

English Mock Test 2 Answers

Q#	Answer	Explanation
1	B	Lines 7-9 say the men wanted heavy dogs, with strong muscles by which to toil, and furry coats to protect them from the frost. The work was hard and the Northland was freezing, so strength and warmth were what mattered. Nothing is said about hunting or guarding gold.
2	D	No dog reads a newspaper, so the opening is gently humorous . At the same time it tells us that trouble was brewing , so the reader expects something bad to happen to Buck and reads on to find out what. The newspapers were full of the gold find, not of Buck, and he is still safe at home until near the end of the extract.
3	A	The extract never names it, but thousands of men rushed into the Arctic once it was found, and line 45 calls the find the Klondike strike : a strike is a lucky find of something valuable in the ground. This is the Klondike gold rush of 1897. Brass and bronze look yellowish too, but they are made by mixing metals, not dug up, and nobody would cross the world for copper or tin.
4	C	Lines 10-11 say Buck lived at a big house in the sun-kissed Santa Clara Valley , and that it was called Judge Miller's place . Puget Sound and San Diego are only named to show how far the danger stretched, College Park is where he is taken at the end, and the Northland is where the men were rushing.
5	E	An array is a large, arranged display, and orderly means neat and well organised. Endless is not meant exactly: it exaggerates to show there were so many that they seemed to go on and on. Untidy is the opposite of orderly, and the passage says the other dogs lived in the kennels.

6	A	The paragraph before describes Judge Miller's place: the big house with its stables, cottages, outhouses, pastures and orchards. This great demesne points back to all of that, so a demesne is a large estate . The words ruled and king nearby are the trap, but Buck is only a king in a playful sense, and the land is the Judge's. It is more than the house alone, since the stables and orchards are part of it.
7	D	To say that someone does not count is to say they are not important. The next paragraph makes the contrast plain: The whole realm was his . The phrase has nothing to do with counting numbers, and the other dogs certainly lived on the estate, in the kennels and the house.
8	B	Line 20 names Toots, the Japanese pug . Ysabel was the Mexican hairless, Buck's father Elmo was a St. Bernard, and his mother Shep was a Scotch shepherd dog.
9	C	Each word describes a noun: the populous kennels, strange creatures, wintry nights and an inseparable companion. Words that describe nouns are adjectives . None of them is an action, so none is a verb, and none tells us how something was done, as an adverb would.
10	E	Lines 24-30 describe hunting with the sons, rambles with the daughters Mollie and Alice, lying before the library fire and carrying the grandsons. Line 23 says Buck was neither house-dog nor kennel-dog , so he did not live in the kennels with the other dogs.
11	D	The list piles up swimming, hunting, walks, the fire and the grandsons, and it runs across every part of the estate from the swimming tank to the paddocks. Its sheer length shows how rich and varied his life was, which backs up the sentence just before it: The whole realm was his . The activities happen at different times (twilight, early morning, wintry nights), not all at once, and Buck escorts and guards the family rather than being ordered about.

