



## Preparation for the National Grade Six Assessment

Guide #3 | English Multiple Choice

### Who are you?

If you are in grade 5 or 6 and will be taking the next National Grade Six Assessment, then this packet is for you. This packet has past exam questions which have been solved with explanations to help you learn how to solve similar questions. Completing this packet will increase your chances of passing the exam with the highest possible score.

### Who are we?

This packet was created by the Caribbean Education Project, a team of students and teachers from universities in the United States and the Caribbean. Our goal is to help you with your preparations for the next exam and to help you better understand each topic. We want you to achieve your best score on the exam. If you are not clear on concepts after reading the material, ask your parent or guardian for help. If they cannot help, ask another family member or a friend. If no one can help you, then ask your parents to send us a message on Facebook or WhatsApp or e-mail us.

- To reach us through Facebook, go on Facebook and search for “Shawn Shivdat.” Then send me a message using Facebook Messenger.
- To reach us by WhatsApp, save this number “Shawn Shivdat, +1 404-406-9638” and message me on WhatsApp.
- To reach us by e-mail, send a message to this e-mail address: [info@caribed.org](mailto:info@caribed.org).

### Keep in contact

If you are using this packet to prepare, we would like to hear from you. Please keep in touch with us so we can help you with any questions you may have. We can also provide updates when future materials are posted. Send us your name and contact information through WhatsApp, Facebook Messenger, or e-mail (listed above), or send a picture of this sheet filled out through WhatsApp, Facebook Messenger, or e-mail.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE SHARE THIS GUIDE WITH OTHERS WHO MAY BENEFIT  
FROM USING IT.**



**How to use this guide:**

1. The following pages have a total of 40 past exam questions. Try to answer these questions in the prescribed 70 minutes. If you are not able to answer a question, skip it and go on to the next question. When you are done answering all the questions, you can return to the ones you are having trouble with during your remaining time.
2. It is okay if you were not able to answer all the questions correctly on your first try. Keep practicing the questions, and you will get better. Soon, you will be able to answer all the questions in the 70 minutes. (**TIP:** Practice makes you perfect, so keep practicing.)
3. Answers to all the questions are on the pages immediately after the practice test. When you finish answering the questions, compare your answers to the answers on these pages.
4. Mark the questions which you got wrong.
5. Read our guide to solving each question. Even for questions you got correct, read the explanations we provided because you will likely learn something from them. Our explanations provide valuable information which can provide you with additional tricks to solve other problems.
6. Always read the instructions for each question carefully before attempting to answer. Also, read the question itself carefully and pay attention to what the question is asking you to do before attempting to answer it.
7. We provide the answers to all the questions in the practice exams to help you. Do not look at the answers before you attempt the questions. If you look at the answers before, you will not learn a lot from this packet. So, do we have a deal? Okay, I heard you say yes.





MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
NATIONAL GRADE SIX ASSESSMENT  
PRACTICE TEST  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PAPER 1

**Hey students**, for the purposes of practice, you can ignore the instructions listed below about shading circles on an answer sheet. We have included that here so you will be familiar with these instructions on exam day.

2011

Reading Time: 10 minutes

Writing Time: 60 minutes

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE YOU ATTEMPT TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS**

1. In addition to this test booklet, you should have an **Answer Sheet**.
2. Write your candidate number on the answer sheet and underline the subject.
3. This test contains **40 questions**. You are required to answer **ALL** questions. Four responses are given for each question. The responses are **A, B, C** and **D**. Only **ONE** response is correct.
4. On your Answer Sheet find the number which corresponds to your question and shade the same letter as the one you have chosen.

Here is an example done for you.

1. Anita received a \_\_\_\_\_ Christmas gift.

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| (A) beuitful  | (B) buteful   |
| (C) beautiful | (D) beautiful |

**ANSWER SHEET**

1.  A  B  C  D

The letter **C** is shaded on the answer sheet because **beautiful**, the correct answer, is next to **C**.

5. If you are not sure of the answer to a question, then choose the one which you think is **BEST**. Shade the letter you have chosen.
6. If you want to change your answer, erase your old answer completely, then shade your new choice.
7. When you are told to begin, turn the page and work as quickly and as carefully as you can. If you cannot answer a question, go on to the next one. You can return to that question later.
8. This test contains **40** items. You will have 60 minutes to answer them.

**DO NOT TURN THIS PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.**



In **questions 1 and 2**, choose the **correct spelling** of the word to complete each sentence.

**1.** The teacher showed us the roots were \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) edible.
- (B) edeble.
- (C) edable.
- (D) edieble.

**2.** Next Sunday, Michael will \_\_\_\_\_ his birthday.

- (A) cellebrate
- (B) celibrate
- (C) celabrate
- (D) celebrate

In **questions 3 to 5**, choose the **best** word to complete each sentence.

**3.** At the doctor's office, I paid the consultation fee to the

- (A) operator.
- (B) receptionist.
- (C) salesman.
- (D) clerk.

