

SAMPLE TEST

Name:	_____	_____
	Family/Last Name	First/Given Name
ID Number:	_____	Date: _____
Signature:	_____	



Sample Test 2012

Updated to reflect changes in **2013** to the listening section.



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LISTENING

LISTENING SECTION INSTRUCTIONS

In this section of the test, you will demonstrate how well you understand spoken English. There are three parts in this section with specific instructions for each part.

Mark all your answers on the separate answer sheet. Do not make any additional marks on the answer sheet. If you change your mind about an answer, erase your first answer completely. If you do not know the answer, you may guess. Try to answer as many questions as possible.

PART 1

In this part, you will hear questions and statements. After each question or statement, choose the best response and mark your answer on the separate answer sheet. You should mark A, B, or C.

For example, listen to the question and choose one of the answers below:

Example

- a. last week
- b. tomorrow
- c. to England

The correct answer is “b. tomorrow,” because the speaker asked: 

There are 18 items in Part 1. The questions and statements will not be repeated. Please listen carefully.



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

LISTENING

1.
 - a. I'm almost finished.
 - b. I haven't read today's paper.
 - c. I'm still looking.
2.
 - a. No, everyone gets the same amount.
 - b. No, we're meeting in the large room.
 - c. No, but it's on next week's agenda.
3.
 - a. Yes, if that's the case.
 - b. I'd probably have to refuse.
 - c. That's certainly how I see it.
4.
 - a. I asked her to give a copy to everyone.
 - b. I'd say she wrote it at the last minute.
 - c. She said the decision was up to me.
5.
 - a. I read that they'll be done next month.
 - b. They usually do construction projects in the summer.
 - c. It would be easier if you looked at the map.
6.
 - a. We'll see it in a few months.
 - b. It's too far away.
 - c. I'll be ready in a few minutes.
7.
 - a. The clients changed their minds.
 - b. I'll have it finished by tomorrow.
 - c. I'd say about ten hours over the last week.
8.
 - a. I really wouldn't know.
 - b. I just don't have the time.
 - c. I could show him for you.
9.
 - a. It sounded like a serious offer to me.
 - b. I'm sure they appreciated it.
 - c. It was their best vacation ever.
10.
 - a. It would be too expensive.
 - b. I don't mind if I do.
 - c. I prefer to cook at home.
11.
 - a. It's available anytime.
 - b. Yes, I'm sure it does.
 - c. I don't think I ever have.
12.
 - a. Yes, it lasts two days.
 - b. No, we'll be there by morning.
 - c. No, I only arrived in June.
13.
 - a. I shouldn't talk about it.
 - b. The research will be the most difficult part.
 - c. I'm meeting with her tomorrow afternoon.
14.
 - a. Sure. I don't think that's excessive.
 - b. Not really. They're already too low.
 - c. Why not? Nobody else did.
15.
 - a. Everybody else will want to see it too.
 - b. I think Mary is reading it.
 - c. We wrote it in the conference room.
16.
 - a. I think they'll get here soon.
 - b. Here, let me take a look at it.
 - c. That was when it was scheduled to start.
17.
 - a. No, I'm barely managing.
 - b. No, it's been later and later.
 - c. No, I'm still doing all of it.
18.
 - a. I hope there's some left.
 - b. I'll pick it up from the bakery in town.
 - c. I'm just going to put it in the fridge.

LISTENING

PART 2

In this part, you will hear short conversations between two people. After each conversation, choose the answer which is true based on the conversation and mark your answer on the separate answer sheet. You should mark A, B, or C.

For example, listen to the conversation:

Example

- a. They'll stay home.
- b. They don't like football.
- c. They'll go to a game.

The correct answer is "c. They'll go to a game," because the speakers said: 

There are 22 items in Part 2. The conversations will not be repeated. Please listen carefully.



