

English Mock Test 4 Answers

Q#	Answer	Explanation
1	C	Lines 1-3 say the only living creature in sight was a girl sitting on a pile of shingles at the extreme end of the platform. The stationmaster had asked her to go into the ladies' waiting room, but she had refused, and the hotel yard is where Matthew tied his horse.
2	A	To sidle is to move sideways in an awkward, self-conscious way, and he does it as quickly as possible without looking at her. He is avoiding her, which fits the shy man the rest of the extract shows us. He did notice her, though barely, and he was not catching a train: he had come to meet one.
3	D	Rigidity means stiffness, and expectation means waiting for something to happen, so her body was held stiff and still with hoping. Here attitude means the position she was holding her body in, not her mood. Slumping would be the opposite of rigid, and her eagerness, not fear or anger, is what the paragraph describes.
4	B	With might and main means with all one's strength, and it is usually used of hard physical work, so using it about sitting still is a joke: waiting is the only task she has, and she throws everything into it. The sentence before tells us plainly that sitting and waiting was the only thing to do just then.
5	E	In lines 19-21 Matthew says plainly, It's a boy I've come for , and that Mrs Alexander Spencer was to bring him over from Nova Scotia. The whole difficulty of the scene is that a girl has arrived instead.
6	B	Lines 10-12 say Matthew found him locking up the ticket office preparatory to going home for supper . Preparatory to simply means before, or in preparation for. He goes off to eat later, walking away jauntily because he is hungry.

7	C	Gravely means in a serious, solemn manner, as in a grave expression. The humour is that so small a child announces her reason so seriously, which is why the stationmaster is amused by her. Grave can mean sad in other sentences, but here it is her seriousness that strikes him, and she is certainly not whispering.
8	D	To call somebody a case is to say they are an unusual character, the sort of person you remember. He says it just after telling Matthew how gravely she spoke of scope for imagination, which he plainly found striking. It is nothing to do with her luggage or her health.
9	C	Line 20 names Mrs Alexander Spencer as the person who was to bring the child over, and lines 23-24 confirm that Mrs Spencer came off the train with the girl and gave her into the stationmaster's charge.
10	E	Line 28 says he wished she were there to cope with the situation , which means to deal with it. Matthew is shy and helpless in the face of a problem, while his sister is the practical one: later he decides to take the child home and let Marilla do that , meaning explain the mistake.
11	D	Jauntily means in a lively, cheerful, unbothered way. The word matters because of the contrast: the stationmaster strolls off happily to his supper, leaving the wretched Matthew with a problem he has no idea how to solve.
12	C	To beard a lion in its den means to face something dangerous in the very place it is strongest, so it stands for the bravest thing a person could do. Saying that speaking to a girl was harder than that is an exaggeration which shows how painfully shy Matthew is. It tells us about Matthew, not about the girl, who has done nothing fierce.
13	C	An adjective describes a noun. The noun here is face, and three words describe it: small, white and thin . Her is a possessive pronoun, and was is a verb, so neither is an adjective.

14	B	The stationmaster speaks carelessly , jokes that she has a tongue of her own and walks off jauntily to his supper: the problem is not his. Matthew answers blankly and then helplessly , wishes for Marilla, and groaned in spirit . The mistake matters enormously to one man and not at all to the other.
15	D	Lines 42-43 describe two braids of very thick, decidedly red hair hanging down her back, under a faded brown sailor hat. The hat is brown, which is the trap, and grey is the colour of the stationmaster's and Matthew's world, not her hair.
16	C	Repeating very in front of each fault, short, tight and ugly, drives them home one after another, so the dress sounds as poor and unsuitable as it possibly could. It is part of what the ordinary observer would see: the plain outside of an orphan child. The repetition is deliberate, not indecision.
17	E	The ordinary observer notices the ugly dress, the freckles, the thin white face. The extraordinary observer looks past all that to the pointed chin, the eyes full of spirit and vivacity and the broad forehead, and concludes that this is no ordinary child. The author is teaching the reader how to look at Anne. Neither observer is a person in the story.
18	A	Commonplace means ordinary or unremarkable, and a soul here means the person inside. Saying that no commonplace soul lived in that body is a roundabout way of saying that this child is quite out of the ordinary. The sentence is about her character, not her age or her manners.
19	B	Ludicrous means ridiculous, so ludicrously afraid means afraid to a degree that is almost funny. The humour lies in the size of the fear against the size of its cause: a grown man terrified of a small, thin child with a carpet-bag. It is the opposite of saying his fear was reasonable.

