

General Test

Student's name: Date:

Part 1

Listen to the conversation. Then circle the answer that correctly completes each sentence.

1. Ed is complaining about (**a colleague** / his parents / his roommate).
2. Ed thinks Jason is (**controlling** / disorganized / negative).
3. Ed admits that he's (**disorganized** / a perfectionist / a procrastinator).
4. Ed doesn't want to (**calm down** / shrug it off / lose his temper).
5. Ed needs to (**vent to his friend** / share a secret with his friend / let go of his problem).

Part 2

Listen to the show. Then answer the questions. Circle all the correct answers.

6. What is this episode of *Be Smart* about?
- a. dealing with hot-tempered people
 - b. venting frustration
 - c. dealing with mistakes
 - d. releasing stress
 - e. staying calm
7. What does the speaker say can relieve stress?
- a. walking
 - b. sitting
 - c. eating
 - d. exercising
 - e. screaming
8. What might the speaker talk about next?
- a. writing down your angry feelings
 - b. making a big issue out of a small problem
 - c. being oversensitive to what people say
 - d. venting your feelings to a trusted friend
 - e. going to your local gym for a good workout

Part 3

Circle the answer that correctly completes each sentence.

9. Shelly hardly ever meets her deadlines because she puts things off until the last minute. Shelly is
- a procrastinator.
 - a positive person.
 - an angry person.
10. Tom's friends get tired of his constant complaining. Tom can be described as
- controlling.
 - negative.
 - oversensitive.
11. Michael didn't get a second interview with his favorite company, but he's already sent his résumé to five other companies. Michael
- took it pretty well.
 - brought it up.
 - walked on eggshells.
12. Farah was very angry with her brother for taking her car without asking her permission, and she wanted to let him know how she felt. When her brother returned home, Farah
- held it in.
 - had a fit.
 - shrugged it off.
13. I'm sorry I was so rude to you. I was upset about something that happened at work, and I didn't mean to
- be oversensitive.
 - pick up the pieces.
 - take it out on you.

Part 4

Circle the answer that correctly completes each sentence.

14. Ryan needs to apologize for what he said to me. (**Otherwise** / **On the other hand** / **However**), I won't forgive him.

15. (**If only / Moreover / Even if**) I seem calm, I'm actually still very upset about the situation.
16. I'll tell you what's bothering me (**only if / unless / despite the fact that**) you promise not to tell our friends. I don't want anyone else to know.
17. I'm not going to be able to finish this project (**only if / unless / if only**) my manager gives me more time.
18. (**Unless / Even if / Whether or not**) you agree with me, I know I made the right decision.
19. I'd have this project done by now (**if only / even though / unless**) I hadn't procrastinated.
20. (**Furthermore, / Even though / More importantly,**) I'm angry, I'm not going to lose my temper.
21. It's nice to find a roommate you get along with. (**Otherwise / Despite / However**), it's more important to find someone who can pay the rent.

Part 5

Combine the sentences. Complete the cleft sentences starting with *What* or *It*.

Examples:

You are disorganized. It bothers me.

What ~~...bothers me is that you are disorganized~~.....

She told me about the problem. Her name was Susan.

It ~~...was Susan who told me about the problem~~.....

22. I stayed calm. It surprised me.

What

23. He was bugging me. His name was Frank.

It

24. It drove me crazy. It was my roommate's music.

It

25. My sister is hot-tempered. It upsets me.

What

26. She apologized first. Her name was Jackie.

It

27. The account manager is very rude. It annoys me.

What

Part 6

Read the article. Then answer the questions. Circle the correct answers.

THE BEST OF THE BEST

Best friends are trustworthy and loyal. We laugh and sometimes cry with our best friends. And every once in a while, a best friend will do something extraordinary. What's the greatest thing that your best friend has ever done for you?

Posted by David Sanchez

What is amazing to me is that my best friend puts up with all my moods—the good ones and the bad ones. I admit that I can be hot-tempered. A lot of people walk on eggshells around me, but not my friend Mateo. He's always himself around me, and he always tells me when I need to chill. He even saved me from making a huge mistake one time. We were running in the park, and this guy on a bike came by and almost hit us. I was furious and about to go ballistic. Mateo grabbed my arm and told me to take a deep breath and calm down. The biker stopped and apologized. He was actually pretty nice. The next day I had a job interview. It was the biker who interviewed me for the job! I got the job, thanks to Mateo. Sure, I had the skills I needed for the work. However, that wouldn't have mattered if I had yelled instead of keeping my cool the day before!

Posted by Veronica Campbell

My best friend is Jen, and the best thing she's done for me is helped me after I broke my arm and my leg in a skiing accident. I had to recover at home for over a month, and I still had a few weeks of classes left. My professors said I could do my work at home and e-mail homework and final papers to them. Of course, I could only type with one hand, and it was taking me forever to complete simple assignments. I knew I couldn't finish unless I got some help. Right away, Jen offered to help me. I was a little worried because she's usually disorganized, but she really came through for me. She typed all my papers and even organized my assignment deadlines on a calendar. And she never once complained! She even listened to me vent about how miserable I was not being able to do much for myself. Although she doesn't expect anything in return, I want to find a way to repay her.

Posted by Sandra Kim

My best friend is my cousin Dan. We co-own a restaurant and are together all the time—morning, noon, night, weekdays, and weekends! We have to be understanding of each other's shortcomings to survive. But it wasn't always this way. I'm a perfectionist, and it drove Dan crazy when we first started working together in his parents' restaurant. I was also oversensitive, so it didn't help that I got upset every time he informed me that I was making a big issue out of nothing. When he had the opportunity to buy the restaurant from his parents, I was surprised that he asked me to be a co-owner. Furthermore, what was shocking was that he asked me to make a lot of the important decisions about running the restaurant. He said that he wanted me to be controlling! He thought that my perfectionism would help the restaurant run smoothly, and it would give him more time to be creative with the menu. We've been through thick and thin having run this restaurant together for several years now. Trusting me to be his business partner was the best thing he's ever done for me.

28. What is the article about?

- a. best friends that work together
- b. how to calm angry friends
- c. amazing things that friends have done

29. Whose best friend is a family member?

- a. David's
- b. Veronica's
- c. Sandra's

30. Which two people got jobs because of their best friends?

- a. David and Veronica
- b. David and Sandra
- c. Veronica and Sandra

31. Who helped his or her best friend overcome a shortcoming?

- a. Mateo
- b. Jen
- c. Dan

32. Who overcame a shortcoming to help a friend?

- a. Mateo
- b. Jen
- c. Dan

33. Which of the following people might be another contributor on the website?

- a. an employee whose boss helped him deal with stress
- b. a woman who was disappointed by her friend
- c. a man whose friend took him on vacation