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LISTENING

19. a. He finished the report at the last minute.
b. He arrived at the meeting on time.
c. He received an extension of the deadline.
20. a. It was light outside when they arrived.
b. They will leave when it's still light.
c. They don't want the lights left on overnight.
21. a. She will give him some money.
b. He does not want to change his money.
c. She does not have any dollars.
22. a. She thinks the tickets are inside.
b. She thinks the line is too long.
c. She thinks the show is sold out.
23. a. Todd needs Marilyn's help with a project.
b. Todd and Marilyn will travel together.
c. Todd will do Marilyn's work while she is away.
24. a. She is waiting for him to give her something.
b. She told him where to put something.
c. She reminded him to do something.
25. a. She thinks his comments were appropriate.
b. The supervisor agreed with the comments.
c. His comments were not taken seriously.
26. a. He will correct her billing address in the records.
b. He will direct her call to the right department.
c. He will look up a record of her payments.
27. a. Ben spends too much time at work.
b. Ben sometimes falls asleep on the job.
c. Ben often works at home.
28. a. Susan is bad with computers.
b. He is preparing a presentation.
c. Jean has finished the slides.
29. a. Jane is looking for a new job.
b. Jane is too busy to play sports.
c. Jane is going to quit school.
30. a. The paper was better than she thought.
b. He will give her a make-up assignment.
c. She might be able to improve her grade.
31. a. They will order copy paper.
b. He doesn't think the manager is here.
c. She should wait for the right person.
32. a. He hopes his business will improve.
b. He thinks the woman is a good tutor.
c. He needs to work on his math skills.
33. a. He is unable to find a job.
b. He spends too much time working.
c. He is undecided about getting a job.
34. a. He can meet at either time.
b. He prefers to meet at an earlier time.
c. He wants to know when Mary can meet.
35. a. He will need to read the book.
b. She will lend him the book.
c. She was impressed with the book.
36. a. He is late for a lunch meeting.
b. He forgot that the chairman is visiting.
c. They are going to have their picture taken.
37. a. The rules for riding bikes are too strict.
b. The university has added some bike racks.
c. There are too few bike racks on campus.
38. a. He accepted a teaching position in Costa Rica.
b. He will be doing research this semester.
c. He will teach a seminar about fieldwork.
39. a. His new department is larger than he thought.
b. He didn't want to change jobs.
c. His previous job was less challenging.
40. a. He thinks conventions are a waste of time.
b. The convention was more expensive than they expected.
c. Some people in his office went to the convention.

LISTENING

PART 3

In this part, you will hear four radio interviews. After each interview, you will be asked some questions about it. You should choose the best answer to each question from the choices printed in the test booklet and mark your answers on the separate answer sheet. You should mark A, B, or C.

There are 20 questions in Part 3. The interviews and questions will not be repeated. If you want to, you may take notes in your booklet as you listen. Please listen carefully.



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LISTENING

Now you will hear the first interview.

41. Why do the reporters mention a bridge in Minnesota?
 - a. It drew attention to the need for better inspections.
 - b. The sensing skin was first tested there.
 - c. The professor recently inspected it.

42. What is one disadvantage of the inspection method used most commonly today?
 - a. Inspectors do not conduct inspections often enough.
 - b. Inspectors cannot access all large structures.
 - c. Inspectors cannot see all signs of damage.

43. Why does the sensing skin contain many layers?
 - a. to make it stronger and more durable
 - b. to provide many types of information
 - c. to protect inspectors from the electric current

44. What does the sensing skin do?
 - a. It makes a map showing where problems are.
 - b. It strengthens the structure.
 - c. It protects the structure from corrosion.

45. How is human inspection different from sensing-skin inspection?
 - a. Human inspection is more reliable.
 - b. Human inspection is less thorough.
 - c. Human inspection is more expensive.

Notes

LISTENING

Now you will hear the second interview.

46. Why does the reporter mention Martha Gordon?
- a. She is a patient of Dr. Simmons.
 - b. She is a relaxed athlete.
 - c. She is an exercise researcher.
47. What does Dr. Simmons say about tension?
- a. It is the biggest problem most athletes face.
 - b. It makes muscles harder to move.
 - c. It allows athletes to push harder.
48. Why does Dr. Simmons talk about elementary school children?
- a. to demonstrate how easy it is to relax
 - b. to describe a natural running style
 - c. to show that bad habits develop early
49. Why does Dr. Simmons use different methods with different athletes?
- a. because they use different muscle groups
 - b. because they have different personalities
 - c. because they perform in different sports
50. What is the reporter's conclusion?
- a. Average people might benefit from the advice of Dr. Simmons.
 - b. Most people are not serious about exercising.
 - c. More people should compete in local sports events.

Notes

LISTENING

Now you will hear the third interview.

