# English Mock Test 26

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.

## Blue Wednesday

**by Jean Webster**

*This extract comes from Daddy-Long-Legs, first published in America in 1912. Jerusha Abbott, who is seventeen, has grown up in the John Grier Home, an orphan asylum: a home for children who have no parents. Mrs. Lippett is the matron in charge of it. Once a month the Trustees, the wealthy people who give money to the Home and oversee it, come to inspect it. Ginghams are cotton dresses, an equipage is a carriage, an automobile is a motor car, and a porte-cochere is a covered entrance where carriages stop. The extract has been shortened.*

The first Wednesday in every month was a Perfectly Awful Day—a day to be awaited with dread, endured with courage and forgotten with haste. Every floor must be spotless, every chair dustless, and every bed without a wrinkle. Ninety-seven squirming little orphans must be scrubbed and combed and buttoned into freshly starched ginghams; and all ninety-seven reminded of their manners, and told to say, 'Yes, sir,' 'No, sir,' whenever a Trustee spoke.

It was a distressing time; and poor Jerusha Abbott, being the oldest orphan, had to bear the brunt of it. But this particular first Wednesday, like its predecessors, finally dragged itself to a close.

Then she dropped down on the window seat and leaned throbbing temples against the cool glass. She had been on her feet since five that morning, doing everybody's bidding, scolded and hurried by a nervous matron.

The day was ended—quite successfully, so far as she knew. Jerusha leaned forward watching with curiosity—and a touch of wistfulness—the stream of carriages and automobiles that rolled out

of the asylum gates. In imagination she followed first one equipage, then another, to the big houses dotted along the hillside. She pictured herself in a fur coat and a velvet hat trimmed with feathers leaning back in the seat and nonchalantly murmuring 'Home' to the driver. But on the door-sill of her home the picture grew blurred.

Poor, eager, adventurous little Jerusha, in all her seventeen years, had never stepped inside an ordinary house; she could not picture the daily routine of those other human beings who carried on their lives undiscommoded by orphans.

*Je-ru-sha Ab-bott*
*You are wan-ted*
*In the of-fice,*
*And I think you'd*
*Better hurry up!*

'Who wants me?' she cut into Tommy's chant with a note of sharp anxiety.

*Mrs. Lippett in the office,*
*And I think she's mad.*
*Ah-a-men!*

Jerusha went without comment, but with two parallel lines on her brow. What could have gone wrong, she wondered. Were the sandwiches not thin enough? Were there shells in the nut cakes? Had a lady visitor seen the hole in Susie Hawthorn's stocking? Had—O horrors!—one of the cherubic little babes in her own room F 'sauced' a Trustee?

The long lower hall had not been lighted, and as she came downstairs, a last Trustee stood, on the point of departure, in the open door that led to the porte-cochere. Jerusha caught only a fleeting impression of the man—and the impression consisted entirely of tallness. He was waving his arm towards an automobile waiting in the curved drive. As it sprang into motion and approached, head on for an instant, the glaring headlights threw his shadow sharply against the wall inside. The shadow pictured grotesquely elongated legs and arms that ran along the floor and up the wall of the corridor. It looked, for all the world, like a huge, wavering daddy-long-legs.

Jerusha's anxious frown gave place to quick laughter. She was by nature a sunny soul, and had always snatched the tiniest excuse to be amused. She advanced to the office quite cheered by the tiny

episode, and presented a smiling face to Mrs. Lippett. To her surprise the matron was also, if not exactly smiling, at least appreciably affable; she wore an expression almost as pleasant as the one she donned for visitors.

'Did you notice the gentleman who has just gone?'

'I saw his back.'

'He is one of our most affluential Trustees, and has given large sums of money towards the asylum's support. I am not at liberty to mention his name; he expressly stipulated that he was to remain unknown. This gentleman has taken an interest in several of our boys. Heretofore his philanthropies have been directed solely towards the boys; I have never been able to interest him in the slightest degree in any of the girls in the institution, no matter how deserving. He does not, I may tell you, care for girls.'

'No, ma'am,' Jerusha murmured, since some reply seemed to be expected at this point.

Mrs. Lippett brought accusing eyes to bear upon the prisoner in the dock, and the prisoner looked guilty because it seemed to be expected—not because she could remember any strikingly black pages in her record.

'Miss Pritchard, who is on our visiting committee, is also on the school board; she has been talking with your rhetoric teacher, and made a speech in your favour. She also read aloud an essay that you had written entitled, "Blue Wednesday".'

Jerusha's guilty expression this time was not assumed.

