

Grade 11 American Literature Exam Q1

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

1. Which of the following sentences contains an **indirect object**?
 - A. I gave her my pencil.
 - B. She did well.
 - C. We all agreed.
 - D. all of the above

2. Which of the following sentences contains a **direct object**?
 - A. They ate all the lasagna.
 - B. I gave them my cold.
 - C. I think of you always.
 - D. neither A nor B
 - E. A, B and C

3. Which of the following words is a **possessive pronoun**?
 - A. his
 - B. her
 - C. it
 - D. both A and B
 - E. A, B and C

4. Which of the following phrases uses the **active voice**?
 - A. She has called
 - B. I will call
 - C. He was called
 - D. They were called
 - E. both A and B

5. Which of the following phrases uses the **passive voice**?
 - A. She has called
 - B. I will call
 - C. He was called
 - D. They were called
 - E. both C and D

6. Which of the following contains a **gerund**?
 - A. The egg that was sitting outside our house hatched last week.
 - B. The cooking at this restaurant is unbelievably tasty.
 - C. I always look forward to Thanksgiving dinner at my Aunt Debbie's house.
 - D. He is crying.

7. What is a **gerund**?
 - A. a verb form ending in -ed that is used as an adjective
 - B. a verb form ending in -ing that is used as a noun
 - C. a verb form ending in -s that demonstrates the third person singular
 - D. none of the above

8. In the sentence *Carol ruined Martha's hair when she cut it* what is the **antecedent** for the pronoun *she*?
 - A. Carol
 - B. Martha
 - C. hair

9. Which of the following contains a **demonstrative pronoun**?

- A. Whose hat is this?
- B. This must be yours.
- C. Look at these drawings.
- D. I can't take it anymore.
- E. both B and D

10. Which of the following contains a **demonstrative adjective**?

- A. Whose hat is this?
- B. This must be yours.
- C. Look at these drawings.
- D. I can't take it anymore.
- E. both A and C

11. Which of the following contains a **relative pronoun** that introduces a subordinate clause?

- A. This is the game that Carla brought.
- B. I told you that.
- C. How are you?
- D. Are we there yet?

12. Which of the following contains an **indefinite pronoun**?

- A. He has told that story a billion times.
- B. Someone is not telling the truth.
- C. I gave you my hat.
- D. none of the above

13. Which of the following is an **imperative** sentence?

- A. May I please use your computer?
- B. Believe me.
- C. Get out of my room.
- D. neither A nor B
- E. both B and C

14. Which of the following is an **interrogative** sentence?

- A. I love you.
- B. She always tries her best.
- C. Are you for real?
- D. Get out of town.

15. 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.

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

- A. When she was younger, she played the tuba.
- B. Harold brought pizza, and we all ate it with relish.
- C. I want to go to the bookstore.
- D. That singer is about to make an historical comeback.

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

- A. Harold brought pizza, and we ate it with immense relish.
- B. When my mother was younger, she played the tuba.
- C. I don't like mustard unless it is in concealed in deviled eggs.

- D. The baby cried softly.
- E. all of the above

18. Which of the following is the **present participle** of the verb “think” and is therefore used in the **progressive** tenses?

- A. thinking
- B. to think
- C. thinked
- D. thought
- E. none of the above

19. The meaning of the word **metaphor** is:

- A. the layer of rock just above the magma layer
- B. a comparison between two things, drawing attention to their similarities, e.g., “school is prison”
- C. something that means nothing

20. The significance of the word **oxymoron** is:

- A. a term or phrase that is made of two opposing elements, for example, “cold hotplate”
- B. a term or phrase that is like an analogy but is not really
- C. a clause that begins with a subordinator, like “while” or “until”
- D. a term or phrase that contains two similar elements, for example, “hard rock”

21. Which of the following sentences aptly exemplifies **irony**?

- A. a runaway becomes a counselor at a runaway shelter
- B. a sheep who complains about being shaved for his wool later opens his own sweater shop
- C. a man steps on a rusty nail
- D. both A and B

22. An example of an **idiom** is:

- A. It takes one to know one.
- B. It’s raining cats and dogs.
- C. both A and B
- D. none of the above

23. Which of the following exemplifies **hyperbole**?

- A. You weigh a ton!
- B. She often listens.
- C. He eats a bit more than usual when he’s depressed.
- D. I told you before; I’m pretty certain.
- E. B, C and D