12	B	Imperiously is related to empire and emperor: it means in a proud, commanding way, as if expecting to be obeyed. That fits the rest of the sentence, which says he was king . Stalked can describe a hunter creeping up on prey, which is the trap, but here it means walking stiffly and proudly.
13	E	Alliteration is the repetition of the same sound at the start of words that are close together: creeping, crawling . Nothing is being compared, so it is not a simile or a metaphor, and neither word imitates a sound, as onomatopoeia would.
14	A	After a list of creeping, crawling, flying things, humans included arrives as a surprise: in Buck's own mind even the Judge's family are his subjects. It is a playful joke about his pride. We have just seen him guarding the grandsons and walking with the daughters, so nobody fears him, and nothing suggests that he attacks anyone.
15	C	Line 35 says: His father, Elmo, a huge St. Bernard . The Scotch shepherd dog was his mother, Shep, and the Japanese pug was Toots.
16	B	Lines 37-38 say he weighed only one hundred and forty pounds, for his mother, Shep, had been a Scotch shepherd dog . Here for means because, and a shepherd dog is much smaller than a huge St. Bernard. Buck was four years old, so no longer a puppy, and he lived a comfortable, well-fed life.
17	E	An aristocrat is a nobleman, and to be sated is to be completely satisfied, having had all you want. Buck had lived in comfort, admired and well fed, like a lord. Sated is the opposite of hungry, and a servant is the opposite of an aristocrat.
18	A	An acquaintance is someone you know, and undesirable means not wanted, so Manuel was a person Buck would have been better off not knowing. The next paragraph shows why, when it speaks of Manuel's treachery . He works on the estate, so he is not a stranger, and nothing says he disliked dogs: what he wanted was money.
19	D	Line 49 says The Judge was at a meeting of the Raisin Growers' Association . It was the boys who were busy organising an athletic club. With the whole family busy, no one saw Manuel lead Buck away.

20	C	Coins chinked as they changed hands, and straight away the stranger talks of the goods he is to take, and ends up holding the rope. He was buying Buck, so the money went to Manuel. That is why the paragraph calls it Manuel's treachery : he sold a dog who trusted him. The first option has the payment the wrong way round.
21	B	Goods are things that are bought and sold, and to wrap up and deliver them is what a shop does with a parcel. By talking about Buck in this way, the stranger shows he cares nothing for the dog, only for what he has paid for. The 'wrapping' turns out to be a rope round Buck's neck, which is hardly meant to keep him warm.
22	E	Wont is an old word for habit (he was wont to walk early), so unwonted means not usual. Buck had never had a rope put round his neck before. It looks very like unwanted, which is the trap, but the sentence goes on to explain why he accepted it all the same: he trusted men he knew. Performance here means something done, not a show.
23	A	To intimate is to hint, and to command is to give an order. Buck was so used to being obeyed that he believed a mere hint of displeasure, a growl, would be enough to make a man do what he wanted. That is why the tightening rope came to his surprise . Nothing suggests he expected an attack, or help from anyone else.
24	D	Most of the extract shows Buck living like a king on the Judge's estate, and it ends with him sold by Manuel, whose act is called treachery , which is a betrayal. A King Betrayed covers both halves. The gold rush is only the background in the first paragraph, Buck did not run away but was led off on what he thought was a stroll, and Toots and Ysabel appear in a single paragraph.
25	B	'bigest' should be spelled 'biggest'. Big is a short word ending in one vowel and one consonant, so the g doubles before -est, as in hotter and thinnest. The mistake is in group B.
26	A	'stomache' should be spelled 'stomach'. The k sound at the end is spelled ch, with no e after it: s-t-o-m-a-c-h. It is easy to add an e because ache is spelled that way. The mistake is in group A.

27	C	'cupbord' should be spelled 'cupboard'. It is made of two words, cup and board, and it keeps the oa of board even though we do not say it clearly. The mistake is in group C.
28	A	'reciept' should be spelled 'receipt'. After c the rule is e before i, as in receive and ceiling, and there is a silent p before the t: r-e-c-e-i-p-t. The mistake is in group A.
29	D	'cieling' should be spelled 'ceiling'. The rhyme says i before e except after c, and here the letters come straight after c, so it is e before i: c-e-i-l-i-n-g. The mistake is in group D.
30	B	'viscious' should be spelled 'vicious'. There is no s before the c: the sh sound is spelled ci, as in delicious and precious. The mistake is in group B.
31	E	There is no mistake. Sergeant has an e after the s and the unusual ea in its second part, described begins with de- rather than dis-, and mission has a double s before -ion. So the answer is E.
32	C	'vehical' should be spelled 'vehicle'. It ends in -cle, like bicycle and article, and it keeps the silent h: v-e-h-i-c-l-e. The mistake is in group C.
33	D	'persistant' should be spelled 'persistent'. The word ends in -ent, like consistent and insistent, even though the ending sounds the same as -ant. The mistake is in group D.
34	D	'north of canada.' needs a capital letter. Canada is the name of a country, so it is a proper noun: north of Canada. North takes no capital because it is only a direction here. The mistake is in group D.
35	B	'heard the news, it took' joins two complete sentences with only a comma. Few heard the news is one sentence and it took a year to spread south is another, so they need a full stop and a capital letter: heard the news. It took. The mistake is in group B.

