



PLACEMENT TEST 2026

Name(s) and Surname(s):..... Course: 3rd

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 ☐ False ☐

2 Gadgets can do more things now than in the past.

True ☐ False ☐

3 We don't need many machines any more.

True ☐ False ☐

4 Most people think that 'smart' technology is bad for us.

True ☐ False ☐

5 Older people are better on 'smart' technology.

True ☐ False ☐

6 Teenagers are better than older people at remembering information.

True ☐ False ☐

7 We are not happy to wait for news.

True ☐ False ☐

8 Using the internet changes young people's brains more than older people's.

True ☐ False ☐

9 We find it more difficult to concentrate on one thing than we used to.

True ☐ False ☐

10 James Sanders wants to stop using modern gadgets.

True ☐ False ☐

 /10

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

___/10

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?

___/20

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.

___/10

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.

___/20

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 |

 /10

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 |

 /10

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.

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

 /10

Total score: 100

Your score: _____