

PRACTICE TEST

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct word or phrase that best fits each of the numbered blanks

The United States of America, due to its immense size and diverse heritage, has one of the most complex cultural identities in the world. Millions of immigrants from all over the globe have journeyed to America (21)

_____ the Europeans discovered and colonised the land back in the 17th and 18th centuries. The blending of cultural (22) _____ and ethnicities in America led to the country becoming known as a “melting pot.” As the third largest country in both area and population, America’s size has enabled the formation of subcultures within the country. These subcultures are often geographical as a result of settlement (23) _____ by non-natives as well as regional weather and landscape differences. While there are countless ways to divide the U.S. into regions, here we have referenced the four regions that are West, Midwest, North East and South. People from (24) _____ region may have different lifestyles, cultural values, business practices and dialects. While there are qualities and values (25) _____ most Americans commonly share, it is important not to generalise or assume that all Americans think or act the same way.

Question 21: A. because B. as C. for D. since

Question 22: A. backgrounds B. references C. expressions D. importance

Question 23: A. chapters B. revenues C. patterns D. unions

Question 24: A. each B. other C. all D. another

Question 25: A. when B. that C. why D. who

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the underlined part that needs correction in each of the following questions.

Question 33: My mother always get up early to prepare breakfast for everyone in the family.

A **B** **C** **D**

Question 34: A large number of Indian men agree that it is unwise to confide in his wives.

A B C D

Question 35: The whole matter is farther complicated by the fact that Amanda and Jo refuse to speak to each other. A B C D

Rewrite the sentences:

Question 36: He last visited London three years ago.

→ He hasn't

Question 37: "Don't forget to submit your assignments by

→ The teacher reminded

Question 38: Every student is required to write an essay.

→ Every student

Question 39: It's a pity she didn't apply for that job.

→ She wishes

Question 40: He started computer programming as soon as he got his first job.

→ No sooner

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions

Scientists have identified two ways in which species disappear. The first is through ordinary or "background" extinctions, where species that fail to adapt are slowly replaced by more adaptable life forms. The second is when large numbers of species go to the wall in relatively short periods of biological time. There have been five such extinctions, each provoked by cataclysmic evolutionary events caused by some geological eruption, climate shift, or space junk slamming into the Earth. Scientists now believe that another mass extinction of species is currently under way – and this time human fingerprints are on the trigger.

How are we doing it? Simply by demanding more and more space for ourselves. In our **assault** on the ecosystems around us we have used a number of tools, from spear and gun to bulldozer and chainsaw. Certain especially rich ecosystems have proved the most vulnerable. In Hawaii more than half of the native birds are now gone – some 50 species. Such carnage has taken place all across the island communities of the Pacific and Indian oceans. While many species were hunted to extinction, others simply succumbed to the „introduced predators“ that humans brought with **them**: the cat, the dog, the pig, and the rat.

Today the tempo of extinction is picking up speed. Hunting is no longer the major culprit, although rare birds and animals continue to be **butchered** for their skin, feathers, tusks, and internal organs, or taken as savage pets. Today the main threat comes from the destruction of the habitat of wild plants, animals, and insects need to survive. The draining and damming of wetland and river courses threatens the aquatic food chain and our own seafood industry. Overfishing and the destruction of fragile coral reefs destroy ocean biodiversity. Deforestation is taking a staggering toll, particularly in the tropics where the most global biodiversity is at risk. The shrinking rainforest cover of the Congo and Amazon river basins and such place as Borneo and Madagascar have a wealth of species per hectare existing nowhere else. As those precious hectares are drowned or turned into arid pasture and cropland, such species disappear forever.

(Adapted from Final Countdown Practice Tests by D.F Piniaris, Heinle Cengage Learning, 2010)

Question 26: What does the passage mainly discuss?

- A. Human activity and its impact on a mass extinction of species
- B. The two ways in which species disappear
- C. The tempo of extinction of species today
- D. Deforestation as a major cause of mass extinctions of species

Question 27: The word **assault** in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. development
- B. attack
- C. effort
- D. influence

Question 28: All of the following are mentioned as a form of habitat destruction EXCEPT _____.

- A. destroying coral reefs
- B. cutting down forests
- C. damming wetlands and rivers
- D. hunting rare birds and animals

Question 29: What was the main threat to biodiversity in Hawaii and other islands in the Pacific and Indian oceans until recently?

- A. tools used by human beings
- B. human assault on ecosystems
- C. vulnerable rich ecosystems
- D. hunters and introduced predators

Question 30: The word "them" in paragraph 2 refers to _____.

- A. species
- B. oceans
- C. predators
- D. humans

Question 31: Which is no longer considered a major cause of the mass extinction under way currently?

- A. the building of dams across rivers
- B. the destruction of habitats of species
- C. the shrinking of rainforests in the tropics
- D. the killing of animals for their body parts

Question 32: The word **butchered** in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. raised
- B. traded
- C. cooked
- D. killed

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