**4.** The cricketer violated a rule so the \_\_\_\_\_ sent him off the field.

- (A) referee
- (B) coach
- (C) umpire
- (D) judge



5. Do you know that our principal is the \_\_\_\_\_ of this book?

- (A) creator
- (B) author
- (C) composer
- (D) founder

In **questions 6 to 8**, choose the word that is **similar** in meaning to the underlined word in each sentence.

6. In my village, pineapples are abundant.

- (A) scarce
- (B) plentiful
- (C) juicy
- (D) rare

7. It is quite natural for someone to shudder when walking in the rain.

- (A) faint
- (B) tremble
- (C) stumble
- (D) collapse

8. He made a profit of one hundred dollars.

- (A) margin
- (B) loss
- (C) bargain
- (D) gain



In **questions 9 to 12**, what is the **function** of the word underlined in each sentence?

**9.** Saudia spoke to her mother quietly.

- (A) verb
- (B) adverb
- (C) adjective
- (D) preposition

**10.** The fruits were ripe so we picked them.

- (A) conjunction
- (B) pronoun
- (C) adverb
- (D) noun

**11.** He leaned his bicycle against the post.

- (A) adjective
- (B) conjunction
- (C) preposition
- (D) pronoun

**12.** The children collected the books and gave them to the teacher.

- (A) pronoun
- (B) adverb
- (C) conjunction
- (D) noun



In **questions 13 and 14**, choose the word that is the **opposite** in meaning to the word underlined.

**13.** The class teacher praised the pupils of Grade 6.

- (A) blamed
- (B) thanked
- (C) honoured
- (D) blessed

**14.** All the materials on the shelf are transparent.

- (A) clear
- (B) fragile
- (C) opaque
- (D) bright

In **questions 15 and 16**, identify the sentence in which the **punctuation mark** or a **capital letter** is left out.

**15.**

- (A) Have you seen Mr. Lam?
- (B) The title of the story is shipwrecked.
- (C) Sally wore a dazzling evening gown.
- (D) "I have given the book to Joy," said the teacher.

**16.**

- (A) Many children play games in the National Park.
- (B) "Stop" shouted the policeman.
- (C) I bought story books, toys and stationery from the store.
- (D) Do you have the key for the door?



In **questions 17 to 20**, identify the sentence that is **correctly** written.

**17.**

- (A) Today we are learn a new song in class.
- (B) Today we learning a new song in class.
- (C) Today we learnt a new song in class.
- (D) Today we will learning a new song in class.

**18.**

- (A) Neither the teacher nor the parent attended the Prize Giving Ceremony.
- (B) Either the teacher and the parent attended the Prize Giving Ceremony.
- (C) Neither the teacher and the parent attended the Prize Giving Ceremony.
- (D) Either the teacher nor the parent attended the Prize Giving Ceremony.

**19.**

- (A) Between you and me, we will share the cookies.
- (B) Between you and she, we will share the cookies.
- (C) Between you and he, we will share the cookies.
- (D) Between you and I, we will share the cookies.

**20.**

- (A) I did not enjoy my holidays because I did not gone nowhere of interest.
- (B) I did not enjoy my holiday because I did not go anywhere of interest.
- (C) I did not enjoy my holiday because I did not go somewhere of interest.
- (D) I did not enjoy my holiday because I did not going anywhere of interest.





In **questions 21 and 22**, choose the underlined word which should have an apostrophe.

**21.** The childrens departments had a wide variety of socks and dresses.

- (A) (B) (C) (D)

**22.** Flowers and fruits were on display at the Mens Guild Exhibition.

- (A) (B) (C) (D)

In **questions 23 to 25**, choose the **meaning** of the underlined phrase.

**23.** The old woman tried to make both ends meet.

- (A) live within her means  
(B) spend all her money  
(C) measure the cloth  
(D) stich both ends together

**24.** At the school party, David blew his own trumpet.

- (A) played his own music  
(B) danced by himself  
(C) took care of himself  
(D) boasted about himself

**25.** Sue and Sally decided to bury the hatchet.

- (A) get new friends  
(B) make peace  
(C) make mischief  
(D) fight with each other



In **questions 26 and 27**, select the **correct order** in which the names should appear in the telephone directory.

**26.**

- (A) Andy Smith, John Dey, Kumar Persaud, Carl Wong
- (B) Kumar Persaud, Carl Wong, Andy Smith, John Dey
- (C) John Dey, Kumar Persaud, Andy Smith, Carl Wong
- (D) Carl Wong, John Dey, Andy Smith, Kumar Persaud

**27.**

- (A) Michael Dass, John Dover, Ann Duncan, Pam Dyer
- (B) Ann Duncan, Michael Dass, Pam Dyer, John Dover
- (C) John Dover, Pam Dyer, Michael Dass, Ann Duncan
- (D) Ann Duncan, John Dover, Michael Dass, Pam Dyer

Choose the **correct word** to complete each sentence in **questions 28 to 30**.

**28.** We should comb our \_\_\_\_\_ everyday.

- (A) here
- (B) hear
- (C) hare
- (D) hair

**29.** My mother cut the \_\_\_\_\_ with a sharp knife.

- (A) pear
- (B) pare
- (C) pier
- (D) pair



**30.** Mother cleaned the cupboard and left it \_\_\_\_\_

- (A) beer.
- (B) bier.
- (C) bare.
- (D) bear.

