

## Assessment Test 2

Read this passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

### Tombs of the Ancient Kings

Over four and a half thousand years ago, ancient Egyptians began building pyramids. The pharaohs intended the pyramids to be impressive monuments: eternal resting places to safeguard their souls. Wealthy Egyptians would fill their tombs with the things they would need in the afterlife, but they believed that before their souls were granted eternal life, their actions on Earth were judged rigorously.

- 5 This judgement happened in the underworld, where the deceased person's heart was weighed against the feather of the goddess Ma'at. If the heart was heavier than the feather, it was deemed unworthy and the person could not enter the afterlife.

Djoser's Step Pyramid was one of the first of these tombs. It is known as a step pyramid because it was built as a series of six successively smaller squares on top of one another. The burial chamber is hidden underground and sealed with a stone weighing 3.5 tonnes, but this did not deter the grave robbers. When the tomb was excavated, almost nothing was left inside.

- 10 Perhaps the most famous tomb is the Great Pyramid of Giza, the largest of three pyramids built on the banks of the Nile. By the time it was built, the Egyptians had abandoned the crude stepped design and were building increasingly larger and more imposing structures.
- 15 The Great Pyramid at Giza took over twenty years to complete and is 146 metres high. It was the tallest building in the world for over 3,800 years and is the only one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World that is still standing.

Answer these questions about the text that you've just read.  
Circle the letter of the correct answer.

- Why did the pharaohs build the pyramids?  
**A** To hide their belongings from grave robbers.  
**B** To keep their souls safe after they died.  
**C** So they would become a Wonder of the Ancient World.  
**D** As great palaces to live in.  
**E** To show how powerful Egypt was.
- According to the passage, which statement about Djoser's Step Pyramid is true?  
**A** It took over twenty years to complete.  
**B** It was built by foreign slaves.  
**C** It is an early example of a pyramid.  
**D** It was the tallest building in the world at the time.  
**E** The burial chamber is in the top of the pyramid.

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- Why do you think there was nothing left inside the burial chamber when Djoser's Step Pyramid was excavated?  
**A** The Egyptians were not good at preserving bodies.  
**B** Djoser was not buried with many valuables.  
**C** The tomb was raided and the valuables were stolen.  
**D** Everything had crumbled to dust.  
**E** The burial chamber was hidden underground.
- According to the passage, where were the pyramids of Giza built?  
**A** In the middle of the desert  
**B** On the coast  
**C** In the city  
**D** Close to the river  
**E** Underground
- According to the passage, which of these statements about the Great Pyramid is false?  
**A** It is 146 metres high.  
**B** It is the last remaining Wonder of the Ancient World.  
**C** It is the largest of the three pyramids built on the banks of the Nile.  
**D** It is famous.  
**E** It is 3,800 years old.
- According to the passage, why did the Ancient Egyptians fill their tombs with objects?  
**A** As an offering to the gods.  
**B** To protect their riches from grave robbers.  
**C** So their riches could be weighed against a feather.  
**D** So they were prepared for life after death.  
**E** So that the gods thought they were wealthy and important.
- According to the passage, what did the Ancient Egyptians believe?  
**A** If they built pyramids, the gods would be impressed.  
**B** Sinners were not allowed to enter the afterlife.  
**C** Pyramids protected the bodies of the dead from the underworld.  
**D** They would be able to become gods themselves.  
**E** The taller the pyramid, the closer the deceased was to the gods.
- In which paragraph(s) in this passage can you find information about why the pyramids were built?  
**A** Paragraphs 2 and 3  
**B** Paragraph 1 only  
**C** Paragraph 4 only  
**D** Paragraphs 1 and 4  
**E** Paragraph 2 only

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Answer these questions about the way words and phrases are used in the passage.

