

English Mock Test 6

Name: _____

Date: _____

Time allowed: **50 minutes**

50 questions, 1 mark each

Answer **every** question. Each question has five options, **A** to **E**, and exactly one is correct. Work out the answer and mark the letter you have chosen. Marks are not taken away for a wrong answer, so it is worth having a go at every question.

Read this passage carefully, then answer the questions that follow.

The Cyclone

by L. Frank Baum

This extract comes from the opening of The Wonderful Wizard of Oz, first published in 1900. Dorothy, an orphan, lives with her Uncle Henry and Aunt Em on a lonely farm on the flat prairies of Kansas, in America, where fierce whirlwinds called cyclones can blow up. The extract has been shortened, and keeps the author's American spellings, such as gray and color.

1 Dorothy lived in the midst of the great Kansas prairies, with Uncle Henry, who was a farmer, and Aunt Em, who was the farmer's wife. Their house was small, for the lumber to build it had to be carried by wagon many miles. There was no garret at all, and no
5 cellar—except a small hole dug in the ground, called a cyclone cellar, where the family could go in case one of those great whirlwinds arose, mighty enough to crush any building in its path. It was reached by a trap door in the middle of the floor, from which a ladder led down into the small, dark hole.

10 When Dorothy stood in the doorway and looked around, she could see nothing but the great gray prairie on every side. Not a tree nor a house broke the broad sweep of flat country that reached to the edge of the sky in all directions. The sun had baked the plowed land into a gray mass, with little cracks running through it. Even the grass
15 was not green, for the sun had burned the tops of the long blades until they were the same gray color to be seen everywhere. Once the house had been painted, but the sun blistered the paint and the rains washed it away, and now the house was as dull and gray as everything else.

20 When Aunt Em came there to live she was a young, pretty wife. The

sun and wind had changed her, too. They had taken the sparkle from her eyes and left them a sober gray; they had taken the red from her cheeks and lips, and they were gray also. She was thin and gaunt, and never smiled now. When Dorothy, who was an orphan, first came to
25 her, Aunt Em had been so startled by the child's laughter that she would scream and press her hand upon her heart whenever Dorothy's merry voice reached her ears; and she still looked at the little girl with wonder that she could find anything to laugh at.

Uncle Henry never laughed. He worked hard from morning till night
30 and did not know what joy was. He was gray also, from his long beard to his rough boots, and he looked stern and solemn, and rarely spoke.

It was Toto that made Dorothy laugh, and saved her from growing as gray as her other surroundings. Toto was not gray; he was a little
35 black dog, with long silky hair and small black eyes that twinkled merrily on either side of his funny, wee nose. Toto played all day long, and Dorothy played with him, and loved him dearly.

Today, however, they were not playing. Uncle Henry sat upon the doorstep and looked anxiously at the sky, which was even grayer than
40 usual. Dorothy stood in the door with Toto in her arms, and looked at the sky too. Aunt Em was washing the dishes.

From the far north they heard a low wail of the wind, and Uncle Henry and Dorothy could see where the long grass bowed in waves before the coming storm. There now came a sharp whistling in the air
45 from the south, and as they turned their eyes that way they saw ripples in the grass coming from that direction also.

Suddenly Uncle Henry stood up.

"There's a cyclone coming, Em," he called to his wife. "I'll go look after the stock." Then he ran toward the sheds where the cows and
50 horses were kept.

Aunt Em dropped her work and came to the door. One glance told her of the danger close at hand.

"Quick, Dorothy!" she screamed. "Run for the cellar!"

Toto jumped out of Dorothy's arms and hid under the bed, and the
55 girl started to get him. Aunt Em, badly frightened, threw open the trap door in the floor and climbed down the ladder into the small, dark hole. Dorothy caught Toto at last and started to follow her aunt. When she was halfway across the room there came a great shriek

from the wind, and the house shook so hard that she lost her footing
60 and sat down suddenly upon the floor.

Then a strange thing happened.

The house whirled around two or three times and rose slowly through the air. Dorothy felt as if she were going up in a balloon.

It was very dark, and the wind howled horribly around her, but
65 Dorothy found she was riding quite easily. After the first few whirls around, and one other time when the house tipped badly, she felt as if she were being rocked gently, like a baby in a cradle.

Hour after hour passed away, and slowly Dorothy got over her fright; but she felt quite lonely, and the wind shrieked so loudly all about
70 her that she nearly became deaf. At first she had wondered if she would be dashed to pieces when the house fell again; but as the hours passed and nothing terrible happened, she stopped worrying and resolved to wait calmly and see what the future would bring. At last she crawled over the swaying floor to her bed, and lay down upon it;
75 and Toto followed and lay down beside her.

