

English Mock Test 21

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 Warning at Arnwood

by Captain Frederick Marryat

This extract comes from The Children of the New Forest, first published in 1847 and set in 1647, during the English Civil War between the King's supporters, the Cavaliers, and the soldiers of Parliament, the Roundheads. The four Beverley children, Edward, Humphrey, Alice and Edith, have lost both parents: their father, the colonel, was killed fighting for the King. They live at Arnwood, a large house in the New Forest, with their aunt, Miss Judith Villiers, and a few servants, among them Agatha, Martha and Benjamin. Nobody pays the children much attention. Jacob Armitage, an old forester who served their father, has overheard a troop of Parliament's soldiers planning to burn Arnwood that night, and has ridden there to warn the household. Venison is deer meat, and a buttery is a store-room for food and drink. The extract has been shortened.

1 In a few minutes Jacob was ushered up by Agatha into Miss Judith Villiers's apartment. The old lady was about fifty years of age, very prim and starched, sitting in a high-backed chair, with her feet upon a stool, and her hands crossed before her, her black
5 mittens reposing upon her snow-white apron.

The old forester made his obeisance.

"You have important business with us, I am told," observed Miss Judith.

"Agatha, retire; and Agatha, be mindful that you go downstairs, and
10 do not remain outside the door."

Agatha, with this injunction, bounced out of the room, slamming-to the door so as to make Miss Judith start from her seat.

"Ill-mannered girl!" exclaimed Miss Judith. "Now, Jacob Armitage, you may proceed."

15 Jacob then entered into the detail of what he had overheard that morning, when he fell in with the troopers, concluding with the information that the mansion would be burnt down that very night. He then pointed out the necessity of immediately abandoning the house, as it would be impossible to oppose the troopers.

20 "And where am I to go to, Jacob?" said Miss Judith calmly.

"I hardly know, madam; there is my cottage, it is but a poor place, and not fit for one like you."

"So I should presume, Jacob Armitage; neither shall I accept your offer. It would ill befit the dignity of a Villiers to be frightened
25 out of her abode by a party of rude soldiers. Happen what will, I shall not stir from this—no, not even from this chair."

"But, madam, the children cannot remain here. I will not leave them here. I promised the colonel—"

"Will the children be in more danger than I shall be, Jacob
30 Armitage?" replied the old lady stiffly. "They dare not ill-treat me—they may force the buttery and drink the ale—they may make merry with that and the venison which you have brought with you, I presume; but they will hardly venture to insult a lady of the house of Villiers."

35 "I fear they will venture anything, madam. At all events, they will frighten the children, and for one night they will be better in my cottage."

"Well, then, be it so; take them to your cottage, and take Martha to attend upon the Miss Beverleys."

40 Jacob left the room, satisfied with the permission to remove the children. He knew that it was useless to argue with Miss Judith, who was immovable when once she had declared her intentions. He was debating in his own mind whether he should acquaint the servants with the threatened danger; but he had no occasion to do so, for
45 Agatha had remained at the door while Jacob was communicating the intelligence, and as soon as he had arrived at that portion of it by which she learnt that the mansion was to be burnt down that night, had run off to the kitchen to communicate the intelligence to the other servants.

50 "They'll all leave her," thought Jacob; "well, my duty is plain; I'll not leave the children in the house." Jacob then went in search of them, and found them playing in the garden. He called the two boys to him, and told them to follow him. "Now, Mr Edward," said he, "you must prove yourself your father's own son. We must leave this
55 house immediately; come up with me to your rooms, and help me to pack up yours and your sisters' clothes, for we must go to my cottage this night. There is no time to be lost."

"But why, Jacob; I must know why?"

"Because the Parliamentary troopers will burn it down this night."

60 "Burn it down! Why, the house is mine, is it not? Who dares to burn down this house?"

"They will dare it, and will do it."

"But we will fight them, Jacob; we can bolt and bar; I can fire a gun, and hit too, as you know; then there's Benjamin and you."

65 "And what can you and two men do against a troop of horse, my dear boy? If we could defend the place against them, Jacob Armitage would be the first; but it is impossible, my dear boy. Recollect your sisters. Would you have them burnt to death, or shot by these wretches?"

