - Because of
63. I want to _____ this skirt because it makes me look too old the way it is.
- shorten
 - short
 - shortening
 - shorter
64. His answers on the test were exactly the same _____.
- with mine
 - as mine
 - to mine
 - like mine
65. The _____ in this class are very talented musicians.
- student's majority
 - students of majority
 - majority of students
 - majority of the student
66. I wish you _____ complaining all the time! It's very annoying.
- would stop
 - stop
 - will stop
 - must stop
67. I wonder why she hasn't called yet. She _____ that it was my birthday today!
- should have forgotten
 - can't have forgotten
 - had forgotten
 - will have forgotten
68. Pollution is a problem that _____ the whole world.
- is concerned
 - is concerning
 - concerns
 - was concerned
69. By the time I return home, my mother _____ my lunch.
- will prepare
 - has prepared
 - will have prepared
 - has been preparing
70. If you have a headache, try _____ an aspirin. It will make you feel better.
- to take
 - take
 - to have taken
 - taking

71. This is Mary, the woman _____ is taking over my job when I leave.
 a. whom
 b. that
 c. which
 d. who
72. The customer finally agreed _____ the brown pair of shoes.
 a. him to buy
 b. him buying
 c. to buy
 d. he bought
73. I _____ you my assignment if I had known you would copy it.
 a. wouldn't have given
 b. wouldn't give
 c. couldn't give
 d. shouldn't have given
74. This is the club _____ I had my 'Sweet Sixteen' birthday party.
 a. which
 b. that
 c. when
 d. where
75. _____ I've always wanted to do is visit Hawaii.
 a. How
 b. What
 c. Where
 d. That
76. With time and _____ patience, you'll forget her and be happy again.
 a. little
 b. a little
 c. few
 d. a few
77. I spent a week in Florida recently. I _____ there before.
 a. haven't been
 b. never been
 c. hadn't been
 d. couldn't be
78. After I had lost some weight, I _____ my hair cut short.
 a. will have
 b. am having
 c. had
 d. have
79. There's a train leaving for New York _____ half hour.
 a. every
 b. each
 c. on
 d. all
80. You can camp here _____ you have permission from the park rangers.
 a. only
 b. as far
 c. as much as
 d. as long as



**THIS IS THE END OF THE CELC PRACTICE GRAMMAR TEST.
 DO NOT RETURN TO THE PREVIOUS SECTION.
 DO NOT TURN THE PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.**

READ ABOUT IT!

CELC Practice Test of English Reading Ability

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE READING ABILITY SECTION:

- This reading test has four passages. Each passage is followed by several questions.
- You have 60 minutes to answer all 40 questions. For each question, choose the ONE BEST answer.
- For each question, 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.



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Reading passage 1

You have been having strange dreams lately and a friend suggested that they may have deeper meanings. You don't know anything about dream interpretation so you take out a book entitled *The Complete Book of Dreams* from your local library. Read the introduction carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Dream Interpretation¹

For thousands of years, people have been fascinated by the world of dreams. Even those who claim to be skeptics are fascinated to find the meaning of a repeated or especially vivid dream. Dreams may be confusing and scary or incredibly wonderful, and although occasionally we come across people who can truthfully tell us that they cannot remember a dream, this does not mean that they do not dream. We all dream.

Throughout history, dreams have always been held to have great significance. History reveals that people in the past had just as much disagreement on the actual meaning of dreams as they do today. It used to be thought that the mind departed to strange and wonderful worlds during sleep, where the dreamer found new discoveries and gathered new knowledge. Often, the dream was seen as a method of communication – bringing spiritual messages or foretelling the future. Psychologists today interpret dreams as an expression of the mental state of their patients, believing that dreams are the re-sorting of information, facts, fears and stresses that the mind has to deal with. But before we begin to look at this fascinating subject of dreams and their interpretation in more detail, it is important to realize that these curious mental experiences belong to several different categories.