'It seemed to me that you showed little gratitude in holding up to ridicule the institution that has done so much for you. Had you not managed to be funny I doubt if you would have been forgiven. But fortunately for you, Mr.—, that is, the gentleman who has just gone—appears to have an immoderate sense of humour. On the strength of that impertinent paper, he has offered to send you to college.'

'To college?' Jerusha's eyes grew big. Mrs. Lippett nodded.

'He believes that you have originality, and he is planning to educate you to become a writer.'

'A writer?' Jerusha's mind was numbed. She could only repeat Mrs. Lippett's words.

Jerusha's eyes longingly sought the door. Her head was in a whirl of excitement, and she wished only to escape from Mrs. Lippett's platitudes and think. She rose and took a tentative step backwards. Mrs. Lippett detained her with a gesture; it was an oratorical opportunity not to be slighted.

'I trust that you are properly grateful for this very rare good fortune that has befallen you? Not many girls in your position ever have such an opportunity to rise in the world. You must always remember—'

'I—yes, ma'am, thank you. I think, if that's all, I must go and sew a patch on Freddie Perkins's trousers.'

The door closed behind her, and Mrs. Lippett watched it with dropped jaw, her peroration in mid-air.

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

## Q1. What happened at the Home on the first Wednesday of every month?

*A.* The orphans were taken on an outing.

*B.* New orphans arrived at the Home.

*C.* The Trustees came to inspect the Home.

*D.* Mrs. Lippett went away for the day.

*E.* The children had a day off from their chores.

myfreeschool

Q2. ‘a day to be awaited with dread, endured with courage and forgotten with haste’ (lines 1–3)

**What does this tell us about the day?**

*A.* It was so unpleasant that everyone feared it coming, struggled through it and put it out of their minds as fast as they could.

*B.* It was a happy day that everyone looked forward to.

*C.* It went by so quickly that nobody could remember it.

*D.* It was a dangerous day, when the orphans had to be brave.

*E.* It was the one day of the month that the orphans never forgot.

Q3. ‘had to bear the brunt of it’ (line 9)

**What does this mean?**

*A.* She managed to avoid most of the work.

*B.* She was in charge of the Trustees.

*C.* She had to carry the heaviest furniture.

*D.* She complained more than anyone else.

*E.* She had to take the worst share of it.

Q4. ‘finally dragged itself to a close’ (line 10)

**This is an example of…**

*A.* a simile

*B.* personification

*C.* alliteration

*D.* onomatopoeia

*E.* a rhetorical question

myfreeschool

Q5. Since what time had Jerusha been on her feet?

*A.* since midnight

*B.* since seven that morning

*C.* since the Trustees arrived

*D.* since five that morning

*E.* since lunchtime

Q6. 'nonchalantly murmuring' (line 21)

**What does 'nonchalantly' mean?**

*A.* nervously and quietly

*B.* calmly and casually, as if it were nothing special

*C.* excitedly and loudly

*D.* rudely and impatiently

*E.* sadly and longingly

Q7. 'But on the door-sill of her home the picture grew blurred.' (lines 22–23)

**Why could Jerusha not imagine any further?**

*A.* Her eyes filled with tears.

*B.* It was growing too dark to see the houses.

*C.* The window glass had misted over.

*D.* She fell asleep against the window.

*E.* She had never been inside an ordinary home, so she did not know what one was like.

myfreeschool

Q8. ‘those other human beings who carried on their lives undiscommoded by orphans’ (lines 26–27)

**What does the writer mean?**

*A.* Ordinary families lived comfortably without ever being troubled by orphans or having to think about them.

*B.* Ordinary families often took orphans into their homes.

*C.* Orphans were not allowed to leave the Home.

*D.* Ordinary families were kind to orphans whenever they met them.

*E.* The orphans did not want to meet ordinary families.

Q9. In lines 28–32, why are words split up, as in ‘Je-ru-sha’ and ‘wan-ted’?

*A.* Tommy cannot read long words.

*B.* Tommy is out of breath from running up the stairs.

*C.* The words are being sung, one note to each syllable.

*D.* The words come at the end of a line.

*E.* Jerusha’s name is hard to say.

Q10. Who brought the message that Jerusha was wanted in the office?

*A.* Mrs. Lippett

*B.* Susie Hawthorn

*C.* Freddie Perkins

*D.* Tommy

*E.* a Trustee

myfreeschool

Q11. ‘with two parallel lines on her brow’ (lines 38–39)

**What does this show?**

*A.* She was frowning with worry.

*B.* She had dirt on her forehead from scrubbing.

*C.* She had drawn on her face with a pencil.

*D.* She was old enough to have wrinkles.

*E.* She was smiling broadly.

Q12. Which of these is **not** one of the things Jerusha fears might have gone wrong?

