

SAMPLE TEST



Read carefully the following text. Based on the content, select the choice that is true.

In 1066 William the Conqueror, the Duke of Normandy (part of modern France), invaded and conquered England. The new conquerors (called the Normans) brought with them a kind of French, which became the language of the Royal Court, and the ruling and business classes. For a period there was a kind of linguistic class division, where the lower classes spoke English and the upper classes spoke French. In the 14th century English became dominant in Britain again, but with many French words added.

- (1) After 1066 the English language had no French vocabulary.
- (2) The Normans introduced a new language in England after 1066.
- (3) Before 1066 the upper classes adopted French in England.
- (4) Latinate words in English derive mainly from German.

Read carefully the following text. Based on the content, select the choice that is true.

Today, American English is particularly influential, due to the USA's dominance of cinema, television, popular music, trade and technology (including the Internet). But there are many other varieties of English around the world, including for example Australian English, New Zealand English, Canadian English, South African English, Indian English and Caribbean English.

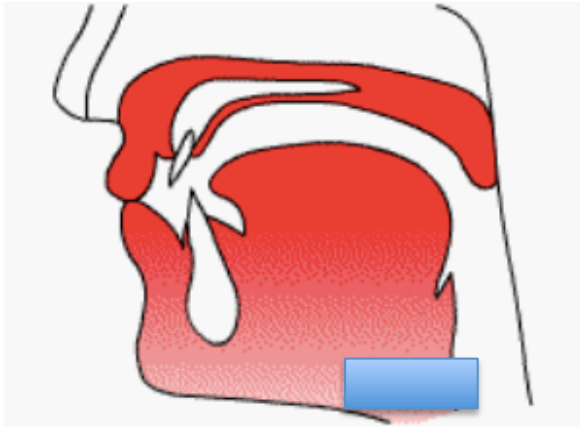
- 1) Indian English is particularly influential due to India's overpopulation.
- 2) Today, Caribbean English cannot be considered a variety of English.
- 3) South African English is very influential owing to its dominance of cinema.
- 4) None of the above

Read carefully the following text. Based on the content, select the choice that is true.

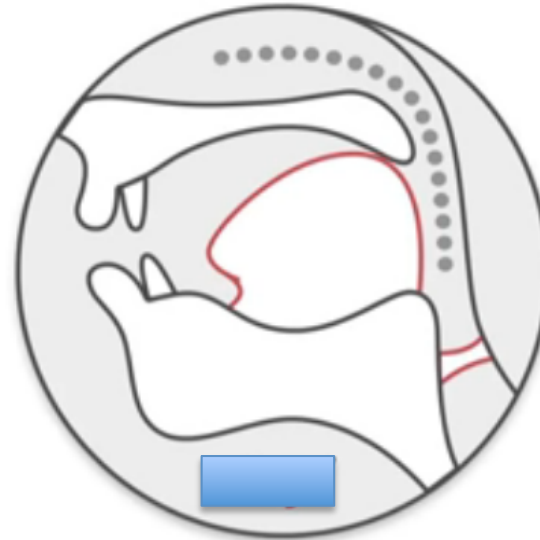
The history of the English language started with the arrival of three Germanic tribes who invaded Britain during the 5th century AD. These tribes, the Angles, the Saxons and the Jutes, crossed the North Sea from what today is Denmark and northern Germany. At that time the inhabitants of Britain spoke a Celtic language. But most of the Celtic speakers were pushed west and north by the invaders --mainly into what is now Wales, Scotland and Ireland. The Angles came from "Englaland" and their language was called "Englisc" - from which the words "England" and "English" are derived.

- 1) The Germanic tribes invaded Britain crossing the Irish Sea from what today is Ireland.
- 2) At the time of the Germanic tribes' invasion, the Britons spoke French.
- 3) The Celtic speakers were displaced north and west by the Germanic invaders.
- 4) The modern name England derives from the name of the Jutes tribe.

Examine carefully the following figures and identify the one that represents [p] in the word **p**ile



1



3



2

Read carefully the following text. Based on the content, select the choice that is true.

English has a sound called glottal fricative which is produced in the glottis (hence glottal) in a kind of friction (hence fricative). This is the first sound in the words home, high, hello. When Italians speak English, they often ignore the [h] sound maybe because Italian does not have this sound in its phonemic system. This fact can lead to misunderstandings since there are pairs of words with different meaning depending on the presence or absence of [h], for example **heart/art, height/eight, hall/all, hi/eye.**

- 1) The pronunciation of [h] at the beginning of a word is optional in English.
- 2) [h] sound in English is best described as a labiodental sound.
- 3) The pronunciation of [h] at the beginning of words in English is a matter of style.
- 4) Failing to pronounce [h] at the beginning of an English word may lead to misinterpretations.

