



**PLACEMENT TEST 2026**

Name(s) and Surname(s):..... Course: 3<sup>rd</sup>

**PART A: Reading**

**A) Read the text and tick (✓) true or false:**

**Is technology bad for our brains?**

**by James Sanders**

Nowadays, many useful gadgets (small machines) are advertised as 'smart'. This 'smartness' generally means that the machine can change how it works to suit the user's needs, learn our preferences, and make intelligent choices for us. Smartphones can now take photos, play songs, send emails, and do a thousand other useful things, such as shopping online or assisting us with our homework. We used to need lots of machines to help us to do these things, but not anymore. They fit in our pockets, but contain more data than we could ever possibly need, or remember.

If you asked most people, they would say that smart machines have improved life. Not everyone agrees, however. A few scientists are worried about the effect of using machines to do things that we used to do for ourselves. For example, we don't have to remember people's contact details any more, as our phones store this information. We can also find information instantly, via internet search engines like Google. A few studies have shown, surprisingly, that people in their 50s and 60s are better than teenagers at studying and memorizing information, because they've always worked this way.

Technology has changed our expectations and made us very impatient. Now we want our news in tiny soundbites, and get bored if we actually have to read or listen for more than a minute or two. Scientists reported recently that the internet was changing how we think and learn. One author even said that Google was making us stupid! It's certainly true that we often do two or three things simultaneously when we are online, and it's harder and harder to focus on one thing. Maybe technology is bad for our brains, and our memories, and we should stop depending on it all the time. But if you tell me to give up my smartphone, sorry, I won't!

Example: Gadgets nowadays can be very useful.

True  False

- |  |                               |                                |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 'Smart' gadgets work differently for different users.                      | True <input type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 Gadgets can do more things now than in the past.                           | True <input type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 We don't need many machines any more.                                      | True <input type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 Most people think that 'smart' technology is bad for us.                   | True <input type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 Older people are better on 'smart' technology.                             | True <input type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 Teenagers are better than older people at remembering information.         | True <input type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 We are not happy to wait for news.   | True <input type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 Using the internet changes young people's brains more than older people's. | True <input type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9 We find it more difficult to concentrate on one thing than we used to.     | True <input type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 James Sanders wants to stop using modern gadgets.                         | True <input type="checkbox"/> | False <input type="checkbox"/> |

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**B) Choose the correct option:**

- 1) The “gadgets” tend to be SMALL - BIG
- 2) The smartphones CAN - CAN’T help us with our homework.
- 3) The gadgets are “smart” because they can make our lives EASIER - MORE DIFFICULT.
- 4) Scientists think that these gadgets CAN - CAN’T affect people’s brains.
- 5) OLD PEOPLE - TEENAGERS are good at memorising things.
- 6) Nowadays, people NEED TO- DON’T NEED TO remember things like phone numbers or details.
- 7) Technology has made people more PATIENT - IMPATIENT.
- 8) SMARTPHONES - THE INTERNET can change the way we think.
- 9) When people are online they can do MORE THAN ONE THING - ONLY ONE THING at the time.
- 10) We SHOULD - SHOULDN’T depend on technology all the time

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**PART B: Use of English**

**A. Choose one option:**

**Example:** How **many** / **much** books did you read last year?

- 1) Joe **cleans** / **is cleaning** the floor twice a week.
- 2) They drank **a little** / **a few** juice ten minutes ago.
- 3) **A:** I didn’t really **like** / **liked** that film.
- 4) You **must** / **mustn’t** listen to your teachers when they explain a new topic.
- 5) Tom is **more tall** / **taller** than Mary.
- 6) **A:** Why are you going out? **B:** I **post** / **’m going to post** this letter.
- 7) Jill **was** / **is** there at the time of the robbery yesterday.
- 8) I don’t want to buy **too many** / **too much** food.
- 9) I think Tom **will pass** / **is going to** pass the exam.
- 10) When I saw her, she **was driving** / **drove** her new car.
- 11) You **don’t have to** / **mustn’t** pay to enter the museum. It’s free.
- 12) Who **did win** / **won** the competition?
- 13) Is Dominic good at **playing** / **play** the piano?
- 14) Hugh **will** / **is going to** get married next month.
- 15) I saw Tom while I **waited** / **was waiting** for the bus.
- 16) What **are you doing** / **do you do** tonight?
- 17) George **is loving** / **loves** sailing.
- 18) She didn’t hear the doorbell because she **was having** / **had** a shower.
- 19) The new Bond film is fantastic! You **have to** / **must** watch it!
- 20) Where did she **went** / **go** last night?