51. What is the report mainly about?
 - a. a theory of tornado formation
 - b. recent advances in radar technology
 - c. the purpose of chasing tornadoes

52. Why does the report mention tornado alley?
 - a. to describe the lower part of a tornado
 - b. to indicate where tornadoes frequently occur
 - c. to give an example of a tornado-chasing team

53. What are tornado researchers still unable to explain?
 - a. why certain areas are more affected by tornadoes
 - b. what makes storm clouds rotate
 - c. what causes tornadoes to touch down

54. Why does Professor Adams talk about storms forming far away from weather radar stations?
 - a. to suggest these storms don't usually generate tornadoes
 - b. to give an example of a disadvantage of these stations
 - c. to show that these radars are very sensitive

55. According to the report, how does tornado research hope to benefit people?
 - a. by improving forecasting of actual tornadoes
 - b. by making tornado warnings reach more people
 - c. by reducing the number of tornado strikes

Notes

LISTENING

Now you will hear the fourth interview.

56. What kind of goods are you unlikely to find at Lidl and Aldi stores?
- a. brand-name goods
 - b. private-label goods
 - c. everyday goods
57. What service do customers have to pay for at Lidl and Aldi stores?
- a. having bags packed
 - b. using shopping carts
 - c. getting store cards
58. Why did the reporter mention high-income shoppers?
- a. to explain who does not shop at the stores
 - b. to show who is coming to the stores now
 - c. to describe who the stores would like to attract
59. According to Professor Harrison, why do Aldi store managers earn twice the industry average?
- a. They have to attract high-income customers.
 - b. They have many part-time staff to supervise.
 - c. They help keep overall staff costs very low.
60. Why is the reporter surprised about Lidl and Aldi's business performance?
- a. They do not give shoppers much choice.
 - b. They have an excellent business model.
 - c. They have such low personnel costs.

Notes



END OF THE LISTENING TEST

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Signature: _____ ID: _____

GRAMMAR, CLOZE, VOCABULARY, AND READING SECTION INSTRUCTIONS

Do NOT turn the page until the examiner has read these instructions to you.

Print your LAST NAME and FIRST NAME on SIDE 2 of the answer sheet.

You will have 80 minutes to finish the grammar, cloze, vocabulary, and reading section of the test. There are 110 questions. Try to answer all of them. If you do not provide an answer to a question, it will be counted as incorrect. You may answer the questions in any order you would like.

Here are examples of the questions.

GRAMMAR

Choose the option that best completes the sentence.

According to last year's census, females outnumbered males; for every one hundred females _____ ninety-seven males.

- a. have been
- b. they are
- c. it was
- d. there were**

CLOZE

Read the passage, then for each blank, choose the option that is best in both grammar and meaning.

Long ago, roads were only trails for people and animals to walk on, but today roads must be made for cars, trucks, and buses. The most modern **(1)** is often called a superhighway.

1. a. way c. travel
 b. road d. superhighway

VOCABULARY

Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

Because of the storm and rough waves, it would be foolish to go out sailing today in a small _____.

- a. automobile
- b. house
- c. boat**
- d. beast

READING

Read the passage, then answer the questions using the information in the passage.

Although it is only about the size of a pinhead, the flea can jump ten inches, hundreds of times its own height. It is the flea's lack of wings, as well as its long legs, that allow it to reach such heights.

Why is the flea able to jump very high?

- a. It lacks wings and long legs.
- b. It is the size of a pinhead.
- c. It has long legs and no wings.**
- d. Its wings are very strong.

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GRAMMAR

61. This is the first time this new musical piece _____ in public.
- to be performed
 - has been performed
 - will be performing
 - will have been performing
62. Even after reading the manager's directions, _____ unclear how the staff was supposed to proceed.
- it was
 - what was
 - that was
 - these were
63. Dropping a course _____ the instructor's permission.
- was possible if not for
 - was not possible except
 - is not possible unless
 - is not possible without
64. "I'm not sure about this current business plan."
"Well, to be honest, _____ options."
- none is any good
 - there being no better
 - it's no good as
 - there aren't any better
65. Each machine _____ large number of different parts.
- makes up the
 - is to make up the
 - is made up of a
 - is making up a
66. We _____ the date of the party, but we learned that June 10 is okay for everyone.
- were going to change
 - were going to be changed
 - are going to be changing
 - will have changed
67. _____ fifty more copies of the book, we could have filled all of the orders immediately.
- We only had printed
 - Only had we been printing
 - If we had only printed
 - If only were we printing
68. _____ to our staff last month.
- There were additions
 - It has been additions
 - Additions were
 - Additions have been
69. We _____ about thirty pages to read for our historical linguistics class last week.
- have been assigning
 - have been assigned by
 - assigned to
 - were assigned
70. Samuel's adviser warned _____ on the expedition unprepared.
- for him to go
 - him against going
 - him off
 - that going
71. The editors of the journal are asking its readers _____ be taken to improve its quality.
- what steps can
 - the steps will
 - for the steps can
 - that the steps to
72. The committee _____ change the policy now or wait until next year.
- decides whether or not
 - decides on whether
 - might whether decide to
 - will decide whether to

