

## English Mock Test 10

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 Cylinder Opens

by H. G. Wells

*This extract comes from The War of the Worlds, first published in 1898. The narrator lives near Woking, in Surrey. The night before, a huge metal cylinder fell from the sky and buried itself in a sand-pit on Horsell Common. The astronomers Ogilvy and Stent believe it has come from Mars, and crowds have gathered to stare at it. The extract has been shortened.*

1 When I returned to the common the sun was setting. Scattered groups were hurrying from the direction of Woking, and one or two persons were returning. The crowd about the pit had increased, and stood out black against the lemon yellow of the sky—a couple of hundred  
5 people, perhaps. There were raised voices, and some sort of struggle appeared to be going on about the pit. Strange imaginings passed through my mind. As I drew nearer I heard Stent's voice:

"Keep back! Keep back!"

A boy came running towards me.

10 "It's a-movin'," he said to me as he passed; "a-screwin' and a-screwin' out. I don't like it. I'm a-goin' 'ome, I am."

I went on to the crowd.

"He's fallen in the pit!" cried some one.

"Keep back!" said several.

15 The crowd swayed a little, and I elbowed my way through. Every one seemed greatly excited. I heard a peculiar humming sound from the

pit.

"I say!" said Ogilvy; "help keep these idiots back. We don't know what's in the confounded thing, you know!"

20 I saw a young man, a shop assistant in Woking I believe he was, standing on the cylinder and trying to scramble out of the hole again. The crowd had pushed him in.

The end of the cylinder was being screwed out from within. Nearly two feet of shining screw projected. Somebody blundered against me, 25 and I narrowly missed being pitched onto the top of the screw. I turned, and as I did so the screw must have come out, for the lid of the cylinder fell upon the gravel with a ringing concussion. I stuck my elbow into the person behind me, and turned my head towards the Thing again. For a moment that circular cavity seemed perfectly 30 black. I had the sunset in my eyes.

I think everyone expected to see a man emerge—possibly something a little unlike us terrestrial men, but in all essentials a man. I know I did. But, looking, I presently saw something stirring within the shadow: greyish billowy movements, one above another, and then 35 two luminous disks—like eyes. Then something resembling a little grey snake, about the thickness of a walking stick, coiled up out of the writhing middle, and wriggled in the air towards me—and then another.

A sudden chill came over me. There was a loud shriek from a woman 40 behind. I half turned, keeping my eyes fixed upon the cylinder still, from which other tentacles were now projecting, and began pushing my way back from the edge of the pit. I saw astonishment giving place to horror on the faces of the people about me. I heard inarticulate exclamations on all sides. There was a general movement 45 backwards. I saw the shopman struggling still on the edge of the pit. I found myself alone, and saw the people on the other side of the pit running off, Stent among them. I looked again at the cylinder, and ungovernable terror gripped me. I stood petrified and staring.

50 A big greyish rounded bulk, the size, perhaps, of a bear, was rising slowly and painfully out of the cylinder. As it bulged up and caught the light, it glistened like wet leather.

Two large dark-coloured eyes were regarding me steadfastly. The mass that framed them, the head of the thing, was rounded, and had, one 55 might say, a face. There was a mouth under the eyes, the lipless brim of which quivered and panted, and dropped saliva. The whole

creature heaved and pulsated convulsively. A lank tentacular appendage gripped the edge of the cylinder, another swayed in the air.

60 Those who have never seen a living Martian can scarcely imagine the strange horror of its appearance. The peculiar V-shaped mouth with its pointed upper lip, the absence of brow ridges, the absence of a chin beneath the wedgelike lower lip, the incessant quivering of this mouth, the Gorgon groups of tentacles, the tumultuous breathing  
65 of the lungs in a strange atmosphere, the evident heaviness and painfulness of movement due to the greater gravitational energy of the earth—above all, the extraordinary intensity of the immense eyes—were at once vital, intense, inhuman, crippled and monstrous. There was something fungoid in the oily brown skin, something in the  
70 clumsy deliberation of the tedious movements unspeakably nasty. Even at this first encounter, this first glimpse, I was overcome with disgust and dread.

