

ENGLISH READING PRACTICE TEST 5

LEVELS 1-3

PART 1. Look at the text in each question. What does it say? Mark the correct letter A, B, C on your answer sheet.

Questions 1-5

1

Ten Percent Off Tickets
Booked Today

- A. There are only ten tickets left.
- B. Tickets reserved today are cheaper.
- C. Buy ten tickets and get one free.

2

Book now 
for Christmas.
Don't leave it too late.

- A. Make your reservation for Christmas soon.
- B. If you start this book now you will finish at Christmas.
- C. It is too late now to buy a book for Christmas.

3

*Dear Emma,
Wish you were here! The
weather is perfect for skiing.
Nothing broken so far!
See you next week
Olivia,*

Olivia...

- A. wishes she was at home.
- B. has had a skiing accident.
- C. is enjoying her skiing holiday.

4

ART ROOM
No classes here for students
until further notice –workmen
are painting the room

- A. See the noticeboard nearby for details about the art classes.
- B. Students should only go into this room if they wish to do some painting.
- C. Classes will not be held in here until the painting is finished.

5

**THIS CAR PARK IS
LOCKED AFTER
BUSINESS HOURS
EACH DAY**

- A. Users must lock the car park after leaving.
- B. People can park here while they are at work.
- C. This car park is for employees only.

PART 2. Read the passage below and fill in each blank with one suitable word.

Questions 6-15

Lisa is working for an insurance company in London. Last Tuesday, Lisa flew (6) ___ London to Madrid. She (7) ___ at 6 o'clock in the morning (8) ___ took a cup of coffee. At 6.30, she left home and (9) ___ to the airport. (10) ___ she arrived, she (11) ___ the car and then went to the airport café (12) ___ she had breakfast. Then she went through the passport control and (13) ___ for her flight. The plane (14) ___ on time and arrived in Madrid two hours later. Finally, she took a taxi from the airport to Rose Hotel (15) ___ is the most expensive in the center of Madrid.

6. A from	B. to	C. at	D. in
7. A. left	B. went	C. got up	D. woke up
8. A. but	B. and	C. so	D. either
9. A. drives	B. drove	C. is driving	D. was driving
10. A. When	B. Where	C. What	D. Why
11. A. put	B. placed	C. kept	D. parked
12. A. when	B. why	C. where	D. what
13. A. waits	B. is waiting	C. was waiting	D. waited
14. A. departed	B. got	C. landed	D. flew
15. A. which	B. who	C. whose	D. whom

PART 3. Read the text to decide if each statement is TRUE or FALSE.

Questions 16-25

A Song Becomes a Hit

What makes a song become a popular hit? Do you think hit songs are popular because they are great songs? Researchers say that hit songs become popular because listeners care about what other people think. For most listeners, the quality of the song is not important.

A recent online study looked at how we choose our music. It showed that a song's popularity influences our choices. In other words, we like to listen to the music that our peers enjoy. In the study, researchers gave a list of 48 unknown songs to 14,000 teenagers. The participants listened to some of the songs and rated them. They gave one star to the song that they didn't like and five stars to the song that they liked very much. The researchers divided the participants into two groups. The first group saw only the song title and the name of the band. They rated songs because the name of the song or the band looked interesting. After

listening to the song, participants rated it with stars. The second group received extra information. This group could also see the number of downloads for each song. The teenagers chose the songs with many downloads and gave them the most stars because they thought that these songs were favourite with their peers. They were not interested in the quality of the song. They just wanted to listen to the songs that their peers liked. However, the researchers made up the number of downloads for each song. The songs showing the most downloads weren't really popular. In fact, these songs weren't very good, according to music experts.

So why did participants give the most stars to the songs that seemed popular? One of the authors of the study, Mathew Salganik, a researcher at Columbia University in New York, says: "people are faced with too many options in the case of 48 songs. Since you can't listen to all of them, a natural shortcut is to listen to what other people are listening to".

Salganik also says that people want to know what others are listening to and they enjoy discussing and sharing music with their friends. So it isn't necessary for a popular book or a song to be of good quality. Then these people influence their friends. A result, the popularity of a song or book spreads soon and that song will even become a big hit.

Today the Internet lets people share their opinions about movies, books, and music almost instantly. People write about music on social networking sites, post comments on the web, or read readers' reviews. On the Internet, a person can easily see how many people bought a book or downloaded a song. Perhaps this information has more influence on our choices than we think.

16. People make their music choices based on what they like themselves.	A. Correct	B. Incorrect
17. The participants did not know the songs in the study.	A. Correct	B. Incorrect
18. The participants in the study were teenagers and students.	A. Correct	B. Incorrect
19. There were two different groups in the study.	A. Correct	B. Incorrect
20. The number of downloads was made up by the researchers.	A. Correct	B. Incorrect
21. One group could see how many downloads each song had.	A. Correct	B. Incorrect
22. Most people are too lazy to make their own decision.	A. Correct	B. Incorrect
23. Quality is very important in our choices, especially with music and books.	A. Correct	B. Incorrect
24. Some hit songs are not good songs.	A. Correct	B. Incorrect
25. People often choose what to read or to listen to because they want to share it with their friends.	A. Correct	B. Incorrect

PART 4. Read the following passages and choose the best answer for each question.

