

English Mock Test 23 Answers

Q#	Answer	Explanation
1	D	Lines 1-2: a very self-possessed young lady of fifteen.
2	B	Someone self-possessed is in control of their feelings and at ease, even with a stranger. The niece chats confidently to a grown-up visitor she has never met.
3	E	He wanted to say the correct something: a compliment to the niece that would not suggest her aunt was the less welcome company. To discount someone is to treat them as less important, and unduly means more than is proper.
4	A	Framton is supposed to be undergoing a nerve cure: he is anxious and easily upset, and has come to the quiet countryside for rest. His sister stayed at the rectory four years ago; she is not there now.
5	C	Communion can mean sharing thoughts, so silent communion is a joking, grand way of describing an awkward silence. She judged shows that the niece is the one in control, choosing when to speak.
6	B	First she asks whether he knows anyone round here, then whether he knows anything about her aunt, and then checks that the tragedy happened since your sister's time. Only when she is sure he knows nothing does she tell her story, which the ending shows was made up.
7	D	Masculine habitation means that men live there. Framton notices it before Vera tells her story, and it is a clue that the husband and brothers are alive after all. Framton forgets it once he hears about the tragedy.
8	A	Line 21: Her great tragedy happened just three years ago. Four years ago is when Framton's sister stayed at the rectory.
9	E	Lines 23-24: why we keep that window wide open on an October afternoon.

10	C	Something treacherous betrays you: it looks safe but is not. In the niece's story, the bog looked like firm ground but swallowed the men up.
11	A	Falteringly means shakily. A first-time reader takes it as real grief, but the last line tells us Romance at short notice was her speciality . She was performing, and the shaky voice is part of the act.
12	D	Lines 34-37: Poor aunt always thinks that they will come back some day ... and walk in at that window ... That is why the window is kept open.
13	B	When the men walk across the lawn, one has a white coat hung over his shoulders , the spaniel is with them and a voice sings Bertie, why do you bound? Every detail the niece planted comes true, which is what terrifies Framton.
14	E	The niece had just told him about three men lost in a bog, ending with a creepy feeling and a little shudder . For a man with bad nerves, any change of company was welcome.
15	C	Mrs. Sappleton hopes Vera has been amusing him; Framton, who has just heard a story of three drowned men, politely calls it very interesting . The mild word hides how disturbed he is.
16	A	To speak briskly is to speak quickly and energetically. Mrs. Sappleton is cheerful, and not at all the grieving widow Framton has been told about.
17	D	Framton has believed the niece. So when Mrs. Sappleton chatters about her husband and brothers coming home, she seems to him to have been driven mad by grief, and that is horrible to hear.
18	E	The sentence tells us what Framton thinks. The reader later learns that nothing tragic happened, so the coincidence and the anniversary exist only in the story the niece invented.
19	B	The niece knows the men are alive, having made the whole tragedy up. Her look of horror is her final trick: it makes Framton swing round in a chill shock of nameless fear just as they appear.
20	C	Noiselessly tells us how the men neared the house, so it describes a verb. A word that describes a verb is an adverb .

21	A	Headlong means rushing without care, and dimly-noted means only half noticed. The list of places flashing past shows how fast he fled; a cyclist even has to swerve into the hedge.
22	D	Something imminent is just about to happen. Framton was running straight at the cyclist, so the cyclist had to swerve into the hedge.
23	E	Here romance means an exciting, made-up tale, and at short notice means with no time to prepare. The last line reveals that both of her stories, the drowned men and the dogs by the Ganges, were invented.
24	B	Vera checks what Framton knows, invents a tragedy, acts out her horror at the right moment, and then makes up a second story on the spot to explain why he ran. The last line sums her up: Romance at short notice was her speciality.
25	B	'pengwin' should be spelled 'penguin'. The w sound after the g is spelled u, as in language. The mistake is in group B.
26	C	'nelt' should be spelled 'knelt'. It comes from kneel and begins with a silent k, like knee. The mistake is in group C.
27	D	'mischeif' should be spelled 'mischief'. The ee sound is spelled ie here, as in chief, the word at the end of mischief. The mistake is in group D.
28	B	'yeild' should be spelled 'yield'. It follows the rule i before e except after c, as in field and shield. The mistake is in group B.
29	A	'drout' should be spelled 'drought'. The ow sound is spelled ough, and there is a silent gh, as in bough. The mistake is in group A.
30	C	'tradgedy' should be spelled 'tragedy'. There is no d before the g: tra-ge-dy. The mistake is in group C.
31	D	'seige' should be spelled 'siege'. It follows the rule i before e except after c, as in piece. The mistake is in group D.
32	A	'Miscelaneous' should be spelled 'Miscellaneous'. It has a double l: mis-cel-la-ne-ous. The mistake is in group A.

33	E	There is no mistake. Rogue ends in a silent -ue, as in vague; trough is spelled with ough; and horses' has the apostrophe after the s because the trough belongs to more than one horse. So the answer is E.
34	D	'in cheshire.' should be in Cheshire. Cheshire is the name of a county, so it needs a capital letter. The mistake is in group D.
35	C	'in the peat. it' should be in the peat. It. A new sentence begins after the full stop, so it needs a capital letter. The mistake is in group C.
36	B	'police"! shouted' should be police!" shouted. The exclamation mark belongs to the spoken words, so it goes inside the closing speech marks. The mistake is in group B.
37	C	'they're laboratory' should be their laboratory. They're means they are; their means belonging to them. The mistake is in group C.
38	A	'The peat, who' should be The peat, which. Who is used for people; for a thing such as peat we use which. The mistake is in group A.
39	B	'three things his' should be three things: his. They studied three things is a complete sentence, so a colon is needed to introduce the list that follows. The mistake is in group B.
40	D	'peat marsh.' should be peat marsh). A bracket that is opened must be closed, so a closing bracket is needed before the full stop. The mistake is in group D.
41	D	'was surprising.' should be were surprising. The subject is the tests, which is plural; on his skin and stomach only describes them. The mistake is in group D.
42	E	There is no mistake. The comma after Today marks the opening word, British Museum is a name so both words take capitals, and the comma before where adds extra information about the museum. So the answer is E.
43	C	To wander is to walk about slowly with no fixed plan. After let us we need the plain form of the verb, so wandered and wanders are wrong, and wonder and wondering mean to think about something.

44	A	After had we need the past participle: had written . Had wrote is a common mistake, writ is not the right form, and had writing and had writes are not English.
45	D	We prefer one thing to another. Than follows words such as rather and better, not prefer; from, against and for do not fit.
46	B	After had we need the past participle: had rung . Rang is the simple past (the bell rang), and ring, rings and ringing are the wrong forms.
47	E	After was and before to read we need an adjective meaning unwilling: reluctant . Reluctance is a noun and reluctantly an adverb; relevant means connected, and relieved would mean he was glad, which the next line shows he was not.
48	A	We always insist on doing something. Insisted in, at, for and to are not correct English.
49	D	Imminent means about to happen. Eminent means famous and respected, emanate and imitate are verbs, and an immigrant is a person who has moved to a new country.
50	B	A unanimous decision is one that everybody agrees on, as the rest of the line shows: all three judges chose the same winners. Unanimously is an adverb and unanimity a noun, and a decision cannot be unaware or unable.