

English Mock Test 14

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.

Animal Language

by Hugh Lofting

This extract comes from The Story of Doctor Dolittle, first published in 1920. John Dolittle is a doctor in the little English town of Puddleby-on-the-Marsh. He loves animals and keeps so many pets that nearly all his human patients have stopped coming to see him. One of the few who still visit is the Cat's-meat-Man, who sells meat for people's pets, and who has just told the Doctor that he knows so much about animals that he ought to treat them instead. The extract has been shortened.

1 It happened one day that the Doctor was sitting in his kitchen talking with the Cat's-meat-Man who had come to see him with a stomach-ache.

"Why don't you give up being a people's doctor, and be an
5 animal-doctor?" asked the Cat's-meat-Man.

The parrot, Polynesia, was sitting in the window looking out at the rain and singing a sailor-song to herself. She stopped singing and started to listen.

When the Cat's-meat-Man had gone the parrot flew off the window on
10 to the Doctor's table and said, "That man's got sense. That's what you ought to do. Be an animal-doctor. Give the silly people up-if they haven't brains enough to see you're the best doctor in the world. Take care of animals instead-they'll soon find it out. Be an animal-doctor."

15 "Oh, there are plenty of animal-doctors," said John Dolittle, putting the flower-pots outside on the window-sill to get the rain.

"Yes, there are plenty," said Polynesia. "But none of them are any good at all. Now listen, Doctor, and I'll tell you something. Did you know that animals can talk?"

20 "I knew that parrots can talk," said the Doctor.

"Oh, we parrots can talk in two languages—people's language and bird-language," said Polynesia proudly. "If I say, 'Polly wants a cracker,' you understand me. But hear this: Ka-ka oi-ee, fee-fee?"

"Good Gracious!" cried the Doctor. "What does that mean?"

25 "That means, 'Is the porridge hot yet?'—in bird-language."

"My! You don't say so!" said the Doctor. "You never talked that way to me before."

"What would have been the good?" said Polynesia, dusting some cracker-crumbs off her left wing. "You wouldn't have understood me
30 if I had."

"Tell me some more," said the Doctor, all excited; and he rushed over to the dresser-drawer and came back with the butcher's book and a pencil. "Now don't go too fast—and I'll write it down. This is interesting—very interesting—something quite new. Give me the Birds'
35 A.B.C. first—slowly now."

So that was the way the Doctor came to know that animals had a language of their own and could talk to one another. And all that afternoon, while it was raining, Polynesia sat on the kitchen table giving him bird words to put down in the book.

40 At tea-time, when the dog, Jip, came in, the parrot said to the Doctor, "See, he's talking to you."

"Looks to me as though he were scratching his ear," said the Doctor.

"But animals don't always speak with their mouths," said the parrot in a high voice, raising her eyebrows. "They talk with their ears,
45 with their feet, with their tails—with everything. Sometimes they don't want to make a noise. Do you see now the way he's twitching up one side of his nose?"

"What's that mean?" asked the Doctor.

"That means, 'Can't you see that it has stopped raining?'" Polynesia
50 answered. "He is asking you a question. Dogs nearly always use their

noses for asking questions."

After a while, with the parrot's help, the Doctor got to learn the language of the animals so well that he could talk to them himself and understand everything they said. Then he gave up being a
55 people's doctor altogether.

One afternoon when the Doctor was busy writing in a book, Polynesia sat in the window—as she nearly always did—looking out at the leaves blowing about in the garden. Presently she laughed aloud.

"What is it, Polynesia?" asked the Doctor, looking up from his book.

60 "I was just thinking," said the parrot; and she went on looking at the leaves.

"What were you thinking?"

