

IELTS Placement Test

PART 1: READING

Suggested time: 30 minutes | 20 points

Passage 1: Learning Beyond the Classroom

Many students believe that learning takes place mainly in the classroom. However, education can happen in a variety of settings, and activities outside school can play an important role in personal development.

For example, joining a sports club can help students develop teamwork and discipline. Volunteering allows them to understand the needs of their communities, while taking part in cultural activities can expose them to different perspectives. These experiences may help students develop skills that are difficult to acquire through textbooks alone.

Nevertheless, extracurricular activities are not equally accessible to everyone. Some students have limited free time because of family responsibilities or part-time jobs. Others may be unable to afford membership fees or transportation costs. As a result, students from different backgrounds may have unequal opportunities to participate.

Schools can help address this problem by providing affordable activities and offering financial support where necessary. They can also ensure that extracurricular programmes do not create excessive pressure on students who already have demanding academic schedules.

Ultimately, activities outside the classroom should complement formal education rather than replace it. When students can participate in suitable activities without neglecting their studies or personal well-being, they may gain valuable experiences that prepare them for adult life.

Questions 1–5

Do the following statements agree with the information in the passage? Write TRUE, FALSE or NOT GIVEN.

1. The passage suggests that students can develop certain skills through activities outside the classroom.

Answer: _____

2. All students have equal opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities.

Answer: _____

3. Students who take part in sports clubs usually achieve higher examination scores.

Answer: _____

4. Financial difficulties can prevent some students from joining extracurricular activities.

Answer: _____

5. The writer believes that extracurricular activities should completely replace classroom learning.

Answer: _____

Passage 2: The Changing Nature of Work

Technology has transformed the way people work. Tasks that once required considerable time and manual effort can now be completed with the assistance of digital tools. Employees can communicate across different time zones, access information quickly and collaborate with colleagues without being physically present in the same office.

These developments have created new opportunities, but they have also introduced challenges. For instance, remote workers may struggle to separate their professional and personal lives. Without clear boundaries, they can find themselves responding to work messages outside normal working hours. In addition, frequent online meetings may leave employees with less time for focused, independent work.

Another concern is the changing demand for skills. As routine tasks become increasingly automated, employers may place greater value on abilities such as critical thinking, creativity and problem-solving. Technical knowledge remains important, but it may not be sufficient on its own. Workers also need to adapt to unfamiliar situations and continue learning throughout their careers.

Some people argue that automation will inevitably lead to widespread unemployment. However, the relationship between technology and employment is more complex than this prediction suggests. Although certain roles may disappear, new occupations can emerge as businesses adopt different technologies and develop new products and services.

For individuals, the most practical response may be to develop transferable skills alongside technical expertise. For employers and governments, the challenge is to ensure that workers have access to training opportunities that allow them to adapt to changing labour-market conditions.

Questions 6–10

Choose the correct answer, A, B, C or D.

6. What is one potential disadvantage of remote work mentioned in the passage?

- A. Employees cannot communicate with colleagues in other countries.
- B. Employees may find it difficult to separate work from personal life.
- C. Employees are unable to access digital information.
- D. Employees must always work in a physical office.

Answer: _____

7. According to the passage, why might critical thinking become more valuable?

- A. Employers no longer need employees with technical knowledge.
- B. Automated systems have eliminated the need for all human skills.
- C. Routine tasks can increasingly be performed by technology.
- D. Businesses are employing fewer people in every industry.

Answer: _____

8. What does the writer suggest about automation and employment?

- A. Automation always results in a net loss of jobs.
- B. Automation has no effect on the labour market.
- C. Technology may eliminate some roles while creating others.
- D. New occupations only emerge in the technology industry.

Answer: _____

9. The word “**transferable**” in the final paragraph is closest in meaning to:

- A. useful in different situations or jobs.
- B. difficult to learn without assistance.
- C. limited to one particular occupation.
- D. directly related to computer programming.

