

Question 1: Which reading strategy best helps when approaching a dense scholarly article for the first time?

- a) Skim abstract, headings, and conclusion to get main claims before deep reading
- b) Read start to finish without stopping once
- c) Memorize every sentence on first pass
- d) Read only footnotes

Question 2: Choose the word that is a correct near-synonym for “abysmal”:

- a) excellent
- b) dire
- c) ambiguous
- d) trivial

Question 3: A student writing a persuasive op-ed uses only anecdotal evidence. What is the primary weakness?

- a) Strong generalizability is lacking due to low evidentiary weight of anecdotes
- b) Anecdotes are always the strongest evidence
- c) Anecdotes suffice if the writer is charismatic
- d) Anecdotes are statistically representative

Question 4: Which grammatical construction uses the infinitive correctly?

- a) She advised to leave early.
- b) She advised him to leave early.
- c) She advised that to leave early.
- d) She advised leave early.

Question 5: Which element is least relevant in a literature appreciation answering “How does narrative voice shape meaning?”

- a) Point of view and reliability of narrator
- b) Language choices and tone
- c) Publication date only for chronology, not textual effect
- d) Internal focalization and distance

Question 6: Select the best collocation to use in a formal review:

- a) Vast majority
- b) Big majority
- c) Huge majorityly
- d) Large majorityful

Question 7: A student is revising an essay and finds passive voice used extensively. In which situation is passive voice most justified?

- a) When the actor is unknown or unimportant and the focus is on the action or result
- b) Always; active voice is never acceptable
- c) To make sentences longer for style only
- d) When the student wants to avoid clarity

Question 8: Which sentence shows correct punctuation of restrictive v/s. non-restrictive clauses?

- a) Students who study regularly, perform better.
- b) Students who study regularly perform better.
- c) Students, who study regularly perform better.
- d) Students who study regularly; perform better.

Question 9: Which resource is best when improving pronunciation and public speaking delivery?

- a) Phonetic dictionaries and practice with recordings
- b) A thesaurus only
- c) A rhyme dictionary
- d) A grammar book exclusively

Question 10: An exam prompt asks for “critical analysis.” Which response best fits the command?

- a) Describe, interpret, evaluate evidence and assumptions, and argue a reasoned judgment.
- b) Provide a plot summary only.
- c) List quotes without commentary.
- d) Copy web reviews.

Question 11: Which word pair is an example of antonym?

- a) Complementary — supplementary
- b) Rudimentary — advanced
- c) Benevolent — kind
- d) Diligent — industrious

Question 12: Choose the best revision for improved concision: “In the event that the participants failed, the study protocol would be paused.”

- a) If participants failed, the protocol would be paused.
- b) In the event participants failed, due to circumstances, it would be paused.
- c) Should failure occur, the study would, maybe, be paused?
- d) If by chance participants failed maybe protocol pause.

Question 13: You are preparing for a public speech and expect hostile questions. Which strategy best readies you?

- a) Anticipate counterarguments, prepare calm evidence-based replies, and rehearse Q&A.
- b) Avoid attending the Q&A entirely.
- c) Attack questioners verbally.
- d) Refuse to answer any question.

Question 14: Which literary technique best creates irony when words mean the opposite of their literal sense?

- a) Irony
- b) Metaphor only
- c) Onomatopoeia
- d) Alliteration

Question 15: Choose the correct collocation in academic writing:

- a) Conduct research
- b) Make research
- c) Do a research
- d) Create researches

Question 16: Which sentence displays hedging appropriate for scholarly claims?

- a) The evidence clearly proves X without doubt.
- b) The evidence suggests that X may be associated with Y.
- c) X is always true for everyone.
- d) There is no chance X is true.

Question 17: A student writes a literary paragraph that lacks textual support. What is the most constructive revision?

- a) Incorporate specific quotations or close paraphrase and interpret them to support the point.
- b) Remove the paragraph entirely.
- c) Insert unrelated statistics.
- d) Add longer vocabulary words to sound scholarly.

Question 18: Choose the option that best describes connotation of the word “childlike” versus “childish.”

- a) Childlike = innocent/positive; Childish = immature/negative
- b) Both mean the same positively
- c) Childlike = negative; Childish = positive
- d) Both neutral

Question 19: Which rhetorical device is used in the sentence: “She sells seashells by the seashore”?

- a) Alliteration
- b) Metonymy
- c) Simile
- d) Hyperbole

Question 20: A research paper’s methodology section lacks detail on sampling. What is the most likely critique from reviewers?

- a) Replicability is compromised due to insufficient methodological transparency.
- b) The language is too fancy.
- c) The literature review is missing.
- d) The references are too many.

Question 21: Which type of paragraph development is most suitable for explaining a process?

