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English in practice Exam الملف

[Almanahj Website](#) → [American curriculum](#) → [12th Grade](#) → [English](#) → [Term 1](#) → [The file](#)

More files for 12th Grade , Subject English , Term 1

English Review Worksheet	1
English Mid Semester Test	2
Placement Test for University Entrants	3
Worksheet about English liter	4
Worksheet about English Grammar	5
Worksheet about American English idioms	6
State exam in English	7

PART ONE: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Directions: You will hear a curious story twice. Before you listen to it, you have **1 minute** to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have **3 minutes** to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among **A, B** or **C**. Then you will hear the text again and will have **1 minute** to check your answers.

1. **The three cubs, Baloo, Leo and Shere Khan, belonged to a drug dealer who wanted to sell them on the black market.**
A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.
2. **After the police found them, the animals were sent to an animal shelter to be properly looked after.**
A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.
3. **All three animals are male.**
A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.
4. **When they were rescued, all three cubs had badly infected open wounds.**
A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.
5. **The BLT, as people call them, are very happy to live together and take care of each other.**
A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

Directions: You will hear an anecdote twice. Before you listen to it, you have **1 minute** to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have **3 minutes** to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among **A, B**, or **C**. Then you will hear the text again and will have **1 minute** to check your answers.

6. **The zoo keeper drags the mime into his office to stop his unauthorised performance.**
A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.
7. **The mime asks the zoo keeper to give him a job as a replacement for the deceased gorilla.**
A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.
8. **The mime is very good at his new job and visitors to the zoo like him.**
A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.
9. **Another actor takes the place of the lion in the neighbouring cage because the animal gets sick.**
A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

10. The lion-performance of the other person is truly convincing and the gorilla mime is tricked into believing the lion is real.

- A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

Directions: *You will hear a text about the word ‘sorry’ and how we use it twice. Before you listen to it, you have 2 minutes to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have 4 minutes to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among A, B, C or D. Then you will hear the text again and will have 1 minute to check your answers.*

11. According to the speaker, the word ‘sorry’

- A) was the most frequently used word in old English.
B) seems to be the most over-used word in the U. K.
C) is used as often by members of other cultures, too.
D) is more often used in the U. S. than in the U. K.

12. A recent research study showed that for interrupting someone.

- A) the Brits apologise twice as often as the Americans
B) the Brits apologise more often than the Americans
C) the Brits apologise as often as the Americans
D) the Brits don’t apologise as often as the Americans

13. Today, most British and American people

- A) still use the word ‘sorry’ in its original meaning.
B) never use the word ‘sorry’ for circumstances beyond their control.
C) use the word ‘sorry’ to convey various meanings.
D) use the word ‘sorry’ without meaning anything.

14. One benefit to saying ‘sorry’ mentioned by the speaker is

- A) appearing trustworthy.
B) sounding mature.
C) building friendship.
D) suggesting authority.

15. According to Battistella, the best way to apologise is to express

- A) genuine regret about what happened.
B) a promise for change in the future.
C) awareness of the nature of the mistake.
D) All of the above.

PART TWO: READING COMPREHENSION

Directions: *Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question among A, B or C, marking your answers on your answer sheet.*

As Raptor 1 settles into a massive crater near the Martian equator, the astronauts aboard are already thinking ahead. First on the astronauts’ to-do list is the construction of a base camp habitat, part of the enormous cargo the ships have carried. They must also inflate “buildings” — huge domed, pressurized tents made of exotic materials that will increase their living area and act as greenhouses in which to grow food.

Some environmental similarities exist between Earth and Mars. The Martian terrain looks a lot like certain parts of Earth — the dry valleys in Antarctica or the high deserts on Hawaiian volcanoes. However, many other factors will prove to be extremely challenging. A day on Mars is almost forty minutes longer than a day on Earth, but a Martian year is far longer than one on Earth, making seasons twice as long. Mars's orbit is oval, meaning seasonal variations between winter and summer are more severe than those on Earth; in the southern hemisphere, summers are warmer and winters are colder than those in the northern hemisphere. Eventually these Martian settlers intend to establish two bases, one below the equator in the southern hemisphere for summers and one north of the equator for winters.

But now, within twenty-four hours, the first humans to walk on Mars must begin their most important task: finding water. They must determine if there is enough water in the surface soil, called *regolith*, to support their hydration needs as well as serve as a stock for making more of the oxygen they will consume.

Long before the next ships arrive, these astronauts must build more permanent structures, possibly out of bricks they make from the regolith. Although today is sunny and relatively warm, temperatures will drop as darkness approaches, turning the environment into something similar to a bad night at the South Pole. The structures will be needed to insulate the astronauts from the cold as well as to protect them from solar rays that are almost unrestricted by the thin atmosphere.

