

English Mock Test 8

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 Glade of the Iguanodons

by Arthur Conan Doyle

This extract comes from The Lost World, first published in 1912. Edward Malone, a young newspaper reporter, tells the story. He has travelled to South America with Professor Challenger, Professor Summerlee and the hunter Lord John Roxton to reach Maple White Land, a high plateau cut off from the rest of the world by steep cliffs. Challenger claims that prehistoric animals still live there; Summerlee has always refused to believe him. It is the party's first morning on the plateau. The Wealden clay is rock in the south of England where fossil footprints of dinosaurs have been found. The extract has been shortened.

1 Suddenly Lord John, who was walking first, halted with uplifted hand.

"Look at this!" said he. "By George, this must be the trail of the father of all birds!"

5 An enormous three-toed track was imprinted in the soft mud before us. The creature, whatever it was, had crossed the swamp and had passed on into the forest. We all stopped to examine that monstrous spoor. If it were indeed a bird—and what animal could leave such a mark?—its foot was so much larger than an ostrich's that its height
10 upon the same scale must be enormous. Lord John looked eagerly round him and slipped two cartridges into his elephant-gun.

"The creature has not passed ten minutes. Look how the water is still oozing into that deeper print! By Jove! See, here is the mark of a little one!"

15 Sure enough, smaller tracks of the same general form were running

parallel to the large ones.

"But what do you make of this?" cried Professor Summerlee, triumphantly, pointing to what looked like the huge print of a five-fingered human hand appearing among the three-toed marks.

20 "Wealden!" cried Challenger, in an ecstasy. "I've seen them in the Wealden clay. It is a creature walking erect upon three-toed feet, and occasionally putting one of its five-fingered forepaws upon the ground. Not a bird, my dear Roxton—not a bird."

"A beast?"

25 "No; a reptile—a dinosaur. Nothing else could have left such a track. They puzzled a worthy Sussex doctor some ninety years ago; but who in the world could have hoped—hoped—to have seen a sight like that?"

His words died away into a whisper, and we all stood in motionless
30 amazement. Following the tracks, we had left the morass and passed through a screen of brushwood and trees. Beyond was an open glade, and in this were five of the most extraordinary creatures that I have ever seen. Crouching down among the bushes, we observed them at our leisure.

35 There were, as I say, five of them, two being adults and three young ones. In size they were enormous. Even the babies were as big as elephants, while the two large ones were far beyond all creatures I have ever seen. They had slate-coloured skin, which was scaled like a lizard's and shimmered where the sun shone upon it. All five were
40 sitting up, balancing themselves upon their broad, powerful tails and their huge three-toed hind-feet, while with their small five-fingered front-feet they pulled down the branches upon which they browsed. I do not know that I can bring their appearance home to you better than by saying that they looked like monstrous
45 kangaroos, twenty feet in length, and with skins like black crocodiles.

I do not know how long we stayed motionless gazing at this marvellous spectacle. A strong wind blew towards us and we were well concealed, so there was no chance of discovery. From time to time
50 the little ones played round their parents in unwieldy gambols, the great beasts bounding into the air and falling with dull thuds upon the earth. The strength of the parents seemed to be limitless, for one of them, having some difficulty in reaching a bunch of foliage which grew upon a considerable-sized tree, put his fore-legs round
55 the trunk and tore it down as if it had been a sapling. The action

seemed, as I thought, to show not only the great development of its muscles, but also the small one of its brain, for the whole weight came crashing down upon the top of it, and it uttered a series of shrill yelps to show that, big as it was, there was a limit to what
60 it could endure. The incident made it think, apparently, that the neighbourhood was dangerous, for it slowly lurched off through the wood, followed by its mate and its three enormous infants. We saw the shimmering slaty gleam of their skins between the tree-trunks, and their heads undulating high above the brushwood. Then they
65 vanished from our sight.

I looked at my comrades. Lord John was standing at gaze with his finger on the trigger of his elephant-gun, his eager hunter's soul shining from his fierce eyes. And yet his reason held him in, for all our exploration of the wonders of this unknown land depended
70 upon our presence being concealed from its inhabitants. The two professors were in silent ecstasy. In their excitement they had unconsciously seized each other by the hand, and stood like two little children in the presence of a marvel, Challenger's cheeks bunched up into a seraphic smile, and Summerlee's sardonic face
75 softening for the moment into wonder and reverence.