"I was thinking about people," said Polynesia. "People make me sick. They think they're so wonderful. The world has been going on now for
65 thousands of years, hasn't it? And the only thing in animal-language that people have learned to understand is that when a dog wags his tail he means 'I'm glad!'—It's funny, isn't it? You are the very first man to talk like us. Oh, sometimes people annoy me dreadfully—such airs they put on—talking about 'the dumb animals.'
70 Dumb!—Huh! Why I knew a macaw once who could say 'Good morning!' in seven different ways without once opening his mouth. He could talk every language—and Greek. An old professor with a grey beard bought him. But he didn't stay. He said the old man didn't talk Greek right, and he couldn't stand listening to him teach the language
75 wrong. I often wonder what's become of him. That bird knew more geography than people will ever know.—People, Golly! I suppose if people ever learn to fly—like any common hedge-sparrow—we shall never hear the end of it!"

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

Q1. Why had the Cat's-meat-Man come to see the Doctor?

- A. His cat was ill.
- B. He wanted to sell the Doctor some meat.
- C. He wanted to buy a parrot.
- D. He had a stomach-ache.
- E. He had hurt his leg.

Q2. 'The parrot, Polynesia, was sitting in the window looking out at the rain and singing a sailor-song to herself.' (lines 6-7)

How many nouns are there in this sentence?

- A. 3
- B. 4
- C. 5
- D. 6
- E. 7

Q3. 'Give the silly people up—if they haven't brains enough to see you're the best doctor in the world.' (lines 11-13)

What does Polynesia think of the people who have stopped visiting the Doctor?

- A. They are foolish not to realise how good a doctor he is.
- B. They are right to stay away from him.
- C. They are too ill to visit him.
- D. They are cleverer than the Doctor.
- E. They are frightened of the parrot.

Q4. 'Take care of animals instead—they'll soon find it out.'
(line 13)

What will the animals 'soon find out'?

- A. that he has no money left
- B. where his house is
- C. that the people have given him up
- D. how to talk to him
- E. that he is the best doctor in the world

Q5. What was the Doctor doing when he said that there were plenty of animal-doctors?

- A. writing in a book
- B. putting flower-pots on the window-sill
- C. eating his porridge
- D. feeding the parrot
- E. reading a book about cats

Q6. 'said Polynesia proudly' (line 22)

Why is Polynesia proud?

- A. She can sing sailor-songs.
- B. She is the Doctor's favourite pet.
- C. She has taught the Doctor to read.
- D. She can speak two languages, people's language and bird-language.
- E. She is older than the Doctor.

Q7. What does 'Ka-ka oi-ee, fee-fee?' mean in bird-language?

- A. Is the porridge hot yet?
- B. Polly wants a cracker.
- C. Good morning!
- D. I'm glad!
- E. Can't you see that it has stopped raining?

Q8. 'What would have been the good?' (line 28)

What does Polynesia mean?

- A. She did not know bird-language until that day.
- B. She had been told not to speak to him.
- C. There was no point speaking bird-language to him, because he could not have understood it.
- D. She thinks bird-language is better than people's language.
- E. She wanted the Doctor to be good.

Q9. 'said the Doctor, all excited' (line 31)

What type of word is 'excited' here?

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

Q10. 'he rushed over to the dresser-drawer and came back with the butcher's book and a pencil' (lines 31-33)

What does this suggest?

- A. He wanted to order some meat from the butcher.
- B. The butcher had asked him to write a list.
- C. He always kept his notes about animals in that book.
- D. He was worried he would forget the butcher's bill.
- E. He was so eager to start that he grabbed the first thing he could write in.

Q11. 'Give me the Birds' A.B.C. first—slowly now.' (lines 34–35)

What is the Doctor asking for?

- A. the simplest beginnings of bird-language, to start learning from
- B. a book that birds have written
- C. the names of all the birds he knows
- D. an explanation of why birds sing
- E. a list of words in alphabetical order

Q12. 'Looks to me as though he were scratching his ear' (line 42)

What does the Doctor's reply show?

- A. He thinks Jip has fleas and needs treatment.
- B. He is too busy to look at Jip.
- C. He already knows what Jip is saying.
- D. He sees only an ordinary movement, not realising that animals can talk with their bodies.
- E. He does not believe that Jip is his dog.

Q13. 'said the parrot in a high voice, raising her eyebrows' (lines 43–44)

What does this suggest about how Polynesia feels?

