

YEAR 10 ENGLISH SELF ASSESSMENT TEST



“Test yourself or your child at home, and reach out to us only if you need extra help. Otherwise, give yourself or your child a pat on the back and best of luck for the future!”

Instructions: Choose the **best answer** for each question. Some questions may have options that seem correct, select the **most accurate** one.

Language & Vocabulary

1.

Which word best replaces “shows” in a formal essay?

- A. Shows
- B. Demonstrates
- C. Points
- D. Tells

☞ Consider formality and academic tone.

2.

Which word has the **most negative connotation**?

- A. Confident
- B. Assertive
- C. Arrogant
- D. Determined

☞ Connotation refers to emotional meaning.

3.

The word “*inevitable*” most nearly means:

- A. Avoidable
- B. Certain to happen
- C. Unexpected
- D. Temporary

☞ Think about certainty in meaning.

4.

Which sentence uses vocabulary most suited to an analytical essay?

- A. The idea is really good.
- B. The idea is pretty strong.
- C. The idea is highly effective.
- D. The idea is kind of useful.

☞ Look for precise and formal language.

5.

Which word best replaces “*big problem*”?

- A. Large issue
- B. Major concern
- C. Huge thing
- D. Massive trouble

☞ Academic writing avoids vague phrasing.

Figurative Language & Techniques

6.

“The classroom was a battlefield during the debate” is an example of:

- A. Simile
- B. Metaphor
- C. Hyperbole
- D. Personification

☞ Look for direct comparison.

7.

Which technique is used in “*This policy will destroy our future*”?

- A. Statistics
- B. Emotive language
- C. Inclusive language
- D. Irony

☞ *Identify emotional appeal.*

8.

“The silence screamed louder than words” is an example of:

- A. Irony
- B. Oxymoron
- C. Alliteration
- D. Onomatopoeia

☞ *Contradictory ideas may appear together.*

9.

Which sentence uses **personification**?

- A. The alarm clock yelled at me.
- B. The alarm clock was loud.
- C. The alarm clock rang loudly.
- D. The alarm clock worked well.

☞ *Non-human objects are given human traits.*

10.

Which technique is most effective in persuasive writing?

- A. Rhetorical question
- B. Dialogue
- C. Description
- D. Narration

☞ *Think about reader engagement.*

Sentence Structure & Grammar

11.

Which sentence is **compound-complex**?

- A. I finished my work.
- B. I finished my work and relaxed.
- C. Because I finished my work, I relaxed.
- D. Because I finished my work, I relaxed, and I watched TV.

☞ *Count independent and dependent clauses.*

12.

Which sentence is grammatically correct?

- A. Everyone have their own opinion.
- B. Everyone has their own opinion.
- C. Everyone have his opinion.
- D. Everyone has their opinions.

☞ *Check subject–verb agreement.*

13.

Which sentence uses commas correctly?

- A. However the results were unexpected.
- B. However, the results were unexpected.
- C. However the results, were unexpected.
- D. However the, results were unexpected.

☞ *Transitions often need commas.*

14.

Which sentence is written in **passive voice**?

- A. The author wrote the novel.
- B. The novel was written by the author.
- C. The author is writing the novel.
- D. The novel writes about society.

☞ *Look for "was/were + past participle".*

15.

Which sentence avoids ambiguity?

- A. The teacher told the student she was late.
- B. The teacher told the student that the student was late.
- C. The teacher told her student late.
- D. The teacher was late to the student.

☞ *Clarity is essential in formal writing.*

Reading Comprehension & Inference

16.

From "*He reread the message several times before responding,*" we infer that he is:

- A. Confident
- B. Nervous
- C. Angry
- D. Distracted

☞ *Inference relies on behaviour.*

17.

A character who frequently lies to protect others is best described as:

- A. Dishonest
- B. Selfish
- C. Manipulative
- D. Complex

☞ *Characters can have mixed traits.*

18.

If a text presents both advantages and disadvantages, it is:

- A. Biased
- B. One-sided
- C. Balanced
- D. Emotional

☞ *Look for fairness in presentation.*

19.

Which theme is suggested by constant conflict between generations?

- A. Freedom
- B. Identity
- C. Tradition vs change
- D. Friendship

☞ *Themes are broader ideas.*

20.

An unreliable narrator most affects:

- A. Plot length
- B. Setting accuracy
- C. Reader trust
- D. Sentence structure

☞ *Consider how narration shapes understanding.*

Cohesion & Writing Skills

21.

Choose the best connector:

The argument is logical; _____, it lacks evidence.

- A. therefore
- B. similarly
- C. however
- D. consequently

☞ *Contrast words are key.*

22.

Which sentence is most cohesive?

- A. The experiment failed. Results were noted.
- B. The experiment failed, results were noted.
- C. The experiment failed; however, results were noted.
- D. The experiment failed however results were noted.

☞ *Punctuation and connectors matter.*

23.

Which sentence best suits an analytical paragraph?

- A. This proves the author is wrong.
- B. This kind of shows the author is wrong.
- C. This evidence suggests the author's argument is flawed.
- D. The author is totally wrong here.

☞ *Academic tone avoids emotion.*

24.

Which is the strongest topic sentence?

- A. This paragraph is about themes.
- B. The theme is important.
- C. One significant theme explored is power and control.
- D. Themes exist in the text.

☞ *Topic sentences should be specific.*

25.

Which sentence avoids repetition?

- A. The novel is interesting and interesting themes are explored.
- B. The novel is interesting and it explores interesting ideas.
- C. The novel is engaging and explores complex themes.
- D. The novel is interesting because it is interesting.

☞ *Vary vocabulary for sophistication.*

Argument & Critical Thinking

26.

Which sentence shows **high modality**?

- A. This might be effective.
- B. This could be effective.
- C. This should be effective.
- D. This will be effective.

☞ *Modality shows certainty.*

27.

Which statement best supports a **balanced argument**?

- A. This is the only correct view.
- B. Some may argue otherwise; however, evidence suggests...
- C. Everyone agrees with this idea.
- D. There is no alternative.

☞ *Acknowledging opposing views strengthens arguments.*

28.

Which persuasive technique appeals to logic?

- A. Emotive language
- B. Rhetorical questions
- C. Statistics
- D. Personal anecdote

☞ *Think facts and reasoning.*

29.

Which sentence is most suitable as a conclusion?

- A. That's why this topic is interesting.
- B. In conclusion, this essay talked about stuff.
- C. Overall, the evidence highlights the complexity of the issue.
- D. I hope you liked this essay.

☞ *Conclusions summarise and reinforce ideas.*

30.

Which sentence best reflects **critical thinking**?

- A. The text is good.
- B. The text is bad.
- C. The text effectively conveys its message, although some flaws remain.
- D. Everyone should like the text.

☞ *Critical thinking recognises strengths and weaknesses.*