To begin with, there are ordinary dreams which tend to have two different types of meanings: a general meaning, where the dream is told as a symbolic story, such as showing up unprepared to take a test or give a presentation, and an individual meaning, which is specific to the dreamer. Then there are daydreams, visionary fantasies experienced while awake as a result of the brain thinking over important, but not immediately relevant issues when circumstances do not present other interesting or challenging problems. Another type is the lucid dream, also known as a conscious dream, when dreamers become aware that they are dreaming while the dream is in progress but then the waking mind gains control. We also have recurring dreams, which are repeatedly experienced over a long period of time. Finally, there is the prophetic dream, which is a dream of events or incidents before they happen. A recent study showed that 42% of people felt they had had a dream about something that later came true.

Many people have considered and investigated dreams, and it is only natural that their interpretations differ. Much of our knowledge concerning dreams comes to us from sources that are many centuries old. But accepting all these interpretations would not be useful, as certain dream situations and actions will have quite different meanings, depending on the tradition from which the interpretation comes.

How much do we know about our dreams? Are they significant? Do they affect our waking lives? And, above all, what do they mean? These are just some of the questions that we hope to uncover in *The Complete Book of Dreams*.

¹ Passage adapted from *The Complete Book of Dreams* by Edwin Raphael. Berkshire: Foulsham, 1992.

81. What does the first paragraph say about people's attitudes toward dreams?
- People are generally interested in learning the meanings of dreams.
 - Critical people are uninterested in finding out what dreams mean.
 - Even people who do not believe in dreams are curious about them.
 - People love to tell about their frightening and strange dreams that they remember clearly.
82. What is similar about past and present interpreters of dreams?
- They disagree on the degree of significance of dreams.
 - They agree on the effect dreams can have.
 - They disagree on the true meaning of dreams.
 - They agree that not everyone has dreams.
83. Which of the following is closest in meaning to the word **foretelling** in line 10?
- discussing
 - dreaming
 - avoiding
 - predicting
84. What did people in the past believe dreams could provide?
- the feeling of having been on vacation to a foreign land
 - opportunities for people to explore and gain information
 - a means of communication with people living in other lands
 - advice on what discoveries might be made in the future
85. What is the function of dreams, according to modern psychologists?
- to relieve tension and stress
 - to review our experiences and emotions
 - to allow us to rest peacefully
 - to create new categories for our thoughts
86. Which of the following words is closest in meaning to the word **present** in line 20?
- solve
 - require
 - offer
 - discover
87. Which of the types of dreams described would probably result from boredom?
- prophetic dreams
 - lucid dreams
 - daydreams
 - recurrent dreams
88. What happens when the waking mind gains control during a lucid dream?
- The person realizes that he or she has been dreaming.
 - The person realizes that he or she is about to experience a dream.
 - The person may begin to speak out loud during the dream.
 - The person wakes up and tries to remember what the dream was about.
89. According to the passage, why do dreams have different interpretations?
- Dream interpretation varies by culture.
 - Only people who dream have a unique understanding of dreams.
 - No one has a clear opinion about the meaning of dreams.
 - Most people cannot remember dreams clearly enough for interpretation.
90. According to the last paragraph, what can we expect to read in *The Complete Book of Dreams*?
- the length of time the average dream lasts
 - an explanation of the various meanings of dreams
 - the effect dreams may have on our sleep
 - the number of dreams the average person experiences

Reading passage 2

Your teacher has assigned a project for art class. You have decided to research graffiti art. Read the article you find on the internet carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Graffiti Art

For many people, hearing the word “graffiti” immediately brings to mind vandalism. (A) Indeed, most people think that graffiti involves the destruction of private or public property as obscene words and pictures are spray painted on walls of homes, schools, public buildings and even trains. However, there are also people who consider this illegal act as a form of art.