These first explorers, alone on a seemingly lifeless planet as much as 250 million miles away from home, represent the greatest achievement of human intelligence. These explorers are the beginning of an ambitious plan not just to visit Mars and establish a settlement but to reengineer the planet — to make its thin atmosphere of carbon dioxide rich enough in oxygen for humans to breathe, to raise its temperature from an average of -81 degrees Fahrenheit to a more tolerable 20 degrees, to fill its dry stream beds and empty lakes with water again, and to plant trees that can flourish in its temperate zone rich in CO_2 . These astronauts will set in motion a process that might not be complete for a thousand years but will result in a second home for humans, an outpost on the farthest frontier. Like many frontier outposts before it, this one may eventually rival the home planet in resources, standard of living and desirability.

16. As soon as they land, the astronauts must set up a camp.

- A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

17. Earth and Mars have some geographical features in common.

- A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

18. The seasons on Mars are much shorter than those on Earth.

- A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

19. Unlike the rest of the planets Mars is the only one with an oval orbit.

- A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

20. Mars's northern hemisphere has more hostile climate in winter than its southern hemisphere.

- A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

21. The astronauts want to use local water supplies as a source of oxygen, if possible.

- A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

22. Mars's thin atmosphere reflects a great part of the solar radiation back into the cosmos.

- A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

23. This mission is a part of a long-term project.

- A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

24. The ambitious plan for reengineering Mars includes breeding new species of fauna.

- A) True. B) False. C) No information in the text.

Directions: Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question among **A, B, C** or **D**, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

Rovio only had enough money to make one game. It was 2009 and, as the company's only designer, I had to start coming up with ideas. I've always been keen on drawing animals, so I sat at my computer and drew a bunch of birds, giving them beaks, a rounded shape – and angry eyebrows. I had this idea of an angry flock of birds, running around destroying things.

The first concept was very different to how *Angry Birds* developed, though. There was a queue of birds and when you tapped the first one, it would just attack some simple colour-coded structures. By the time we got to a prototype for the game, there was still no catapult: the birds would just jump at, say, a castle. When we tried it out on people, they had no idea what they were supposed to do. We realised we needed a recognisable mechanism to launch the birds. I came up with the slingshot, but it seemed too obvious, too easy, so we tried different things for a while, even a swing. But with the slingshot, players just understood what they were meant to do immediately.

We realised the game needed enemies, but the time schedule was tight, so obviously I just drew an animal – a pig thing I've been drawing since I was 10, according to my mum. Everything had to be super simple, so I picked a prime colour for each bird. Since the main character is red, I chose green – the complementary colour – for the pigs, who have stolen the birds' eggs and are hiding in the structures.

Angry Birds was out for three months before we got *Apple's* support. They gave us this tiny banner on the front page of the App Store – and suddenly the game started spreading very quickly. People were coming into the office and saying there had been a million downloads. *Rovio's* business development director said his goal was to reach 100 million sales. We shook our heads and thought: "This guy's crazy." Then we hit two billion.

Previously, whenever we had shown our games to friends and family, they would look and say "OK, well, it's a phone game" and hand the mobile back to us. But with *Angry Birds*, they wouldn't let go. We were all playing it at work too: we had a spreadsheet with all our scores.

We got to number one on the App Store in our home country, Finland, but the market was so small that we could have just told all our friends to download the game and we'd have been number one. Then it took the top spot in Sweden because a famous downhill skier told a newspaper that she played the game to relax before competitions. By April 2010, we were top of the U. S. charts and then we had only one target: to be the biggest game in the App Store.

I remember us drinking champagne and celebrating when we reached one million and then 10 million downloads. Those were big numbers back then. And now there's a movie coming out. Who'd have thought a mobile game could be this big? It's awesome.

25. The text is about

- A) the makers of the game Angry Birds.
- B) how the game Angry Birds was made.
- C) how the film Angry Birds was shot.
- D) the history of the Rovio company.

26. In 2009 Rovio had

- A) enough funds for making computer games.
- B) a small budget insufficient to make a game.
- C) only one game designer.
- D) a team of game designers.

27. The prototype version of the game

- A) was the same as the official release.
- B) featured different types of catapults.
- C) was generally considered easy to understand and play.
- D) underwent changes after users' feedback.

28. The choice of enemies in the game was influenced by

- A) the designer's mother.
- B) the designer's friends.
- C) the lack of time.
- D) the lack of inspiration.

29. Angry Birds turned out to be

- A) more successful than they expected at Rovio.
- B) as successful as they expected at Rovio.
- C) as interesting as Rovio's previous games.
- D) just another short-lived phone game.

30. The game became popular in Sweden because

- A) the team told their friends to download it.
- B) a sport's celebrity told the press about it.
- C) it was vastly advertised in the press.
- D) a famous skier played it in order to concentrate.

PART THREE: USE OF ENGLISH

Section One: Cloze

Directions: Read the text and the sentences below and for each numbered gap choose the letter (A, B, C or D) of the word or phrase that best suits the gap, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

Fearless living or life in danger?

Some people really are not scared of anything. Understanding why could explain how the rest of us process fear. And now through the case of Sarah Smith scientists have made one more step to (31) this mystery.