36	C	'were seen in Seattle,' does not agree with its subject. The thing that was seen is the ship, and there is only one ship, so the verb must be was: a ship with two tons of gold was seen. Tons is plural, which is the trap, but it belongs to the words describing the ship. The mistake is in group C.
37	A	'Shopkeepers, clerks' needs a comma after clerks. In a list, each item is separated by a comma, except for the last two, which are joined by and: Shopkeepers, clerks, teachers and even the town mayor. The mistake is in group A.
38	A	'Most miners' has an apostrophe after miners that should not be there. Miners is simply a plural here, meaning more than one miner; nothing belongs to them, so no apostrophe is needed: Most miners had never seen deep snow. The mistake is in group A.
39	E	There is no mistake. Canadian takes a capital because it comes from the name of a country. A year's food is the food for one year, so the apostrophe goes before the s. The comma before which is right, because the words after it add extra information about the food. So the answer is E.
40	B	'three things strength,' needs a colon after things. The words three things announce a list, and a colon is the mark that introduces it: three things: strength, patience and plenty of luck. The mistake is in group B.
41	C	'could of turned back,' should be could have turned back. When we say could've quickly it sounds like could of, but the word is have, which goes with the past participle turned. Of is never used after could, should or would in this way. The mistake is in group C.
42	D	'many mens' hopes faded.' puts the apostrophe in the wrong place. Men is already plural without an s, so the possessive is made by adding an apostrophe and then s: many men's hopes. The apostrophe only goes after the s when the plural itself ends in s, as in miners'. The mistake is in group D.

43	C	To wear clothes is to have them on your body, and it follows to as a verb: to wear three layers. Where is about a place, were is a past form of be, we're is short for we are, and ware means goods for sale. They all sound alike, so the meaning is the only guide.
44	A	When you take something for a while and give it back, you borrow it; when you give it to someone for a while, you lend it. We were the ones taking the hats, so let us borrow her hats. Let us lend her hats would mean the hats were ours to give. After let us the verb must be in its plain form, so lent, borrowed and lending cannot follow.
45	D	The past tense of hang, for things such as pictures or icicles, is hung . Hanged is used only when a person is put to death by hanging, so it is wrong for icicles. Hangs does not agree with icicles, which is plural, hunged is not a word, and hanging would leave the sentence without a proper verb.
46	B	To fall quiet means to become silent, like fall asleep or fall silent, and it needs the adjective quiet . Quite means fairly and cannot finish the phrase, fell quietly would mean they toppled over without a sound, quit means to stop doing something, and fell quietness is not English.
47	E	Here the word shows where the sledge went, so it is the preposition past : sped past a lake. Passed sounds the same but is the past tense of pass, and the sentence already has its verb, sped. Pass and passing cannot follow sped either, and pasted means stuck with glue.
48	D	When we wish that something in the past had been different, we use had with the past participle: I wished we had packed a flask. Have and has do not fit after wished, would packed is not English (it would need would have packed, which is still wrong after wish), and of is a mistake for have.
49	B	Steeper is a comparative, and a comparative is followed by than : steeper than any hill. Then is about time (first this, then that) and only looks like than. As needs as steep as, with no -er, and that and from cannot follow steeper.

50	A	The saying is a blessing in disguise , meaning something that seems bad at first but turns out to be good. Missing the trail home seemed unlucky, but it meant they saw the Northern Lights. It is a fixed phrase, so only in will do; of, under, with and by all spoil it.
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