- a) Sequence or process paragraph with transitional markers
- b) Descriptive only with no order
- c) Compare/contrast only
- d) Argumentative only

Question 22: Select the correct sentence with parallel structure:

- a) The study aims to analyse data, reporting results, and to recommend changes.
- b) The study aims to analyse data, report results, and recommend changes.
- c) The study aims analysing, to report, and recommends.
- d) The study aims to analysing data, reporting results, and recommending changes.

Question 23: During a seminar a presenter notices cross-cultural misunderstanding of idioms. Which adaptation improves clarity?

- a) Use plain language and provide equivalent explanations rather than idioms.
- b) Keep idioms and assume listeners will infer.
- c) Use more idioms to teach culture.
- d) Speak faster.

Question 24: Which dictionary type is most useful for understanding register, collocation, and example sentences?

- a) Learner's monolingual dictionary with corpus examples
- b) Bilingual word list only
- c) Rhyming dictionary
- d) Picture dictionary

Question 25: Choose the word that is a phrasal verb and indicate formal alternatives: "carry out"

- a) execute / conduct
- b) carry / out
- c) move outside
- d) bring to

Question 26: An oral delivery uses prolonged eye contact with one audience member only. Which effect occurs?

- a) Alienates others and reduces connection with broader audience; distribute eye contact.
- b) Ensures all audience members are equally engaged.
- c) Guarantees positive rapport with everyone.
- d) Has no effect.

Question 27: Which sentence best demonstrates correct use of colon in formal writing?

- a) She brought three items: a pen, a notebook, and confidence.
- b) She brought three items a pen: a notebook and confidence.
- c) She brought: three items, a pen, a notebook and confidence.
- d) She brought three items; a pen, a notebook, and confidence.

Question 28: Which choice best defines semantic shift?

- a) A word's meaning changing over time
- b) The process of printing books
- c) Syntactic reordering of sentences
- d) Punctuation evolution

Question 29: A literature student interprets a modernist text focusing on fragmentation. Which method fits this interpretation?

- a) Formalist or modernist critical lens focusing on structure and stylistic fragmentation.
- b) Biographical reading only.
- c) Ignore fragmentation.
- d) Focus exclusively on rhyme schemes.

Question 30: Which sentence demonstrates appropriate use of an em dash for emphasis?

- a) Three things mattered most—honesty, courage, and curiosity—above all.
- b) Three things mattered most— honesty courage and curiosity— above all.
- c) —Three things mattered most honesty, courage, and curiosity.
- d) Three—things—mattered—most honesty courage.

Question 31: Which of the following is a useful technique for building advanced vocabulary?

- a) Learning words in contextual phrases and through spaced repetition
- b) Memorizing long lists without context
- c) Only using a thesaurus for direct swaps
- d) Avoiding reading complex texts

Question 32: A student uses a contractions-heavy style in a formal essay. Which revision is appropriate?

- a) Replace contractions with full forms to maintain formal register.
- b) Keep contractions to sound friendly.
- c) Add more contractions for emphasis.
- d) Use text-message abbreviations instead.

Question 33: Which is the correct use of “affect” v/s. “effect”?

- a) The new policy will effect the community.
- b) The new policy will affect the community.
- c) Affect is always a noun.
- d) Effect is always a verb.

Question 34: A playwright uses stream-of-consciousness technique. Which reader response is most appropriate in analysis?

- a) Examine how interior monologue shapes character psychology and narrative time.
- b) Demand a linear plot summary only.
- c) Ignore stylistic choice.
- d) Translate into non-fiction.

Question 35: Choose the best revision for wordiness: “At this point in time, we are of the opinion that the results are significant.”

- a) We believe the results are significant.
- b) At this point in time we are of the opinion that the results might be significant.
- c) We are of the opinion at this point in time that results are significant.
- d) The results maybe significant at points in time.

Question 36: Which type of evidence is strongest for asserting causality in social sciences?

- a) Randomized controlled experiments (when ethical and feasible)
- b) Anecdotal testimonies only
- c) Cross-sectional correlation without controls
- d) Opinions

Question 37: A student gives a speech and uses frequent filler words (“um”, “you know”).

Which coaching tip is most helpful?

- a) Practice pausing silently and rehearsing with recording to reduce fillers.
- b) Increase fillers to appear casual.
- c) Speed up speech to hide fillers.
- d) Use filler words deliberately for emphasis.

Question 38: Which of the following is most accurate about theme v/s. motif in literature?

- a) Theme is the central idea; motif is a recurring element that supports theme.
- b) Motif and theme are identical.
- c) Motif always refers to rhyme.
- d) Theme is a minor detail.

Question 39: Which word is an appropriate academic substitute for “kids” in a research sentence?

- a) children
- b) kids
- c) youngsters
- d) kiddos

Question 40: Reviewer comments note a lack of coherence between paragraphs in a student essay. Which revision practice most improves coherence?

- a) Add effective topic sentences, transitional phrases, and logical sequencing of ideas.
- b) Combine all paragraphs into one long paragraph.
- c) Remove all topic sentences.
- d) Randomize paragraph order.