Suddenly the monster vanished. It had toppled over the brim of the cylinder and fallen into the pit, with a thud like the fall of a  
75 great mass of leather. I heard it give a peculiar thick cry, and forthwith another of these creatures appeared darkly in the deep shadow of the aperture.

I turned and, running madly, made for the first group of trees, perhaps a hundred yards away; but I ran slantingly and stumbling,  
80 for I could not avert my face from these things.

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

Q1. At what time of day did the narrator return to the common?

- A. at dawn
- B. at midday
- C. in the early afternoon
- D. at sunset
- E. at midnight

Q2. 'stood out black against the lemon yellow of the sky'  
(lines 3-4)

**Why did the crowd look black?**

- A. They were all wearing black clothes.
- B. They were dark shapes against the bright evening sky behind them.
- C. They were covered in soot from the cylinder.
- D. It was already too dark to see their faces.
- E. They were standing in the shadow of the trees.

Q3. 'I'm a-goin' 'ome, I am.' (line 11)

**Why has the author written the boy's words like this?**

- A. because the boy was too frightened to finish his words
- B. to show that the boy could not spell
- C. because the narrator could not hear him properly
- D. to show that the boy came from another country
- E. to show how the boy really spoke, dropping letters in his local accent

Q4. 'help keep these idiots back. We don't know what's in the confounded thing, you know!' (lines 18-19)

**Why did Ogilvy want the crowd kept back?**

- A. because he wanted to be the first to see inside
- B. because the crowd was blocking his view of the sunset
- C. because nobody knew what was inside the cylinder, so it might be dangerous
- D. because the cylinder was about to explode
- E. because the crowd was damaging the grass

Q5. 'what's in the confounded thing' (line 19)

**What does 'confounded' mean here?**

- A. well made
- B. wretched or annoying, said in frustration
- C. hollow
- D. completely silent
- E. belonging to someone

Q6. What had happened to the young shop assistant?

- A. The crowd had pushed him into the pit.
- B. He had climbed into the cylinder.
- C. He had been sent to fetch the police.
- D. He had fallen asleep on the common.
- E. He had run home to Woking.

Q7. 'Nearly two feet of shining screw projected.' (lines 23-24)

**What does 'projected' mean here?**

- A. was shown on a screen
- B. was planned
- C. was thrown
- D. stuck out
- E. sank back in

Q8. 'the lid of the cylinder fell upon the gravel with a ringing concussion' (lines 26-27)

**What is a 'concussion' here?**

- A. a violent, jarring blow
- B. an injury to the head
- C. a soft thud
- D. a long silence
- E. a puff of smoke

Q9. 'For a moment that circular cavity seemed perfectly black. I had the sunset in my eyes.' (lines 29-30)

**Why did the opening look so black?**

- A. The inside of the cylinder was painted black.
- B. Black smoke was pouring out of it.
- C. The creature was blocking the opening.
- D. The sun had already set completely.
- E. He had been looking into the bright sunset, so his eyes could not see into the dark hole.

Q10. 'possibly something a little unlike us terrestrial men' (lines 31-32)

**What does 'terrestrial' mean?**

- A. frightened
- B. living underground
- C. belonging to the Earth
- D. ordinary and dull
- E. very tall

Q11. 'two luminous disks—like eyes' (line 35)

**What does 'luminous' mean?**

- A. enormous
- B. glowing
- C. watery
- D. blinking
- E. flat and round

Q12. 'something resembling a little grey snake' (lines 35-36)

**What was this 'snake' really?**

- A. a real snake that had crawled into the pit
- B. a rope thrown down to the shop assistant
- C. the screw from the lid
- D. one of the creature's tentacles
- E. a walking stick dropped by the crowd

Q13. Who gave a loud shriek?

- A. a woman behind the narrator
- B. the narrator
- C. the shop assistant
- D. the boy who ran past
- E. Ogilvy

Q14. 'I saw astonishment giving place to horror on the faces of the people about me' (lines 42-43)

**What does this mean?**

- A. The people were making room for one another.
- B. The people were pulling faces to scare each other.
- C. The people were becoming calmer.
- D. The people were moving to a better place to watch.
- E. The people's amazement was turning into terror.