- A. She is frightened of Jip.
- B. She is delighted with the Doctor's progress.
- C. She is surprised and a little impatient that the Doctor has missed something so obvious to her.
- D. She is too tired to explain.
- E. She is ashamed of her mistake.

Q14. What was Jip saying when he twitched up one side of his nose?

- A. Is the porridge hot yet?
- B. Can't you see that it has stopped raining?
- C. I'm hungry.
- D. Please scratch my ear.
- E. Good morning!

Q15. 'Then he gave up being a people's doctor altogether.'
(lines 54-55)

Why was the Doctor now ready to do this?

- A. His sister had told him to stop.
- B. He had become too old to treat people.
- C. The Cat's-meat-Man had paid him a lot of money.
- D. He had forgotten how to treat people.
- E. He could talk to animals and understand them, so he could be a truly good animal-doctor.

Q16. 'Presently she laughed aloud.' (line 58)

What does 'presently' mean here?

- A. after a short time
- B. at this moment
- C. rudely
- D. as a gift
- E. quietly

Q17. 'People make me sick. They think they're so wonderful.'
(lines 63-64)

What annoys Polynesia most about people?

- A. They are cruel to parrots.
- B. They never listen to music.
- C. They are always ill and need doctors.
- D. They think very highly of themselves, although they understand so little.
- E. They cannot fly.

Q18. 'The world has been going on now for thousands of years, hasn't it?' (lines 64-65)

What are the words 'hasn't it?' called?

- A. a command
- B. a question tag
- C. an exclamation
- D. a subordinate clause
- E. a simile

Q19. 'such airs they put on' (line 69)

What does it mean if people 'put on airs'?

- A. They open the windows to let in fresh air.
- B. They sing songs to themselves.
- C. They wear their best clothes.
- D. They breathe very loudly.
- E. They behave as if they are more important than they really are.

Q20. 'Dumb!—Huh!' (line 70)

Why is Polynesia so scornful of people calling animals 'dumb'?

- A. She thinks animals are cleverer than people.
- B. She has never heard the word before.
- C. Dumb means unable to speak, and she knows that animals can speak perfectly well.
- D. She thinks the word is too long.
- E. The Doctor had called her dumb.

Q21. 'who could say 'Good morning!' in seven different ways without once opening his mouth' (lines 70-71)

What point is Polynesia making with this example?

- A. Animals can say a great deal without making any sound at all.
- B. The macaw had a very sore beak.
- C. Macaws are better at languages than parrots.
- D. The macaw was too shy to speak.
- E. Good morning is the hardest thing to say.

Q22. Why did the macaw not stay with the old professor?

- A. The professor was unkind to him.
- B. The macaw wanted to learn geography.
- C. The professor could not afford to keep him.
- D. The professor spoke Greek badly and taught the language wrongly.
- E. The macaw flew home to Africa.

Q23. 'I suppose if people ever learn to fly—like any common hedge-sparrow—we shall never hear the end of it!' (lines 76–78)

What does Polynesia mean?

- A. People will never be able to fly.
- B. People would boast endlessly about doing something that even an ordinary small bird can do.
- C. Hedge-sparrows are the best fliers of all birds.
- D. Birds would stop talking if people could fly.
- E. People would fly so noisily that birds could not hear.

Q24. Which of these best describes Polynesia in this passage?

- A. shy and nervous
- B. lazy and forgetful
- C. cruel and spiteful
- D. silly and giddy
- E. clever and outspoken

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.

Tom grabed his coat and ran out into the rain.

A

B

C

D

- A. Tom grabed
- B. his coat and
- C. ran out
- D. into the rain.
- E. No mistake

Q26.

On the beach, children rode the donkies along the sand.

A

B

C

D

- A. On the beach,
- B. children rode
- C. the donkies
- D. along the sand.
- E. No mistake

Q27.

Grandad caught a huge fish which he said was a samon.

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

- A. Grandad caught
- B. a huge fish
- C. which he said
- D. was a samon.
- E. No mistake

Q28.