Sarah has lived most of her life without being (32) of feeling scared. She has a few (33) memories of receiving a fright as a child. On one (34) she was playing in the garden after sunset when her brother jumped out at her in the dark from behind a tree. But (35) than making her run away (36) fear, her brother's prank triggered in her a condition of "fearless living", without anyone or anything being able to ever frighten her.

Soon Sarah attracted the attention of scientists who wanted to find the roots of her fearlessness in order to develop therapies for other people to overcome stressful situations. First, they (37) her courage to the test by showing her tarantulas and deadly snakes; they took her to a haunted house tourist attraction said to be "one of the scariest places on Earth" – nothing could scare her. (38) others taking the tour startled or screamed at the strange noises, creepy music and spooky scenes featuring actors dressed as murderers, monsters and ghosts, Sarah only smiled and laughed.

Throughout all of these "scary tests", doctors scanned Sarah's brain and finally (39) out that the region, responsible for risk assessment in healthy people, was not functioning properly. Doctors announced that this could be the key to making anyone else brave and calm in any frightening situation.

Yet Sarah was not happy to have helped scientists reach this conclusion. For every healthy person a life without fear might seem like bliss, but for Sarah the lack of a sense of risk has made her vulnerable to all sorts of dangers. And when doctors asked her what she would say to someone who wanted to be like her, (40) their surprise she said: "I wouldn't wish it even upon my worst enemy."

31.	A) undoing	B) uncovering	C) displaying	D) detecting
32.	A) able	B) bound	C) capable	D) inclined
33.	A) distant	B) past	C) apart	D) far
34.	A) case	B) time	C) occasion	D) opportunity
35.	A) no sooner	B) better	C) no more	D) rather
36.	A) in	B) with	C) from	D) of
37.	A) laid	B) put	C) placed	D) posed
38.	A) While	B) Unlike	C) During	D) In contrast
39.	A) realized	B) discovered	C) understood	D) found
40.	A) for	B) in	C) to	D) at

41. That day Hansel and Gretel were all alone in the thick forest.

- A) remained B) left C) stayed D) stood

42. Chemistry is the most difficult subject for most high school students.

- A) as far B) too far C) by far D) very far

43. According to belief, the herbs picked on this day before sunrise have magic healing powers.

- A) ordinary B) usual C) typical D) popular

44. The police have finally identified the people in the bank robbery last Friday night.
 A) concerned B) involved C) included D) contained
45. Today working parents spend less time with their teenage children, which greatly contributes to a widening of the generation
 A) gap B) space C) distance D) split

Section Two: Sentence Completion

Directions: For each of the sentences below, choose the letter (A, B, C or D) of the word or phrase that best completes its meaning, marking your answers on your answer sheet.

46. He all his money from the bank and went to live abroad.
 A) had been withdrawn B) was withdrawn C) withdrew
 D) was withdrawing
47. She objected on weekends without receiving double payment.
 A) to working B) to been working C) having worked D) being working
48. The students have shown remarkable improvement since on-line resources to them for additional reading.
 A) had recommended B) have been recommended C)
 recommended D) were recommended
49. He knew a lot about famous painters, at first made me think that he is a well-educated man.
 A) who B) which C) that D) whom
50. It is astonishing that scientists have recently found evidence of water on Mars.
 A) so clear B) such a clear C) such clear D) so clear an

Section Three: Sentence Transformations

Directions: On your sheet for open-ended answers complete the second sentence so that it is as close as possible in meaning to the first one.

51. Oh, no! It's not possible! They haven't eaten all that food! (Use a modal verb.)
 They
52. Because we missed the 10:30 train, we arrived too late for the beginning of the meeting.
 If we
53. They are building a new school in my neighbourhood.
 A new school

54. **It seems that culinary tourism is turning into a key factor for the economic development of many Asian countries.**
Culinary tourism
55. **They had not slept the previous night. Still, they managed to win the competition.**
Despite
56. **Georges asked me: "Do you want me to meet you at the airport tomorrow?"**
My friend asked me
57. **The ad said that if I didn't succeed in losing weight, I would get my money back.**
The ad said that if I fail
58. **The team should be generously paid for the successfully completed project. The team deserves**
59. **It is quite pointless to buy all those newspapers if you can read them on-line.**
There is no
60. **The students were allowed to use a dictionary while they were taking the test. The professor let**

PART FOUR: WRITING

Directions: *On your sheet for open-ended answers write a text in standard English of about 160-170 words on ONE of the following topics. When you write your text, make sure you DO NOT include in it any personal names or give any information about your school, town, etc. Write the topic you have chosen on your answer sheet.*

1. Fortune favours the bold.

People who have the courage to go after what they want are more successful than people who try to live safely. Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Use reasons and specific examples to support your opinion.

2. You are asked to support the building of **ONLY ONE** of three facilities in the place where you live: **a public library, a shopping mall, or a sports centre**. Make your choice and explain why it would be important for the local people to have it (and why the other two options would be less useful).

Mind that if you submit two texts as well as in case of indecent language, plagiarism, identical texts or if your composition is under 80 words or totally unrelated to the chosen topic, it will get 0 points.