9. Which of these words is closest in meaning to "rigorously" (line 4)?

- A Quickly
- B Instantly
- C Thoroughly
- D Partially
- E Harshly

10. Which of these words is closest in meaning to "crude" (line 13)?

- A Impressive
- B Rough
- C Cruel
- D Ancient
- E Complicated

11. Which of these words is closest in meaning to "imposing" (line 14)?

- A Holy
- B Honorary
- C Long-lasting
- D Impressive
- E Decorative

12. What type of word is "Nile" (line 13)?

- A Common noun
- B Plural
- C Pronoun
- D Proper noun
- E Collective noun

13. In the line, "If the heart was heavier than the feather" (line 6), which word is a verb?

- A If
- B heart
- C was
- D heavier
- E than

14. What type of words are these?

**rigorously    successively    increasingly**

- A Adjectives
- B Verbs
- C Prepositions
- D Nouns
- E Adverbs

Read this passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

## A Brave Step Forward

It was September, 1921. Eighteen-year-old Antonio and his friend Manolo were very excited; several weeks ago they had left their families on the island of Trinidad and had crossed the Atlantic Ocean in a small cargo ship carrying spices. The journey had been very arduous and he would be glad to reach dry land; he had suffered from sea-sickness on the stormier days of the journey.

- 5 Now that they had nearly reached Plymouth, Antonio's thoughts turned to his departure from Trinidad all those weeks ago. His mother had hugged him goodbye at the port, and had whispered in his ear that she had promised herself she wouldn't cry because she aspired to be as strong and courageous as he was. But as he stood on the deck of the ship waving farewell to his family, he tasted salty tears in his mouth and he felt an ache in his chest.
- 10 Although leaving his family had been very difficult, Antonio thought that he had made the right decision. After several years of taking intensive examinations at school, they had been told that they were ready to train as doctors. Antonio's father, who was a doctor himself and had always hoped that at least one of his two children would follow in his footsteps, had advised them that the best place to undertake medical training was London, in one of the big teaching hospitals.
- 15 As the boat neared the dock, Antonio began to feel slightly apprehensive. He had never left Trinidad before and he had not been away from his parents for any substantial length of time. He thought of his mother and his younger sister, Rosa; they seemed a long way away. He knew he was arriving in Plymouth but he did not have an inkling of how to reach London from there, or where they would spend the night when they arrived there. The closer they came to the dock, the more he felt
- 20 the knots in his stomach tighten. He had taken a huge step, but was it the right one?

Answer these questions about the text that you've just read.  
Circle the letter of the correct answer.

15. Why didn't Antonio's mother cry when he left?
- A She was pleased that her son was leaving.
  - B She didn't want Antonio to think she was weak.
  - C She wanted to be as brave as Antonio.
  - D She was proud that he was ambitious.
  - E She was happy that he would be a doctor.
16. Why was Antonio glad that his journey was nearly over?
- A He was looking forward to seeing England.
  - B He had found the journey long and he had been ill.
  - C He wanted to visit London.
  - D He was starting to miss his family.
  - E He wanted to start his medical training.

17. Which of the following is not mentioned in the text?

- A Where the boys had come from.
- B Which ocean they had sailed across.
- C How old Manolo is.
- D The boys' final destination.
- E How Antonio feels about reaching England.

18. Where was Antonio's final destination?

- A A hospital in London
- B Plymouth
- C Trinidad
- D A hotel in London
- E School

19. How do you think Antonio's father felt about Antonio leaving home?

- A Despondent
- B Conceited
- C Proud
- D Annoyed
- E Jealous

20. Which of the following statements about the boys' journey is not true?

- A The journey was stormy.
- B The journey was long.
- C The boys travelled on a large ship.
- D The first stop on the journey was Plymouth.
- E The ship carried passengers and cargo.

21. Which of the following statements is true?

- A Antonio was the oldest child in his family.
- B Antonio had a brother.
- C Antonio's mother was a doctor.
- D Antonio's mother was called Rosa.
- E Antonio was an only child.

22. Why do you think Antonio felt "an ache in his chest" (line 9)?

- A His parents had sacrificed a lot so that he could go to England.
- B He hadn't said goodbye to his father.
- C He was excited about going to England.
- D He had lied to his mother about where he was going.
- E Because he wasn't as brave as his mother thought he was.

Answer these questions about the way words and phrases are used in the passage.

23. The students took "intensive examinations" (line 11). This means that the examinations were:

- A important.
- B final.
- C detailed.
- D expensive.
- E demanding.