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**B. Match the halves. Choose the correct option**

**Example:**

I didn't have enough time, D

1. My house is as big
2. We mustn't
3. That was the
4. Is watching films more
5. The most

- a- romantic film I saw was Love actually.
- b- interesting than reading books?
- c- best party I went to.
- d- to finish my homework.
- e- as yours.
- f- use our cellphones in class.

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**C. Choose the correct option. Complete the sentences with one word from the box. There are EXTRA words:**

was – enough – because – of – on – away – up – balanced – doing – mind – wears – had – for – sun – guided – into – best – mustn't – has – water – have – abroad – so – amusement – should – dust – slow – out – to buy – too – queue

**Example:** I was waiting in the queue when I saw him.

- 1) I have piano lessons \_\_\_\_\_ Mondays.
- 2) The hours in my job are long, but I don't \_\_\_\_\_ working late, so that's okay.
- 3) She went home \_\_\_\_\_ she had a headache.
- 4) Your clothes are on the floor. Please, put them \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Her class is in room 12 on the first floor. Go \_\_\_\_\_ the stairs and turn left.
- 6) She doesn't like \_\_\_\_\_ the housework.
- 7) My father wants to have a \_\_\_\_\_ diet.
- 8) Nina is really afraid \_\_\_\_\_ spiders.
- 9) When we go to the beach, we always use \_\_\_\_\_ cream.
- 10) When we visited Rome, we went on a \_\_\_\_\_ tour.
- 11) I really want to travel \_\_\_\_\_.
- 12) Last Saturday I went to an \_\_\_\_\_ park with my best friends.
- 13) You look tired, you \_\_\_\_\_ go to bed.
- 14) Leo has to \_\_\_\_\_ the shelves in his room once a week.
- 15) You \_\_\_\_\_ chew gum at school.
- 16) I need \_\_\_\_\_ some new clothes.
- 17) He went \_\_\_\_\_ of the house.
- 18) Do you eat \_\_\_\_\_ vegetables?
- 19) It's the \_\_\_\_\_ film I've ever seen.
- 20) My sisters \_\_\_\_\_ the plants twice a week.

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**D. Choose the odd word out.**

Example	duck	Eagle	swan	mosquito
1)	flood	earthquake	hurricane	windy
2)	amazing	incredible	wonderful	cycling
3)	ruins	cave	countryside	lazy

- |     |                  |              |           |                  |
|-----|------------------|--------------|-----------|------------------|
| 4)  | balcony          | bedroom      | large     | dining room      |
| 5)  | tired            | bored        | boring    | relaxed          |
| 6)  | many             | a few        | much      | out              |
| 7)  | play             | goal         | score     | go               |
| 8)  | repetitive       | creative     | stressful | tiring           |
| 9)  | dust the shelves | make the bed | window    | water the plants |
| 10) | helmet           | go           | racket    | trainers         |

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**E. Match the opposites.**

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. turn on     | a) remember    |
| 2. get up      | b) boring      |
| 3. stand up    | c) bottom      |
| 4. forget      | d) lazy        |
| 5. interesting | e) difficult   |
| 6. active      | f) turn off    |
| 7. drought     | g) sit down    |
| 8. easy        | h) go to sleep |
| 9. bored       | i) interested  |
| 10. top        | j) flood       |

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**F. Complete the sentences with one word from the box:**

UP- THROW - GOAL- COST - WORK - MANY - HOW- DON'T - MUST - WHEN - HEALTHY

Example: I woke up very early this morning.

1. I need to buy milk. It probably won't \_\_\_\_\_ much.
2. **A** Sorry this is taking a long time.      **B** That's OK. I \_\_\_\_\_ mind waiting.
3. We \_\_\_\_\_ really hard in our lessons because we want to do well in our exams.
4. You \_\_\_\_\_ pay attention to your teachers.
5. Don't \_\_\_\_\_ away that old newspaper. I haven't read it yet.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ did Lena burn her hands?
7. To win, you need to get the ball into the \_\_\_\_\_.
8. What were they doing \_\_\_\_\_ you arrived?
9. She is trying to eat more \_\_\_\_\_ food.
10. Are there \_\_\_\_\_ students in your class?

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Total score: 100

Your score: \_\_\_\_\_