"If ever we get out of this alive, I must have a head with me," said Lord John. "I don't know what you chaps think, but it strikes me that we are on mighty thin ice all this time."

I had the same feeling of mystery and danger around us. In the gloom
80 of the trees there seemed a constant menace and as we looked up into their shadowy foliage vague terrors crept into one's heart. It is true that these monstrous creatures which we had seen were lumbering, inoffensive brutes which were unlikely to hurt anyone, but in this world of wonders what other survivals might there not
85 be—what fierce, active horrors ready to pounce upon us from their lair among the rocks or brushwood?

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 was the first to notice the enormous track?

- A. Professor Challenger
- B. Professor Summerlee
- C. Lord John
- D. the narrator
- E. a local guide

Q2. 'this must be the trail of the father of all birds'
(lines 3-4)

What did Lord John first think had made the track?

- A. a bird far bigger than any bird he knew
- B. the father of a bird the party had seen
- C. a flock of ordinary birds
- D. a crocodile crawling out of the swamp
- E. a man pretending to be a bird

Q3. 'that monstrous spoor' (lines 7-8)

What is a 'spoor'?

- A. a sharp claw
- B. a patch of deep mud
- C. the spur on a rider's boot
- D. a terrifying roar
- E. the track or trail left by an animal

Q4. 'its foot was so much larger than an ostrich's that its height upon the same scale must be enormous' (lines 9-10)

How is the narrator working out the creature's size?

- A. He is measuring the creature against Lord John's gun.
- B. If its foot is much bigger than an ostrich's, the rest of it must be much bigger too.
- C. He has seen an ostrich standing next to the creature.
- D. He is guessing from the depth of the swamp.
- E. He knows ostriches are the tallest birds, so it must be an ostrich.

Q5. 'slipped two cartridges into his elephant-gun' (line 11)

Why did Lord John do this?

- A. to shoot at the birds in the trees
- B. to show the professors how to load a gun
- C. to frighten the creature away with a loud bang
- D. to be ready in case they met the creature that had made the track
- E. because he had seen the creature coming towards them

Q6. How could Lord John tell that the creature had passed only a few minutes before?

- A. He could still hear it moving in the forest.
- B. Water was still oozing into one of the deeper prints.
- C. The mud in the prints had dried hard.
- D. He could see its shadow between the trees.
- E. The reeds beside the track were bent flat.

Q7. 'smaller tracks of the same general form were running parallel to the large ones' (lines 15-16)

What did these smaller tracks show?

- A. A young one had been walking beside the big creature.
- B. The big creature had walked back the way it came.
- C. A different kind of animal was hunting the big creature.
- D. The big creature had shrunk as it walked.
- E. The professors had walked beside the track.

Q8. In lines 20-23, why is Challenger sure the creature is **not** a bird?

- A. because its feet had only three toes
- B. because it was far too heavy to fly
- C. because he had never seen a bird in the Wealden clay
- D. because birds do not leave tracks in mud
- E. because it sometimes put its five-fingered front paws on the ground, which no bird does

Q9. 'cried Challenger, in an ecstasy' (line 20)

What does 'ecstasy' mean here?

- A. a fit of anger
- B. a state of terror
- C. a state of wild delight
- D. a great hurry
- E. a loud, clear voice

Q10. 'who in the world could have hoped-hoped-to have seen a sight like that?' (lines 27-28)

Why does Challenger say 'hoped' twice?

- A. because he has forgotten what he was saying
- B. because he wants Lord John to hope for more tracks
- C. because he is repeating what the Sussex doctor said
- D. to stress that no scientist could ever have dreamed of seeing a living dinosaur's track
- E. to show that he is starting to doubt the tracks are real

Q11. 'we all stood in motionless amazement' (lines 29-30)

What type of word is 'motionless'?

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

Q12. How many creatures were in the glade, and how many of them were young?

- A. five, two of them young
- B. three, two of them young
- C. five, three of them young
- D. four, three of them young
- E. six, three of them young

Q13. 'I do not know that I can bring their appearance home to you better than by saying that they looked like monstrous kangaroos' (lines 43-45)

Why does the narrator compare the creatures to kangaroos and crocodiles?

- A. because the creatures were really a kind of kangaroo
- B. because he wanted to make the creatures sound funny
- C. because the creatures were hopping towards the party
- D. because Lord John had hunted kangaroos and crocodiles
- E. because his readers have never seen such a creature, so he compares it with animals they can picture

Q14. 'A strong wind blew towards us and we were well concealed, so there was no chance of discovery.' (lines 48-49)

Why did the direction of the wind matter?