Of course, not all images or words drawn and written on walls are art. Unfortunately, vandalism does exist, but there has also been a rise in street art over recent years as more and more urban artists use walls and any other surfaces found in the streets as their canvases. (B) By the late 1970s, graffiti was starting to gain recognition in the art world as artists such as George Lee Quiñones and Fab 5 Freddy took their street art into the gallery. The 80s saw a rise in graffiti art in New York and Philadelphia as artists started spray painting trains. It has been said that by the mid-80s not a single train had been left without some signs of graffiti. Trains were preferred at the time as they would travel throughout the city presenting the art to everyone. Soon trains all over the United States were seen exhibiting graffiti and this form of art eventually moved to Europe in the same decade, too. However, it was when hip hop music started gaining popularity in western countries that graffiti also gained popularity. This connection between graffiti (visual) and hip hop culture arose because many early graffiti artists were also involved in one or more of the four other aspects of hip hop culture: rap music (oral), DJaying (aural), breaking (physical) or knowledge (mental). The 1983 film *Wild Style* is widely regarded as the first hip hop motion picture, which featured prominent figures within the New York graffiti scene of the period.

A greater variety in graffiti also started appearing as it became internationally popular. Not only did art involve lettering, but it extended into images. (C) Oil-based chalk, posters and stickers also added to the choice of materials artists would use in addition to spray paint. Today, an organic, environmentally friendly form of graffiti art has appeared in which artists spray a substance that promotes the growth of moss and small flowers onto surfaces, allowing their art to literally flourish.

Even though graffiti has started gaining recognition in the art world, it is still illegal in most places. (D) It is for this reason that many graffiti artists such as world-renowned Banksy choose to remain anonymous. Graffiti art is also still considered as part of a subculture that rebels against authority. However, the most discouraging aspect of graffiti art is its short-lived nature. Graffiti art rarely remains permanent as it can always be washed away or painted over.

91. According to the text, what comes to mind when people hear the word “graffiti”?
- that it is the only true form of modern art
 - that it leads to the violation of various other laws
 - that it involves damage to people’s possessions
 - that it mostly belongs on the ruins of public buildings
92. What was the status of graffiti in the 1970s?
- People started realizing graffiti was to be found everywhere.
 - It was becoming recognized as a form of art.
 - Graffiti was often banned from art galleries.
 - There was no longer a place for it on the streets.
93. Which of the following paraphrases best keeps the meaning of the phrase **The 80s saw a rise in graffiti art** in line 10?
- In the 80s, the quality of graffiti art increased greatly.
 - Graffiti became even more respected in the 80s.
 - In the 80s, graffiti art reached the height of its popularity worldwide.
 - In the 80s, graffiti art became increasingly popular.
94. Why did graffiti artists choose to display their art on trains?
- so that they wouldn’t get caught
 - so that more people would see their work
 - to introduce motion to their work
 - to reduce the damage that could be done to it
95. What was the main reason behind graffiti’s popularity on an international level?
- People began listening to hip hop music outside the United States.
 - More and more people chose to travel on trains displaying graffiti.
 - Graffiti artists began travelling the world exhibiting their art.
 - The popularity of graffiti in the U.S. was made known through the media.
96. Which of the following is closest in meaning to **flourish** in line 25?
- fade
 - shine
 - grow
 - change
97. Why do graffiti artists choose to remain anonymous?
- They don’t want to get caught breaking the law.
 - They don’t want to receive recognition for their work.
 - They don’t care if they make money from this art form.
 - They don’t want their work to be destroyed by rival artists.
98. Why would many artists decide not to produce graffiti art?
- Its quality is below standard.
 - It doesn’t last for a long time.
 - They don’t often appreciate fame.
 - No one appreciates their work.
99. What is still true about graffiti art today?
- Nearly everyone can become a graffiti artist.
 - Graffiti is not as popular as it was.
 - Graffiti is not considered a mainstream form of art.
 - Graffiti artists don’t want to go against authority.
100. At which point in the passage would the following sentence best fit?
“Modern graffiti dates back to the 1920s and its early beginnings are more often associated with the hip hop culture of New York as graffiti art was displayed in subways.”
- (A)
 - (B)
 - (C)
 - (D)

Reading Passage 3

A friend of yours recently told you about his decision to start a meditation program. He gives you the following article to tell you more about it. Read the article and then answer the questions which follow.

