

# LANGUAGE

TIME : 39 Minutes

This is a practice test - the results are not valid for certificate requirements.

**For Numbers 1 through 3, decide which punctuation mark, if any, is needed in the sentence.**

1. While I knitted Aliza studied and watched TV.

A !                      B .                      C ,                      D None

2. When you come, bring old clothes

F .                      G ,                      H !                      J None

3. Look closely at the ceiling Harry.

A .                      B ,                      C !                      D None

**Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence.**

4. The rake is hers, not \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. they
- B. theirs
- C. they're
- D. there's

5. The mechanic plugged up the hole in my tire \_\_\_\_\_ than I could have.

- F. more skilled
- G. more skillful
- H. more skillfully
- J. the most skilled

6. By the time we got there, the show \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. begins
- B. is beginning
- C. will begin
- D. had begun

**Choose the sentence that is written correctly and be sure the sentence you choose shows the correct capitalization and punctuation is complete.**

- 7. A. Never dig out nails with a screwdriver.
- B. With a screwdriver for digging out nails.
- C. Never digging out nails with a screwdriver.
- D. The screwdriver used for digging out nails.

- 8. A. A straw hat and sunglasses.
- B. Wearing a straw hat and sunglasses.
- C. Mira wears a straw hat and sunglasses she goes to the beach.
- D. When Mira goes to the beach, she wears a straw hat and sunglasses.

9. F. I won't never leave the house at any time.  
G. I refuse to go outside the house today.  
H. Going outside the house a full and complete disaster.  
J. I don't got to leave the house and go outside today.
10. A. Yesterday, I spent all day preparing Thanksgiving dinner.  
B. I, alone, prepared Thanksgiving dinner yesterday, without any help.  
C. I cooked all day yesterday, for hours, to prepare Thanksgiving dinner.  
D. It done took me hours to prepare Thanksgiving dinner yesterday.
11. A. I fell on that slippery porch and bruised my tailbone.  
B. By falling on that slippery porch and bruising my tailbone.  
C. The slippery porch that I fell on and bruised my tailbone.  
D. That porch is slippery I fell on it and bruised my tailbone.
12. F. Kirsten drawing a strange postcard.  
G. Kirsten drew that strange postcard.  
H. The strange postcard drawn by Kirsten.  
J. Kirsten drew that postcard it is strange.
13. A. Haunted by the friends I knew in my youth.  
B. Being haunted by the friends I knew in my youth.  
C. I knew friends in my youth they keep haunting me.  
D. The friends that I knew in my youth keep haunting me.
14. F. Neil and I are starting a business together.  
G. A business started by Neil and me together.  
H. Neil and I are starting a business we will run it together.  
J. It will be a new business Neil and I will run together.
15. F. I'd like to go to the party, but I just can't.  
G. I want and desire to go to the party, but I just can't go.  
H. I want to go, but it is impossible for me to come and I just can't make it.  
J. The party sounds like a nice and pleasant thing to do, but I can't make it.
16. A. I occasionally like to bake every now and then.  
B. Whenever I bake, I feel relaxed and not tense at all.  
C. I find that baking in the oven can be a relaxing pastime.  
D. When I am tense, I often find that baking helps me relax.

17. \_\_\_\_\_ . There are already more stores here than the neighborhood can support. Another shopping mall would create traffic problems. Besides, the only land left on which to build a shopping mall is Tinley Park, and that park is something we really need.
- A. This neighborhood doesn't need another shopping mall.
  - B. Many people in this neighborhood use and enjoy Tinley Park.
  - C. Shopping malls give people a safe and warm place to exercise in winter.
  - D. We should support local merchants by shopping in our own neighborhoods.
18. \_\_\_\_\_ . They must choose between financial independence and the Kodiak bear. The Aleuts own much of the bear's habitat. But if they want to live without government aid, the Aleuts may have to develop that land. Such development would endanger the bears.
- F. Kodiak bears are huge.
  - G. The Aleutian people of Alaska must make a difficult choice.
  - H. Buying land is one of the best investments a person can ever make.
  - J. The wildlife in Alaska is a national treasure we all should fight to protect.
19. When rubber was first discovered, it couldn't be used much because it would soften in the summer and crumble in the winter. \_\_\_\_\_. The burnt mixture stayed elastic in all weather. Goodrich became a millionaire selling his invention.
- A. Indians in the Amazon rain forest first discovered rubber.
  - B. Rubber is so named because it can be used to rub out pencil marks.
  - C. Then B. F. Goodrich accidentally burned a pot of rubber, lead, and sulfur.
  - D. Synthetic rubbers have been invented, but natural rubber is still widely used today.