70 "But where does Aunt Judith go?" inquired Edward.

"She will not leave the house, Master Edward; she intends to stay and speak to the troopers."

"And so an old woman like her remains to face the enemy, while I run away from them!" replied Edward. "I will not go."

75 "Well, Master Edward," replied Jacob, "you must do as you please; but it will be cruel to leave your sisters here; they and Humphrey must come with me, and I cannot manage to get them to the cottage without you go with us; it is not far, and you can return in a very short time."

80 To this Edward consented.

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 took Jacob up to Miss Judith's room?

- A. Benjamin
- B. Agatha
- C. Martha
- D. Edward
- E. the cook

Q2. 'very prim and starched' (line 3)

What does this suggest about Miss Judith?

- A. She had just been doing the washing.
- B. She was relaxed and easy-going.
- C. She was untidy and careless about her clothes.
- D. She was stiff, formal and very proper in her manner.
- E. She was feeling unwell and pale.

Q3. 'The old forester made his obeisance.' (line 6)

What does 'obeisance' mean?

- A. a respectful bow
- B. an excuse for being late
- C. a complaint
- D. a solemn promise
- E. a report of the news

Q4. 'be mindful that you go downstairs, and do not remain outside the door' (lines 9-10)

Why does Miss Judith give Agatha this order?

- A. She wants Agatha to guard the door against the troopers.
- B. She wants Agatha to fetch food from the kitchen.
- C. She is cross that Agatha has just slammed the door.
- D. She wants Agatha to go and warn the children.
- E. She suspects Agatha might listen at the door, and wants Jacob's news kept private.

Q5. 'bounced out of the room, slamming-to the door' (lines 11-12)

What does this suggest about how Agatha felt?

- A. She was terrified of the troopers.
- B. She was delighted to have some time off.
- C. She was annoyed at being sent away.
- D. She was rushing to warn the other servants.
- E. She had tripped on the step as she left.

Q6. What news had Jacob come to tell Miss Judith?

- A. that the house would be burnt down that very night
- B. that the king had been captured
- C. that the troopers would arrive the following week
- D. that the children's father was coming home
- E. that Benjamin had run away

Q7. 'said Miss Judith calmly' (line 20)

What does her calm reply show about her?

- A. She had not understood what Jacob said.
- B. She had known about the troopers all along.
- C. She was pleased to have a reason to leave.
- D. She was not easily alarmed, even by frightening news.
- E. She was too frightened to raise her voice.

Q8. 'It would ill befit the dignity of a Villiers' (line 24)

What does Miss Judith mean?

- A. Her family could not afford to move to a new house.
- B. It would be beneath someone from her proud family to be scared out of her home.
- C. The Villiers family would be angry if she stayed.
- D. The soldiers would not know who a Villiers was.
- E. She was too ill to be moved.

Q9. 'no, not even from this chair' (line 26)

Why does Miss Judith add these words?

- A. because she cannot walk without help
- B. because she wants to be carried out in her chair
- C. because she is hiding something under the chair
- D. because the chair is the only comfortable seat in the house
- E. to show that she is completely determined not to move at all

Q10. 'I promised the colonel—' (line 28)

What does the dash at the end show?

- A. Jacob has finished everything he wanted to say.
- B. Jacob is asking a question.
- C. Jacob is interrupted before he can finish.
- D. Jacob is shouting angrily.
- E. Jacob has forgotten what he promised.

Q11. 'the venison which you have brought with you, I presume' (lines 32-33)

What does 'I presume' mean?

- A. I insist
- B. I remember
- C. I regret
- D. I forbid
- E. I suppose

Q12. 'they will hardly venture to insult a lady of the house of Villiers' (lines 33-34)

Why does Miss Judith believe she will be safe?

- A. She thinks no soldier would dare to mistreat a lady of her family.
- B. She has soldiers of her own to protect her.
- C. She means to hide until the troopers have gone.
- D. She knows the troopers' leader.
- E. She will give the troopers all the food in the house.