- A. It blew the branches over the party to hide them.
- B. It carried the party's scent and sounds away from the creatures.
- C. It made the creatures too cold to move.
- D. It carried the creatures' smell towards the party as a warning.
- E. It was so loud that the party could not hear the creatures.

Q15. 'the little ones played round their parents in unwieldy gambols' (line 50)

What does this tell us about the way the young creatures played?

- A. They played quietly and gracefully.
- B. They fought fiercely with their parents.
- C. They hid from their parents behind the trees.
- D. They leapt about in a heavy, clumsy way.
- E. They were too small to join in the games.

Q16. 'great beasts bounding into the air and falling with dull thuds upon the earth' (lines 51-52)

How many nouns are there in this part of the sentence?

- A. 4
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 5
- E. 6

Q17. 'tore it down as if it had been a sapling' (line 55)

What is a 'sapling'?

- A. a blade of grass
- B. a young, thin tree
- C. a dead, rotten tree
- D. a bunch of leaves
- E. a tree stump

Q18. 'to show not only the great development of its muscles, but also the small one of its brain' (lines 56-57)

What is the narrator suggesting about the creature?

- A. that its brain had been hurt when the tree fell
- B. that its muscles were growing faster than its brain
- C. that it was clever enough to use the tree as a tool
- D. that it was too weak to lift the tree off its back
- E. that it was immensely strong but not very clever, since it pulled the tree down on itself

Q19. What did the creature do after the tree fell on it?

- A. It lay still under the tree.
- B. It charged at the hidden party.
- C. It yelped and then moved off into the wood with its family.
- D. It pulled down another tree.
- E. It ate the leaves from the fallen tree.

Q20. 'their heads undulating high above the brushwood' (line 64)

What does 'undulating' mean?

- A. disappearing
- B. staying perfectly still
- C. turning to look back
- D. rising and falling in a wave-like way
- E. shining brightly

Q21. 'And yet his reason held him in' (line 68)

Why did Lord John not fire his gun, even though he longed to?

- A. because the professors had taken his cartridges
- B. because he was afraid of missing such a big target
- C. because he did not think the creatures were worth hunting
- D. because the creatures had already gone out of range
- E. because a shot would give the party away, and their exploration depended on staying hidden

Q22. 'Summerlee's sardonic face softening for the moment into wonder and reverence' (lines 74-75)

What does this suggest about Summerlee's usual expression?

- A. that he usually looks mocking and scornful
- B. that he usually looks gentle and kind
- C. that he usually looks frightened
- D. that he usually smiles like a child
- E. that he usually looks sleepy and bored

Q23. 'we are on mighty thin ice all this time' (line 78)

What does Lord John mean?

- A. The ground under their feet is starting to freeze.
- B. They are about to fall through into the swamp.
- C. They are in a dangerous situation where things could go wrong at any moment.
- D. They have very little food left.
- E. They are sure to find more dinosaurs soon.

Q24. Which best describes how the narrator feels by the end of the passage?

- A. calm, because the creatures they saw were harmless
- B. amazed by what he has seen, but uneasy about what else might be hiding there
- C. disappointed that Lord John did not shoot
- D. bored after watching the creatures for so long
- E. certain that the plateau holds no other animals

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.

The whole crowd claped and cheered as the band walked on stage.

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

A

B

C

D

- A. The whole crowd
- B. claped and cheered
- C. as the band
- D. walked on stage.
- E. No mistake

Q26.

Dad asked a question, but nobody in the room ansered him.

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

A

B

C

D

- A. Dad asked a question,
- B. but nobody in
- C. the room
- D. ansered him.
- E. No mistake

Q27.

Our new nieghbour has a small dog that barks at every car.

A

B

C

D

A. Our new nieghbour

B. has a small dog

C. that barks

D. at every car.

E. No mistake

Q28.

My brother practises every evening on his electric gitar in the garage.

A

B

C

D

A. My brother practises

B. every evening on

C. his electric gitar

D. in the garage.

E. No mistake

Q29.

The judge's face grew pale as she read out the solem verdict.

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

A

B

C

D

- A. The judge's face
- B. grew pale as she
- C. read out the
- D. solem verdict.
- E. No mistake

Q30.

The climbers rested for an hour before they desended the peak.