Read the passage below, then answer **questions 31 to 35**.

Crab Town is a land of contrast. It is a beautiful country with wealthy people. However, while some people live in fancy houses and drive luxurious cars, many children are not so fortunate. There are those who suffer from malnutrition since the only food they have to eat is what they get out of garbage bins. Some of them do not even own a pair of shoes. These are the children who have never been to school since they have been abandoned by their parents. They are the ones who use the pavement for their pillows and the sky for a roof over their heads. They have no real home life and are crying out for help. Who will help them?

*Adapted from  
Multiple Choice Test for  
Common Entrance.*

**31.** The passage suggests that Crab Town has

- (A) only rich people.
- (B) both poverty and wealth.
- (C) many wayward children.
- (D) an uncaring government.

**32.** The writer is concerned **mainly** with

- (A) the plight of homeless children.
- (B) the beauty of the country.
- (C) providing shoes for children.
- (D) making the rich richer.



**33.** Many disadvantaged children are sleeping in

- (A) their beds.
- (B) schools.
- (C) apartments.
- (D) the open.

**34.** The children in the story need

- (A) friends.
- (B) parents.
- (C) houses.
- (D) help.

**35.** Malnutrition means

- (A) starvation.
- (B) poverty.
- (C) poor diet.
- (D) not eating.

Study the **Table of Contents** below, then answer **questions 36 to 40**.

<b>Chapter</b>		<b>Page</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Famous Guyanese</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Worship</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>An Amerindian Folk Tale</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Let's Write Poems</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Population Census</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Review</b>	<b>40</b>

**36.** In which chapter can we find information on **Mosques and Mandirs**?

- (A) 1
- (B) 2
- (C) 3
- (D) 4



**37.** A story about the Caribs will **most likely** be found in the chapter entitled

- (A) Famous Guyanese.
- (B) Population Census.
- (C) Worship.
- (D) An Amerindian Folk Tale.

**38.** Which chapter will give information about the number of persons living in a particular town?

- (A) 6
- (B) 5
- (C) 4
- (D) 3

**39.** The poem **Without the Essequibo** will most likely be found on page

- (A) 25
- (B) 18
- (C) 32
- (D) 40

**40.** Chapter Six contains

- (A) exercises on work to be done.
- (B) exercises on work already done.
- (C) a summary of the book.
- (D) meanings of difficult words.

**END OF TEST**



## ANSWER EXPLANATIONS

In questions 1 and 2, choose the **correct spelling** of the word to complete each sentence.

### QUESTION 1 ANSWER EXPLANATION

1. The teacher showed us the roots were \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) edible.
- (B) edeble.
- (C) edable.
- (D) edieble.

This problem is testing your ability to spell words correctly by providing 4 different spellings of the same word – “edible”. The best tactic to use in this case, is to both break down the word, along with sounding it out. Answer choice **B** is incorrect because it mispronounces the word and adds an extra “e”. Answer choice **C** is incorrect because the word breaks into “ed-able” which causes mispronunciations. Answer choice **D** is incorrect because it adds an extra “e” to the middle of the word. **Answer choice A is correct.**

### QUESTION 2 ANSWER EXPLANATION

2. Next Sunday, Michael will \_\_\_\_\_ his birthday.

- (A) cellebrate
- (B) celibrate
- (C) celabrate
- (D) celebrate

This problem is testing your ability to spell words correctly by providing 4 different spellings of the same word – “celebrate”. In this case, breaking it down by sound is the best tactic. Answer choice **A** is incorrect because it has double “l” even though it sounds the same. Answer choice **B** is incorrect because the word contains does not contain an “l”. Answer choice **C** is incorrect because it contains an extra “a” which is not included in the correct spelling. Answer choice **D** is the correct answer, as the word is pronounced “cel-e-brate”. **Answer choice D is correct.**

In questions 3 to 5, choose the **best** word to complete each sentence.

### QUESTION 3 ANSWER EXPLANATION

3. At the doctor’s office, I paid the consultation fee to the

- (A) operator.
- (B) receptionist.
- (C) salesman.
- (D) clerk.

This problem is testing your knowledge on the types of people working in different types of offices. Answer choice **A**, operator, is incorrect because an operator typically refers to someone that is in control of machinery, or a phone operator, who typically works at a call centre. Answer choice **C**, salesman, is incorrect because a salesman is someone who promotes the sale of goods and/or services. Answer choice **D**, clerk, is incorrect because even though a clerk typically works in offices, this is not the term used to describe someone working in a doctor’s office. **Answer choice B is correct.**

### QUESTION 4 ANSWER EXPLANATION

4. The cricketer violated a rule so the \_\_\_\_\_ sent him off the field.

- (A) referee
- (B) coach
- (C) umpire
- (D) judge



This problem is testing your knowledge on the titles/types of people who make decisions and enforce rules. In this context, we are looking at athletics. Answer choice **D**, judge, is incorrect because a judge generally refers to someone who oversees court hearings. Answer choice **B**, coach, is incorrect because a coach is responsible for training the players, or can refer to a person in charge of managing the players. Answer choice **A**, referee, is incorrect because the responsibility of a cricket referee is to observe the game from a position off the field and ensure rules are being followed; this is different from the cricket umpire who is on the field during the game and is responsible for making in-field decisions including sending a player off while a match is still happening. **Answer choice C is correct.**