GRAMMAR

73. The fact that Peter is so friendly and entertaining _____ him to all my parties.
- as to inviting
 - that I'm inviting
 - makes me want to invite
 - I'm going to invite
74. Due to the hurricane, the scientists _____ their research on Louisiana flora.
- were unable to have completed
 - were unable to complete
 - are being unable to complete
 - are unable to have completed
75. "I'm worried the new product designs won't be done on time."
"They'll get done _____."
- in another one way
 - one or other way
 - one way or another
 - one other way
76. Demanding customers _____ companies to improve their services.
- constantly challenge
 - challenge constantly
 - are a constant challenge that
 - are a constant challenging of
77. Ms. Stern is the first donor who _____ a contribution of over \$1,000.
- is so generous as making
 - is being generous for making
 - has been generous enough to make
 - was generous that she makes
78. _____ the impression given by her writing, the poet lived a calm and uneventful life.
- In contrast,
 - On the contrary,
 - The contrast to
 - Contrary to
79. He spoke _____ that I'm sure they'll vote for his plan.
- so convincingly
 - so convinced
 - such conviction
 - very convincingly
80. Brazil, _____ biodiversity, is home to more than one-third of the world's plant and animal species.
- for the great
 - with its great
 - as having great
 - being such great
81. Even though Professors Smith and Miller work in different fields, they _____ each other's research.
- are taking their interests for
 - have taken an interest with
 - take an interest in
 - take their interests to
82. In a letter to staff members, the president _____ that she would be retiring soon.
- had she known
 - had it been known
 - was known
 - let it be known
83. During the presentation, the economist explained why the cell phone market _____.
- has become competitive increasingly
 - is becoming increasingly competitive
 - became competitive increasingly
 - become increasingly competitive

GRAMMAR

84. *The Downfall* is not so much a novel about people's lives _____ a story of their inner thoughts and emotions.
- as it is
 - as more about
 - rather than
 - instead of
85. "I couldn't hear the keynote speaker's lecture at all." "_____. I don't think his microphone was working."
- Couldn't I do the same
 - I could do either
 - So I couldn't
 - Neither could I
86. The safety inspectors seem to visit the factory when we _____.
- expect least
 - expect the least
 - least expect it
 - are least expected
87. If it is really necessary to criticize someone, be careful _____ offend them.
- then not
 - so not to
 - for you not
 - so as not to
88. The enormity of his success is all the more impressive _____.
- that was achieved by himself
 - although he had helped achieve it
 - than he will achieve alone
 - for his having achieved it alone
89. The host promised that the exchange students _____ during their time abroad.
- will be well provided
 - would be well provided for
 - would provide well for
 - will have been providing well
90. Last night we saw a concert by a violinist who _____ several world-famous performers at the Strings Conservatory.
- had trained under
 - had trained by
 - is training by
 - is to be trained for
91. Too much time has already gone into this investigation _____ now.
- for them stop it
 - for it to be stopped
 - that it cannot be stopped
 - that cannot stop it
92. Kevin is leaving the company _____ to become a teacher.
- in pursuit of his goal
 - with the pursuit of goal
 - to pursue his goal of
 - for pursuing his goal

CLOZE

This passage is about trees.

One of California's greatest natural treasures is its coastal redwood forests, located between the state's central coast and northern border.

These redwoods, which are the world's tallest trees, have many unique features. For example, researchers have (93) self-contained ecosystems of plant and animal life living on large branches (94) in cavities in the forest canopy hundreds of feet (95) the ground. These canopy ecosystems have their own unique soil (96) of nutrient-rich decomposed organic matter from falling leaves and branches. This soil supports the growth (97) mosses, ferns, worms, and other (98) that may spend their entire lives there.