Question 41: Which term describes when a writer cites another’s idea but fails to acknowledge it properly?

- a) Plagiarism
- b) Paraphrase
- c) Attribution
- d) Citation

Question 42: Choose the sentence showing correct comparative adverb usage:

- a) She sings more beautifully than him.
- b) She sings more beautifully than he.
- c) She sings most beautifully than he.
- d) She sings beautifuler than he.

Question 43: A presenter uses an elaborate slide animation that distracts from content. What is the best revision?

- a) Simplify animations and ensure they support rather than distract from the message.
- b) Add more animations.
- c) Remove images only and leave text dense.
- d) Keep animations as proof of technical skill.

Question 44: Which of these best exemplifies an oxymoron?

- a) Deafening silence
- b) Fast turtle
- c) Bright darkness
- d) Loud whisper

Question 45: Which phrase demonstrates proper use of academic hedging?

- a) The results conclusively prove X.
- b) The findings suggest that X may be associated with Y.
- c) We know X is the only explanation.
- d) X is always true everywhere.

Question 46: In a literature exam, a student is asked to compare two poems. Which comparative strategy is most analytical?

- a) Compare theme, tone, form, imagery, and use of language with textual evidence and evaluate differences and similarities.
- b) Say both are good.
- c) Compare only the titles.
- d) Compare the authors' ages.

Question 47: Choose the correct verb form: "By the time the committee meets tomorrow, they _____ the report."

- a) will have reviewed
- b) will review
- c) would review
- d) have reviewed

Question 48: Which textbook feature is most useful for developing topic sentences and supporting evidence from the text?

- a) Marginal notes and highlighted examples
- b) Table of contents only
- c) ISBN number
- d) Cover art

Question 49: A peer reviewer notes that the paper's abstract contains new information not in the paper. What advice should the author follow?

- a) Ensure the abstract accurately reflects the paper's content and remove claims not supported by the full text.
- b) Keep the abstract as is; abstracts may contain anything.
- c) Make the main paper match the abstract by adding unsupported claims.
- d) Delete the abstract entirely.

Question 50: Which clause type is dependent and cannot stand alone?

- a) Subordinate clause
- b) Independent clause
- c) Main clause
- d) Free clause

Question 51: Which expression best replaces conversational "a lot of" in formal writing?

- a) many / a substantial number of / a considerable amount of (depending on countable/uncountable)
- b) a ton of
- c) heaps of
- d) lots and lots

Question 52: A student must deliver a 5-minute persuasive speech and is running short of time. Which technique preserves persuasive content?

- a) Focus on one strong claim with two supporting points and a clear conclusion.
- b) Attempt to cover five claims shallowly.
- c) Skip the conclusion and all examples.
- d) Repeat the introduction.

Question 53: Which sentence is punctuated correctly when introducing a quotation?

- a) The critic writes, “The poem challenges traditional norms.”
- b) The critic writes “the poem challenges traditional norms.”
- c) The critic writes: “the poem challenges traditional norms.”
- d) The critic writes “:The poem challenges traditional norms.”

Question 54: Which type of irony involves a contrast between expectation and reality that is understood by the audience but not the character?

- a) Dramatic irony
- b) Situational irony
- c) Verbal irony
- d) Cosmic irony

Question 55: An essay grading rubric emphasizes clarity and coherence. What revision is most likely to raise the clarity score?

- a) Reorganize paragraphs with clear topic sentences and explicit transitions; eliminate ambiguous sentences.
- b) Add more complex vocabulary regardless of clarity.
- c) Increase word count.
- d) Use more rhetorical questions.

Question 56: Which is the best technique for reducing syntactic ambiguity in a sentence?

- a) Rephrase using clearer word order and add punctuation if needed.
- b) Add additional ambiguous modifiers.
- c) Use multiple subordinate clauses to obscure meaning.
- d) Increase sentence length drastically.

Question 57: Which option best describes close reading?

- a) Detailed analysis of language, structure, form, and meaning of a short passage with attention to nuance
- b) Skimming chapters for general idea only
- c) Reading loudly to memorize lines
- d) Summarizing whole book in one sentence

Question 58: A student delivers a talk and shows confidence by speaking loudly but without varying pitch. Which feedback is most balanced?

- a) Good projection but add vocal variety (pitch, pace) and phrasing to enhance engagement.
- b) Speak even louder and never change pitch.
- c) Whisper to sound mysterious.
- d) Avoid projecting loudly.

Question 59: Which of the following is a feature of an academic research introduction?

- a) Context, gap in literature, research question, and brief outline of approach
- b) Only the results and conclusion
- c) A long anecdote unrelated to topic
- d) Only references list

Question 60: A student prepares for a literature viva and expects to be asked about symbolism. Which study method is most effective?

- a) Identify recurring symbols in the text, trace their development, and connect them to themes and historical context.
- b) Memorize every line of the text.
- c) Ignore symbols and focus on biographical trivia.
- d) Only learn plot points.

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