24. Which of these words is closest in meaning to "apprehensive" (line 15)?

- A Frightened
- B Nervous
- C Excited
- D Upset
- E Weary

25. Which of these words is closest in meaning to the word "inkling" (line 18)?

- A Hope
- B Direction
- C Idea
- D Chance
- E Opportunity

26. What type of word is "arduous" (line 3)?

- A Verb
- B Adjective
- C Noun
- D Adverb
- E Pronoun

27. "As the boat neared the dock" (line 15). Which word in this sentence is a verb?

- A As
- B the
- C boat
- D neared
- E dock

28. Antonio "felt the knots in his stomach tighten" (lines 19-20). What is this phrase an example of?

- A A metaphor
- B A simile
- C A proverb
- D A synonym
- E An adjective

Choose the right word or phrase to complete this passage.  
Circle the letter which matches the correct word.

29. There are many ways that you can care for **ours your hour are you're** environment. Reduce  
 A  B  C  D  E
30. your waste by using a flask in your lunch box **in case and in spite of instead of as much as**  
 A  B  C  D  E
31. juice cartons. Reuse materials **whoever wherever whatever whatsoever whether** you  
 A  B  C  D  E
32. can, by using old carrier bags for your shopping, for example. **Finally But However So Yet** ,  
 A  B  C  D  E
33. recycle paper, glass, cans and any **one extra another less other** objects with the recyclable  
 A  B  C  D  E
34. symbol, so that new items **could can would cannot won't** be made from used materials.  
 A  B  C  D  E

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In this passage, there are some punctuation mistakes. Circle the letter which matches  
the part of the sentence with the mistake. If there's no mistake, circle N.

35. To make these cakes you will need four things: eggs sugar, self-raising flour and butter.  
 A  B  C  D  N
36. Ask an adult to preheat the oven while you line a tray with paper cases! In a bowl, mix  
 A  B  C  D  N
37. together the butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Next, add the egg's, stirring continuously,  
 A  B  C  D  N
38. and then gradually sift in the flour. Once the mixtures smooth, divide it equally between  
 A  B  C  D  N
39. the paper cases. Cook for fifteen to twenty minutes or until golden brown. Once these are  
 A  B  C  D  N
40. cool ice your cakes and decorate with lots of chocolate buttons, sprinkles or jellybeans.  
 A  B  C  D  N

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In this passage, there are some spelling mistakes. Circle the letter which matches  
the part of the sentence with the mistake. If there's no mistake, circle N.

41. Please help me to find my ginger tabby cat, Lady Marmalade. She is eighth years old and has  
 A  B  C  D  N
42. been missing for a hole week, so I am becoming slightly anxious. I last saw her chasing a  
 A  B  C  D  N
43. frightened-looking pigeon accross our lawn; as the bird flew away, Lady M (her nickname)  
 A  B  C  D  N
44. jumped straight over the garden fence and disapeared. If you find her, there are several  
 A  B  C  D  N
45. things you need to know. She will only eat homemade meals, so do not feed her disgusting  
 A  B  C  D  N
46. tinned food. Her favarite activity is exploring the garden, searching for small frogs and mice,  
 A  B  C  D  N
47. so please ensure she has plenty of opportunitys to play outside. Finally, she will definitely  
 A  B  C  D  N
48. not sleep in a cat basket because she spends every night on a special cushion on my  
 A  B  C  D  N
49. bed and she will become extremeley cross if you attempt to ignore her. Please contact me  
 A  B  C  D  N
50. at the enclosed address if you happen to spot her. I will collect her from you imediately.  
 A  B  C  D  N