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

A

B

C

D

- A. The climbers rested
- B. for an hour before
- C. they desended
- D. the peak.
- E. No mistake

Q31.

A sleek leopard was stretched out along the branch of the tall tree.

└──────────┘ └──────────┘ └──────────┘ └──────────┘
A **B** **C** **D**

- A. A sleek leopard
- B. was stretched out
- C. along the branch
- D. of the tall tree.
- E. No mistake

Q32.

We saw a huge exhibition of dinosaur bones at the museum.

└──────────┘ └──────────┘ └──────────┘ └──────────┘
A **B** **C** **D**

- A. We saw a huge
- B. exhibition of
- C. dinosaur bones
- D. at the museum.
- E. No mistake

Q33.

Our school orchestra played a gentle lullaby at the end of the concert.

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

- A. Our school orchestra
- B. played a gentle
- C. lullaby at the
- D. end of the concert.
- E. No mistake

myFreeSchool

Dinner in a Dinosaur

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.

People in london first saw life-sized dinosaur models in the year 1854.

┌──────────┐	┌──────────┐	┌──────────┐	┌──────────┐
A	B	C	D

- A. People in london
- B. first saw life-sized
- C. dinosaur models
- D. in the year 1854.
- E. No mistake

Q35.

Workers built the dinosaur's from brick, iron and concrete.

┌──────────┐	┌──────────┐	┌──────────┐	┌──────────┐
A	B	C	D

- A. Workers built
- B. the dinosaur's from
- C. brick, iron
- D. and concrete.
- E. No mistake

Q36.

The sculptor, Benjamin Hawkins, followed the best ideas of his day.

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

- A. The sculptor,
- B. Benjamin Hawkins,
- C. followed the best
- D. ideas of his day.
- E. No mistake

Q37.

Before the models were finished a famous dinner was held in one.

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

- A. Before the models
- B. were finished a
- C. famous dinner
- D. was held in one.
- E. No mistake

Q38.

The Iguanodon was so large that twenty guests ate inside it's mould.

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

- A. The Iguanodon was
- B. so large that
- C. twenty guests ate
- D. inside it's mould.
- E. No mistake

Q39.

Less facts were known in those days, so mistakes were made.

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

- A. Less facts
- B. were known in
- C. those days, so
- D. mistakes were made.
- E. No mistake

Q40.

Its thumb spike went on its nose (the experts thought it was a horn.

A

B

C

D

- A. Its thumb spike
- B. went on its nose
- C. (the experts thought
- D. it was a horn.
- E. No mistake

Q41.

Pointing at it, my brother whispered, "is that a horn or a thumb?"

A

B

C

D

- A. Pointing at it, my
- B. brother whispered,
- C. "is that a horn
- D. or a thumb?"
- E. No mistake

Q42.

Neither the models nor their island have changed much since 1854.

└──────────┘ └──────────┘ └──────────┘ └──────────┘
 A **B** **C** **D**

- A. Neither the models
- B. nor their island
- C. have changed much
- D. since 1854.
- E. No mistake

The Fossil Beach

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. On Saturday Grandpa took us fossil hunting at Charmouth, and on the way he gave us a _____ of advice.

- A. peace
- B. pieces
- C. peas
- D. pace
- E. piece

Q44. "Never climb the cliffs," he said. "A fossil that has _____ in the rock for millions of years can wait another day."

- A. laid
- B. lain
- C. lay
- D. lied
- E. layed

Q45. The best finds are often hidden _____ the thousands of grey pebbles on the shore.

- A. among
- B. between
- C. into
- D. onto
- E. toward

Q46. My sister had forgotten her hammer, so she asked me to _____ her mine.

- A. borrow
- B. lent
- C. lending
- D. lend
- E. owe

Q47. For an hour we found nothing, yet Grandpa's secret smile seemed to _____ that he had done rather better.

- A. infer
- B. implied
- C. implying
- D. apply
- E. imply

Q48. At last he opened his hand, and we leaned in with _____ breath to see a perfect ammonite.

- A. baited
- B. bated
- C. bathed
- D. abated
- E. beaten

Q49. He claimed he had once found a dinosaur tooth, but Mum said his stories should be taken with a _____ of salt.

- A. spoon
- B. sprinkle
- C. drop
- D. pinch
- E. bag

Q50. Exhausted but happy, _____ back up the steep path to the car park.

- A. we trudged
- B. the car park was reached
- C. our bags were carried
- D. it was time to walk
- E. the fossils were taken

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