



DEFENCE FORCE RECRUITING

**Alternative Education
Equivalency Scheme (AEES)**

**YEAR 10
ENGLISH**

Practice Test

Version 01

Practice Test Instructions

1. There are 50 questions in this Practice test (and 50 questions in the final test).
2. There are four alternative answers marked A, B, C and D for every question.
3. Every question has only ONE correct answer.
4. Enter your answer selection on the answer sheet provided next to the question number.

Example:

Question 1. The correct spelling of the capital city of Australia is ...

- a. Cannberra.
- b. Canbirra.
- c. Canburau.
- d. Canberra.

The correct answer is Canberra which is printed next to **D**.

Enter 'D' on the Answer Sheet next to 'Question 1' as follows:

Question 1.	D
Question 2.	

5. Make sure you mark your answer against the corresponding question on the answer sheet provided, especially if you skip between questions.
6. Give yourself 30 minutes to complete the Practice Test (as there are 30 minutes in the final test). We suggest setting up a test environment and timing yourself so it's similar to the final test.
7. Do not waste time if you do not know the answer. Move on to the next question and if you have time at the end of the test, go back to the questions you skipped.
8. Work as quickly and accurately as you can.
9. To obtain an accurate result, **a dictionary and other resources or devices should NOT be used** for this Practice test.
10. After you finish the test, use the Answer Key provided to check your answers.
11. The score you achieve on the Practice test is an **indication** only of how you may perform on the final test.
12. The Practice test score cannot be used in place of sitting the final test.
13. The topics listed on the Answer Key can give you an indication of the areas you can improve.

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- Question 1** The following sentence has an error in punctuation. Which word should have a full-stop after it instead of a comma?
- That student, the one with the laptop, is working really hard, she should get an A+, or at least an A.
- student,
 - laptop,
 - hard,
 - A+,
- Question 2** Select the word that **correctly** completes the following sentence.
- Lee and I have decided that _____ going to come with you on the trip.
- where
 - we're
 - were
 - wear
- Question 3** Select the **correctly** spelt word.
- occurred
 - ocurred
 - occured
 - ocured
- Question 4** Which of the following words has an **incorrect** ending?
- impossible
 - incredible
 - invisible
 - incapible
- Question 5** Form a coherent sentence from the following jumbled sentence. Which section should come last?
- cook dinner / likes to / for me / my Mum
- cook dinner
 - likes to
 - for me
 - my Mum

Question 6 One of the following sentences contains an error in punctuation. Select the underlined word with the error.

Its easy to be wise after something bad has happened, like a house burning down because the owners wouldn't check their smoke alarms. Lots of people forget this small task.

- a. Its
- b. happened
- c. wouldn't
- d. lots

Question 7 Which option **best** combines the following two sentences into a **single** sentence?
I did not think that I would pass the test.

The teacher gave me an A+.

- a. I did not think that I would pass the test or the teacher gave me an A+.
- b. I did not think that I would pass the test but the teacher gave me an A+.
- c. I did not think that I would pass the test how the teacher gave me an A+.
- d. I did not think that I would pass the test why the teacher gave me an A+.

Question 8 Select the underlined word that is spelt **incorrectly**.

The public arguement caused excitement in the crowd, but the newspapers exaggerated what had been a fascinating debate.

- a. arguement
- b. excitement
- c. exaggerated
- d. fascinating

Question 9 Which of the following words uses the prefix 'dis' to form the opposite meaning?

- a. apply
- b. respect
- c. fortune
- d. caution

Question 10 In which sentence is the apostrophe (') used **incorrectly**?

- a. Her sister's all live close by.
- b. It wasn't fun being alone for so long.
- c. They're not coming tonight.
- d. The boy's bicycle was stolen.

Question 11 Which option **best** combines the following two sentences into a **single** sentence?

The fire was burning brightly.

Tom was adding more wood to keep it ablaze.

- a. However the fire was burning brightly, Tom was adding more wood to keep it ablaze.
- b. Tom was adding more wood to keep it ablaze near the fire was burning brightly.
- c. The fire was burning brightly until Tom was adding more wood to keep it ablaze.
- d. Although the fire was burning brightly, Tom was adding more wood to keep it ablaze.

Question 12 Which of the following sentences **correctly** uses a question mark?

- a. He never stops asking me that question?
- b. My email never works when I need it the most?
- c. I'm sure I'll be there on Saturday?
- d. Will you be going home today?