20	D	An ordeal is a painful or frightening experience, and the words of speaking first say exactly which one is meant. He is spared it because the girl stands up and speaks the moment she sees him coming. Telling her about the mistake is a different task, and one he decides to leave to Marilla.
21	B	Lines 55-57 say she stood up grasping with one thin brown hand the handle of a shabby, old-fashioned carpet-bag , and held the other hand out to Matthew to shake.
22	C	In lines 61-64 she says she had made up her mind to go down the track to that big wild cherry-tree at the bend and climb up into it to stay all night. It is a good example of her imagination: she has turned being abandoned at a station into an adventure.
23	E	Lines 66-68 say he could not tell this child with the glowing eyes that there had been a mistake, so he would take her home and let Marilla do that . It is kindness and shyness together, not a decision to keep her, and it fits the man who found speaking to her worse than facing a lion.
24	B	A person's worldly goods are everything they own in the world. Said of one small carpet-bag, the phrase quietly tells us how little she has. She is cheerful about it, insisting twice that the bag isn't heavy .
25	B	'potatos' should be spelled 'potatoes'. Potato takes -es in the plural, like tomatoes and heroes. The mistake is in group B.
26	C	'wolfs' should be spelled 'wolves'. A noun ending in f or fe usually changes to -ves in the plural: wolf becomes wolves, as leaf becomes leaves. The mistake is in group C.
27	A	'finaly' should be spelled 'finally'. The word is final plus -ly, and final already ends in l, so the two letters meet to make ll. The mistake is in group A.
28	B	'nineth' should be spelled 'ninth'. Nine drops its e before the -th ending, unlike ninety and nineteen, which keep it. The mistake is in group B.

29	C	'loneliness' should be spelled 'loneliness'. When a word ends in a consonant followed by y, the y changes to i before a suffix: lonely becomes loneliness, as happy becomes happiness. The mistake is in group C.
30	A	'temperary' should be spelled 'temporary'. The middle vowel is an o, not an e: tem-po-rary, like memory and factory. The mistake is in group A.
31	D	'convenient' should be spelled 'convenient'. The ending is -ent, like obedient and ingredient, not -ant. The mistake is in group D.
32	E	There is no mistake. Knight keeps its silent k and gh, armour ends in -our in British English, and heavier changes the y of heavy to i before -er. So the answer is E.
33	C	'wieght' should be spelled 'weight'. It follows the pattern of eight and neighbour, where the letters are e before i: w-e-i-g-h-t. The mistake is in group C.
34	C	'had no home. they' begins a new sentence after the full stop, so it needs a capital letter: had no home. They slept in doorways. The mistake is in group C.
35	A	'One man said' needs a comma before the speech begins. Words that introduce someone's exact words are followed by a comma: One man said, 'The children need homes, not prisons.' The mistake is in group A.
36	B	'had never went' should be had never gone. After have, has or had we use the past participle, which for go is gone; went is the simple past and cannot follow had. The mistake is in group B.
37	D	'and kansas.' needs a capital letter. Kansas is the name of a state, so it is a proper noun, like Iowa and Nebraska in the group before it. The mistake is in group D.
38	B	'stopped in a town' needs a comma after town. When a sentence opens with a clause like When the train stopped in a town, a comma separates it from the main part that follows: in a town, the children lined up. The mistake is in group B.

39	E	There is no mistake. The list needs a comma only between the first two items, since and joins the last two. The comma before and some chose a child is right as well, because it joins two complete sentences. So the answer is E.
40	A	'The farmers, whom' should be who. Whom is used when the word is the object of a verb, but here the farmers are the ones doing the wanting, so the subject form who is needed: The farmers, who wanted strong helpers. The mistake is in group A.
41	C	'and took them children' should be those children. Them is used after a verb or preposition (took them home), but before a noun the word needed is those. The mistake is in group C.
42	B	'climb back on' is in the wrong tense. The passage is written in the past, as left and rolled show, so the verb must be climbed back on board. The mistake is in group B.
43	B	The sentence is about the past, and the past tense of do is did . Done is the past participle and needs a helper in front of it (we had done), so done on its own is wrong. Do and does are present tense, and doing cannot stand alone as the verb.
44	D	To let someone do something is to allow it, and let stays the same in the past tense: Dad let us choose. Left is the past of leave, which means to go away from, not to allow. Allowed would need to before the verb (allowed us to choose), leaves is present tense, and letting cannot be the main verb.
45	B	To set something down is to put it in a place, and set does not change in the past tense. Sat is the past of sit, which is what a person does, not something you do to a rucksack. Sitted is not a word, sit is present tense, and setting cannot be the main verb here.
46	C	When the person doing the action and the person receiving it are the same, we use a reflexive pronoun: I bought myself a hot chocolate. I bought me is heard in speech but is not correct, I is the subject form, and my and mine show possession.

47	A	The adjective fond is always followed by of : fond of the cottage. Each adjective takes its own preposition, and there is no rule that predicts them, so they have to be learnt: fond of, keen on, proud of, good at.
48	E	The reason is followed by that , because what comes next explains what the reason is: the reason is that the line runs twice a day. The reason is because says the same thing twice and is not accepted in careful English, and why, as and since cannot follow the reason is in this way.
49	C	The saying is on the spur of the moment , meaning suddenly, without any planning. It is a fixed phrase, so no other preposition will do, however sensible it sounds.
50	D	After would rather we use a past form of the verb, even when we are talking about the future: she would rather we came for a week. It is the same pattern as it is time we went. Would rather cannot be followed by will come, to come or coming, and come would need to belong to a different pattern (she would rather come herself).