Answer: _____

10. What is the main purpose of the passage?

- A. To argue that employees should avoid using digital tools.
- B. To explain how technology is changing work and the skills people need.
- C. To prove that remote work is more effective than office work.
- D. To describe the history of automation in manufacturing.

Answer: _____

Passage 3: Why People Make Different Decisions

People often assume that making a decision is a rational process in which all available information is carefully evaluated. In reality, decisions are frequently influenced by habits, emotions and the way information is presented.

One example is the status quo bias, which refers to people's tendency to prefer existing conditions over alternatives. Even when a change could bring clear benefits, individuals may hesitate because they are familiar with their current situation. This does not necessarily mean that they have carefully compared every option; sometimes, maintaining the status quo simply feels less risky.

Another influence is the framing effect. The same information can lead to different decisions depending on how it is expressed. For example, people may respond more positively to a treatment described as having a high survival rate than to one described as having a corresponding death rate, even when both descriptions communicate the same statistical outcome. The wording can influence how people perceive the level of risk.

These tendencies are not always harmful. Familiar routines can save time, and emotional responses may help people react quickly in situations where there is little opportunity for analysis. Problems arise, however, when people rely on these shortcuts in situations that require careful consideration.

To make more informed decisions, individuals can deliberately examine alternatives, question their initial reactions and consider whether the presentation of information is influencing their judgement. Seeking a different perspective can also reveal assumptions that might otherwise go unnoticed.

Understanding these psychological tendencies does not guarantee perfect decisions. Rather, it helps people recognise that their judgement can be influenced by factors beyond the evidence itself.

Questions 11–15

Complete the sentences below. Use NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS from the passage for each answer.

11. The tendency to prefer existing conditions over alternatives is called _____.
12. People may hesitate to change because they are familiar with their _____.
13. The framing effect occurs when the presentation of information influences how people perceive the level of _____.
14. Familiar routines can save _____.
15. Seeking a different perspective may reveal assumptions that would otherwise go _____.

Questions 16–20

Answer the questions below using information from Passage 3. Use NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS for each answer.

16. Besides habits, what two factors can influence decisions?

Answer: _____

17. What may people have limited opportunity for in urgent situations?

Answer: _____

18. What should people examine deliberately to make more informed decisions?

Answer: _____

19. What can people question when trying to make better decisions?

Answer: _____

20. Does understanding psychological tendencies guarantee perfect decisions?

Answer: _____

PART 2: GRAMMAR & VOCABULARY

Suggested time: 25-30 minutes | 25 points

Exercise 1: Grammar

Questions 21-32. Choose the best answer.

21. By the time we arrived at the station, the train _____.

- A. leaves
- B. has left
- C. had left
- D. was leaving

22. I _____ English for three years, but I still find academic writing challenging.

- A. study
- B. am studying
- C. have been studying
- D. had studied

23. If I _____ about the traffic, I would have left home earlier.

- A. knew
- B. had known
- C. would know
- D. have known

24. Neither the teacher nor the students _____ aware of the schedule change.

- A. was
- B. is
- C. were
- D. has been

25. The report _____ by the research team before it was presented to the manager.

- A. completed
- B. had completed
- C. had been completed
- D. has completing

26. She suggested _____ the deadline because several team members were ill.

- A. extend
- B. to extend
- C. extending
- D. extended

27. The more carefully you plan your study schedule, _____ it becomes to manage your workload.

- A. easier
- B. the easier
- C. the easiest
- D. more easily

28. Despite _____ very tired, he continued working on the assignment.

- A. feel
- B. felt
- C. feeling
- D. he felt

29. The manager asked me where _____ the documents.

- A. did I put
- B. I had put
- C. had I put
- D. have I put

30. Students _____ submit the assignment by Friday; otherwise, it will not be accepted.

- A. must
- B. might
- C. would
- D. could have

31. The course provides students _____ opportunities to practise academic writing.

- A. for
- B. by
- C. with
- D. about

32. Had I realised how difficult the task was, I _____ more time preparing for it.

- A. would spend
- B. will spend
- C. would have spent
- D. had spent

Exercise 2: Vocabulary in Context

Questions 33–38. Choose the best answer.