Question 13 Which option **best** combines the following two sentences into a **single** sentence?

The dog was tired.

He lay down by the fire.

- a. The dog was tired because he lay down by the fire.
- b. The dog was tired how he lay down by the fire.
- c. The dog was tired so he lay down by the fire.
- d. The dog was tired which he lay down by the fire.

Question 14 What is the tone of the following sentence?

“We knew you could do it!”

- a. bored
- b. praising
- c. curious
- d. complaining

Question 15 Select the word that **best** completes the following sentence.

With all the attention in the media these days, it’s hard to ignore the evidence that climate change _____ become one of the biggest problems of the century.

- a. was
- b. has
- c. did
- d. have

Question 16 Which sentence would be the best **end** to the following paragraph?

In the distance, the rumble of the thunder could be heard. Flashes of lightning lit up the sky and the temperature was dropping quickly. The wind shook the leaves from the trees.

- a. Overhead the stars were twinkling in the clear sky.
- b. The sky was blue above us and the sun shone brightly.
- c. The gathering storm clouds were dark and heavy.
- d. The grass swayed gently in the breeze.

Question 17 Which of the following is the **best** substitute for the underlined word?

As far as music is concerned, Robbie Williams has far exceeded what he could ever have achieved as part of a group.

- a. invented
- b. captured
- c. appreciated
- d. surpassed

Question 18 Which of the following is the **best** substitute for the underlined word?

Some habits are too entrenched to change.

- a. controlling
- b. defended
- c. established
- d. restricted

Question 19 Select the **correctly** spelt word.

- a. neccesary
- b. necessary
- c. necesary
- d. necessarry

Question 20 Select the **correctly** spelt word.

- a. seperate
- b. separate
- c. sepperate
- d. sepirate

Test continued on next page

Read the following passage and answer questions 21-29

The best problems are obvious and pressing. A problem that is daunting but gradual, and complex, is likely to induce worry and hopelessness, but little action.

So it is with the Earth's biodiversity problems. Species are being made extinct at an alarming rate. Half the world's species may be at risk as man destroys some habitats and pollutes others. But this problem is also gradual. The world is losing perhaps 1.8 percent of its forests each year, which is crippling the planet slowly but does not create a sense of immediate critical risk, necessary to drive action.

This rate of extinction, as quick as lightning in terms of the history of the planet, and as slow as old age creeps up on an individual human being, is one of the reasons why efforts to save the world's species have been so intermittent and feeble. But the predominant reason that our efforts have not been more concerted is our thoughtless attitude towards natural habitats and ecosystems that are devastated to meet the relentless economic and demographic forces: rising populations and the ruthless striving for higher living standards.

Question 21 Which of the following would be the **best title** for this passage?

- a. No Risk of Global Catastrophe
- b. Natural Habitats Threaten Rising Populations
- c. Ecosystems Under Threat
- d. How to Solve Problems

Question 22 Which of the following would be the **best** summary of this passage?

- a. Problems that develop suddenly are less likely to be solved.
- b. Natural habitats are being destroyed to save the world's species.
- c. The problems that the planet faces are not critical enough to take action.
- d. Species are threatened by mankind ruining the planet gradually.

Question 23 According to the writer, the Earth's greatest enemy is...

- a. thoughtlessness.
- b. worry.
- c. complexity.
- d. hopelessness.

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- Question 24** What is the **main** idea of the passage?
- a. Species are under threat of extinction at an alarming rate.
 - b. Man's individual lifetime is not long enough to solve the world's problems.
 - c. Natural habitats are causing problems for higher living standards.
 - d. Problems that are gradual and complex have no solution.
- Question 25** In the writer's opinion the best problems to resolve are those that are....
- a. clear and urgent
 - b. complex and challenging
 - c. serious and prolonged
 - d. feeble and thoughtless
- Question 26** The writer refers to "economic forces" which relate to...
- a. overcrowded and polluted cities.
 - b. pressures of increasing living standards.
 - c. problems that are daunting and pressing.
 - d. the history of the planet.
- Question 27** When the problem is **daunting** this means that the problem is..
- a. intimidating because of the complexity.
 - b. too complex to consider global action.
 - c. infrequent and not an immediate priority.
 - d. caused by unidentifiable factors.
- Question 28** The writer uses words such as **pressing, daunting, crisis** which reveals an attitude to the subject as one of...
- a. interest.
 - b. annoyance.
 - c. powerlessness.
 - d. seriousness.