Q13. 'I fear they will venture anything' (line 35)

What does Jacob mean?

- A. The troopers will travel anywhere in the forest.
- B. The troopers will dare to do anything, however wicked.
- C. The troopers will risk all their money.
- D. The troopers will eat anything they find.
- E. The troopers will be too frightened to do anything.

Q14. Which servant did Miss Judith tell Jacob to take with the children?

- A. Agatha
- B. Benjamin
- C. the cook
- D. Martha
- E. Jacob's wife

Q15. 'who was immovable when once she had declared her intentions' (lines 41-42)

What does 'immovable' mean here?

- A. too heavy to be lifted
- B. unable to walk
- C. impossible to persuade to change her mind
- D. very forgetful
- E. easily frightened

Q16. 'whether he should acquaint the servants with the threatened danger' (lines 43-44)

What does 'acquaint' mean?

- A. tell
- B. protect
- C. frighten
- D. rescue
- E. hide from

Q17. 'Agatha had remained at the door' (line 45)

Why is this surprising?

- A. Agatha had been told to guard the door.
- B. Jacob had asked Agatha to listen for him.
- C. Agatha had already left the house.
- D. Agatha was meant to be looking after the children.
- E. Miss Judith had ordered her not to wait outside the door, so she had disobeyed.

Q18. 'They'll all leave her' (line 50)

What does Jacob expect to happen?

- A. The troopers will leave Miss Judith unharmed.
- B. The servants will run away and leave Miss Judith alone in the house.
- C. The servants will take Miss Judith away with them.
- D. The children will refuse to leave their aunt.
- E. Miss Judith will send all the servants away.

Q19. Where did Jacob find the children?

- A. in their bedrooms
- B. in the kitchen
- C. playing in the garden
- D. in the stables
- E. at his cottage

Q20. 'you must prove yourself your father's own son' (line 54)

What does Jacob mean?

- A. Edward must prove who his father really was.
- B. Edward must look after his father's horses.
- C. Edward must fight the troopers, as his father would have done.
- D. Edward must show that he is as brave and dependable as his father was.
- E. Edward must do whatever his aunt tells him.

Q21. 'Why, the house is mine, is it not?' (line 60)

What does this show about Edward?

- A. He is outraged that anyone would dare to destroy his own home.
- B. He is not sure who the house belongs to.
- C. He is frightened and wants to leave at once.
- D. He thinks Jacob is making a joke.
- E. He would be glad to see the house burnt.

Q22. 'And so an old woman like her remains to face the enemy, while I run away from them!' (lines 73-74)

Why does Edward refuse to go at first?

- A. He does not believe the troopers are really coming.
- B. He wants to stay and look after the servants.
- C. He is afraid of the dark forest.
- D. He does not like Jacob's cottage.
- E. He feels it would be cowardly to run while an old woman stays to face the enemy.

Q23. 'they and Humphrey must come with me, and I cannot manage to get them to the cottage without you go with us' (lines 76-78)

How does Jacob persuade Edward?

- A. He orders Edward to obey him.
- B. He tells Edward that the troopers have already arrived.
- C. He makes Edward's duty to his sisters matter more than his pride, and says he can soon return.
- D. He promises to give Edward his gun.
- E. He tells Edward that his aunt wants him to go.

Q24. What do Miss Judith and Edward have in common in this passage?

- A. Both are very frightened of the soldiers.
- B. Both are too proud to run away from the soldiers.
- C. Both trust Jacob's advice at once.
- D. Both leave for the cottage together.
- E. Both want to fight the soldiers with guns.

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 children tidyed their bedroom before the visitors came.

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

A

B

C

D

- A. The children
- B. tidyed their
- C. bedroom before
- D. the visitors came.
- E. No mistake

Q26.

The bike hit a puddle and then skided sideways.

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

A

B

C

D

- A. The bike
- B. hit a puddle
- C. and then
- D. skided sideways.
- E. No mistake

Q27.

Sausige rolls were served at the party in the hall.

A

B

C

D

A. Sausige rolls

B. were served

C. at the party

D. in the hall.

E. No mistake

Q28.

We gazed at the mountain scenery from the train window.