*A.* The sandwiches were too thick.

*B.* The tea had gone cold.

*C.* There were shells in the nut cakes.

*D.* A visitor had seen a hole in a stocking.

*E.* A child had been cheeky to a Trustee.

Q13. ‘one of the cherubic little babes in her own room F’ (line 42)

**What does ‘cherubic’ mean?**

*A.* naughty and rude

*B.* very small and weak

*C.* hungry and cross

*D.* dirty and untidy

*E.* sweet and innocent-looking, like little angels

myfreeschool

Q14. ‘It looked, for all the world, like a huge, wavering daddy-long-legs.’ (lines 53–54)

**Why did the man’s shadow look like this?**

*A.* He was wearing a long black cloak.

*B.* A real spider was crawling up the wall.

*C.* The car’s headlights stretched the shadow of his long legs and arms across the floor and up the wall.

*D.* The lamps in the hall were flickering.

*E.* He was bending down to pick something up.

Q15. ‘She was by nature a sunny soul’ (lines 55–56)

**What does this tell us about Jerusha?**

*A.* She loved warm weather.

*B.* She was often sunburnt.

*C.* She was easily frightened.

*D.* She was naturally cheerful.

*E.* She was very religious.

Q16. ‘appreciably affable’ (line 60)

**What does ‘affable’ mean?**

*A.* friendly and pleasant

*B.* angry and impatient

*C.* worried and nervous

*D.* tired and sleepy

*E.* silent and still

myfreeschool

Q17. ‘one of our most affluential Trustees’ (line 64)

**There is no such word as ‘affluential’. Which two real words has Mrs. Lippett muddled together?**

*A.* affable and essential

*B.* affluent (rich) and influential (important)

*C.* affection and confidential

*D.* affluent (rich) and essential (needed)

*E.* afford and potential

Q18. ‘Heretofore his philanthropies have been directed solely towards the boys’ (lines 68–69)

**Which of these words from the quotation is a noun?**

*A.* Heretofore

*B.* directed

*C.* philanthropies

*D.* solely

*E.* towards

Q19. ‘He does not, I may tell you, care for girls.’ (line 71)

**Why does this make the Trustee’s offer surprising?**

*A.* He has no daughters of his own.

*B.* Mrs. Lippett is a woman.

*C.* He has never visited the Home before.

*D.* He has refused to meet Jerusha.

*E.* The person he now wants to send to college is a girl.

myfreeschool

Q20. 'Mrs. Lippett brought accusing eyes to bear upon the prisoner in the dock' (lines 74–75)

**Why does the writer call Jerusha 'the prisoner in the dock'?**

*A.* Jerusha has been locked in the office.

*B.* Jerusha has broken the law.

*C.* The office was once part of a prison.

*D.* Mrs. Lippett looks at her as if she were on trial for doing something wrong.

*E.* Jerusha is standing by a river where boats are tied up.

Q21. 'Jerusha's guilty expression this time was not assumed.' (line 82)

**What does this mean?**

*A.* She was pretending to look guilty, as before.

*B.* This time she really did feel guilty, because she knew her essay had made fun of the Home.

*C.* Nobody could tell what she was feeling.

*D.* She did not remember writing the essay.

*E.* She was proud of her essay and did not care who knew.

Q22. Why has the Trustee offered to send Jerusha to college?

*A.* Her funny essay made him think she could become a writer.

*B.* She was the oldest orphan in the Home.

*C.* She had been polite to him at the door.

*D.* Mrs. Lippett asked him to choose her.

*E.* She had made the sandwiches for his tea.

myfreeschool

Q23. ‘I must go and sew a patch on Freddie Perkins’s trousers.’ (lines 103–104)

**Why does Jerusha say this?**

*A.* She is afraid she will be punished if the patch is not done.

*B.* Freddie has asked her to hurry.

*C.* She does not want to go to college.

*D.* It is an excuse to escape Mrs. Lippett’s speech so that she can be alone to think.

*E.* She wants to show Mrs. Lippett how hard-working she is.

Q24. Which of these would make the best alternative title for the passage?

*A.* A Day Out for the Orphans

*B.* Jerusha Is Punished

*C.* An Unexpected Offer

*D.* The Spider in the Hall

*E.* Life in a Big House

myfreeschool

## 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.

After breakfast, the children scrubed the kitchen floor.

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

*A.* After breakfast,

*B.* the children

*C.* scrubed the

*D.* kitchen floor.

*E.* No mistake

Q26.

Annie lived with her aunt after she became an orfan.

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

*A.* Annie lived

*B.* with her aunt

*C.* after she became

*D.* an orfan.

*E.* No mistake

myfreeschool

Q27.