Fewer trees in today's redwood forests support these ecosystems because clear-cutting, a timber-harvesting (99) in which all trees in one area are cut down at (100), eliminates this canopy ecosystem. (101) of the trees in second growth forests are of the same young age; these trees can't support a canopy ecosystem because they (102) the cavities and strong branches that exist in old trees. Fortunately, a growing number of people in the timber industry support the idea of allowing trees to grow older and taller.

93. a. shown
b. concluded
c. placed
d. discovered
94. a. both
b. also
c. and
d. either
95. a. to
b. past
c. around
d. above
96. a. drawn out
b. made up
c. picked out
d. taken off
97. a. after
b. of
c. inside
d. since
98. a. species
b. ecosystems
c. trees
d. features
99. a. attempt
b. method
c. purpose
d. organization
100. a. length
b. last
c. all
d. once
101. a. Few
b. Little
c. Most
d. Least
102. a. lack
b. contain
c. form
d. want

CLOZE

This passage is about the brain.

According to recent studies, mammals whose brain size is relatively large compared to their bodies live longer. Scientists reached this (103) after analyzing the relative brain size of nearly five hundred species of mammals. This was the case for chimpanzees, elephants, and dolphins, (104) others.

This finding is somewhat (105) because a larger brain is less efficient. It takes longer to develop to (106) and uses up more energy. (107), animals with larger brains do not reach reproductive age until later in life. At first (108), these traits may seem disadvantageous for the survival of a species. (109), a brain that is unusually large in (110) to the size of the body provides some advantages. It (111) mammals to adapt to their environment more easily, be more flexible in their behavior, (112) learn more quickly, all of (113) are traits that help mammals (114) in their environment. (115) they live longer, they also have an (116) length of time to reproduce. The advantages derived from a relatively large brain seem to compensate for the disadvantages.

- | | | |
|------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 103. | a. consequence
b. conclusion | c. goal
d. result |
| 104. | a. between
b. within | c. among
d. of |
| 105. | a. rare
b. unintentional | c. abrupt
d. unexpected |
| 106. | a. seniority
b. maturity | c. wisdom
d. adult |
| 107. | a. Eventually
b. Similarly | c. Hardly
d. Alternatively |
| 108. | a. glance
b. look | c. time
d. hand |
| 109. | a. Moreover
b. Consequently | c. Specifically
d. However |
| 110. | a. proportion
b. percentage | c. relationship
d. regards |
| 111. | a. grants
b. allows | c. favors
d. lets |
| 112. | a. yet
b. including | c. and
d. thus |
| 113. | a. what
b. which | c. those
d. them |
| 114. | a. promote
b. abound | c. thrive
d. achieve |
| 115. | a. Although
b. Given | c. Whereas
d. Since |
| 116. | a. increased
b. entire | c. earlier
d. excess |

VOCABULARY

117. During her presentation, Sandra tried to _____ confusion by using visual aids.
- minimize
 - deteriorate
 - subside
 - miscalculate
118. Due to the _____ use of the Internet, people nowadays have access to larger amounts of information.
- outward
 - precise
 - widespread
 - irresistible
119. According to the doctor's _____, the problem was minor.
- advocacy
 - objective
 - diagnosis
 - technique
120. Dust and leaves _____ around the plaza moments before the storm began.
- tossed
 - blended
 - swirled
 - escaped
121. The Conestoga wagon was _____ suited for hauling freight over rough roads.
- ideally
 - incompletely
 - optionally
 - reluctantly
122. The results of the study were not widely _____ until the lead researcher won several awards.
- publicized
 - imparted
 - uncovered
 - signified
123. Seating people in a circle often helps to _____ discussion.
- dictate
 - facilitate
 - magnify
 - succeed
124. Tom's doctor gave him a _____ to see a specialist.
- prescription
 - proposal
 - referral
 - restoration
125. All research activities in the university must be in _____ with established federal regulations.
- heed
 - contingency
 - affirmation
 - compliance
126. The team was losing because they were not playing _____ enough.
- considerably
 - bulkily
 - martially
 - aggressively
127. Because the two classes Helen wanted to take were being offered _____, she could only take one.
- intermittently
 - sequentially
 - concurrently
 - chronologically
128. Jason _____ a laugh while reading a newspaper in the library.
- terminated
 - suppressed
 - prohibited
 - obstructed