A

B

C

D

A. We gazed at

B. the mountain

C. scenery from

D. the train window.

E. No mistake

Q29.

A buzzing moskito kept me awake all night long.

└───┬───┬───┬───┘
A B C D

- A. A buzzing
- B. moskito kept
- C. me awake
- D. all night long.
- E. No mistake

Q30.

The farmer swung a sharp sythe through the long grass.

└───┬───┬───┬───┘
A B C D

- A. The farmer
- B. swung a sharp
- C. sythe through
- D. the long grass.
- E. No mistake

Q31.

Paralised with fear, the rabbit froze in the headlights.

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

- A. Paralised with
- B. fear, the
- C. rabbit froze
- D. in the headlights.
- E. No mistake

Q32.

Above the grand staircase hung a crystal chandeleir.

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

- A. Above the
- B. grand staircase
- C. hung a crystal
- D. chandeleir.
- E. No mistake

Q33.

The dungeon beneath the castle was damp and eerily silent.

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

- A. The dungeon
- B. beneath the castle
- C. was damp and
- D. eerily silent.
- E. No mistake

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The King in the Oak Tree

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.

In 1651, the young king charles lost a great battle at Worcester.

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

- A. In 1651, the
- B. young king charles
- C. lost a great
- D. battle at Worcester.
- E. No mistake

Q35.

Soldiers searched every farmers barn for him.

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

- A. Soldiers
- B. searched every
- C. farmers barn
- D. for him.
- E. No mistake

Q36.

He climbed an old oak, and it's thick leaves hid him.

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

- A. He climbed an
- B. old oak, and it's
- C. thick leaves
- D. hid him.
- E. No mistake

Q37.

"Keep still" whispered his friend. "The soldiers are near."

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

- A. "Keep still"
- B. whispered his
- C. friend. "The
- D. soldiers are near."
- E. No mistake

Q38.

The soldiers passed beneath, but they never saw nobody.

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

- A. The soldiers
- B. passed beneath,
- C. but they
- D. never saw nobody.
- E. No mistake

Q39.

Meanwhile, Richard Penderel, a loyal farmer brought him food.

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

- A. Meanwhile,
- B. Richard Penderel,
- C. a loyal farmer
- D. brought him food.
- E. No mistake

Q40.

Each night, Charles wondered whether he would ever reach France?

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

- A. Each night,
- B. Charles wondered
- C. whether he would
- D. ever reach France?
- E. No mistake

Q41.

When he returned as king, 29 May became a holiday: Oak Apple Day.

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

- A. When he returned
- B. as king, 29 May
- C. became a holiday:
- D. Oak Apple Day.
- E. No mistake

Q42.

The story of his escape are still told today, and children love it.

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

- A. The story of his
- B. escape are still
- C. told today, and
- D. children love it.
- E. No mistake

The Battle Re-enactment

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. Last Saturday, my family went to watch a Civil War battle being acted out in a field. The actors had made all _____ costumes by hand.

- A. there
- B. they're
- C. their
- D. theirs
- E. them

Q44. When the drums began to beat, the two armies _____ slowly towards each other across the grass.

- A. marched
- B. marching
- C. marcher
- D. marchers
- E. marches

Q45. There were _____ horses than I had expected, with only six riders in all.

- A. less
- B. little
- C. lesser
- D. least
- E. fewer

Q46. Each foot soldier was armed _____ a long wooden pike.

- A. by
- B. with
- C. of
- D. from
- E. at

Q47. The captain, _____ my uncle has known for years, let us try on a real metal helmet.

- A. which
- B. whose
- C. what
- D. whom
- E. where

Q48. It was so heavy and hot that I felt as if I _____ really standing on a battlefield in 1645.

- A. were
- B. am
- C. be
- D. being
- E. been

Q49. The fighting went on all afternoon, and neither the Roundheads nor the Cavaliers _____ willing to give up.

- A. was
- B. is
- C. were
- D. has
- E. being

Q50. _____ being tired and muddy, we all agreed that it had been the best day of the summer.

- A. Although
- B. Despite
- C. However
- D. Because
- E. Unless

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