#### QUESTION 5 ANSWER EXPLANATION

5. Do you know that our principal is the \_\_\_\_\_ of this book?

- (A) creator
- (B) author
- (C) composer
- (D) founder

This problem is testing your knowledge on the titles/types of people who create different things. Answer choice **C**, composer, is incorrect because a composer is a term given to someone who writes music. Answer choice **D**, founder, is incorrect because it refers to someone who began an organization or business. Answer choice **A**, creator, is incorrect because even though it is very general and can be used to describe many people, it is not specifically referring to someone who writes a book. An author is someone who writes books, poems, articles, plays and stories. **Answer choice B is correct.**

In **questions 6 to 8**, choose the word that is **similar** in meaning to the underlined word in each sentence.

#### QUESTION 6 ANSWER EXPLANATION

6. In my village, pineapples are abundant.

- (A) scarce
- (B) plentiful
- (C) juicy
- (D) rare

This problem is testing your ability to identify a word with similar meaning to the one underlined (synonyms). The word abundance means that there is a lot of something available. Answer choice **A**, scarce, is incorrect because scarce means that there is not a lot of that item available. Answer choice **C**, juicy, is incorrect because that refers to the taste of the pineapples. Answer choice **D**, rare, is incorrect because it means that something is very difficult to obtain. Plentiful has a similar meaning to abundant because there is plenty (in which plentiful is derived) of an item. **Answer choice B is correct.**

#### QUESTION 7 ANSWER EXPLANATION

7. It is quite natural for someone to shudder when walking in the rain.

- (A) faint
- (B) tremble
- (C) stumble
- (D) collapse

Like the previous question, this problem is testing your ability to identify a word synonymous to the word underlined. The word shudder in this context refers to the rain being wet and sometimes cold, causing a person to shiver. Answer choice **A**, faint, is incorrect because this means to lose consciousness (pass out). Answer choice **C**, stumble, is incorrect because it means to trip and lose balance. Answer choice **D**, collapse, is incorrect because it means to lose control of one's balance and fall. Tremble means to shiver, shake, or have sudden movement. **Answer choice B is correct.**



8. He made a profit of one hundred dollars.

- (A) margin
- (B) loss
- (C) bargain
- (D) gain

Like the previous question, this problem is testing your ability to identify a word synonymous to the word underlined. The word profit in monetary terms means that someone has made money. Answer choice **A**, margin, is incorrect because it refers to the difference in sales cost and selling price. Answer choice **B**, loss, is incorrect because it is the opposite of making money. Answer choice **C**, bargain, means that someone is negotiating the price of something. To gain money means that there is an increase in the amount someone has. **Answer choice D is correct.**

In questions 9 to 12, what is the **function** of the word underlined in each sentence?

**QUESTION 9 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

9. Saudia spoke to her mother quietly.

- (A) verb
- (B) adverb
- (C) adjective
- (D) preposition

This problem is testing your ability to identify the various parts of speech. Answer choice **A**, verb, is incorrect because the word “quietly” does not describe an action being performed, which is the definition of a verb. Answer choice **C**, adjective, is incorrect because an adjective is a word used to describe a noun. Answer choice **D**, preposition, is incorrect because a preposition is used to show relationship between a noun or pronoun with another word in the sentence. An adverb is a word that is used to describe an action, in this case, the way Saudia spoke to her mother. **Answer choice B is correct.**

**QUESTION 10 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

10. The fruits were ripe so we picked them.

- (A) conjunction
- (B) pronoun
- (C) adverb
- (D) noun

This problem is testing your ability to identify the various parts of speech. Answer choice **B**, pronoun, is incorrect because the word “so” is not describing a noun using the terms she, her, him, he, they/them or it. Answer choice **C**, adverb, is incorrect because “so” does not describe an action word or a verb. Answer choice **D**, noun, is incorrect because “so” is not a person, place, animal or thing. A conjunction is a word that joins parts of a sentence, that can be separated into their own complete sentences. In this case- “The fruits were ripe,” and “We picked them,” are suitable on their own. **Answer choice A is correct.**

**QUESTION 11 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

11. He leaned his bicycle against the post.

- (A) adjective
- (B) conjunction
- (C) preposition
- (D) pronoun

This problem is testing your ability to identify the various parts of speech. Answer choice **A**, adjective, is incorrect because the word “against” is not describing a noun. Answer choice **B**, conjunction, is incorrect because “against” is not separating two clauses that can stand on their own. Answer choice **D**, pronoun, is incorrect because “against” does not describe a noun. A preposition generally links a noun, pronoun with another phrase in a sentence. A list of some prepositions includes- above, across, against, on, at, behind, below, in, near, of, on, to, etc. **Answer choice C is correct.**





**QUESTION 12 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

12. The children collected the books and gave them to the teacher.

- (A) pronoun
- (B) adverb
- (C) conjunction
- (D) noun

This problem is testing your ability to identify the various parts of speech. Answer choice **B**, adverb, is incorrect because “them” does not describe an action. Answer choice **C**, conjunction, is incorrect because “them” does not combine two independent clauses together. Answer choice **D**, noun, is incorrect because “them” does not state the names of who they are. A pronoun is a word that is used instead of the name of a person, place, animal, or thing. **Answer choice A is correct.**

In **questions 13 and 14**, choose the word that is the **opposite** in meaning to the word underlined.

