

Secondary English Exam

On a Scantron, bubble-in the correct answer for each of the following questions.

1. The definition of **theme** is:
 - A. a recurring motif that adds layers of intrigue and meaning to drama, literature and other artistic works
 - B. the author's message of a literary text
 - C. a universal truth, for example: *Love is the most important thing*
 - D. all of the above
2. The meaning of the word **metaphor** is:
 - A. a comparison between two different things that draws attention to their basic similarities. An example would be "School is prison."
 - B. the layer of rock just above the magma layer
 - C. both A and B
 - D. something that means nothing
3. The significance of the word **oxymoron** is:
 - A. a term or phrase that is like an analogy but not really
 - B. a term or phrase that contains two very similar elements, for example: hard rock
 - C. a comparison between two different things that draws attention to their basic similarities
 - D. a term or phrase that contains opposing elements, for example: grounded flight
4. Which of the following sentences aptly exemplifies **irony**?
 - A. a bus-boy who drops dishes five days in a row gets fired
 - B. a sheep is shaved for his wool, and then she goes "Baaaaa"
 - C. a man steps on a rusty nail
 - D. a woman who is an active member of the organization *Guns are Great* gets shot in the foot during a Fourth of July celebration
5. The author of a story who drops hints or clues early on as to what might happen later on in a **narrative** is said to be employing:
 - A. forehead
 - B. foreshadowing
 - C. flashback
 - D. foresight
6. The following passage is from a story that was written from which **point of view**?

It was hard for him to understand that he actually had to abandon it – it was ridiculous – and he began to curse. Of all the papers on his desk, why did it have to be this one in particular?!

 - A. first person
 - B. third person objective
 - C. third person limited
 - D. none of the above
7. The term **setting**:
 - A. refers to the time and place of an artistic work
 - B. is a synonym for "scene"
 - C. is the antonym for "antidisestablishmentarianism"
 - D. both A and B

8. When one **event** leads to certain and undeniable **ramifications**, this is said to demonstrate:
- A. indefatigable, which means tireless
 - B. putting the cart before the horse
 - C. cause and effect
 - D. problem and solution
9. An example of an **idiom** is:
- A. what you don't know can't hurt you
 - B. it's raining
 - C. tall is to short as up is to down
 - D. all of the above
10. Which of the following is a **fact**?
- A. there are too many trees on the Glendale High School campus
 - B. there aren't enough trees on the Glendale High School campus
 - C. I like trees
 - D. there are trees on the Glendale High School campus
11. Which of the following is an **opinion**?
- A. my teacher just gave me a test, and I was asked to complete it
 - B. my teacher is sometimes mean but usually effective
 - C. my teacher is occasionally nice
 - D. both B and C
12. Which of the following is a **stereotype**?
- A. all women are nurturing. They cook and take care of kids and love pets
 - B. all men are tough and strong and made of mettle
 - C. all children are sweet
 - D. all of the above
13. Which of the following exemplifies **hyperbole**?
- A. you weigh a ton
 - B. she never listens
 - C. I eat like a horse
 - D. all of the above
 - E. none of the above
14. What **genre** of writing most directly allows the author the opportunity to convince someone else of his or her opinion?
- A. persuasive
 - B. descriptive
 - C. expository
 - D. narrative
15. If you don't have lots of **questions** about what you are reading – questions about what will happen next; questions about how the main character, or protagonist, will get out of his or her pickle; or questions about how this story relates to your life, then you are:
- A. not reading deeply enough
 - B. not reading a text that is right for you
 - C. not taking advantage of a great opportunity
 - D. all of the above

16. Which of the following contains a **polysyllabic noun** in the **nominative case**?

- A. Yes!
- B. Those are my yellow shoes.
- C. Always do your work.
- D. The tree stood tall.
- E. Those strawberries are tasty.

17. Polysyllabic means “multiple-syllable,” therefore the **prefix** “poly” means:

- A. few or none
- B. many or multiple
- C. lucky
- D. seven

18. The syllables that add on to a **base** or **root** word to form a larger word are called:

- A. citation
- B. theme
- C. bibliography
- D. affixes

19. Which of the following is the **past participle** form of the verb “eat”?

- A. ate
- B. eating
- C. eaten
- D. vomit

20. Knowing that **past participles** are used with **helping verbs**, such as *have*, *has* or *had*, to form certain verb phrases, such as *had eaten*, which of the following is the past participle of the verb “swim”?

- A. swim
- B. swam
- C. swum
- D. swimming

21. Which of the following is a **complex sentence**?

- A. The boat sank.
- B. His singing was beautiful.
- C. While we were eating dinner, the phone rang.
- D. I don’t like mustard.

22. Which of the following is a **compound sentence**?

- A. When she was younger, she played the tuba.
- B. Harold brought pizza, and we all watched a movie.
- C. Yes, I am.
- D. No, I’m not.