Question 29 Which group of words best describes **feeble**?

- a. seldom and trivial
- b. weak and inadequate
- c. slow and irregular
- d. timid and uneasy

Question 30 The principal of a college has to make an announcement. Which of the following sentences should be announced **first**?

- a. The competition is open to all students in Australia.
- b. All entries must be submitted before the end of the month.
- c. The closing day for the competition has been postponed.
- d. This still leaves enough time for those who still wish to enter.

Question 31 Which of the following is the **best** opening sentence for the paragraph below?

Compared to abundant and accessible foods such as insects, grass or leaves, meat is scarce. So cats have to be well-equipped to locate their prey without being detected themselves.

- a. They can be sleek like the cheetah, or fluffy like a kitten.
- b. Cats are supremely well adapted at hunting for their meals.
- c. All cats have a similar build and they share certain feline traits.
- d. Regardless of species, all cats enjoy a sleep in a comfortable, sunny spot.

Question 32 Which of the following is grammatically **correct**?

- a. This is the woman who mother won the lottery last week.
- b. This is the woman whom mother won the lottery last week.
- c. This is the woman which mother won the lottery last week.
- d. This is the woman whose mother won the lottery last week.

Question 33 Which of the following words is **closest** in meaning to **ample**?

- a. affectionate
- b. precise
- c. substantial
- d. temperate

Question 34 Which group of words best describes a **desert**?

- a. fruitless, useless, futile, sterile
- b. unsound, inadequate, cracked, lame
- c. mouldy, musty, dusty, rancid
- d. uninhabited, desolate, infertile, barren

Question 35 Which underlined word is spelt **incorrectly** in the following sentence?

Like the wolf, there brains are larger than those of domestic dogs. Having a lot of brains requires a lot of education.

- a. there
- b. domestic
- c. requires
- d. education

Question 36 Select the underlined word that uses the comma **incorrectly**.

The hungry pair, who were clearly alerted, sniffed the air. Seeing the lion, the male crouched preparing, for the attack.

- a. pair,
- b. alerted,
- c. lion,
- d. preparing,

Question 37 Which of the following sentences uses the colon (:) **correctly**?

- a. Before we cook, we always: wash our hands and put a fresh apron on.
- b. On Sundays we go to the: movies and see whatever new movie has just been released.
- c. Jane has worked in three European cities: Rome, Berlin and London.
- d. Today I want to: go shopping and spend some time at the library.

Test continued on next page

Read the following passage and answer questions 38-44

My Elephant adventure

You would think you would hear such a large animal moving through the bushes, but elephants can be amazingly quiet. In thick undergrowth, they may be very close without you realising it. What usually gives them away is their smell: a musky odour similar to horse manure.

My adventure had begun and, while I had a slight case of nervous butterflies, for the most part I was excited by the prospect of realising my dream of seeing these remarkable beasts in their natural habitat. All of a sudden, we emerged from the forest into a huge open clearing where a community of elephants had gathered. The scene was noisy and vibrant; it was like stumbling into a bustling marketplace. The females moved around the group, organising and supervising, while the calves frolicked playfully. The whole scene took my breath away.

I had not expected the scene to be so colourful. The elephants were all painted with different coloured mud - some had flanks flecked with mud a deep red ochre colour, others had knees splattered with yellow stained mud from kneeling down to drink and others were completely white.

I sat down to take it all in and when I looked over my shoulder I saw a magnificent female elephant with curving white tusks and a small calf at her side. They had not seen me but my heart was beating wildly as they moved towards me. I was frozen to the spot and I dared not breathe.

Suddenly the elephant backed away a few paces, perhaps picking up my unfamiliar scent. She lifted her head, searching the air with her trunk. As I cowered behind the tree, I felt the adrenalin rushing through me and my whole body was alert, ready for fight or flight. I was utterly aware of my vulnerability and I knew I was no match for this tank of grey.

Thankfully she had decided that finding her calf, which had run off, was a higher priority than investigating any potential risk that we posed. As suddenly as the danger appeared it subsided as she turned and gracefully walked away and I was left limp.

Question 38 This passage is an example of what type of writing?

- a. rhyme
- b. argumentative
- c. critical
- d. creative

Question 39 What is the **most likely** source of this extract?