My tooth began to ake during the school play.

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

- A. My tooth
- B. began to ake
- C. during the
- D. school play.
- E. No mistake

Q29.

She squeezed the orange and poured the juice into a glass.

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

- A. She squeezed
- B. the orange and
- C. poured the juice
- D. into a glass.
- E. No mistake

Q30.

The rhinoseros charged across the dusty plain.

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

- A. The rhinoseros
- B. charged across
- C. the dusty
- D. plain.
- E. No mistake

Q31.

The injured hedgehog was taken to a veterinary surgery.

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

- A. The injured
- B. hedgehog was
- C. taken to a
- D. veterinary surgery.
- E. No mistake

Q32.

The university professor gave a talk about volcanoes.

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

- A. The university
- B. professor gave
- C. a talk about
- D. volcanoes.
- E. No mistake

Q33.

A magnificent parrot perched on the mantelpiece.

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

- A. A magnificent
- B. parrot perched
- C. on the
- D. mantelpiece.
- E. No mistake

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The Hedgehog Hospital

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.

Last winter, we found a hedgehog in our garden it looked very thin.

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A	B	C	D

- A. Last winter, we
- B. found a hedgehog
- C. in our garden it
- D. looked very thin.
- E. No mistake

Q35.

It was a cold morning, and frost covered the grass in early january.

-----	-----	-----	-----
A	B	C	D

- A. It was a cold
- B. morning, and frost
- C. covered the grass
- D. in early january.
- E. No mistake

Q36.

A neighbour told us their was a hedgehog hospital nearby.

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

A

B

C

D

- A. A neighbour
- B. told us their
- C. was a hedgehog
- D. hospital nearby.
- E. No mistake

Q37.

The vet, whom examined it, said it was far too small.

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

A

B

C

D

- A. The vet, whom
- B. examined it,
- C. said it was far
- D. too small.
- E. No mistake

Q38.

Weighing 300 grams, it was the most smallest one she had seen.

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

- A. Weighing 300 grams,
- B. it was the
- C. most smallest one
- D. she had seen.
- E. No mistake

Q39.

If we had not found it, the hedgehog would have froze.

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

- A. If we had not
- B. found it, the
- C. hedgehog would
- D. have froze.
- E. No mistake

Q40.

For six weeks, the hedgehog's carers fed it cat food, not milk.

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

- A. For six weeks, the
- B. hedgehog's carers
- C. fed it cat food,
- D. not milk.
- E. No mistake

Q41.

By March, it had grown, so we was allowed to collect it.

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

- A. By March, it
- B. had grown, so
- C. we was allowed
- D. to collect it.
- E. No mistake

Q42.

We let it go, however, we still see its tracks in the mud.

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

- A. We let it go, however,
- B. we still see
- C. its tracks in
- D. the mud.
- E. No mistake

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The Night Walk

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. For our class night walk, we all had to wear _____ warmest coats.

- A. are
- B. our
- C. hour
- D. ours
- E. us

Q44. Mr Hill gave each of us a torch _____ a red filter over the bulb.

- A. which
- B. witch
- C. width
- D. with
- E. whose

Q45. The red light, he explained, would not _____ the animals.

- A. disturb
- B. disturbing
- C. disturbance
- D. disturbed
- E. disturbs

Q46. We walked in single _____ along the edge of the wood.

- A. line
- B. row
- C. file
- D. queue
- E. order

Q47. Mr Hill told us to keep perfectly still, _____ we might frighten the wildlife away.

- A. and
- B. but
- C. if
- D. unless
- E. or

Q48. An owl's eyes are so _____ that it can spot a mouse in near darkness.

- A. sensible
- B. sensitive
- C. sensational
- D. senseless
- E. sensation

Q49. When one flew over our heads, it did not make a _____ sound.

- A. sole
- B. lone
- C. only
- D. single
- E. one

Q50. By the end of the walk, we had spotted three bats and a badger, _____ was more than we had hoped for.

- A. which
- B. what
- C. that
- D. who
- E. it

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