

Prepositions, Prepositional Phrases & Adverbs

Grade 12 Advanced Multiple-Choice Assessment | 20 Questions

Aligned to CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.11-12.1, L.11-12.3, L.11-12.4, L.11-12.5 (and L.9-10.1 review)

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 20

Directions: Choose the **one best answer** for each question. Read each sentence carefully; some questions test formal usage, and some test sentence structure and rhetorical effect.

Standard: L.11-12.1 / L.9-10.1.b

1. Read the sentence: *The scientist with the cracked goggles stumbled toward the exit during the blackout.* Which choice correctly identifies the functions of the prepositional phrases with the cracked goggles and toward the exit, in that order?

- A. adverbial; adverbial
- B. adjectival; adjectival
- C. adverbial; adjectival
- D. adjectival; adverbial

Standard: L.11-12.1.b

2. Choose the set of prepositions that correctly completes the sentence: *The author is indifferent ___ criticism, insists ___ preserving her original title, and writes in a style that differs ___ that of her predecessor.*

- A. of / for / from
- B. to / in / than
- C. to / on / from
- D. toward / in / with

Standard: L.11-12.1 / L.9-10.1

3. Choose the pair that correctly completes the sentence: *The CEO responded ___ to the allegations, though her tone remained ___.*

- A. cautious; calm
- B. cautiously; calm
- C. cautiously; calmly
- D. cautious; calmly

Standard: L.11-12.1.b / L.9-10.1.b

4. Which revision corrects the misplaced prepositional phrase in this sentence? *The professor handed the essays to the students with red annotations.*

- A. The professor handed the essays with red annotations to the students.
- B. The professor with red annotations handed the essays to the students.
- C. The professor handed to the students the essays, with red annotations them.
- D. No change is necessary.

Standard: L.11-12.1 / L.11-12.3

5. Which sentence clearly communicates that no one other than the mayor attended the ceremony?

- A. The mayor only attended the ceremony.
- B. The mayor attended the only ceremony.
- C. Only the mayor attended the ceremony.
- D. The mayor attended only the ceremony.

Standard: L.11-12.1.b

6. Which sentence uses a conjunctive adverb with correct punctuation?

- A. The trial results were inconclusive, nevertheless the researchers published them.
- B. The trial results were inconclusive nevertheless, the researchers published them.
- C. The trial results were inconclusive; nevertheless the researchers, published them.
- D. The trial results were inconclusive; nevertheless, the researchers published them.

Standard: L.11-12.1 / L.9-10.1.b

7. In which sentence is the underlined word used as an adverb rather than as a preposition?

- A. The parade marched past while we watched.
- B. The commuters hurried past the closed gates.
- C. The children climbed up the steep slope.
- D. She gazed across the crowded square.

Standard: L.11-12.1.b

8. Choose the correct pronoun: *The professor divided the credit between Dr. Lin and ____.*

- A. I
- B. me
- C. myself
- D. mine

Standard: L.11-12.1.b

9. Which choice is correct in formal writing? *The committee was surprised by ____ resigning so abruptly.*

- A. he
- B. him
- C. he's
- D. his

Standard: L.11-12.3 / L.9-10.1.b

10. Which sentence contains an adjectival prepositional phrase embedded within an adverbial prepositional phrase?

- A. The journalist from the embassy waited.
- B. The journalist waited in the lobby of the embassy.
- C. The journalist waited for hours.
- D. Waiting patiently, the journalist smiled.

Standard: L.11-12.1 / L.9-10.1.b

11. Read: *The destruction of the city by the invaders shocked the world.* Which statement about the prepositional phrases is accurate?

- A. Both phrases modify the noun *destruction* and are adjectival.
- B. "Of the city" is adjectival; "by the invaders" is adverbial modifying *shocked*.
- C. Both phrases are adverbial and modify *shocked*.
- D. "By the invaders" is the object of the preposition *of*.

Standard: L.11-12.1 / L.9-10.1.b

12. In which sentence does the adverb remarkably modify another adverb?

- A. The results were remarkably consistent.
- B. Remarkable results were replicated.
- C. The experiments were replicated remarkably consistently.
- D. The experiments, remarkably, were replicated.

Standard: L.11-12.1.a / L.9-10.1.a

13. Which sentence uses parallel structure most effectively?

- A. The study examined the effects of poverty on health, of education on income, and the influence of geography on opportunity.
- B. The study examined the effects of poverty on health, education's impact on income, and how geography influences opportunity.
- C. The study examined the effects of poverty on health, education on income, and geography's effect on opportunity.
- D. The study examined the effects of poverty on health, of education on income, and of geography on opportunity.

Standard: L.11-12.4 / L.11-12.5

14. Choose the preposition that best completes the sentence: *The senator's remarks were tantamount ____ a declaration of war.*

- A. to
- B. with
- C. of
- D. for

Standard: L.11-12.4 / L.11-12.5

15. Choose the preposition that best completes the sentence: *The treaty was drafted ____ the auspices of the United Nations.*

- A. beneath
- B. under
- C. below
- D. by

Standard: L.11-12.1 / L.9-10.1

16. Which sentence contains an error in adverb usage?

- A. The violinist played flawlessly.
- B. The report was surprisingly thorough.
- C. The jury listened careful to the testimony.
- D. The proposal was thoroughly revised.

Standard: L.11-12.1.b

17. Choose the correct form: *Of the two negotiators, Okafor argued ____.*

- A. most persuasively
- B. more persuasive
- C. the most persuasive
- D. more persuasively

Standard: L.11-12.3 / L.11-12.5

18. Read: *The river wound through the valley, beneath the bridges, around the old mill, past the orchards, and into the sea.* What is the primary rhetorical effect of the series of prepositional phrases?

- A. It creates a sense of continuous, flowing movement toward a destination.
- B. It emphasizes the river's sudden changes of direction.
- C. It suggests confusion and disorder in the landscape.
- D. It sets up a contrast between nature and industry.

Standard: L.11-12.3 / L.11-12.5

19. In the sentence *The critic ____ dismissed the novel*, which adverb conveys the most restrained, least hostile tone?

- A. contemptuously
- B. diplomatically
- C. savagely
- D. scornfully

Standard: L.11-12.1.b

20. Choose the correct phrase: *The mentor ____ she credits her success is now retired.*

- A. who
- B. whom to
- C. to whom
- D. which