Questions 26-27 refer to the following advertisement:

26. What would you NOT buy at Bathland?

A. A television B. Towels C. Soap D. A mirror

27. How long will the sale last?

A. For ten days B. For one month C. Forever D. For fourteen days

Question 28-30 refer to the following notice:

Wanted: talented singers and musicians

We plan to start a band that will receive a recording contract from a major record label. Successful band members will share an all-expenses paid apartment in Los Angeles. We are looking for five people. All types of music and all kinds of instruments. You must be of near professional standard. NO beginners, please. Experience performing live preferred.

Audition: June 23rd, 10:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Greenwich Continuing Education Center, Small Auditorium

Call 207-980-8887 to register for an audition. Deadline: June 20th.

28. Who is this notice for?

A. People with musical abilities
B. People who want to go to a concert
C. People who want to continue studying at the Continuing Education Center
D. Teenagers

29. Where will the successful Candidates live?

A. In a free apartment B. In New York
C. Greenwich Continuing Education Center D. It does not say.

30. How can candidates apply for the audition?

A. They must call a special phone number. B. They should send an email.
C. They must send a fax. D. They have to send a text message.

Questions 31-32 refer to the following note:

Andrea,

This note is just to remind you of what needs to be done today. I'm very busy from early this morning until late in the afternoon, so I don't have time to do all this.

1. Wash the car; 2. Mail this letter; 3. Pay the gas bill; 4. Pick up my clothes from the dry cleaner's; 5. Return the videos we watched last night; 6. Make a pizza for dinner tonight
Thanks so much!

Casey

31. Where will Andrea probably NOT go?

- A. To the post office
- B. To the theatre
- C. To the dry cleaner
- D. To the car wash

32. Why does Casey ask Andrea to do these things?

- A. Because he's tired
- B. Because he's sick
- C. Because he's not home
- D. Because he's busy

Questions 32-35 refer to the following information:

Pristine Air

Tips for traveling with children

Here are some things you can bring on your trip that are sure to keep children occupied and relaxed during a long flight.

* Paper with colored pencils or crayons

This allows parents and children to do activities together, or for children to do something independently. With blank paper and colored pencils or crayons, children can write, draw, or make their own games. For more excitement, pack small figures to use as board-game pieces in your carry-on luggage and let children design their own game boards.

* A deck of cards

Parents can teach children their favorite card game or show them card tricks. In return, children can do the same for parents.

* Books

It is always a good idea to pack a book on a long trip. Children will especially enjoy stories that take place in the country to which they are traveling. This will give them a chance to preview the culture and history they will learn about on vacation.

* Gifts from Pristine Air

Once your international flight has taken off, a flight attendant will offer any children traveling with us a picture map of the world and a souvenir passport with stickers that children can affix once they have visited a country. There is also a children's airline magazine in the pouch in front of your seat.

32. According to the information, what is difficult for children?

- A. Long car rides
- B. International flights
- C. Going shopping with parents
- D. Waiting for doctor's appointments.

33. What are children encouraged to make?

- B. A schedule
- B. A game board
- C. A shopping list
- D. A family portrait

34. What is mentioned as a possible activity?

- a. Taking a walk
- B. Singing songs
- C. Playing cards
- D. Watching a movie

35. What is NOT offered to children?

- b. A map
- B. Snacks
- C. Stickers
- D. A magazine

Questions 36-40 refer to the following note:

Increasing numbers of parents in the US are choosing to teach their kids at home. The US Department of Education estimated that in 1999, around 850,000 children were being homeschooled. Originally, homeschooling **was used for students who couldn't attend** school because of learning difficulties. Today, however, more parents are taking on

the responsibility of educating their children at home due to dissatisfaction with the educational system relating to class size or problems inside the classroom, for example violence.

Advocates of homeschooling believe that children learn better when they are in a secure, loving environment. They can also pick and choose what and when to study, which enables them to learn at their own pace. In contrast, critics of homeschooling say that children who are not in classroom miss out on learning important social skills because they have little interaction with their peers. Moreover, they have raised concerns about the ability of parents to teach their kids effectively because they are not competent educators and have no teacher training.

Whatever the arguments for or against it, homeschooling in the USA is growing. There are now websites, support groups that enable parents to learn more about educating children. Homeschooling today is an accepted alternative to an educational system that some believe is failing.

36.What is the topic of the above selection?

- A. Different ideas about homeschooling.
- B. A new way to learn in the USA: Homeschooling.
- C. The advantages of getting education at home.
- D. Parents in the USA want to teach their children at home.

37.One of the reasons why parents don't want to send children to school is that

- A. there are too many pupils in a class.
- B. children learn what they choose.
- C. there is violence at home.
- D. parents want to be good educators.

38.The underlined word **peers** in paragraph 2 means

- A. members.
- B. classmates.
- C. groups
- D. partners

39.Parents can learn more to teach their children effectively from

- A. the Department of Education.
- B. their social skills.
- C. the present educational system.
- D. websites.

40.From the passage, we can know that

- A. homeschooling is only for troubled children.
- B. few parents take their children out of class in the USA.
- C. homeschooling is acceptable in the USA.
- D. traditional education is the best in the USA.