VOCABULARY

129. Police officers can stop drivers for a number of traffic _____, such as speeding or running a red light.
- abuses
 - accidents
 - damages
 - violations
130. The researcher's findings _____ Dr. Lee's theory by proving that both of her major assumptions were inaccurate.
- synthesized
 - discredited
 - disciplined
 - realized
131. Although Margaret was upset about not getting a promotion, she was _____ by the raise that her boss gave her.
- consoled
 - deserved
 - respected
 - resolved
132. The federal government has _____ over the lake but not the islands to the north.
- jurisdiction
 - participation
 - declaration
 - sponsorship
133. When writing a research paper, you must include proper _____ to refer to ideas from previous research.
- attributes
 - citations
 - notifications
 - endorsements
134. Richard _____ himself to his room until he finished writing his essay.
- enforced
 - mandated
 - confined
 - blocked
135. Hearing her favorite song from high school made Sue feel _____ for the past.
- nostalgic
 - memorable
 - timely
 - expectant
136. Professor Jones was _____ of her student's excuse for submitting a late assignment.
- incapable
 - controversial
 - disagreeable
 - skeptical
137. The board of directors decided to build the new factory in the _____ of the old one.
- sphere
 - convenience
 - vicinity
 - verge
138. Tom does outstanding work in the laboratory, but he doesn't have the _____ to be an effective supervisor.
- livelihood
 - temperament
 - advancement
 - limitation

VOCABULARY

139. Modern businesses have to be _____ of their impact on the environment.
- insightful
 - mindful
 - purposeful
 - willful
140. The president _____ displays her company's achievement awards on the walls of the lobby.
- prominently
 - enormously
 - loosely
 - recognizably
141. There are detailed charts in the _____ at the end of the article.
- appendix
 - dialogue
 - installment
 - contents
142. The _____ of obtaining funding for this project has been falling due to budget cuts.
- hazard
 - risk
 - presumption
 - likelihood
143. The professor drew _____ between taking her course and climbing a mountain.
- an analogy
 - an inquiry
 - a collaboration
 - a conclusion
144. Raymond _____ between working in the New York and San Francisco offices on a weekly basis.
- substitutes
 - alternates
 - averts
 - diverts
145. Making the _____ from being a student to working full-time can sometimes be difficult.
- alteration
 - modification
 - transition
 - variation
146. The memo _____ employees that their salaries would not be affected by the budget problems.
- reassured
 - inspired
 - supported
 - motivated
147. In a formal debate it is necessary to provide evidence for anything you _____.
- persuade
 - assert
 - moderate
 - intend

This passage is about mirages.

A mirage is a type of image that appears to be real but actually is not. In literature and cinema, mirages are often represented to be the very object a character most wishes would be there—water in a desert, or land when lost at sea. However, mirages are not just products of our eager imaginations. In fact, a mirage is a special type of projected image of a distant object.

Mirages are commonly referred to as illusions, but in fact, they are classified as optical phenomena, not optical illusions: it is possible to take a picture of a mirage. When light passes from warm air into colder air (or vice versa) it bends, creating a refracted image. For example, this happens when light passing through cool air reaches hot pavement. To a viewer, it will appear as though water is shimmering on the road; but in fact, the “water” is a reflection of the blue sky.

Mirages can be one of two types, inferior or superior. With an inferior mirage, the air above is cooler than the surface below, as in the pavement example. On the other hand, a superior mirage occurs when the air above is warmer than the surface below, creating a mirage that appears above the actual object. One of the more famous examples is the *fata morgana*. Often said to look like castles, *fata morgana* occur when light passes through warm air and refracts against cool water, creating a hovering image above the water that can appear to sailors to be a castle or other sign of land. In the early 1900s, explorers once ventured far into the Arctic Ocean, only to discover that they were chasing after a *fata morgana*.

148. Why does the author mention the possibility of taking a photograph of a mirage?
 - a. to explain why mirages are not considered phenomena
 - b. to show how mirages can be used to create art
 - c. to illustrate that mirages are not illusions
 - d. to give an example of what a mirage looks like

149. In the second sentence of paragraph 2, what does the word **it** in the phrase **it bends** refer to?
 - a. the air
 - b. a mirage
 - c. light
 - d. an image

150. What is the difference between an inferior mirage and a superior mirage?
 - a. how complex they are
 - b. how often they occur
 - c. what they are made of
 - d. where they appear

151. What is a *fata morgana*?
 - a. a famous structure
 - b. a large castle
 - c. a type of mirage
 - d. a type of ship

152. What were the explorers mentioned in the final paragraph hoping to find?
 - a. a land mass
 - b. a *fata morgana*
 - c. a special type of mirage
 - d. a warmer climate

This passage is about dams.