I always feel nervus before a spelling test.

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

*A.* I always

*B.* feel nervus

*C.* before a

*D.* spelling test.

*E.* No mistake

Q28.

The long corridoor was dark and very quiet.

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

*A.* The long corridoor

*B.* was dark

*C.* and very

*D.* quiet.

*E.* No mistake

myfreeschool

Q29.

The new shoes felt stiff and rather awkard.

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

*A.* The new shoes

*B.* felt stiff

*C.* and rather

*D.* awkard.

*E.* No mistake

Q30.

The author wrote a humourous story about a goat.

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

*A.* The author

*B.* wrote a

*C.* humourous story

*D.* about a goat.

*E.* No mistake

myfreeschool

Q31.

An acknowlegement of your letter will be sent next week.

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

*A.* An acknowlegement

*B.* of your letter

*C.* will be sent

*D.* next week.

*E.* No mistake

Q32.

The cat peered curiosly into the empty box.

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

*A.* The cat

*B.* peered curiosly

*C.* into the

*D.* empty box.

*E.* No mistake

myfreeschool

Q33.

Her originality and imagination impressed the whole committee.

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

*A.* Her originality

*B.* and imagination

*C.* impressed the

*D.* whole committee.

*E.* No mistake

myfreeschool

## Which Daddy-Long-Legs?

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 britain, a daddy-long-legs is usually a crane fly.

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

*A.* In britain, a

*B.* daddy-long-legs is

*C.* usually a

*D.* crane fly.

*E.* No mistake

Q35.

This insect has two wings and thin legs, but it cant fly well.

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

*A.* This insect

*B.* has two wings

*C.* and thin legs, but

*D.* it cant fly well.

*E.* No mistake

myfreeschool

Q36.

It’s long legs snap off easily, which helps it escape from birds.

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

*A.* It’s long legs

*B.* snap off easily,

*C.* which helps it

*D.* escape from birds.

*E.* No mistake

Q37.

When Americans say daddy-long-legs they usually mean a harvestman.

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

*A.* When Americans

*B.* say daddy-long-legs

*C.* they usually mean

*D.* a harvestman.

*E.* No mistake

myfreeschool

Q38.

The harvestman, a cousin of the spider has eight legs.

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

*A.* The harvestman,

*B.* a cousin

*C.* of the spider

*D.* has eight legs.

*E.* No mistake

Q39.

Harvestmen don’t have no silk glands, so they cannot spin webs.

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

*A.* Harvestmen

*B.* don’t have no

*C.* silk glands, so

*D.* they cannot spin webs.

*E.* No mistake

myfreeschool

Q40.

Instead, they eat almost anything insects, dead leaves, even fungi.

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

*A.* Instead, they

*B.* eat almost

*C.* anything insects,

*D.* dead leaves, even fungi.

*E.* No mistake

Q41.

Adult crane flies live only a few days, and most eat nothing at all.

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

*A.* Adult crane flies

*B.* live only a few

*C.* days, and most

*D.* eat nothing at all.

*E.* No mistake

myfreeschool

Q42.

Luckily, neither the crane fly nor the harvestman are dangerous to us.

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

*A.* Luckily, neither

*B.* the crane fly nor

*C.* the harvestman

*D.* are dangerous to us.

*E.* No mistake

myfreeschool

## My Pen Pal

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. I have always been keen _____ anything Japanese, so I was thrilled to be given a pen pal in Osaka.

*A.* at

*B.* in

*C.* on

*D.* by

*E.* to

Q44. Mine is a boy called Haruto, and he _____ to me in the very first week of term.

*A.* written

*B.* writed

*C.* writes

*D.* write

*E.* wrote

Q45. We have been writing to each other _____ September, and I now have a shoebox full of letters.

*A.* since

*B.* for

*C.* until

*D.* after

*E.* ago

myfreeschool

Q46. His English is excellent; my Japanese, by _____, is only three words long!

*A.* control

*B.* contract

*C.* contrary

*D.* contrast

*E.* content

Q47. Each envelope is covered in tiny drawings, so I can _____ his letters at once.

*A.* recite

*B.* recognise

*C.* reconcile

*D.* recommend

*E.* recover

Q48. His letters are so _____ that I can picture his street, his school and even his noisy cat.

*A.* livid

*B.* valid

*C.* vague

*D.* vacant

*E.* vivid

Q49. I _____ every one of them more than any of my toys.

*A.* trespass

*B.* measure

*C.* treasure

*D.* pleasure

*E.* treat

myfreeschool

Q50. Whatever happens, we have promised to keep _____ touch for ever.

*A.* in

*B.* at

*C.* on

*D.* by

*E.* with

myfreeschool