English Mock Test 30 Answers

Q#	Answer	Explanation
1	B	The passage says that **all the holders of houses above a certain rent are women**. The men, it goes on to explain, are either gone or away all week.
2	E	Calling respectable old ladies a band of warriors is a joke. It says that women are firmly in charge of the town. They have only an **occasional little quarrel**, so they are not always fighting.
3	C	The first few sentences give the fright of being **the only man** at the parties, then a **regiment**, a **ship** and business in **Drumble**. A university is never mentioned.
4	A	To look **wistfully** is to look with a longing for something you are unlikely to get. The boys would love the flowers, but the railings and the ladies keep them out.
5	B	The joke lies in **unnecessary**: most people would think that reasons were needed. The ladies simply decide. They do discuss these subjects, and the narrator is teasing them gently.
6	D	At home, dress does not matter because everyone knows them. Away, it does not matter because no one does. Either way they need not follow the fashion, so the excuse fits wherever they go.
7	A	**Solemnity** means deep seriousness. Reading out rules for tea visits as though they were the laws of a country shows how seriously the ladies take them, and it is meant to amuse us.
8	D	The young visitor is told **never to stay longer than a quarter of an hour**. The three days are the longest she may wait before returning a call, and twelve to three are the hours for calling.
9	E	A visitor must **keep thinking about the time** and not **forget it in conversation**. An **absorbing** subject takes up all your attention, so it would make you overstay. That is why they keep to **small talk**.

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10	D	As a noun, **smart** means a stinging pain. Those who struggle for money hide how much it hurts by smiling. The usual meanings of the word, clever or well dressed, do not fit here.
11	C	The words pile up like a tongue-twister to show how silly and how kind the game is. Everybody knows who baked the cakes, and everybody behaves as if they do not. The guests are being kind, not unkind, by going along with it.
12	D	She **had been busy all the morning making tea-bread and sponge-cakes**. The housekeeper and steward are what the guests pretend that she has: in truth she has only one small maid.
13	A	He **openly spoke about his being poor**, giving it as his reason for not taking a house. In Cranford, nobody ever mentioned such a thing. The closed doors and windows are how it might have been told more privately.
14	C	All the man did was mention money aloud, yet it is written up like a shocking crime. The exaggeration lets us share the ladies' horror and smile at it too. The narrator is amused, not angry.
15	E	**Vehemently** tells us how the town petitioned, so it describes a verb. That makes it an **adverb**. It means with strong feeling.
16	A	This is a saying: people who send someone to Coventry refuse to speak to them or take notice of them. Nobody really travels to the city of Coventry. The ladies mean to shut him out of their company.
17	C	The ladies claim that they walk because the night is *so* fine. The narrator admits that they had **blinded** themselves to being **of very moderate means**. The fine weather is an excuse to cover their lack of money.
18	A	Treating a cow as a daughter shows great love. She also talks about its **wonderful milk or wonderful intelligence** on every visit, and she weeps when it is hurt.
19	B	The poor cow **tumbled into a lime-pit**, and although she was rescued, she lost most of her hair. That is why she needed warm clothes.

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20	D	The adjectives are **naked**, **cold**, **miserable** and **bare**. The first three describe the cow and the last describes her skin. **Looking** is a verb and **skin** is a noun.
21	B	Something **droll** is funny in an odd way. The word **smiles** points to this: the sight of a hairless cow made some people want to laugh, even though they were sorry for her.
22	E	The passage says that this was **counsel which he had given in jest**, and his real advice comes at the end: **kill the poor creature at once**. Miss Betsy takes the joke as **sober**, **serious earnest** and ignores the rest.
23	B	This is a **rhetorical question**, one that needs no answer: of course nobody sees such a thing in London. By talking straight to the reader, the narrator invites us to enjoy how odd and how special the town is.
24	C	She pokes fun all through, at the rules, the pretending and the flannel. Yet she says **we** and includes herself among them, and she shows their kindness to one another. They are far from rich, as the passage makes clear.
25	A	'cotage' should be spelled 'cottage'. The short o is followed by a double t, as in bottle and cotton. The mistake is in group A.
26	C	'parsel' should be spelled 'parcel'. The s sound is spelled with a soft c, as in pencil and cancel. The mistake is in group C.
27	D	'daghter' should be spelled 'daughter'. The aw sound is spelled au with a silent gh, as in caught and taught. The mistake is in group D.
28	B	'fashon' should be spelled 'fashion'. There is an i before the -on, as in cushion. The mistake is in group B.
29	A	'Pollite' should be spelled 'polite'. It has only one l. The mistake is in group A.
30	C	'ettiquette' should be spelled 'etiquette'. It comes from French, with one t at the start and a double t near the end. The mistake is in group C.

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31	E	There is no mistake. Sovereign has the unusual -eign ending, as foreign does; gold and first are plain words; and King Henry takes capitals as a name. So the answer is E.
32	D	'correspondance' should be spelled 'correspondence'. It ends in -ence, as difference does, and has a double r. The mistake is in group D.
33	B	'morgage' should be spelled 'mortgage'. It has a silent t, which is easy to forget because we do not say it. The mistake is in group B.
34	A	'In britain before' should be In Britain before. Britain is the name of a country, so it needs a capital letter. The mistake is in group A.
35	B	'the cost were' should be the cost was. Cost is singular, so the verb must be singular too. The mistake is in group B.
36	C	'cheap stamp's' should be cheap stamps. This is a plain plural, and nothing belongs to the stamps, so no apostrophe is needed. The mistake is in group C.
37	D	'letter further' should be letter further? The line asks a question, beginning Why, so it must end with a question mark. The mistake is in group D.
38	E	There is no mistake. The pair of commas closes off the extra detail on sale from May 1840; May, Penny Black and Queen Victoria have capitals as names; and the line ends with a full stop. So the answer is E.
39	C	'writing to there' should be writing to their. There is about a place; their means belonging to them. The mistake is in group C.
40	A	'Hill, which had' should be Hill, who had. We use who for a person; which is for animals and things. The mistake is in group A.
41	B	'worked so good' should be worked so well. The word is describing the verb worked, so it must be the adverb well, not the adjective good. The mistake is in group B.

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42	D	'the best known.' should be the better known. Only two stamps are being compared, so we use better; best is for three or more. The mistake is in group D.
43	D	After two we need a plural, and the plural of child is **children**. Childs and childrens are not words, and children's means belonging to the children.
44	B	After makes us, the plain form of the verb is needed: makes us **remove**. We do not say makes us to remove, removes, removed or removing.
45	E	Here **room** means enough space. The word is used without a or the: hardly room to move. Hardly area, floor, walls or corner to move would make no sense.
46	A	The saying is **as red as a beetroot**, a deep red vegetable. Carrots are orange, cabbages are green, and potatoes and turnips are pale.
47	C	To do something **on purpose** is to mean to do it. We say by accident and by mistake, not on accident or on mistake, and on reason and on aim are not phrases.
48	D	To **do someone a favour** is to do something helpful for them. Favourite means best liked, flavour is a taste, fervour is strong feeling, and a fever is a high temperature.
49	A	To **put up with** something is to bear it without complaint, which is how she feels about the ugly dog. The other phrases are not English.
50	B	The saying is **no use crying over spilt milk**: there is no point in being upset about what cannot be undone. To spill is to let liquid run out. Split means broken apart, spoilt means gone bad and spelt comes from spell.

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