Dams occur frequently in nature through the action of beavers, ice, landslides, or fallen trees, but most impoundments are due to humans attempting to control the flow of a river and direct it for use as a source of water or energy for agriculture, industry, and homes. It was once believed that damming rivers was harmless, but other studies have revealed the extensive damage caused by dams. As a result, environmentalists have begun to make attempts at restoring waterways by removing them.

The Manatawny Creek in Pennsylvania is an example of a successful restoration. The dam on this creek created numerous problems. It blocked migratory fish from returning to their breeding grounds, leading to severe declines in population. It also contributed to water quality problems, such as dissolved oxygen levels becoming too low to support aquatic life. Sediment accumulated due to stagnant flows within the dam pool. The dam altered nutrient cycles and disrupted temperature patterns. The course of the creek's stream channel became erratic. But after the dam was removed, the stream channel was stabilized, and vegetation was planted along the banks to provide a transition zone between the water and land. Several years later, based on the increased presence of pollution-sensitive macroinvertebrate populations, it was determined that significant segments of the watershed had been restored.

The cost of such restoration projects is high, but it is often significantly less than the cost of dam maintenance and compliance with environmental regulations, such as the construction of fish ladders to allow migratory fish to bypass dams.

But decommissioning a dam, especially a large one, should not be undertaken lightly. Sediment removal is usually the most costly and technically intensive aspect of decommissioning. Experts advise gradual reductions in the amount of water held back by the dam in order to transport sediment out of the dam pool without harming sensitive downstream habitat or releasing accumulated contaminants into fisheries or water supplies.

153. Why does the author mention beavers?
- to argue that natural dams are not harmful
 - to show that not all dams are made by people
 - to give an example of animals affected by a dam
 - to illustrate why dams should be removed
154. What is the purpose of most impoundments?
- to expand the size of a dam
 - to block water for human use
 - to manage environmental damage
 - to restore the flow of a river
155. In the final sentence of paragraph 1, what does the word **them** refer to?
- environmentalists
 - waterways
 - attempts
 - dams
156. In the eighth sentence of paragraph 2, what does **the stream channel was stabilized** mean?
- The stream began to follow a regular course.
 - Water in the stream moved at a lower speed.
 - The stream stopped flowing into the transition zone.
 - Sediment was placed along the stream banks.
157. How did scientists determine that part of the Manatawny Creek watershed was restored to health?
- Numbers of certain plant species increased.
 - Temperature levels of the watershed dropped.
 - Levels of certain organisms increased.
 - Water levels rose within the watershed.
158. According to paragraphs 2 and 3, what can be inferred about fish ladders?
- They are difficult for fish to navigate.
 - They promote fish reproduction.
 - They are inexpensive to construct.
 - They interfere with the functioning of the dam.
159. What is the author's opinion about decommissioning dams?
- Enforcing dam regulations is more efficient than removing dams.
 - Fixing environmental damage is worth the cost of removing dams.
 - Replacing the energy produced should occur before dams are removed.
 - Removing dams quickly will enable environmental repair more rapidly.
160. Why is sediment behind a dam a problem?
- Its buildup prevents the growth of vegetation along the banks.
 - Its buildup lowers oxygen levels within the watershed.
 - It interferes with machinery for generating energy from the dam.
 - It traps toxins that may escape during a dam's removal.

This passage is about worker productivity.

In the 1920s, experiments were conducted at a factory in Hawthorne, Illinois that were aimed at determining what effects changing working conditions would have on productivity. The first experiment measured the effects of changes in overall factory illumination levels on assembly rates of telephone parts, and much to the factory owners' surprise, output rose whether illumination was increased or decreased.

Professor Elton Mayo was hired to interpret the data. He concluded that the workers' awareness of the study was the cause of the rise in productivity. His premise was that because they knew they were being observed, they changed their behavior, a phenomenon that soon became known as the *Hawthorne effect*. The principle has since been validated by other studies; however, modern researchers who have looked back at the Hawthorne experiments have found that they were significantly flawed. The information collected from the studies was poorly recorded, and the results were manipulated and misinterpreted. For example, worker interviews were dismissed if they did not support the conclusion Mayo had drawn.