Q15. 'I heard inarticulate exclamations on all sides' (lines 43-44)

**What does 'inarticulate exclamations' mean?**

- A. loud, clear orders
- B. whispered prayers
- C. cries and gasps that were not proper words
- D. words in a foreign language
- E. sounds made by the creature

Q16. Who was among the people running off on the other side of the pit?

- A. Ogilvy
- B. Stent
- C. the shop assistant
- D. the narrator
- E. the boy

Q17. 'I stood petrified and staring' (lines 48-49)

**What does 'petrified' mean here?**

- A. so terrified that he could not move
- B. turned into stone
- C. very bored
- D. extremely angry
- E. puzzled but calm

Q18. How big did the narrator think the grey rounded bulk was?

- A. about the size of a man
- B. about the size of a snake
- C. about the size of a horse
- D. about the size of a bear
- E. as big as the cylinder

Q19. 'it glistened like wet leather' (line 52)

**What type of word is 'glistened'?**

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

Q20. 'The whole creature heaved and pulsated convulsively.'  
(lines 56-57)

**How many verbs are there in this sentence?**

- A. 1
- B. 3
- C. 2
- D. 4
- E. 5

Q21. 'Those who have never seen a living Martian can scarcely imagine the strange horror of its appearance.' (lines 60-61)

**What does this sentence suggest?**

- A. that the narrator has never seen a Martian himself
- B. that the narrator has seen one and feels words can hardly describe how dreadful it was
- C. that most people have seen a living Martian
- D. that the Martian was not really frightening
- E. that the narrator wants readers to go and see one

Q22. 'the evident heaviness and painfulness of movement due to the greater gravitational energy of the earth' (lines 65-67)

**Why did the creature move so heavily and painfully?**

- A. because the Earth's gravity is stronger than it was used to, so its body felt much heavier
- B. because it had been hurt when the cylinder crashed
- C. because it was very old
- D. because the crowd was pulling at it
- E. because it was stuck in the lid

Q23. 'forthwith another of these creatures appeared' (lines 75-76)

**What does 'forthwith' mean?**

- A. afterwards, much later
- B. together with the first
- C. going forward
- D. slowly
- E. immediately

Q24. 'I ran slantingly and stumbling, for I could not avert my face from these things' (lines 79-80)

**Why did the narrator stumble as he ran?**

- A. because the ground was covered in gravel
- B. because he had hurt his leg in the crowd
- C. because the sunset was in his eyes
- D. because he kept looking back at the creatures instead of where he was going
- E. because he was carrying something heavy

## 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 hottest day of the year was spent at the beach.

\_\_\_\_\_

**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**

A. The hottest day

B. of the year

C. was spent

D. at the beach.

E. No mistake

Q26.

In spring, the farmer showed us a newborn lam in the barn.

\_\_\_\_\_

**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**

A. In spring, the

B. farmer showed us

C. a newborn

D. lam in the barn.

E. No mistake

Q27.

The whole town was filled with greif when the old ship sank.

\_\_\_\_\_

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

- A. The whole town
- B. was filled with
- C. greif when the
- D. old ship sank.
- E. No mistake

Q28.

Our puppy nawed a hole in the leg of the kitchen table.

\_\_\_\_\_

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

- A. Our puppy
- B. nawed a hole in
- C. the leg of
- D. the kitchen table.
- E. No mistake

Q29.

Dad carried my little sister home on his sholders.

\_\_\_\_\_

**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**

A. Dad carried my

B. little sister

C. home on

D. his sholders.

E. No mistake

Q30.

A hidious mask hung above the door of the haunted house.

\_\_\_\_\_

**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**

A. A hidious mask

B. hung above the

C. door of the

D. haunted house.

E. No mistake

Q31.

Oxygen for the divers was kept in a steel cilinder on the boat.

\_\_\_\_\_

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

- A. Oxygen for the
- B. divers was kept
- C. in a steel cilinder
- D. on the boat.
- E. No mistake

Q32.

The coach showed us a new tecnique for catching a high ball.