Meditation²

Meditation has been in use for thousands of years: people have always searched for inner quiet and physical relaxation, which may be for spiritual, self-realization or health reasons. It is nothing unusual and you do not have to be a great athlete to be able to achieve and enjoy the benefits of meditation at both physical and mental levels.

What, then, is meditation? As one expert put it recently, it is just sitting and relaxing. (A) Many people find that their lives are so full of the demands of work, family, friends and organized leisure pursuits that they have no time to “stand and stare.” Many are so busy planning and working towards the future that they take little pleasure from the here and now. In their hurry to “get on” they miss out on the simple pleasures of life: the change of the seasons, the singing of a bird, or the innocent wonder of a child. But beauty and joy are there to be seen and experienced, even in the most industrial of landscapes. (B) Meditation can be a good way of just taking time out and allowing yourself to relate to and appreciate the moment. It may be by walking along the seashore, or sitting by a stream, or just by noticing silence in a still room and enjoying it. (C)

Rather than forcing yourself to take up a difficult physical position, just relax; sit in a chair or take a walk in a favorite landscape at a steady pace. It is not a good idea to slump or lie down, as this tends to lead to sleep. It is the relaxed focus that is necessary. If you sit down, do so with your feet flat on the floor, hands resting in your lap or on the arms of the chair, and your head comfortably balanced. If you are walking, do so slowly and carefully, aware of the movement of each foot, and the contact with the ground below. (D) Notice the reaction of the ground to your feet. This is an extremely simple but effective exercise in becoming truly aware of the present.

Meditation, above all, is about staying with the moment, being in touch with one’s surroundings and one’s inner world, much of which is more easily achieved when you are in a meditative state.

² Passage adapted from *Instant Meditation for Stress Relief: Breathing Techniques and Mental Exercises for an Immediate Sense of Calm and Well-Being* by John Hudson. London: Lorenz Books, 1996. (pp. 6-7)

101. What is needed for someone to learn meditation?
 - a. to be mentally and physically flexible
 - b. to have experience with unusual states of mind
 - c. to have strength and athletic ability
 - d. to desire to manage one's physical and emotional being
102. What does meditation involve?
 - a. standing still and looking at one spot
 - b. imagining solutions to the problems you face
 - c. appreciating family and friends whenever you can
 - d. taking time to allow yourself to take things easy
103. According to the passage, why is meditation important?
 - a. It gives you more leisure time.
 - b. It helps you notice birds and children.
 - c. It helps you value every single moment.
 - d. It fills moments of silence with something to do.
104. Which one of the following situations does the passage say will help you meditate?
 - a. taking a walk along a beach
 - b. learning to sit in difficult positions
 - c. reading a detailed book about meditation
 - d. noticing sounds that are enjoyable
105. What is one thing the author recommends you do when meditating?
 - a. lie down comfortably in a dark room
 - b. sit with your back and neck straight
 - c. look at the ground around your feet
 - d. lie down with your feet raised above your heart
106. According to the author, what is the best seated position for meditation?
 - a. sitting cross-legged on the ground
 - b. sitting on the floor with the knees bent upwards
 - c. sitting on a chair with the feet placed flat on the ground
 - d. sitting on your lower legs, with the heels below your waist
107. How does the author recommend we walk when meditating?
 - a. steadily and quickly
 - b. unhurriedly and with care
 - c. with great effort
 - d. lightly with the feeling of dancing
108. Why is it important to notice the reaction of the ground to your feet in line 20?
 - a. It helps you know if you're walking too fast.
 - b. It helps you become aware if someone is following you.
 - c. It helps you notice how beautifully you walk.
 - d. It helps you focus on the movement you are making.
109. According to the final paragraph, why is meditation useful?
 - a. It allows you connect with your environment.
 - b. It makes you an expert on nature.
 - c. It makes it possible for you to relax all the time.
 - d. It allows you to realize what more there is in life.
110. At which point in the passage would the following sentence best fit?
"In fact, in the harshest environments, meditation may be needed the most."
 - a. (A)
 - b. (B)
 - c. (C)
 - d. (D)

Reading Passage 4

You are shopping for a gift for a friend. You know that your friend likes candles, so you walk into a bookstore to see if you can find a book on candle-making. The sales assistant suggests a book, so you skim through the introduction to see if it's a suitable gift. Read the introduction and answer the questions that follow.