While the increases in the workers' productivity could be explained in part by the Hawthorne effect, there were additional possible causes. The workers in the studies became the center of much attention, bonded as a group, and gained new privileges in exchange for working faster, such as the freedom to talk while working. They were given feedback on the number of parts they assembled, which has been shown to influence rates of production. Further calling into question Mayo's findings, two mediocre workers were replaced during the studies by more productive workers. All of these factors combined to affect production, but they were largely overlooked by Mayo. The existence of the Hawthorne effect is now widely accepted, but, ironically, it was not proven by the experiments from which it derives its name.

161. What was the purpose of the Hawthorne experiments?
 - a. to study the effects of mechanization on worker productivity
 - b. to study how workers' productivity was affected by working conditions
 - c. to determine the cause of decreasing rates of production
 - d. to determine the cause of workers' low morale

162. What happened when the amount of light in the factory was decreased?
 - a. The amount of work completed by employees increased.
 - b. The output of the employees decreased dramatically.
 - c. The number of accidents in the factory unexpectedly decreased.
 - d. The number of worker complaints increased.

163. What did Elton Mayo help the factory owners do?
 - a. recruit qualified workers to participate in the study
 - b. understand the results of the company's experiments
 - c. publish the findings of the company's experiments
 - d. change the way that workers moved telephone parts

164. What is a criticism mentioned about Mayo's work?
 - a. It ignored the interpretations of other researchers.
 - b. All workers were required to participate in the study.
 - c. The factory owners paid for the study.
 - d. It ignored some conflicting data.

165. What can be inferred about the working conditions in the factory before the experiments began?
 - a. The factory was considered a desirable place to work.
 - b. The factory was old and in need of modernization.
 - c. The workers were not allowed to talk while working.
 - d. The workers felt pressured to make parts quickly.

This passage is about the history of astronomy.

Even people with only a passing interest in science are familiar with the name Galileo. The great Italian's work in the early 1600s revolutionized astronomy. Galileo's first discoveries came from his observations of the moon, and it had been thought that Galileo was the first to have produced a lunar map.

Now, though, a science historian at Oxford University in England is claiming that Galileo was not the first lunar cartographer. That honor apparently goes to Thomas Harriot, a little-known figure from British astronomy, who, records show, created maps of the moon several months before Galileo. Not only was Harriot the first to map the moon—his earliest effort was done on July 26, 1609—several astronomers believe that his maps are superior to Galileo's. His later maps, created between 1610 and 1613, show such detail as the mountains, craters, and so-called *seas of the moon*, observations that would not be recreated in astronomy for another thirty years.

The main reason that few people have heard of Harriot until now is that unlike Galileo he never published his work. Harriot was a wealthy nobleman who had no need to seek financial reward from his discoveries. He also had friends who had been jailed for political crimes. Harriot did not want to become known for what was considered a radical discovery at the time. On the contrary, Galileo was a relatively poorly paid, and by all accounts, unhappy professor at the University of Padua. His publications helped him gain a much higher salary and greater status, as well as a research position at the University of Pisa. Harriot continued on in his own quiet way and made some significant discoveries in mathematics and especially algebra. However, Galileo was the one whose name would be remembered around the world.

166. In the third sentence of paragraph 2, which word could best replace **effort** as it is used?
- map
 - moon
 - astronomy
 - observation
167. Why were Harriot's maps believed to be better than other early maps?
- They were checked by other astronomers.
 - They were easier to understand.
 - They took less time to make.
 - They contained many fine details.
168. What is the author's purpose in writing paragraph 2?
- to introduce a historian
 - to support a claim
 - to describe Galileo's discoveries
 - to criticize Harriot's achievements
169. According to the passage, why did Harriot not become well known for his discovery?
- He was not wealthy enough to promote it.
 - He wished to avoid too much publicity.
 - He wanted to share it with only his friends.
 - He failed to find a publisher to accept it.
170. Why does the author mention the University of Pisa?
- to describe where Galileo made his greatest discovery
 - to explain why Galileo was unhappy with his career
 - to show how Galileo benefitted from his publications
 - to account for the quality of Galileo's research

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