\_\_\_\_\_

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

- A. The coach showed
- B. us a new tecnique
- C. for catching
- D. a high ball.
- E. No mistake

Q33.

The ambitious young astronomer spotted a meteor shower.

\_\_\_\_\_

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

- A. The ambitious
- B. young astronomer
- C. spotted a
- D. meteor shower.
- E. No mistake

## Looking for Mars

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.

Mars is a cold dusty and rocky planet about half the size of Earth.

|              |              |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| ┌──────────┐ | ┌──────────┐ | ┌──────────┐ | ┌──────────┐ |
| <b>A</b>     | <b>B</b>     | <b>C</b>     | <b>D</b>     |

- A. Mars is a cold
- B. dusty and rocky
- C. planet about half
- D. the size of Earth.
- E. No mistake

Q35.

Its red colour comes from rusty dust. the dust covers everything.

|              |              |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| ┌──────────┐ | ┌──────────┐ | ┌──────────┐ | ┌──────────┐ |
| <b>A</b>     | <b>B</b>     | <b>C</b>     | <b>D</b>     |

- A. Its red colour
- B. comes from rusty
- C. dust. the dust
- D. covers everything.
- E. No mistake

Q36.

Olympus Mons, a huge volcano, is more than twice as tall as Everest.

\_\_\_\_\_

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

- A. Olympus Mons, a
- B. huge volcano, is
- C. more than twice
- D. as tall as Everest.
- E. No mistake

Q37.

Mars has two small moons, and there names are Phobos and Deimos.

\_\_\_\_\_

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

- A. Mars has two
- B. small moons, and
- C. there names are
- D. Phobos and Deimos.
- E. No mistake

Q38.

Phobos is the biggest of the two moons, but both are very small.

\_\_\_\_\_

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

- A. Phobos is the
- B. biggest of the two
- C. moons, but both
- D. are very small.
- E. No mistake

Q39.

Scientists who's robots explore Mars hope to find signs of life.

\_\_\_\_\_

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

- A. Scientists
- B. who's robots explore
- C. Mars hope to
- D. find signs of life.
- E. No mistake

Q40.

The rovers carry: cameras, drills and tiny laboratories.

\_\_\_\_\_

**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**

A. The rovers carry:

B. cameras, drills

C. and tiny

D. laboratories.

E. No mistake

Q41.

As we stared up, my sister asked, "Could people live there?"

\_\_\_\_\_

**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**

A. As we stared up,

B. my sister asked,

C. "Could people

D. live there?

E. No mistake

Q42.

Between you and I, I would rather watch Mars from my own garden.

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

- A. Between you and I,
- B. I would rather
- C. watch Mars from
- D. my own garden.
- E. No mistake

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## The Planetarium Trip

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. The night before our planetarium trip, I was so excited that I could \_\_\_\_\_ sleep.

- A. hard
- B. hardy
- C. hardly
- D. harder
- E. hardness

Q44. We had to be at school by eight o'clock, \_\_\_\_\_ the coach would leave without us.

- A. otherwise
- B. although
- C. whether
- D. because
- E. unless

Q45. Inside, the room was dark, and the seats \_\_\_\_\_ so that we could stare straight up at the dome.

- A. declined
- B. inclined
- C. recoiled
- D. reclined
- E. relied

Q46. Our guide, Dr Ahmed, began by explaining \_\_\_\_\_ Mars is called the Red Planet.

- A. what
- B. which
- C. who
- D. whose
- E. why

Q47. Its colour, she said, is \_\_\_\_\_ to iron in the dust, which has rusted over millions of years.

- A. owed
- B. due
- C. made
- D. result
- E. caused

Q48. A rover on Mars can take months to \_\_\_\_\_ a single crater.

- A. traverse
- B. transverse
- C. travesty
- D. traversal
- E. travel

Q49. When Dr Ahmed let me press the button to launch the show, I was over the \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. stars
- B. sun
- C. sky
- D. moon
- E. rainbow

Q50. On the coach home, \_\_\_\_\_ of us could stop talking about what we had seen.

- A. no one
- B. nobody
- C. none
- D. nothing
- E. neither

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