33. Regular feedback can help students _____ their weaknesses and make steady progress.

- A. identify
- B. distract
- C. prevent
- D. estimate

34. The company introduced a new policy to improve workplace _____.

- A. efficient
- B. efficiency
- C. efficiently
- D. efficiencies of

35. Although the two theories appear similar, there is a _____ difference between them.

- A. significant
- B. temporary
- C. ordinary
- D. reluctant

36. Many students struggle to _____ a balance between academic responsibilities and personal interests.

- A. do
- B. make
- C. strike
- D. take

37. The results of the experiment were _____ with the researchers' original hypothesis.

- A. consistent
- B. convenient
- C. concerned
- D. capable

38. The word “**allocate**” in the sentence “Students should allocate enough time to each section of the test” is closest in meaning to:

- A. waste
- B. distribute
- C. remove
- D. reduce

PART 3: SENTENCE WRITING & ERROR CORRECTION

Suggested time: 20 minutes | 20 points

Exercise 1: Correct the Mistakes

Questions 39–43. Each sentence contains ONE mistake. Rewrite each sentence correctly.

39. She has visited Japan last summer.

Correct sentence:

40. People should be encouraged to using public transport.

Correct sentence:

41. Although the weather was cold, but we decided to go hiking.

Correct sentence:

42. The number of students who study abroad have increased significantly.

Correct sentence:

43. If I would have more free time, I would learn another language.

Correct sentence:

Exercise 2: Sentence Transformation

Questions 44–48. Rewrite each sentence using the word or structure given. Do not change the original meaning.

44. The last time I saw her was two years ago.

Begin with: **I haven't...**

45. The exam was so difficult that many students could not finish it.

Use: **too...to**

46. People believe that regular exercise improves concentration.

Begin with: **Regular exercise...**

47. He didn't prepare carefully, so he made several mistakes.

Use: **If...**

48. Although the course was expensive, many students enrolled in it.

Begin with: **Despite...**

Exercise 3: Write Your Own Sentences

Questions 49–53. Write ONE complete sentence for each requirement. Use your own ideas.

49. Describe a habit you have had for a long time. Use the present perfect or present perfect continuous.

50. Describe a situation that happened in the past and explain its result. Use an appropriate past tense.

51. Write a sentence using **although**, **whereas** or **while** to compare two ideas.

52. Write a sentence expressing a hypothetical situation using the second or third conditional.

53. Write a sentence expressing an opinion and supporting it with a reason.

PART 4: WRITING

Suggested time: 40–50 minutes

Important: This section assesses both basic writing ability and readiness for IELTS Writing. Complete Task 1 first. For Task 2, write as much as you can independently. If you cannot reach the suggested word count, do not stop; the quality of your sentences, grammar, vocabulary and idea development is still useful diagnostic evidence.

Task 1: Describing Data

The table below shows the percentage of students at a secondary school who participated in four after-school activities in 2024.

Activity	Percentage of students
Sports	55%
Music	35%
Art	25%
Reading	15%

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

Write at least 150 words if possible.

You should consider:

- The highest and lowest figures.
- Similarities and differences between activities.
- Important comparisons and overall trends.

Your response:

[illegible]

Some people believe that university students should focus mainly on academic subjects, while others think that developing practical skills and gaining work experience are equally important.

Write at least 250 words if possible.

Your response:

PART 5: OPTIONAL LEARNING READINESS CHECK

No score. Answer honestly.

1. Which part of this test was the most difficult, and why?

2. Which part did you feel most confident about?

3. When you did not understand a question, what did you usually do?

4. How much time can you realistically spend studying English outside lessons each week?

5. What is your main goal for learning English? For example: IELTS, university admission, work, studying abroad or general communication.

End of test.