**QUESTION 13 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

13. The class teacher praised the pupils of Grade 6.

- (A) blamed
- (B) thanked
- (C) honoured
- (D) blessed

This problem is testing your ability to identify a word which means the opposite from the one underlined (antonyms). The word “praised” in this instance is positive and refers to the teacher admiring and/or approving of something the pupils have done. Answer choice **B**, thanked, is incorrect because thanking someone is a positive response for something that they have done. Answer choice **C**, honoured, is incorrect because it is positive and means that the teacher respects the pupils. Answer choice **D**, blessed, is incorrect because it is positive and means that the teacher expresses gratitude towards the pupils. The word “blame” means that the teacher is assigning responsibility for something negative that the pupils would have done. **Answer choice A is correct.**

**QUESTION 14 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

14. All the materials on the shelf are transparent.

- (A) clear
- (B) fragile
- (C) opaque
- (D) bright

This problem is testing your ability to identify a word which means the opposite from the one underlined (antonyms). The word “transparent” describes something we can see through, so we want to choose an answer that means “cannot see through”. Answer choice **A** is incorrect because clear typically describes something we can see through. Answer choice **B** is incorrect because fragile means delicate, something that breaks easily. It does not describe the quality of not being able to see through it. Answer choice **D** is incorrect because bright means shiny, perhaps can mean lit up and illuminated, and this is not a quality describing something we cannot see through. Answer choice **C**, opaque, is a word that means we cannot see through it. **Answer choice C is correct.**

In **questions 15 and 16**, identify the sentence in which the **punctuation mark** or a **capital letter** is left out.

**QUESTION 15 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

15.

- (A) Have you seen Mr. Lam?
- (B) The title of the story is shipwrecked.
- (C) Sally wore a dazzling evening gown.
- (D) “I have given the book to Joy,” said the teacher.



This problem is testing your ability to identify grammatical errors within a sentence. The best strategy for this type of problem is to observe each answer choice, making sure that all nouns are capitalized, and all punctuation marks are in the correct place. In the case of answer choice **B**, the name of the story, “Shipwrecked”, should be capitalized. Answer choices **A**, **C** and **D** all are grammatically correct sentences, thus making them the incorrect choices. **Answer choice B is correct.**

#### QUESTION 16 ANSWER EXPLANATION

16.

- (A) Many children play games in the National Park.
- (B) “Stop” shouted the policeman.
- (C) I bought story books, toys and stationery from the store.
- (D) Do you have the key for the door?

This problem is testing your ability to identify grammatical errors. The best strategy for this type of problem is to observe each answer choice, making sure that all nouns are capitalized and all punctuation marks in the correct place. Answer choices **A**, **C** and **D** are all correct sentences, making those choices incorrect. In the case of answer choice **B**, there is an exclamation point missing after the word “Stop”. Exclamation points are used to show emotion, emphasis, or surprise; because the policeman is shouting, we want to communicate this emphasis. Answer choice **B** would be grammatically correct if it had been written “*Stop!*” shouted the policeman. **Answer choice B is correct.**

In questions 17 to 20, identify the sentence that is **correctly** written.

#### QUESTION 17 ANSWER EXPLANATION

17.

- (A) Today we are learn a new song in class.
- (B) Today we learning a new song in class.
- (C) Today we learnt a new song in class.
- (D) Today we will learning a new song in class.

This question is testing your ability to identify the correct verb tense in a sentence. Since this sentence refers to something that occurred “today”, the tense should reflect something that occurred in the past. The word “learnt” in answer choice **C** is the only choice that reflects reference to the past tense. Answer choices **A**, **B** and **D** are all incorrect because they reflect the present tense with incorrect “to be” verbs. **Answer choice C is correct.**

#### QUESTION 18 ANSWER EXPLANATION

18.

- (A) Neither the teacher nor the parent attended the Prize Giving Ceremony.
- (B) Either the teacher and the parent attended the Prize Giving Ceremony.
- (C) Neither the teacher and the parent attended the Prize Giving Ceremony.
- (D) Either the teacher nor the parent attended the Prize Giving Ceremony.

This question is testing your ability to identify the correct correlative conjunction pairs. In this case, you can see that the parent and teacher are absent from the Prize Giving Ceremony. The words “neither” and “nor” always go together because they are negating an event. And the words “either” and “or” go together because it shows that one of the individuals that is part of that statement will perform a certain action. **Answer choice A is correct** because we can see the “neither-nor” pair being used to express that neither parent nor teacher will be at the event. Answer choices **B**, **C** and **D** are incorrect because they misuse those pairs.

#### QUESTION 19 ANSWER EXPLANATION

19.

- (A) Between you and me, we will share the cookies.
- (B) Between you and she, we will share the cookies.
- (C) Between you and he, we will share the cookies.
- (D) Between you and I, we will share the cookies.



This question is testing your understanding of grammar and sentence structure. Answer choices **B** and **C** are pretty much the same answer, so both of them must be incorrect because we cannot say one is correct while the other is incorrect if they are basically the same sentence. The real reasons answer choices **B** and **C** do not make sense is because they try to start out talking about other people (imagine these sentences began by saying “Between you and her,” or “Between you and him,”) but then they shifted to talking about the speaker. Answer choices **A** and **D** may both seem to be acceptable answers, but answer choice **D** is actually incorrect. In standard English, it’s grammatically correct to say “between you and me” and incorrect to say “between you and I.” The reason for this is that a preposition such as *between* should be followed by an objective pronoun (such as *me, him, her, and us*) rather than a subjective pronoun (such as *I, he, she, and we*). Saying "between you and I" is grammatically equivalent to saying "between him and she," or "between we," which are both wrong. **Answer choice A is correct.**

#### QUESTION 20 ANSWER EXPLANATION

20.

- (A) I did not enjoy my holidays because I did not gone nowhere of interest.
- (B) I did not enjoy my holiday because I did not go anywhere of interest.
- (C) I did not enjoy my holiday because I did not go somewhere of interest.
- (D) I did not enjoy my holiday because I did not going anywhere of interest.

This question tests your understanding of grammar and sentence structure. Answer choice **A** is incorrect because the word “gone” is not proper usage of the negated term and is the past participle instead of just the past. Answer choice **D** is not correct because “going” refers to the present, while the sentence is referencing a holiday that has already happened. Both answer choices **B** and **C** may initially seem acceptable, but answer choice **B** is incorrect because the term “anywhere” refers to literally any place, but in this context, not all places are of interest to the person. **Answer choice C is correct.**

In questions 21 and 22, choose the underlined word which should have an apostrophe.

#### QUESTION 21 ANSWER EXPLANATION

21. The childrens departments had a wide variety of socks and dresses.

- (A)                      (B)    (C)                      (D)

This question is testing your knowledge on grammatical possession. The apostrophe is used to show a relationship of possession where the noun with the apostrophe (now called a possessive noun) is “in ownership” (another way to think of the term “possesses”) of another noun.

**Answer choice A is correct** because if *childrens* becomes the possessive noun “children’s”, now the departments are owned by the children. Answer choices **B, C** and **D** show plurality, meaning that there are more than one department, sock and dress. The kind of department is for children, thus why **answer choice A is correct.**

#### QUESTION 22 ANSWER EXPLANATION

22. Flowers and fruits were on display at the Mens Guild Exhibition.

- (A)                      (B)    (C)                      (D)

Just as the previous problem, this question tests your knowledge on grammatical possession. **Answer choice C is correct** because turning *Mens* into “Men’s” would create ownership of the Guild. Answer choices **A** and **B** are incorrect because they show plurality, as there is more than one of these items. Answer choice **D** is incorrect because it is neither plural nor in need of possession.



In questions 23 to 25, choose the meaning of the underlined phrase.

**QUESTION 23 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

23. The old woman tried to make both ends meet.

- (A) live within her means
- (B) spend all her money
- (C) measure the cloth
- (D) stitch both ends together

This question is testing your knowledge of the meaning of a common English idiom. The phrase “make both ends meet” refers to obtaining the minimum amount of money to do something. **Answer choice A is correct** because for someone to “live within their means” refers to the woman only buying and doing things that she can afford. Answer choices **B, C** and **D** are incorrect because if someone had to make both ends meet, they would not spend all their money, measure the cloth, or stitch both ends together.

**QUESTION 24 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

24. At the school party, David blew his own trumpet.

- (A) played his own music
- (B) danced by himself
- (C) took care of himself
- (D) boasted about himself

This question is testing your knowledge of the meaning of a common English idiom. The phrase “blew his own trumpet” means that David talked openly and bragged about his achievements. **Answer choice D is correct** because the term “boast” is a synonym of brag, thus making the phrase “boasted about himself” the best answer. Answer choice **A**, played his own music, is too literal in this case. Answer choices **B** and **C** are incorrect because they have no reference to David being boastful.

**QUESTION 25 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

25. Sue and Sally decided to bury the hatchet.

- (A) get new friends
- (B) make peace
- (C) make mischief
- (D) fight with each other

This question is testing your knowledge of the meaning of a common English idiom. The phrase “bury the hatchet” means to end a quarrel or conflict to become friendly again. **Answer choice B is correct** because to “make peace” with someone means to get rid of all anger and/or hatred, to come to agreement. Answer choices **A, C** and **D** are all negative in regard to Sue and Sally making up, which would defeat the purpose of them.

In questions 26 and 27, select the correct order in which the names should appear in the telephone directory.