Please answer these questions. (Look at the passage again if you need to.) You should choose the best answer and mark its letter.

Q1. Who did Dorothy live with?

- A. her mother and father
- B. Uncle Henry and Aunt Em
- C. her grandparents
- D. Aunt Em and her sister
- E. a farmer and his son

Q2. 'Their house was small, for the lumber to build it had to be carried by wagon many miles.' (lines 3-4)

Why was the house small?

- A. The family was too poor to buy land.
- B. Only three people lived in it.
- C. A small house was safer in a cyclone.
- D. The wood to build it had to be brought a long way, so there was little of it.
- E. There were too many trees on the prairie to clear.

Q3. 'There was no garret at all' (line 4)

What is a 'garret'?

- A. a room at the top of a house, under the roof
- B. a garden at the back of a house
- C. a shed for keeping animals
- D. a cellar under the floor
- E. a porch by the front door

Q4. What was the cyclone cellar for?

- A. storing food for the winter
- B. keeping the cows and horses safe
- C. somewhere for the family to shelter if a great whirlwind came
- D. hiding Toto when he was naughty
- E. keeping the lumber dry

Q5. 'whirlwinds arose, mighty enough to crush any building in its path' (line 7)

What type of word is 'mighty'?

- A. a noun
- B. a verb
- C. an adjective
- D. an adverb
- E. a preposition

Q6. 'Not a tree nor a house broke the broad sweep of flat country' (lines 11-12)

What does this tell us about the land around the farm?

- A. The storm had knocked down all the trees and houses.
- B. The trees and houses were broken and old.
- C. It was divided into fields by hedges.
- D. It was covered in broken rocks.
- E. It was flat and empty for as far as Dorothy could see.

Q7. Why was the grass not green?

- A. It had been eaten by the cows.
- B. The sun had burned the tops of the blades.
- C. It had been painted gray.
- D. It was winter and the grass had died.
- E. The rain had washed the colour out of it.

Q8. 'the sun blistered the paint' (line 17)

What does 'blistered' mean here?

- A. made it bubble up and crack
- B. made it shine brightly
- C. turned it a darker colour
- D. dried it quickly
- E. melted it into a puddle

Q9. In lines 10-19 the author uses the word 'gray' again and again. Why?

- A. because the story takes place at night
- B. to warn the reader that a storm is coming
- C. because Dorothy cannot see colours
- D. to show how dull and lifeless everything around Dorothy is
- E. because the house has just been painted gray

Q10. 'The sun and wind had changed her, too.' (lines 20-21)

Why has the author used the word 'too'?

- A. to show that the sun and wind had changed Aunt Em a great deal
- B. to show that Aunt Em had changed Uncle Henry as well
- C. to show that Aunt Em was too old to live on the farm
- D. to show that Dorothy had changed as well
- E. to show that the sun and wind had already changed the land and the house, and now Aunt Em as well

Q11. 'They had taken the sparkle from her eyes' (lines 21-22)

This is an example of ...

- A. a simile
- B. personification
- C. alliteration
- D. onomatopoeia
- E. a rhyme

Q12. 'She was thin and gaunt' (line 23)

What does 'gaunt' mean?

- A. cross and bad-tempered
- B. tall and upright
- C. bony and worn out, as if from hardship
- D. pale and freckled
- E. old and wrinkled

Q13. What does the passage tell us about Dorothy's parents?

- A. Dorothy is an orphan, so her parents are no longer alive.
- B. They live in a town far away.
- C. They are away fighting in a war.
- D. They sent her to the farm for a holiday.
- E. They work on the farm next door.

Q14. When Dorothy first came to live with her, why did Aunt Em scream at the sound of her laughter?

- A. She thought Dorothy had hurt herself.
- B. She was cross that Dorothy was making a noise.
- C. She thought Dorothy was laughing at her.
- D. She was so unused to laughter that the sound startled her.
- E. She had a weak heart and was often ill.

Q15. 'he looked stern and solemn, and rarely spoke' (lines 31-32)

What does 'rarely' mean?

- A. angrily
- B. quietly
- C. never
- D. slowly
- E. hardly ever

Q16. 'saved her from growing as gray as her other surroundings' (lines 33-34)

What does this mean?