English dialects can be classified as *rhotic* and *non-rhotic* depending on the pronunciation of the [r] sound at the end of a word and other positions. *Rhotic* dialects such as Scottish English, Irish English, North American English, Indian English, etc., pronounce it, whereas *non-rhotic* (English English, Black English Vernacular, New Zealand, South African English, etc.) omit it. In this way, the presence or absence of [r] in word final position is said to identify the geographical origin of the speaker, i.e. her/his dialect. However, the presence or absence of final [r] does not usually affect meaning.

According to the previous text, which of the following is false:

- 1) The pronunciation of [r] at the end of a word is optional in English.
- 2) Black English Vernacular is a non-rhotic dialect of English.
- 3) All English dialects behave similarly with respect to final-word [r] sounds.
- 4) Rhotic dialects are characterised by their word-final [r] presence.

Verbal morphology in English is quite simple. For example, in the indicative mode there are only two tenses that can be differentiated by the presence of a suffix: present (-s), and preterit (-ed/-en). The simple future tense, instead, has to resort to additional words called auxiliaries (shall/will).

According to the above over-simplified rule, identify the correct sentence:

1. That old lady in the wheelchair uses to be a judo trainer.
2. That old lady in the wheelchair used to be a judo trainer.
3. That old lady in the wheelchair use to be a judo trainer.

According to the over-simplified rule proposed in slide #8, identify the correct sentence:

1. One of the most well-known laws of physics are Newton's Law of Universal Gravitation.
2. One of the most well-known laws of physics will be Newton's Law of Universal Gravitation.
3. One of the most well-known laws of physics is Newton's Law of Universal Gravitation.

According to the over-simplified rule proposed in slide #8, identify the correct sentence:

1. What will I tell the boss about this money?
2. What shall I tell the boss about this money?
3. What am I tell the boss about this money?

In English, a noun can be preceded by several adjectives which must be expressed in the following order: quantity, general opinion, *size*, age, shape, colour, origin, material, purpose.

According to this rule, select the sentence with the appropriate order of adjectives:

1. Claire bought ten shiny, small, square, metal vases.
2. Claire bought ten small, square, shiny, metal vases.
3. Claire bought ten metal, small, square, shiny vases.

A phrasal verb in English is a verb like pick up, turn on or get on with. These verbs consist of a **basic verb + another word or words**. The two or three words that make up a phrasal verb form a short "phrase" --which is why we call them "phrasal verbs".

In the following paragraph you will be given the meaning of a very common phrasal verb. After reading it, identify the correct answer based on the bolded sentence.

Phrasal verb: **cheer up**

Meaning: to feel happier after being sad

If you want to cheer your friends up, you should take them to:

1. A hospital
2. A funny movie
3. A funeral

An idiom is a group of words established by usage as having a meaning not deducible from those of the individual words. For example, Italian's way of wishing luck to a person is often expressed with the **idiom** "in bocca al lupo".

Read the meaning of the following idiom and after the bolded sentence select the correct answer.

Idiom: leave no stone unturned

Meaning: When you leave no stone unturned, it means that you look everywhere in order to find something, or try everything in order to achieve something.

Henry said he would leave no stone unturned in his search for a woman to marry.

The previous sentence means that Henry will:

1. Look for women under stones.
2. Try everything to find a wife.
3. Marry any woman who accepts him.

“Text” is a term used in linguistics to refer to any passage spoken or written, of whatever length, that does form a unified whole.

According to the precedent definition, select below which one **cannot** be described as a text

1. Last chapter of La Porta Rossa
2. An informal e-mail about a concert
3. An artichoke lasagna recipe

A graduate thesis and a scientific paper are similar in many ways; for example, they both make use of a very formal style and they both try to present their arguments in the most objective way possible.

According to this statement, which of the following is **false**:

1. Graduate theses and scientific papers may ample use of the pronouns I, me, my, myself.
2. Graduate theses and scientific papers do not include slang words.
3. Graduate theses and scientific papers do not use contractions, such as isn't and shouldn't.

An abstract is a brief summary of a research article, thesis, review, conference proceeding, or any in-depth analysis of a particular subject and is often used to help the reader quickly ascertain the paper's purpose.

According to the above statement, which of the following elements is not included in an abstract

1. The research focus (i.e. statement of the problem(s)/research issue(s) addressed).
2. The research methods used (experimental research, case studies, questionnaires, etc.).
3. The complete bibliography and references used throughout the research.

Correct Answers

SLIDE #	Correct answer
2	2
3	4
4	3
5	1
6	4
7	3
8	2
9	3
10	2
11	1
12	2
13	2
14	1
15	1
16	3

Thanks

and...

break a leg!