**QUESTION 26 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

26.

- (A) Andy Smith, John Dey, Kumar Persaud, Carl Wong
- (B) Kumar Persaud, Carl Wong, Andy Smith, John Dey
- (C) John Dey, Kumar Persaud, Andy Smith, Carl Wong
- (D) Carl Wong, John Dey, Andy Smith, Kumar Persaud

This question is testing your knowledge of the alphabet, because telephone directories are in alphabetical order by last name. Looking only at these last names – Dey, Persaud, Smith, and Wong – we can order them based on the letter that they begin with. In this case, it may be helpful to sing the alphabet silently. If you do so, you will see that **answer choice C is correct** because the beginning of the last names would appear in the order “Dey”, “Persaud”, “Smith” then “Wong”.



**QUESTION 27 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

27.

- (A) Michael Dass, John Dover, Ann Duncan, Pam Dyer
- (B) Ann Duncan, Michael Dass, Pam Dyer, John Dover
- (C) John Dover, Pam Dyer, Michael Dass, Ann Duncan
- (D) Ann Duncan, John Dover, Michael Dass, Pam Dyer

Like the last question, this question is testing your knowledge of the alphabet because telephone directories are in alphabetical order by last name. Looking only at these last names, we can see that “D” is the first letter of all of the last names, so we have to now look at the second letters. In this case, once again singing the alphabet silently, we reach “a” first followed by “o,” “u,” and “y” in that order. This gives us answer choice **A**, ordering Dass, Dover, Duncan and Dyer in that order. **Answer choice A is correct.**

Choose the **correct word** to complete each sentence in **questions 28 to 30**.

**QUESTION 28 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

28. We should comb our \_\_\_\_\_ everyday.

- (A) here
- (B) hear
- (C) hare
- (D) hair

This question is testing your ability to use context clues to identify the correct spelling for homonyms (words with the same sound but different spellings). In this instance, the act of combing requires detangling and styling the “hair” on one’s head, **answer choice D**. Answer choice **A**, here, is incorrect because it means that something or someone is in a particular place at a given time. Answer choice **B**, hear, is incorrect because it is a verb that means to perceive sound or to listen. Answer choice **C**, hare, is incorrect because this is an animal that is similar to a rabbit but has bigger ears and legs. **Answer choice D is correct.**

**QUESTION 29 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

29. My mother cut the \_\_\_\_\_ with a sharp knife.

- (A) pear
- (B) pare
- (C) pier
- (D) pair

This question is testing your ability to use context clues to identify the correct spelling for these homonyms. In this instance, if mother is cutting something with a sharp knife, you can deem that it must be a food item, thus **answer choice A**, pear. Answer choice **B**, pare, is incorrect because it means to trim something. Answer choice **C**, pier, is incorrect because this is a platform where boats and ships dock. Answer choice **D**, pair, is incorrect because a pair is a set of two things used together or are regarded as a unit. **Answer choice A is correct.**

**QUESTION 30 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

30. Mother cleaned the cupboard and left it \_\_\_\_\_

- (A) beer.
- (B) bier.
- (C) bare.
- (D) bear.

This question is testing your ability to use context clues to identify the correct spelling for these homonyms. Using context, if mother cleaned the cupboard, this means that it could be left empty, thus making **answer choice C**, bare, correct. Answer choice **A**, beer, is incorrect because it is an alcoholic beverage. Answer choice **B**, bier, is incorrect because this is a movable frame on which a coffin or a corpse is placed. Answer choice **D**, bear, is incorrect because this could either be an animal, or in the correct context meaning to carry something. **Answer choice C is correct.**



Read the passage below, then answer **questions 31 to 35**.

Crab Town is a land of contrast. It is a beautiful country with wealthy people. However, while some people live in fancy houses and drive luxurious cars, many children are not so fortunate. There are those who suffer from malnutrition since the only food they have to eat is what they get out of garbage bins. Some of them do not even own a pair of shoes. These are the children who have never been to school since they have been abandoned by their parents. They are the ones who use the pavement for their pillows and the sky for a roof over their heads. They have no real home life and are crying out for help. Who will help them?

*Adapted from  
Multiple Choice Test for  
Common Entrance.*

**QUESTION 31 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

**31.** The passage suggests that Crab Town has

- (A) only rich people.
- (B) both poverty and wealth.
- (C) many wayward children.
- (D) an uncaring government.

This question tests your reading comprehension. By going back to the passage and using test evidence, you will see that the first sentence of the passage tells us that Crab Town has wealthy people, and the rest of the passage describes those living in poverty, thus making **answer choice B correct**. Answer choices **A** and **C** only make reference to having only rich and only poor people in Crab Town. Answer choice **D** is not mentioned in the passage at all.

**QUESTION 32 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

**32.** The writer is concerned **mainly** with

- (A) the plight of homeless children.
- (B) the beauty of the country.
- (C) providing shoes for children.
- (D) making the rich richer.