- A. Toto kept Dorothy's hair from turning gray.
- B. Toto stopped Dorothy from getting lost on the gray prairie.
- C. Toto's fun kept Dorothy cheerful, so she did not become as joyless as the people and places around her.
- D. Toto's black fur made the house look less gray.
- E. Toto kept Dorothy away from the dusty fields.

Q17. 'small black eyes that twinkled merrily on either side of his funny, wee nose' (lines 35-36)

How many adjectives are there in this phrase?

- A. one
- B. two
- C. three
- D. four
- E. five

Q18. 'the long grass bowed in waves' (line 43)

What picture does this create?

- A. people bowing politely as the storm arrived
- B. the wind pressing the grass down in rolling lines, like waves on the sea
- C. the grass being flooded by water from the north
- D. the grass growing taller as the rain began
- E. the grass being cut in long rows

Q19. What did Uncle Henry do when he saw that a cyclone was coming?

- A. He ran to the sheds to look after the cows and horses.
- B. He climbed down into the cyclone cellar.
- C. He went inside to fetch Toto.
- D. He sat down on the doorstep to watch it.
- E. He shut all the windows of the house.

Q20. 'One glance told her of the danger close at hand.'
(lines 51-52)

What does this tell us?

- A. Aunt Em was holding something dangerous in her hand.
- B. Aunt Em did not believe Uncle Henry at first.
- C. Aunt Em had to look for a long time before she saw the storm.
- D. The storm was still a long way off.
- E. A single quick look showed Aunt Em that the storm was very near and very dangerous.

Q21. Why did Dorothy not reach the cellar with her aunt?

- A. Aunt Em closed the trap door before she got there.
- B. She was too frightened to move from the doorway.
- C. She went after Toto first, and then the house shook so hard that she fell over.
- D. She could not find the trap door in the dark.
- E. Uncle Henry told her to stay and help with the animals.

Q22. 'Then a strange thing happened.' (line 61)

Why has the author put this short sentence in a paragraph on its own?

- A. to show that Dorothy had fallen asleep
- B. to make the reader pause and wonder what is about to happen
- C. because it is spoken by one of the characters
- D. to show that the storm has ended
- E. to explain what a cyclone is

Q23. 'she felt as if she were being rocked gently, like a baby in a cradle' (lines 66-67)

What does this comparison tell us?

- A. Dorothy was very young.
- B. The house was shaking so violently that Dorothy felt sick.
- C. Dorothy had fallen into her bed.
- D. Dorothy wished her mother were there.
- E. Although the storm raged outside, the ride felt surprisingly calm and soothing.

Q24. How do Dorothy's feelings change from the moment the house begins to shake to the end of the passage?

- A. She is frightened at first, but slowly becomes calm enough to wait and see what will happen.
- B. She is calm at first, but becomes more and more terrified.
- C. She is lonely at first, but becomes happy and excited.
- D. She is angry with Toto at first, but then forgives him.
- E. She is excited at first, but becomes bored.

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Spelling

In these sentences there are some **spelling** mistakes. In each sentence there is either **one** mistake or **no** mistake. The words are split into four groups, **A** to **D**. Find the group of words with the mistake in it and mark its letter. **If there is no mistake, mark E.**

Q25.

For her birthday we wraped the gift in shiny silver paper.

└──────────┘ └──────────┘ └──────────┘ └────────┘

A

B

C

D

- A. For her birthday
- B. we wraped the gift
- C. in shiny silver
- D. paper.
- E. No mistake

Q26.

Dad was fixing the fence when he hit his thum with a hammer.

└──────────┘ └──────────┘ └────────┘ └──────────┘

A

B

C

D

- A. Dad was fixing
- B. the fence when he
- C. hit his
- D. thum with a hammer.
- E. No mistake

Q27.

The earliest birds to sing at dawn are usually robins.

A **B** **C** **D**

- A. The earliest birds
- B. to sing at dawn
- C. are usually
- D. robins.
- E. No mistake

Q28.

After the long walk home we were thankfull for a hot drink.

A **B** **C** **D**

- A. After the long
- B. walk home we were
- C. thankfull for
- D. a hot drink.
- E. No mistake

Q29.

The knight raised his sheild just in time to stop the arrow.

A **B** **C** **D**

- A. The knight raised
- B. his sheild just
- C. in time to stop
- D. the arrow.
- E. No mistake

Q30.

On the walk, Leo's big rucksack was more of a hinderance than a help.

A **B** **C** **D**

- A. On the walk,
- B. Leo's big rucksack
- C. was more of a
- D. hinderance than a help.
- E. No mistake

Q31.