Candle-Making

Thanks to electricity, candles are no longer a necessity in our lives, but they are still a pleasure. The warm flame of candlelight can quickly alter the mood and atmosphere of a room, often creating a peaceful scene that electric light just cannot match.

Candles are an important part of many cultural and religious festivals and have been burnt in various forms for centuries. The ancient Romans and Egyptians made candles from a type of fiber coated with wax. However, up until the nineteenth century, most candles were made from a substance called tallow, obtained from beef fat. Tallow candles were very smoky and, understandably, had an unpleasant odor.

In the 19th century, candle makers learned to separate stearin, the solid form of fat used as a type of glue, from tallow and used it to harden other fats. Candles that contained stearin would burn longer than previous ones and had a better smell. Stearin is still one of the main components of modern candle-making, and the techniques used to create candles today are much the same as they have been for many years. These days, the increased range of wax dyes, perfumes and other additives that are now available make candle-making a very exciting and rewarding hobby.

Sales of candles have increased greatly over the last few years, showing that they have become part of our lives again, not through necessity, but because of the magical atmosphere they create. In our increasingly stressful lives, the calming quality of candlelight has a relaxing effect that many enjoy.

For those would like to learn to make candles, finding and buying candle-making kits is easy. Candle-making is definitely **enhanced** by the exciting possibilities of experimentation with various materials. Be brave and try out different effects – some of the most wonderful creations can happen by accident. With a bit of practice, you will be amazed at the very professional finish that can be achieved.

Despite their delicate beauty, candles can, of course, be highly dangerous. One should never leave lit candles unattended, even for a few moments. Always make sure candles are securely placed within candleholders. Teach your children to respect a burning candle, and of course keep burning candles away from flammable materials. Keep your home safe by remembering that a candle is magical, but fire can be very destructive. Be careful, and enjoy the beauty of your candles!

111. According to the text, what is the importance of candles?
- We need them in case there is an electric blackout.
 - We gain a feeling of calm when they are lit in a room.
 - We light them to create a more romantic atmosphere.
 - We cannot do without them in our daily lives.
112. Why does the writer mention ancient Romans and Egyptians in the text?
- to show that before making candles, we should learn their history
 - to show one of the ways candles were made in the past
 - to show how candles were invented
 - to show that candles have always been used
113. What was one disadvantage of tallow candles?
- They were made from animals.
 - They gave off a bad smell.
 - They were very expensive.
 - They took a long time to make.
114. Why was stearin used in candles?
- It created a more colorful flame than tallow.
 - It covered up unpleasant smells in the air.
 - It was used to get rid of fat in the candles.
 - It helped make candles burn longer.
115. Why does the author feel candle-making is so exciting?
- Candles no longer smell as bad as before.
 - People now find it one of the easiest hobbies.
 - Making candles is no longer a messy job.
 - Many more substances are now used in candle-making.
116. According to the text, what does the increase of candle sales illustrate?
- People enjoy the calming effect that candles produce.
 - The variety of candles to choose from makes them more attractive.
 - People buy candles as gifts more often than they used to.
 - Candles are cheaper to buy now than they were in the past.
117. Which of the following is closest in meaning to **enhanced** in line 22?
- decreased
 - improved
 - worsened
 - increased
118. According to the text, what is needed to succeed at candle-making?
- a few years of practice
 - a lot of time and money
 - willingness to take risks
 - many expensive materials
119. What does the passage warn readers not to do?
- burn candles without adult supervision
 - leave a room where a candle is burning
 - use unapproved ingredients in candles
 - burn candles for only a few minutes
120. Which of the following best expresses the main idea of this passage?
- Candle-making can be a successful business.
 - Candles are made from different types of material.
 - Candles continue to be a part of people's lives.
 - Candle-making has changed little over the years.



THIS IS THE END OF THE TEST.
YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO WORK ON PREVIOUS SECTIONS.
PLEASE WAIT FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS