

Paragraph Completion Advanced Level Test - Quiz (Online Exercise With Answers)

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This first paragraph completion test contains 25 multiple choice questions on the topic of **paragraph completion** of English language. Both English learners and ESL teachers can use this online exercise as a revision to check the knowledge of paragraph completion.

1. 1. The degree to which children feel more self-confident as they grow older depends mainly on their relation with their mothers and fathers. Children always need to be reassured by their parents. ____ . This kind of trust is essential in reducing young children's anxiety.
A) They need to believe that their parents will love them no matter what they do
B) Anxieties are common even in the early years of childhood
C) They may begin to cry if one of the parents goes away even for a short while
D) Any suggestion of forcing children to overcome a fear will only make it last longer
E) So parents should scold their children whenever they want
2. 2. Ocean waves may seem like a fanciful source of energy. ____ . In August, a 750-kilowatt power plant off the coast of Scotland began delivering ocean - wave power for the first time to the local electricity grid. The plant consists of four linked floating cylinders which use wave motion to drive a hydraulic pump and turn a turbine. This is such an inexpensive and clean process that engineers are quite optimistic about its future.
A) Engineers, on the other hand, say ocean power is far behind wind and solar power
B) A recently constructed power plant will change the perception soon
C) Thanks to the rising and falling water level, its cost would be quite low
D) Technicians have already started delivering power to many electricity networks
E) Everybody is against plant construction in this area
3. 3. It's essential for all creatures to keep themselves clean and free from parasites. ____ . Some species are able to clean themselves. For those species that are not, it is obviously vital to find some other animal to perform this cleaning function.
A) Nevertheless, there's no point in doing this cleaning process
B) The vast majority of cleaners are fish; at least 45 species are known as cleaners
C) Some fish species are known to change colour while being cleaned
D) Some animals depended on others to do this
E) If they do not, they will probably fall ill from infected wounds
4. 4. ____ . Within five years, 4,5 million Americans had taken it at least once. This was the fastest acceptance ever for a psychiatric drug. It seemed to go beyond treating illness and actually improve people's lives; a sort of facelift for the character. However, reports emerged that some patients actually felt more suicidal on Prozac
A) There was a very negative reaction towards pharmacy in the U. S. A
B) Lawyers in USA claim that even murders can be done under the influence of some drugs
C) Technology and medicine have improved so much in Europe that people don't go to the USA any more
D) Some psychiatric drugs in the U.S.A. were accepted very slowly in the past
E) Within two years of its introduction, pharmacies in the United States were filling 65.000 Prozac prescriptions per month

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5. 5. Fyodor Mikhailovich Dostoevsky was born in Moscow, which at the time was not the Capital of Russia. Dostoevsky's mother died when he was sixteen and he became a student in the Military Engineering School in the then-capital, St. Petersburg. ----- . And therefore, resigned his commission after just over a year. In later years, he became a radical socialist and, after having written two novels and some other shorter works, was arrested in 1848 and sentenced to death for his political activities.
- A)** Nevertheless he hated politics all his life
B) Being a patriot and a devoted member of the army was his greatest ideal
C) Dostoevsky was an emotional man so he tried to keep away from radicalist movements
D) However, after graduating, he preferred the idea of writing to working in the military
E) His other famous books are "Notes from the Underground" and "The Gambler"
6. 6 . A virus can be regarded as a self replicating program that spreads by inserting copies of itself into other executable code or documents in computer technology. _____. Extending this comparison, the insertion of the virus into a program is termed g "infection", and the infected document or code is known as a "host".
- A)** Hackers benefit a lot from entering bank computer systems
B) Therefore, a computer virus behaves similarly to a biological virus, which spreads by inserting itself into living cells
C) The first virus was created by an American in the 20th century
D) Some computer viruses can even do away with company or school computer networks
E) Nowadays, viruses are also named as worms and trojan horses
7. 7. _____. In Western medicine, all the ingredients are single compounds, making it much easier to quality control, and the mode of function can be analyzed. In Chinese medicine, however, because it is a mixture that is used, it is very difficult to investigate how it works. One of the ways that pharmaceutical companies are looking at bringing traditional Chinese medicine into line with Western Standards is to identify the active ingredients in the herbs that are used.
- A)** There may be some leading compounds to be discovered in Chinese medicine
B) Modern Chinese medicine rejects using mixtures since it has single compounds
C) European medicine is regarded as sophisticated but many researchers say— that~ the Americans have proceeded much further
D) Pharmaceutical companies have realized that traditional medicines tend to have a better effect on their area's local patients
E) In analyzing traditional Chinese medicine and' its Western counterpart, the main difference lies in identifying the active ingredients in the drugs
8. 8 . The olive is possibly the most important fruit of the Mediterranean and Near Eastern region so much that according to Greek mythology, it helped to give Athens its name. This was because when the gods Poseidon and Athena clashed over whose name the city would get, it was decided that the honour would go to the one who could offer the most precious gift to it. _____. The olive even gets important mentions in the religious books of the area. According to the Bible, after Noah's Ark is left high and stranded on a mountain, he sent out a dove, and when it returned with an olive leaf in its mouth, Noah knew that God's wrath had passed.
- A)** Today, the Mediterranean countries of Spain and Italy are the world leaders in commercial olive protection
B) Other important gods and goddesses in the period were Zeus, Hera, Artemis and Aphrodite
C) Poseidon offered a salt water spring, but Athena won with an olive tree
D) And Poseidon won the bet with Narcissus flower
E) But some people think this is just mythology and people who believe in it must be crazy

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9. 9. Argentinian author Jorge Luis Borges was born in Buenos Aires on 24 August 1899. His father was a lawyer, a psychology teacher, and an anarchist who was part of Italian, Spanish, Portuguese and British, while his mother was a translator of Spanish and Catalan descent. At his home, both Spanish and English were spoken. _____. And in fact he learned to read in English before Spanish. He grew up in a suburb of Buenos Aires called Palermo, in a large house with a comprehensive library, for which he began writing stories at the age of 6 .
- A)** Therefore, from early childhood on, Borges was effectively bilingual
B) But before that could happen, however, two tragedies had to be lived through
C) Borges embarked on his career as a writer there by publishing poems and essays
D) As a result, he was married to his Japanese-Argentinian personal assistant
E) Miquel de Cervantes' Don Quixote has long been regarded as a masterpiece by the Spanish
10. 10. The author Alfred Jarry is best known for his play King Ubu, in which the title character is a gross satire on bourgeois stupidity and greed. In fact, the character became so famous at the time that Jarry himself often pretended he was Ubu, especially in his later years. _____. He was, for example, the inventor of an "imaginary science" known as "pataphysics" and he also wrote an essay about a time travel machine.
- A)** One of his funniest short stories was the slightly scandalous story containing the life and death of Christ
B) Jarry, however, deserves to be known for other things as well
C) He was an alcoholic throughout all his adult life
D) Pataphysics -is -the- same-thing as quantum mechanics
E) Jarry was thus, an author of French origin
11. 11. Lichen are one of the few kinds of life that can survive in the mountains of Antarctica. These tiny plants live in small holes in the rocks. Outside, the extreme cold and strong winds do not allow any life at a il. _____. However, much of the time they are frozen. This fact means that the lichen function very slowly, and live a very long time.
- A)** Inside the holes, these lichen manage to find enough water and warmth to keep alive
B) Scientists believe that lichen may remain alive for only several years
C) Therefore, they never die
D) Because they're among the oldest forms of life on earth
E) Nevertheless they may not survive another Antarctic winter
12. 12. Sociologists and psychologists have argued for centuries about how a person's character is formed. The argument has long been known as "Nature versus Nurture", for the two main opposing theories. The first theory says that character is formed genetically before birth. _____. The other theory says, on the contrary, that a person's character is formed after birth.
- A)** herefore, the most important factors are cultural and environmental
B) Since the theoretical approach approves of none of them
C) According to this theory, nature - through genetics-determines what a person will be like
D) In this view, it's been claimed an individual's character-is-formed after he's born
E) As regards this theory; exercise is the best treatment

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13. 13. Money has not always been made of metal or paper. In many parts of the world people have used other materials. Precious stones, valuable cloth (silk), and rare spices (saffron) have all been used as money at times. But people have also given special value to other kinds of objects. For example, in Ethiopia, blocks of salt have been used as money. _____. In India and in North America, special kinds of shells have been used
- A)** The trader can lose the money, he invested
B) In America, the citizens used to barter one thing for another
C) Thus, that money was worth at least one dollar
D) Because money is a very important means of buying cheap things
E) In Malaysia, people have used large bronze drums
14. 14. _____. This expression can be true in a very literal sense. The Luo people from Kenya often cook and eat the leaves of a plant called black nightshade. This plant serves as an effective treatment for many stomach problems. The Luo eat it regularly from childhood and do not suffer any negative effect from it. However, when one American researcher ate just a small amount, she felt quite ill afterwards. In fact the plant contains a substance called solanine that can be poisonous.
- A)** There is a substance that benefits the digestive system in great amounts
B) African cuisine resembles to that of Asia in many ways
C) Now that pluralism has beaten communism, they say the next battle is between Islam and others
D) One man's medicine is another man's poison
E) In order to be healthy, you should have more vegetables in your diet
15. 15. Supermarket managers have all kinds of tricks to encourage people to spend more money. Their aim is to make customers go more slowly through the supermarket. _____. They also make the corridors near the cash registers more narrow. Then customers with large shopping carts will get stuck or have to slow down. In some supermarkets, the floor is even slightly uphill for people going towards the exits.
- A)** In this way, they decide not to buy anything more
B) That's why all the customers get angry and go home
C) They place colourful displays in surprising places to catch the customers' attention
D) The supermarket prices are really high in big cities if you want to rent one
E) But then they realized that things weren't going on like that
16. 16. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar was a basketball star in the United States. When he was born in New York City in 1947, his parents named him Ferdinand Lewis Alcindor, Jr. He studied at the university of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) in the late 1960s. At that time, he led the university's basketball team to three championships. _____. He changed his name to Kareem Abdul-Jabbar. In 1969, Kareem began his professional basketball career as a center on the Milwaukee Bucks team. Later, in 1975, he joined the Los Angeles Lakers.
- A)** When he retired in 1989, Kareem held several all time records in basketball
B) He had also been named "most valuable player" six times
C) He had many difficulties during his childhood in Los Angeles
D) He provided a loving and stable home for his family
E) It was also during his college years that he converted to the Muslim faith

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17. 17. Making orange juice concentrate from fresh oranges is done entirely by machines. First, oranges are dumped onto a moving belt. They travel into a machine which washes them with detergent. Next, they are rolled into juicing machines, where seven hundred oranges per minute are split and squeezed. Then the rinds are thrown out the end of a long tube. _____. Next, the juice goes into another machine called the finisher. And the process is over.

- A)** Last, the juice goes into large tanks, where most of the water is removed
- B)** This hand-made nectar is then manufactured and put on the market
- C)** By the help of detergents and soaps the fruit is washed thoroughly
- D)** At the same time, the juice goes through small holes in the bottom of the tube
- E)** Finally, the seeds and other tiny objects are removed

18. 18. _____. Some people like to go for long walks in the forest, where they won't see anyone for days. Others prefer to spend their holiday in an exciting city. There they can visit museums, theaters, and good restaurants. Still others enjoy the fresh air at the seashore. They can spend their days at the beach and listen to the ocean waves at night.

- A)** A few people decide to stay at home and do some major household projects during the weekend
- B)** People have many different ideas about what makes a great vacation
- C)** Life in a small apartment would sound as terrible to many
- D)** There are many similarities between a sea-side holiday and camping
- E)** Working in a big company has many disadvantages

19. 19. Scientists believe that the earth's climate may be warming up. This trend probably began thousands of years ago. Many areas of the earth used to be covered with ice that has now melted. _____. Scientists think that part of the reason for this may be carbon dioxide pollution from industry and automobiles. The carbon dioxide mixes with other gases. This pollution covers the earth like a blanket and keeps it warmer. Another reason for the warming may be the fact that the earth is losing its forests.

- A)** Forests are an important part of the earth's system for keeping the air temperature cool
- B)** Therefore, violent storms cause damage and deaths all over the world
- C)** However, in recent years, the warming trend has speeded up
- D)** It's also important to keep yourself cool by wearing loose, light clothes
- E)** Now, millions of people live here and suffer from the floods

20. 20. The first guitarist to become known worldwide was Andres Segovia, born in 1893 in Spain. _____. Most people thought that the guitar was suitable only for popular music or folk music. Few classical composers wrote music for the guitar, and it was never included in classical concerts. But Segovia, a classical instrument, and he was a great musician.

- A)** Segovia used his genius to prove he could produce beautiful classical music with every instrument
- B)** The Spanish were glad to have such a great composer
- C)** Guitar was extremely popular in classical music at the time
- D)** Classical music contributed to guitar positively in making it worldwide
- E)** Before the 20th century, the guitar was not taken very seriously as a classical instrument

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21. 21. Many studies have shown that it is better to wear your seat belt when you are traveling in a car. Seat belts greatly reduce the risk of death or injury in an accident. This fact is widely recognized and many governments have passed laws requiring seat belt use. _____. Researchers have found several reasons for this. Some people feel uncomfortable with the seat belt. They are afraid of being trapped in the car in an accident. Others do not think that the seat belt can protect them. They believe that people have no power over their fate.
- A)** Therefore, people think that wearing a seat belt or not will make no difference
B) On the other hand, fate will decide whether one will have an accident
C) Some cars must now be equipped with seat belts
D) In this respect, it's unavoidable for the drivers to get injured or die
E) However, many people still do not wear seat belts
22. 22. _____, The main cause of this is loneliness. In the past, older people usually lived with other members of the family. They usually had responsibilities around the home. For example, older women could help take care of the children. And older men could help their sons at work. These days, married children often prefer to live on their own, sometimes ^ far away from their parents. Thus, m older people may be cut off from p family ties. They may feel cut off from g the world around them.
- A)** In industrialized countries today, >many elderly people suffer from depression
B) Some elderly people felt the world .has changed too quickly
C) The average age of the population of many countries is getting older
D) A great many elderly and lovely people would feel pressure on them
E) Businesses in a country must adjust to older customers
23. 23. In the past few years, scientists have found several new fuels to replace gasoline for automobiles. _____. It can be used in many cars in almost the same way that gasoline is used. Natural gas is another alternative fuel for cars. However, cars that burn this fuel must be equipped with special tanks of natural gas. A third alternative, and perhaps the best, is electricity. Cars fueled by electricity have no engine at all, though they do have to carry large batteries.
- A)** One of these fuels is methanol, a form of wood alcohol
B) Electricity fueled cars are the most striking ones
C) Unfortunately, there are only two alternatives to gasoline
D) In fact, gasoline was a very efficient form of fuel for vehicles
E) Cars fueled by solar energy are also popular, nowadays
24. 24. Both New York City and Paris depend on vast subway lines to transport their millions of commuters. In both cities, the subways are often crowded, especially at rush hours. Another likeness is the terrible noise level in the trains. A further similarity is that two subway systems both cover a wide area at little expense for commuters. However, the differences between the two are quite striking. _____. Many of the French stations are filled with works of art. In Paris, the subway trains are clean. On the other hand, New York's trains can sometimes be less clean.
- A)** New York trains also run every few minutes
B) Both trains are unreliable in terms of their rail system
C) While subway stations in New York range from plain to ugly, Paris stations are generally attractive
D) For example in New York, passengers are fond of eating sandwiches during their journey
E) Similarly French subway stations have less crime rate

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25. 25. When people move from one city or country to another, the spread of diseases may result. People often bring in germs which may not have been present there before. These new germs can spread quickly and cause previously unknown diseases. _____. They become ill more easily and die more often. In turn, newcomers may catch diseases which were not present where they came from.

A) If they had gone back, they would have started an epidemic

B) Such changes may result in enhancing conditions for people in big cities

C) If a germ is completely new to a region, people have no natural protection against it

D) Pollution can also lead to the spread of disease

E) This infected bacteria can stick to ships, which then carry the cholera germs all around the world