**Read the underlined sentences. Then choose the sentence that best combines those sentences into one.**

20. I want to take a vacation.

I don't have enough money to take a vacation.

- F. Taking a vacation. I don't have enough money for it.
- G. I want to take a vacation, but I don't have enough money.
- H. Not having enough money for it, I want to take a vacation.
- J. I want a vacation, but I don't have enough money to take a vacation, so I won't take one.

21. This sweater is too expensive for me.

These pants are too expensive for me.

- A. This sweater and these pants are it.
- B. This sweater and these pants are for me.
- C. This sweater and these pants are too expensive for me.
- D. This sweater is too expensive and these pants are too expensive, for me.

22. I ate a box of chocolates.

Then I got sick.

- F. I got sick and ate a box of chocolates.
- G. Getting sick, I ate a box of chocolates.
- H. I ate a box of chocolates and got sick.
- J. Eating a box of chocolates, I was the one who got sick.

23. Carmen gave me a calculator.

I used it.

It eventually broke.

- A. Carmen gave me a broken calculator, which I used.
- B. Having broken, I used the calculator that Carmen gave me.
- C. I used the calculator that Carmen gave me, but eventually it broke.
- D. Carmen gave me a calculator, and I used it, and then it eventually broke.

24. It takes many bees to make a bit of honey. First, foraging bees gather nectar from flowers. \_\_\_\_\_ . The nectar turns to honey as it is passed from bee to bee inside the hive.

- F. Bees use honey as a food in winter.
- G. The honey is then stored in wax cells.
- H. Beekeepers sell both the honey and the wax.
- J. Then they bring the nectar back to the hive.

25. If you have to patch a bicycle tire on the road, follow three steps. First buff the area around the hole with sandpaper. \_\_\_\_\_ . Wait for the glue to dry, and then apply the patch.

- A. You will need sandpaper, glue, and a patch.
- B. Apply a thin, even coat of glue to the buffed area.
- C. To find the hole, put the tire under water and look for a stream of bubbles.
- D. Before going on your way, examine the patch carefully to make sure it is secure.

26. \_\_\_\_\_. Plastics are made from petroleum derivatives. Soaps and waxes are refined from petroleum. Many synthetic fabrics, such as polyester, are made from oil. Even certain medicines and food additives are processed from oil.

- F. Petroleum products have hundreds of uses.
- G. Of course, most fuels and lubricants are made from petroleum.
- H. It's sometimes surprising to learn what exactly you are putting into your mouth.
- J. Petroleum, or crude oil, forms over thousands of years as dead plants and animals decay.

**Read the underlined sentences. Then choose the sentence that best combines those sentences into one.**

27. It snowed last night.

I had to shovel the snow.

I had to get up early to do it.

- F. Having snowed. I had to get up early to shovel.
- G. I had to get up early to shovel the snow that fell last night.
- H. It snowed last night, which I had to get up early to shovel.
- J. It snowed last night, so I had to shovel the snow, so I had to get up early.

28. Emmitt and Hope plan to go to New York.

Emmitt and Hope plan to share a car on their trip.

- A. Emmitt and Hope plan to share New York in a car.
- B. Emmitt and Hope plan to share a car on their trip to New York.
- C. Going to New York, and sharing a car there, those are Emmitt and Hope's plans.
- D. Planning to go to New York and sharing a car, Emmitt and Hope are sharing a trip.

29. I went home last month.

I went to visit my grandmother.

Grandmother is ill.

- F. I went home to visit my grandmother, who was ill last month.
- G. Being ill. I went home last month to visit my grandmother.
- H. I went home last month to visit my grandmother, who is ill.
- J. To visit my grandmother. I went home last month because she is ill.

30. We bought a dog.

We adopted a cat.

The cat was a stray.

- A. The cat that we adopted was a stray.
- B. Adopting the cat, our dog was a stray.
- C. Buying a dog, we adopted a stray cat.
- D. We bought a dog and adopted a stray cat.

