English placement test

LT3 · C1–C2 • Advanced & proficiency

Name _____ Date _____

Part A / C1 sample

Choose A, B or C for each question. Circle one answer. If you are unsure, move on.

USE OF ENGLISH

1. Only after the trial ended ___ how much coordination the new system required.
A staff realised · B did staff realise · C had staff realise

2. We should distinguish changes that are ___ the policy from changes caused by seasonal demand.
A attributed by · B attributable to · C attributing for

3. ___ the figures are accurate, the comparison still overlooks differences in workload.
A Even assuming · B Provided for · C In spite that

4. The draft leaves room for exceptions, ___ that each one must be recorded.
A to stipulate of · B stipulated by · C while stipulating

5. The review ___ the assumption that fewer messages necessarily mean less work.
A takes place with · B takes issue with · C takes charge of

6. The measure has merit, ___ on a more limited scale than originally proposed.
A albeit · B whereupon · C inasmuch

READING / Read the text. Then answer the questions.

The university presents its new meeting-free mornings as a way of protecting time for concentrated work. That may be welcome news to staff who can already choose when to work alone. It is less obviously helpful to those who depend on colleagues being available to resolve a problem. A technician waiting for approval cannot always turn a delay into a productive stretch of quiet. The policy is best treated as a starting point for teams to negotiate when they need to be reachable. Its success will depend on whether people have more control over their time, rather than on the number of blank spaces in their calendars.

7. Whose situation qualifies the initial claim?
A Staff who can always work independently
B Staff who seldom use a calendar
C Staff whose progress depends on access to colleagues

8. What does the technician example illustrate?
A A delay can prevent useful work rather than create focus time.
B Technicians benefit most from working alone.
C The policy removes the need for approvals.

9. What stance does the author take?
A Reject the policy completely.
B Use it as a basis for local negotiation.
C Apply it uniformly to all teams.

10. What outcome matters most to the writer?
A More morning meetings
B More empty calendar slots
C Greater control over working time

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Part B / C2 sample

Choose A, B or C for each question. Circle one answer. If you are unsure, move on.

USE OF ENGLISH

11. Which version suggests a benefit while withholding a causal conclusion?

A The figure suggests a benefit but cannot establish causation.
B The figure proves a benefit of uncertain size.
C The figure rules out a benefit for now.

12. The policy was adopted by ___ every team. Which phrase means “almost”?

A no fewer than · B virtually · C anything but

13. Which sentence accepts the premise for the sake of argument while challenging the inference?

A The premise has been disproved, so the inference fails.
B The inference is correct and supports the premise.
C Granting the premise, the policy may still fail.

14. Which sentence says the evidence failed to persuade without calling it false?

A The panel judged the evidence fabricated.
B The panel found the evidence unconvincing.
C The panel ruled the evidence inadmissible.

15. “The explanation was economical with the truth.” What does this usually imply?

A It was concise and accurate. · B It cut the cost of checking. · C It withheld relevant facts.

16. “Far be it from me to question your priorities, but …” followed by a criticism most likely does what?

A Introduces a challenge · B Withdraws the criticism · C Accepts responsibility

READING / Read the text. Then answer the questions.

One defence of public rankings is that, imperfect though they are, they make organisations answerable to people who would otherwise have no means of comparing them. The difficulty starts when the measure migrates from the margin of a decision to its centre. A service that sees its main purpose as moving up a table may become very good at producing improvements legible to the table. This is sometimes called gaming, a label that implies a degree of cynicism the behaviour need not involve. A sincere manager can come to mistake what is visible to the measure for what matters to the public. The argument for publishing rankings remains. What weakens is the case for treating the resulting order as a verdict.

17. What changes when a measure moves to the centre of a decision?

A It starts to shape priorities. · B The public loses access. · C Managers stop seeking improvements.

18. Why does the author qualify the word “gaming”?

A The table hides rule-breaking.
B Sincere action can distort outcomes too.
C The word only applies to numbers.

19. What distinction underpins the final two sentences?

A National versus local · B Public versus private · C Comparison versus verdict

20. Which statement best captures the writer’s position?

A Imperfect rankings should be withheld.
B Rankings help comparison but can distort priorities.
C Rankings work best without incentives to improve.

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Listening, speaking & writing

LT3 · C1 • Advanced & proficiency

01 / Listen twice

Read the questions. Play the C1 recording (Canadian English) on the test page.

1. Why might the speaker doubt the anonymity in practice?

_____

2. What change does the speaker suggest?

_____

02 / Look and speak

When is quiet time useful?



Explain how the image shows two different needs. Propose a policy that protects concentration and allows urgent decisions. Explain when you would make an exception.

03 / Write

Write a 150–180 word proposal to colleagues about a meeting-free policy. Acknowledge a concern, specify an exception and propose a measure of success. Use a constructive professional tone. Use a separate sheet.

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Listening, speaking & writing

LT3 · C2 • Advanced & proficiency

01 / Listen twice

Read the questions. Play the C2 recording (British English) on the test page.

1. What original problem was the target intended to expose?

_____

2. What distinction is implied by the final sentence?

_____

02 / Look and speak

The dashboard and the queue



Interpret the tension in the image. Give two plausible readings of what the figures might mean, distinguish observation from inference and propose what evidence would help you decide.

03 / Write

Write a 180–220 word briefing for a board. One colleague argues for public rankings to improve accountability. Another warns they distort priorities. Synthesise the strongest point from each and recommend a qualified approach. Distinguish what you know from what you infer. Use a separate sheet.

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