This question also tests your reading comprehension. Going through the text, the answer can be found based on the fact that the majority of the passage is based on the concern of the children living poverty and without proper resources, making **answer choice A correct**. Answer choice **B** is incorrect because although the author describes Crab Town as beautiful, it is not a concern. Answer choice **C** is incorrect because even though the passage states that the children do not have shoes, it is not the only concern of the author. Answer choice **D** is incorrect because that is not stated in the passage.

**QUESTION 33 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

**33.** Many disadvantaged children are sleeping in

- (A) their beds.
- (B) schools.
- (C) apartments.
- (D) the open.



This question tests your reading comprehension. Using text evidence, the answer can be found in sentence 7, where the author refers to the sky as the children’s roof and the pavement as their bed, suggesting that they live outdoors. This makes **answer choice D correct**. Answer choices **A, B** and **D** are incorrect because the pavement is not a bed, there is no reference to the children sleeping in their schools and an apartment would at least have a roof.

#### QUESTION 34 ANSWER EXPLANATION

34. The children in the story need

- (A) friends.
- (B) parents.
- (C) houses.
- (D) help.

It is true that children need friends, parents, houses, and help, so at first glance it may seem that all four answers are accurate. But, we need to pick the best answer that supports the question asked in the context of the passage that was presented. The question asks about the children **in the story**, so we need to understand the story is about the hardships of the children going without food, clothing, and shelter. The last two sentences in the passage also state that the children are crying out for help, and ask who is going to help them. **Answer choice D is correct**.

#### QUESTION 35 ANSWER EXPLANATION

35. Malnutrition means

- (A) starvation.
- (B) poverty.
- (C) poor diet.
- (D) not eating.

This question tests your reading comprehension skills by asking you the definition of the word malnutrition. Malnutrition means that someone or something does not have the proper nutrients to be healthy. **Answer choice C is correct** because it references the diet not being sufficient to sustain proper health. Answer choice **A** is incorrect because starvation means not eating at all. Answer choice **B** is incorrect because poverty means that someone is living in a poor condition, not necessarily meaning that they do not eat well. Answer choice **D** is incorrect because someone that does not eat is synonymous to starving.

Study the **Table of Contents** below, then answer questions **36 to 40**.

Chapter		Page
1	Famous Guyanese	2
2	Worship	13
3	An Amerindian Folk Tale	18
4	Let’s Write Poems	25
5	Population Census	32
6	Review	40

#### QUESTION 36 ANSWER EXPLANATION

36. In which chapter can we find information on **Mosques and Mandirs**?

- (A) 1
- (B) 2
- (C) 3
- (D) 4

This question tests your ability to read a Table of Contents. To answer this question, you would need to know that Mosques and Mandirs are religious symbols, thus making **answer choice B, chapter 2, the correct answer**. You are most likely to find information about Mosques and Mandirs in a chapter titled Worship. Answer choices **A, C** and **D** are incorrect because they do not have anything to do with religion.



**QUESTION 37 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

37. A story about the Caribs will **most likely** be found in the chapter entitled

- (A) Famous Guyanese.
- (B) Population Census.
- (C) Worship.
- (D) An Amerindian Folk Tale.

This question tests your ability to read a Table of Contents and also your knowledge on Guyanese history. The Caribs are a group of Indigenous people that settled in the country of Guyana. **Answer choice D is correct** because the Caribs are a kind of Amerindian, a group of early settlers in the Caribbean and South America. Answer choices **A, B** and **C** are incorrect because answer choice **A** is referencing celebrities, answer choice **B** refers to population, and answer choice **C** refers to religious practices.

**QUESTION 38 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

38. Which chapter will give information about the number of persons living in a particular town?

- (A) 6
- (B) 5
- (C) 4
- (D) 3

This question tests your ability to read a Table of Contents and your knowledge on the definition of particular words. To know information about the number of people living in a particular town, one would need to have knowledge of the census. A census is an official survey of the population. This information would be found in the chapter titled "Population Census" making **answer choice B correct**.

**QUESTION 39 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

39. The poem **Without the Essequibo** will most likely be found on page

- (A) 25
- (B) 18
- (C) 32
- (D) 40

This question tests your ability to read a Table of Contents and your knowledge of Guyanese history. In a Table of Contents, a chapter begins with the page number listed under the column "Page" and ends at the number directly before the number beside the next chapter in the column. Since the question tells you that this is a poem, we know that it would be located in the chapter titled "Let's Write Poems". This chapter begins on page 25, and the following chapter begins on page 32, which means that the chapter "Let's Write Poems" would have to end on page 31. The range in which the chapter covers is pages 25-31. **Answer choice A is correct** because it is the only answer within that range.

**QUESTION 40 ANSWER EXPLANATION**

40. Chapter Six contains

- (A) exercises on work to be done.
- (B) exercises on work already done.
- (C) a summary of the book.
- (D) meanings of difficult words.

This question tests your ability to understand elements of Table of Contents. Chapter 6, titled "Review", is an overview of what the entirety of the book is. **Answer choice C is correct** because a review tells you the summary or everything that has happened in the book. Answer choices **A** and **B** are incorrect because they do not reference a summary. Answer choice **D** is incorrect because the meanings of words could be found in the glossary (you can think of the glossary as a book's personal dictionary).