31. During the 1980s, hundreds of skeletons were discovered in Chile. Experts were brought in to identify the dead. They compared DNA from the bones with DNA from persons whose relatives had disappeared. \_\_\_\_\_ .
- A. DNA is used to store the blueprint, or the plan, for a body.
  - B. The former government of Chile was blamed for the killings.
  - C. Chile is an isolated country on the west coast of South America.
  - D. When the DNA was found to be similar, the experts knew from whom the bones had come.
32. Life insurance is a good idea for people with families. It helps ensure that the family's standard of living does not change drastically if a wage earner dies.
- F. As a result, most couples without children don't have enough insurance.
  - G. Finally, the two basic kinds of life insurance are term and whole-life.
  - H. For example, some life insurance policies can provide savings for college tuition.
  - J. However, certain hobbies can make getting life insurance difficult.
33. In 1992, the U.S. duck population declined more drastically than it had since the 1930s. This decline was especially worrisome to environmentalists because the duck population has traditionally been used to indicate the population of U.S. wildlife in general. \_\_\_\_\_ .
- A. As a result, most endangered species suffer from loss of habitat.
  - B. Nevertheless, every year scientists estimate the number of wild ducks living in the United States.
  - C. In other words, when there are fewer ducks, scientists assume that many other species are probably in trouble, too.
  - D. On the other hand, there's a lot of talk today about disappearing wildlife, but not every endangered species disappears.
34. Gas stations often charge less for auto maintenance than car dealers do. \_\_\_\_\_ . Otherwise, you could lose some of the protection provided by your car warranty.
- F. Therefore, ask people you know to recommend a good mechanic.
  - G. Even so, certain dealers will wash your car after they change the oil.
  - H. However, if you use a gas station for auto maintenance, keep careful records of the work its service people do.
  - J. Consequently, if you don't perform routine maintenance on your car, such as periodic oil changes, certain conditions of your warranty may no longer be in effect.



**For Numbers 35 through 36, read the paragraph. Then choose the sentence that does not belong in the paragraph.**

**35.** 1. When we first opened this restaurant, a lot of people complained about cold food. 2. The restaurant opened in 1988. 3. Then we started ringing a bell whenever an order was ready. 4. Now customers rarely grumble about cold food.

- A. Sentence 1
- B. Sentence 2
- C. Sentence 3
- D. Sentence 4

**36.** 1. There are several basic things you need to cook Chinese food. 2. Most Chinese food must be cooked in a special pan called a *wok*. 3. Soy sauce and cornstarch are needed for most Chinese recipes. 4. Chinese food is tasty and nutritious.

- F. Sentence 1
- G. Sentence 2
- H. Sentence 3
- J. Sentence 4

**For Numbers 37 through 41 read the passage and look at the numbered, underlined parts. Choose the answer that is written correctly for each underlined part.**

37. Just as I do, my son, Jamal, tends to overstate things. As a result, he's made  
38. some pretty humorous statements. he made his funniest exaggeration after  
39. crying to climb the trellis on the front porch of the house on baker street. Debbie  
and Kim were in their teens then, and they had started demanding privacy  
40. around the Family, especially their Brother. Jamal couldn't resist using this  
41. against the girls. He waited until the morning of easter Sunday, when he knew  
they would take a long time to dress. Then he tried to climb up the trellis and  
scare them by looking into their bedroom window. The trellis broke, of course,  
and Jamal skinned his leg pretty badly when he fell. When Jamal saw the blood,  
his eyes got big, and he yelled, "somebody, please help me! ... I'm  
unconscious!"

37. F. My Son, Jamal,  
G. my Son, Jamal,  
H. my son, jamal,  
J. Correct as it is

38. A. humorous statements. He  
B. Humorous Statements. he  
C. humorous Statements. he  
D. Correct as it is

39. F. Front Porch of the house on  
baker street.  
G. front porch of the House on  
Baker Street.  
H. front porch of the house on  
Baker Street.  
J. Correct as it is

40. A. the Family, especially their  
Brother.  
B. The Family, especially their  
Brother.  
C. the family, especially their  
brother.  
D. Correct as it is

41. F. the Morning of Easter Sunday.  
G. the morning of Easter Sunday.  
H. the morning of easter Sunday.  
J. Correct as it is

Choose the answer that best develops the topic sentence.

42. Certain jobs expose people to disease.
- A. Health-care workers come in contact with a lot of sick people. Daycare workers and teachers are exposed to diseases by sick children.
  - B. Many contagious diseases can be cured with antibiotics. Antibiotics have revolutionized medicine and saved millions of lives.
  - C. People with rats and insects in their homes can contract diseases from these pests. Many children get lead poisoning from peeling paint.
  - D. People once thought that disease was caused by spirits and an imbalance in bodily fluids. Modern doctors now focus on microbes and physical flaws in the body.
43. All kinds of people square dance.
- F. Most of us think of square dancing as a traditional American art. However, it comes from old English dances.
  - G. Square dancing takes some training, but it is very easy to learn. Once you know the calls, you can do any dance without rehearsing.
  - H. Professional square dancers wear elaborate costumes. They often combine square dancing with another dance form called *clogging*.
  - J. Square dancing is very popular among retirees. Many singles have discovered that square dancing is a good way to meet people.