The aggressive goose chased the children all the way back to the car.

A **B** **C** **D**

- A. The aggressive goose
- B. chased the children
- C. all the way back
- D. to the car.
- E. No mistake

Q32.

Our teacher says that regular phisical activity is important.

A **B** **C** **D**

- A. Our teacher says
- B. that regular
- C. phisical activity
- D. is important.
- E. No mistake

Q33.

The competition was held in the spacious new gymnasium.

A **B** **C** **D**

- A. The competition
- B. was held in the
- C. spacious new
- D. gymnasium.
- E. No mistake

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The Great Storm

In these sentences there are some **punctuation and grammar** mistakes. The nine numbered lines follow on from one another and make one short passage. On each numbered line there is either **one** mistake or **no** mistake. The words are split into four groups, **A** to **D**. Find the group of words with the mistake in it and mark its letter. **If there is no mistake, mark E.**

Q34.

On the night of 15 October 1987, a huge storm hit southern england.

_____	_____	_____	_____
A	B	C	D

- A. On the night of
- B. 15 October 1987,
- C. a huge storm hit
- D. southern england.
- E. No mistake

Q35.

The forecast had said that there wasnt a hurricane coming.

_____	_____	_____	_____
A	B	C	D

- A. The forecast
- B. had said that
- C. there wasnt a
- D. hurricane coming.
- E. No mistake

Q36.

As the night went on the wind grew stronger and stronger.

A **B** **C** **D**

- A. As the night went on
- B. the wind grew
- C. stronger and
- D. stronger.
- E. No mistake

Q37.

Sevenoaks (named after its seven oaks lost six of them in one night.

A **B** **C** **D**

- A. Sevenoaks (named after
- B. its seven oaks lost six
- C. of them in
- D. one night.
- E. No mistake

Q38.

Neither the trains nor the buses was running the next morning.

A **B** **C** **D**

- A. Neither the trains
- B. nor the buses was
- C. running the next
- D. morning.
- E. No mistake

Q39.

Next day, Grandad helped to clear all his neighbours garden's.

A **B** **C** **D**

- A. Next day, Grandad
- B. helped to clear
- C. all his
- D. neighbours garden's.
- E. No mistake

Q40.

Him and Grandma had hidden under the kitchen table all night long.

└──────────┘ └──────────┘ └──────────┘ └──────────┘

A

B

C

D

- A. Him and Grandma
- B. had hidden under
- C. the kitchen table
- D. all night long.
- E. No mistake

Q41.

Outside, the storm had wrecked three things, a roof, a wall and a car.

└──────────┘ └────────┘ └──────────┘ └──────────┘

A

B

C

D

- A. Outside, the storm
- B. had wrecked
- C. three things, a roof,
- D. a wall and a car.
- E. No mistake

Q42.

Strictly speaking, it wasn't a hurricane at all; it was a windstorm.

A **B** **C** **D**

- A. Strictly speaking,
- B. it wasn't a
- C. hurricane at all;
- D. it was a windstorm.
- E. No mistake

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The School Weather Station

In this passage you have to choose the best word, or group of words, to complete each numbered line so that it makes sense and is written in correct English. The numbered lines follow on from one another and make one short passage, so read them in order. Choose the **best** answer and mark its letter.

Q43. Every morning before lessons, our class writes down the _____ from a little station on the school roof.

- A. whether
- B. weather
- C. wetter
- D. whither
- E. weathering

Q44. On Tuesday night the temperature _____ below zero for the first time that winter.

- A. fallen
- B. felled
- C. fell
- D. falled
- E. falls

Q45. Mr Hale explained that frost can _____ the rain gauge, because the water inside it freezes solid.

- A. affect
- B. effect
- C. afflict
- D. infect
- E. effort

Q46. The gauge is a clear plastic tube that stands _____ the pond and the bike shed.

- A. among
- B. amid
- C. amongst
- D. between
- E. within

Q47. Mr Hale says a reading is no use _____ it is taken at exactly the same time each day.

- A. otherwise
- B. unless
- C. except
- D. without
- E. despite

Q48. Each morning _____ Priya or Sam climbs the ladder to read the gauge.

- A. neither
- B. both
- C. whether
- D. not only
- E. either

Q49. On Friday Sam was feeling rather _____ the weather, so Priya went up on her own.

- A. under
- B. below
- C. beneath
- D. over
- E. out of

Q50. At the top she found the thermometer _____ on its side in a puddle, knocked over by the wind.

- A. laying
- B. lying
- C. lain
- D. lied
- E. lay

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