- a. a letter to the editor
- b. an advertisement
- c. an instruction manual
- d. a short story



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- Question 40** What effect does the writer create when she compares the elephant to a tank?
- a. power
 - b. agitation
 - c. speed
 - d. intensity
- Question 41** Which of the following words is **opposite** in meaning to the word **magnificent**?
- a. glorious
 - b. impressive
 - c. terrifying
 - d. ordinary
- Question 42** Why do you think the writer felt 'limp' at the end of the story?
- a. She had achieved her dream of seeing elephants in the wild.
 - b. She was drained from the fear of a confrontation with the elephant.
 - c. She was filled with admiration for these amazing beasts.
 - d. She was weak with dehydration from being out in the sun too long.
- Question 43** The writer uses the words '**cowered behind**' instead of simply saying 'took cover' which conveys a sense of...
- a. paralysing fear
 - b. humble awe
 - c. pitiful shame
 - d. extreme anger
- Question 44** What is the writer's intention in this passage?
- a. To convince people to travel to Africa.
 - b. To argue for the rights of elephants.
 - c. To warn readers of the dangers of elephants.
 - d. To describe an experience.

Test continued on next page

Question 45 Select the **best** sentence to start a letter applying for membership to a club.

- a. You would love having us as club members!
- b. Please, please let us into your club!
- c. How much does it cost to join your club?
- d. We are keen to become members of your club.

Question 46 The Health Minister launched the new national health initiative aimed at reducing obesity. What was the speaker's intention when she made the following statement?

“Good health is not a new fad. Eating nutritious food and exercising are important in maintaining a healthy weight and lifestyle which help you enjoy life.”

- a. To debate the link between health and enjoyment.
- b. To argue that healthy food is the latest trend.
- c. To promote habits that support good health.
- d. To stop people exercising for enjoyment.

Question 47 In the following sentence, which word can be **left out** without changing the meaning?

First we cleaned the walls then we sanded them and applied the filler to the cracks and finally we were ready to begin painting with the paint brushes.

- a. cleaned
- b. applied
- c. ready
- d. paint

Question 48 Which of the following words is spelled **incorrectly**?

- a. retrieve
- b. recieve
- c. believe
- d. relieve

Question 49 Which underlined word is grammatically **incorrect**?

When I went to school we was allowed to leave when we needed to if our parents had written a note giving permission.

- a. went
- b. was
- c. when
- d. giving

Question 50 Form a coherent sentence from the following jumbled sentence. Which section should come **last**?

and we / completed take-off / the pilot / released our seatbelts

- a. and we
- b. completed take-off
- c. the pilot
- d. released our seatbelts

End of Test

Year 10 English Practice Test Answer Key

Question #	Answer	Mapping
1	C	Punctuation (comma)
2	B	spelling – homonym
3	A	Spelling
4	D	Spelling – suffix
5	C	Grammar – sentence construction
6	A	Punctuation (apostrophe)
7	B	Conjunction
8	A	Spelling
9	B	Spelling – prefix
10	A	Punctuation (apostrophe)
11	D	Conjunction
12	D	Punctuation (question mark)
13	C	Conjunction
14	B	Spoken Text – register
15	B	Tense
16	C	Written Text - demonstrate understanding
17	D	Vocab – synonym
18	C	Vocab – synonym
19	B	Spelling
20	B	Spelling
21	C	Written Text – conventions
22	D	Written Text - demonstrate understanding
23	A	Written Text - demonstrate understanding
24	A	Written Text – conventions
25	A	Written Text - demonstrate understanding
26	B	Written Text - demonstrate understanding
27	A	Vocab



Question #	Answer	Mapping
28	D	Written Text – register
29	B	vocab - word chains
30	A	Spoken Text - demonstrate understanding
31	B	Written Text – conventions
32	D	Grammar
33	C	Vocab – synonym
34	D	vocab - word chains
35	A	Spelling – homophone
36	D	Punctuation (comma)
37	C	Punctuation (colon)
38	D	Written Text – demonstrate understanding
39	D	Written Text - purpose & audience
40	A	Written Text - demonstrate understanding
41	D	Vocab – antonym
42	B	Written Text - demonstrate understanding
43	A	Written Text - demonstrate understanding
44	D	Written Text - purpose & audience
45	D	Written Text – register
46	C	Spoken Text – purpose & audience
47	D	tautology
48	B	Spelling
49	B	tense
50	D	Grammar – sentence construction



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