Read the paragraph. Then choose the sentence that does not belong in the paragraph.

44. 1. I just love Kia's new babysitter. 2. Kia is a very bright child. 3. The babysitter takes Kia for a walk every day. 4. She also gets Kia involved in art and music projects.
- A. Sentence 1
  - B. Sentence 2
  - C. Sentence 3
  - D. Sentence 4
45. 1. Men and women use doctors differently. 2. Women see their doctors more often than men do. 3. Medicine has made great advances in the last century. 4. Men often put off seeing their doctors until their medical problems are extremely serious.
- F. Sentence 1
  - G. Sentence 2
  - H. Sentence 3
  - T. Sentence 4

**For Numbers 46 through 50 read the passage and the letter and look at the numbered, underlined parts. Choose the answer that is written correctly for each underlined part.**

46. Spider webs seem weak and fragile, but it is made of strong stuff. In fact,  
47. spider silk is more stronger than any other known natural fiber. Some scientists  
think it may be strong enough to use in bulletproof vests. Unfortunately, until  
48. recently, there were no way to get more than a tiny bit of spider silk at one time,  
49. so it wasn't practical to use spider silk for nothing. In the past decade, however,  
50. scientists have developed new techniques what may soon make it possible to  
produce synthetic spider silk. If that happens, the silk can be used in hundreds of  
products.

46. A. it's  
B. it's been  
C. they are  
D. Correct as it is

47. F. stronger  
G. more strongest  
H. more strongly  
I. Correct as it is

48. A. there is  
B. there was  
C. there be  
D. Correct as it is

49. F. it weren't practical to use spider  
silk for nothing.  
G. to use spider silk for nothing  
wasn't practical.  
H. it wasn't practical to use spider  
silk for anything.  
J. Correct as it is

50. A. who  
B. that  
C. whose  
D. Correct as it is

For Numbers 51 through 55 read the letter and the passage and look at the numbered, underlined parts. Choose the answer that is written correctly for each underlined part.

51. December 12, 1997

Mr. Luis Rivera

52. po box 308, Route 42

53. Shady Grove, Indiana 94206

54. dear Mr. Rivera:

I have received your letter about the radio you bought at Best Stores. I am very sorry you are not happy with it. Before February, please bring it to the

55. Best Store closest to you. We'll refund your money. Please bring this letter with you.

Sincerely,  
*Jackie Romano*  
Jackie Romano  
Manager, Best Stores, Inc.

51. F. December 12 1997  
G. 12 december 1997  
H. December, 12 1997  
J. Correct as it is

54. A. Mr. Rivera:  
B. Dear Mr. Rivera,  
C. Dear Mr. Rivera:  
D. Correct as it is

52. A. PO box 308.  
B. P.O. Box 308.  
C. Box 308.  
D. Correct as it is

55. F. We'll refund you're money.  
G. We'll refund your money.  
H. We'll refund your money.  
J. Correct as it is

53. F. Shady Grove Indiana 94206  
G. Shady. Grove Indiana 94206  
H. Shady Grove. Indiana. 94206  
J. Correct as it is



## ANSWER KEY

- |       |       |
|-------|-------|
| 1. C  | 29. H |
| 2. F  | 30. D |
| 3. B  | 31. D |
| 4. B  | 32. H |
| 5. H  | 33. C |
| 6. D  | 34. H |
| 7. A  | 35. B |
| 8. D  | 36. J |
| 9. G  | 37. J |
| 10. A | 38. A |
| 11. A | 39. H |
| 12. G | 40. C |
| 13. D | 41. G |
| 14. F | 42. A |
| 15. F | 43. J |
| 16. D | 44. B |
| 17. A | 45. H |
| 18. G | 46. C |
| 19. C | 47. F |
| 20. G | 48. B |
| 21. C | 49. H |
| 22. H | 50. B |
| 23. C | 51. J |
| 24. J | 52. B |
| 25. B | 53. J |
| 26. F | 54. C |
| 27. G | 55. G |
| 28. B |       |