23. Which of the following is a **simple sentence**?

- A. When she was younger, she played the tuba.
- B. Harold brought pizza, and we all watched a movie.
- C. The boat sank.
- D. I don’t like mustard unless it is in concealed in deviled eggs.

24. Which of the following is a **metaphor**?

- A. School is prison.
- B. Your love is as a siren that awakens my heart.
- C. Your love is a siren that awakens my heart.
- D. both A and C
- E. none of the above

25. What is the basic **plot** structure of a narrative?

- A. set-up; intro; body; conclusion; thesis; dessert
- B. set-up; rising action; climax; denouement
- C. set-up; rising action; climax; resolution
- D. beginning; middle; deeper middle; end
- E. B, C and D

26. When an author jumps back in time so as to offer the reader a glimpse into the past, the author is employing:

- A. flashback
- B. foresight
- C. forehead
- D. foreshadowing
- E. lemming

27. If a particular story includes the recurring mention of a big fish in a small tank, that fish might be a **symbol** of the feeling of confinement felt by the:

- A. main character
- B. author
- C. no one
- D. newspaper editor

28. When there is a **story within a story** or a **parallel story**, that additional story functions as an:

- A. allegory
- B. theme
- C. metaphor
- D. moose

29. The following passage is written from which **point of view**?

When I woke, the sun was low. Looking down from where I lay, I saw a dog sitting on his haunches.

- A. first person
- B. third person objective
- C. third person limited
- D. none of the above

30. Which of the following is an **objective** statement?

- A. I like peas.
- B. I don't like peas.
- C. There are eight peas on her plate.
- D. There are too many peas on her plate.

31. Which of the following is a **subjective** statement?

- A. I think I'll give her an "A" but maybe I'll give her a "C"; I can't decide.
- B. According to my records, she earned a 65%, which means she will get a "D".
- C. Dogs are cute.
- D. Both A and C

32. Complete the following **analogy**:

Branches are to tree as _____ are to hand.

- A. gloves
- B. leaves
- C. knuckles
- D. koala
- E. fingers

33. A noun or **noun phrase** that is **next to and explains another noun** is an:

- A. antonym
- B. appositive
- C. apple
- D. apocalypse

34. A sentence must include what **two basic parts**?

- A. a subject and a predicate
- B. a noun and a peanut
- C. a subject and a verb
- D. both A and C

35. Complete the following **syllogism**:

All of her cars are blue. That is her car, therefore, that car is:

- A. not blue
- B. too soon to guess
- C. blue
- D. all of the above

36. The **eight parts of speech** are as follows:

- A. nouns, verbs, pickles, tomatoes, lettuce, meat and adverbs
- B. adjectives, nouns, verbs, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions, pronouns and interjections
- C. adjectives, nouns, verbs, adverbs, interjections, conjunctions and articles
- D. adjectives, nouns, verbs, adverbs, interrogatives, conjunctions, knuckles and articles

37. Which of the following is an **adverb**?

- A. willingly
- B. ugly
- C. lucky
- D. happy

38. An adverb tells you *how, when, where, why* and *to what extent* an action occurs. An adverb modifies either a **verb** or an **adjective**. Which of the following sentences contains at least one **adverb**?

- A. The girl smiled sweetly at the boy.
- B. The boy giggled.
- C. The teacher yelled loudly at them both.
- D. both A and C

39. Which of the following is a recommended outline for a **literary response and analysis** essay?
- A. intro with thesis; summary or description; analysis of menu item #1; analysis of menu item #2; analysis of menu item #3; relate to either your life to another text or to the world; conclusion
 - B. intro; body; conclusion
 - C. thesis; relentless summary with virtually no analysis; conclusion
 - D. both A and B
 - E. none of the above
40. Which of the following is a **possessive pronoun**?
- A. her
 - B. they're
 - C. it's
 - D. none of the above
41. Which of the following is a **subject pronoun**?
- A. he
 - B. him
 - C. us
 - D. them
42. Which of the following is an **object pronoun**?
- A. I
 - B. me
 - C. he
 - D. wow

When you are finished, double-check your answers and then work on your **persuasive essay**, which is due to be submitted through www.myaccess.com by Monday, February 18, 2008 at 5 PM.

Here are your possible topics:

- Write a letter to your parent(s) convincing them to let you get an after school job while you attend high school full time
- Write a letter to the principal convincing her to add a particular class to the school's curriculum
- Write an essay explaining why teens either ARE or ARE NOT ready for parenthood

Follow the suggested outline:

- I. Introduction with thesis (your clearly stated opinion) and three reasons to support your thesis
- II. Reason # 1 with a clear topic sentence and great supporting details, which might include scientific evidence
- III. Reason #2 with a clear topic sentence and great supporting details, which might include scientific evidence
- IV. Reason #3 with a clear topic sentence and great supporting details, which might include scientific evidence
- V. Counter-argument and your rebuttal, which might include *more* scientific evidence
- VI. Conclusion, which restates your introduction and/or calls the reader to action