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## Assessment Test 2

- 1) **B** — In the passage it says the pharaohs built the pyramids as "eternal resting places to safeguard their souls".
- 2) **C** — In the passage it says that the pyramid was "one of the first of these tombs".
- 3) **C** — The passage tells us that the burial chamber was hidden underground "but this did not deter the grave robbers".
- 4) **D** — In the passage it says the pyramids were "built on the banks of the Nile", which is a river in Egypt.
- 5) **E** — In the passage it says "It was the tallest building in the world for over 3,800 years".
- 6) **D** — In the passage it says that the Ancient Egyptians filled their tombs with "the things they would need in the afterlife".
- 7) **B** — In the passage it says that a person's "actions on Earth were judged" and if they were found to be "unworthy" they were punished and "could not enter the afterlife".
- 8) **B** — Only the first paragraph explains why the pyramids were built. The subsequent paragraphs talk about their design and how they were built.
- 9) **C** — "rigorously" means the same as 'thoroughly'. It means that something has been done carefully.
- 10) **B** — "crude" is closest in meaning to 'rough'. It means that it was not perfect.
- 11) **D** — "imposing" is closest in meaning to 'impressive'. It means 'grand in appearance'.
- 12) **D** — "Nile" is a proper noun — it is a name of a river.
- 13) **C** — 'was' is a verb. It is the action word of the sentence.
- 14) **E** — These are adverbs because they describe verbs.
- 15) **C** — In the passage it says that Antonio's mother "aspired to be as strong and courageous as he was" which shows that she wants to be brave.
- 16) **B** — In the passage it says that the "journey had been very arduous" and Antonio had "suffered from sea-sickness" which shows that he had been ill.
- 17) **C** — Manolo's age is not mentioned in the text.
- 18) **A** — Antonio's final destination is one of the big teaching hospitals in London.
- 19) **C** — Antonio's father would be proud because he "had always hoped" that one of his children "would follow in his footsteps" and become a doctor.
- 20) **C** — In the passage it says they travelled on a "small cargo ship".
- 21) **A** — In the passage it says that Antonio's father had "two children" — Antonio and his "younger sister, Rosa".
- 22) **E** — In the passage it says that Antonio "tasted salty tears" — he felt "an ache" because his mother thought he was brave, but he was crying.
- 23) **E** — "intensive" means that something is 'demanding or difficult'.
- 24) **B** — "apprehensive" is closest in meaning to 'nervous'.
- 25) **C** — "inkling" is closest in meaning to 'idea', because Antonio had no idea how to get to London.
- 26) **B** — "arduous" is an adjective because it describes the journey.
- 27) **D** — 'neared' is a verb. It is the action word of the sentence.
- 28) **A** — Metaphors describe something as being something else. This is a metaphor because Antonio's stomach is described as having knots in it.
- 29) **B** — 'your' is correct as the author is speaking about the environment belonging to the reader.
- 30) **D** — 'instead of' is correct because it means 'in place of'.
- 31) **B** — 'wherever' is correct because the sentence is asking the reader to reuse materials in every possible situation.
- 32) **A** — 'Finally' is the best choice because it is introducing the last part of the paragraph.
- 33) **E** — 'other' is the word that makes sense because it refers to additional objects not previously mentioned.
- 34) **B** — 'can' is the word that makes sense here because it is referring to what is made from new materials.
- 35) **C** — There should be a comma between 'eggs' and 'sugar' to separate the items in the list of ingredients.
- 36) **C** — The exclamation mark should be a full stop after 'cases' because the sentence does not show strong feelings.
- 37) **D** — There does not need to be an apostrophe in 'eggs'. The 's' has been added to make the word plural.
- 38) **C** — 'mixtures' should have an apostrophe because it is short for 'mixture is'.
- 39) **N** — There are no mistakes in this line.
- 40) **A** — 'cool' should be followed by a comma.
- 41) **D** — 'eighth' should be spelt 'eight'. The 'g' goes before the 'h' like in 'weight' and 'height'.
- 42) **B** — 'hole' should be 'whole'. These words are homophones — a 'hole' is something you dig whereas 'whole' means 'entire'.
- 43) **B** — 'across' should be 'across' — it only needs one 'c'.
- 44) **B** — 'disappeared' should be 'disappeared' — the prefix 'dis' is added to 'appeared' so the word should have one 's' and two 'p's.
- 45) **N** — There are no mistakes in this line.
- 46) **B** — 'favourite' should be 'favourite' — the unstressed vowel is spelt 'ou'.
- 47) **C** — 'opportunities' should be 'opportunities'. If the letter before the 'y' is a consonant then you remove the 'y' and add 'ies' to make it plural.
- 48) **N** — There are no mistakes in this line.
- 49) **B** — 'extremeley' should be 'extremely'. You add the suffix 'ly' to the root word 'extreme' to form 'extremely'.
- 50) **D** — 'imediately' should be 'immediately' — the root word is 'immediate'.