24. What is the typical **plot** structure of a narrative?

- A. exposition; rising action; climax; falling action; denouement
- B. set-up; rising action; climax; resolution
- C. beginning, middle, end
- D. all of the above
- E. none of the above

25. If a particular story includes the recurring mention of a bird in a cage, that bird might function as a **symbol** representing a feeling of confinement on behalf of the:

- A. setting
- B. figurative language
- C. publisher
- D. hero

26. Which of the following represents an **internal struggle**?
- A. getting laid off from a job due to a poor economy
 - B. getting fired from a job due to your own inability to staple
27. Which of the following represents an **external struggle**?
- A. getting fired for having a stapling problem
 - B. getting evicted from an apartment due to the landlord's not having paid the mortgage
28. Which of the following is a reasonable definition for "sinewy"?
- A. fatty
 - B. having conspicuous tendons; stringy
 - C. faulty
 - D. none of the above
29. Which of the following is a reasonable definition for "paradox"?
- A. a premise that seems contradictory but upon further inspection is not
 - B. a thing and its opposite – both at once
 - C. a set of two very similar elements
 - D. a set of congruent shapes
 - E. both A and B
30. Which of the following is the title of a short story in the Interactive Reader?
- A. "Filet Mignon to the Slaughter"
 - B. "Lamb to the Slaughter"
 - C. "Contents of a Dead Man's Lunch Bag"
 - D. "Farm Animals"
 - E. none of the above

31. The following excerpt is 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. third person limited, whereby the thoughts and feelings of the protagonist are exposed and focused on
- B. first person, whereby the narrator talks about his or her own life directly
- C. second person, whereby the audience is addressed directly and is therefore part of the text
- D. fourth person

32. The following excerpt is written from which **point of view**?

*I'm being quite useful. This thing is a Thneed.
A Thneed's a Fine-Something-That-All-People-Need!*

- A. third person limited, whereby the thoughts and feelings of the protagonist are exposed and focused on
- B. first person, whereby the narrator talks about his or her own life directly
- C. third person omniscient, whereby the thoughts and feelings of all the characters are exposed
- D. none of the above

33. Which of the following is the **infinitive** form of the verb "see"?

- A. seeing
- B. to see
- C. have seen
- D. will have seen
- E. all of the above

34. Which of the following is the **past participle** of the verb “eat” and is hence used with an auxiliary verb, such as “have”?
- A. eaten
 - B. eating
 - C. eated
 - D. eats
35. Which of the following is the **imperfect subjunctive** with the **conditional**?
- A. She doesn't want to go because she is broke.
 - B. I don't want to go at all.
 - C. If I were you, I would definitely want to go with him to the prom.
 - D. When you get home, please prepare dinner.
36. Which of the following would be classified as **situational irony**?
- A. An ex-convict becomes a highly decorated cop.
 - B. The audience knows what the characters don't know.
 - C. An author gets famous after she dies.
 - D. none of the above
37. Which of the following would be classified as **dramatic irony**?
- A. An ex-convict becomes a highly decorated cop.
 - B. The audience knows what the characters don't know.
 - C. An author gets famous after she dies.
 - D. none of the above
38. Which of the following would be classified as **verbal irony**?
- A. “OMG! You look SO good in that dress!” She said while rolling her eyes.
 - B. “Are you kidding me?! I LOVE brussel sprouts.” He ate all of them and then licked his lips.
 - C. “My mother was my best friend,” Tom said before sobbing into his napkin.
 - D. none of the above
39. Which of the following uses the **semi-colon** correctly?
- A. I would be happy to attend the event, however; you must escort me.
 - B. Soldiers endure all kinds of difficulties; they are not cowards.
 - C. Did you buy any bread? I am famished;
 - D. The following are my requests; come to class on time and do all your work
40. The central **theme** of a text is usually
- A. the main lesson learned by the protagonist by the end of the story
 - B. the author's purpose
 - C. the author's message
 - D. both A and B
 - E. both A and C
41. The **tone** of a text is
- A. the reader's attitude toward the author
 - B. the author's attitude toward the subject matter of the text, the characters of the text, and/or the reader of the text
 - C. the mood of the reader when experiencing the text
 - D. the call of the wild

Read an excerpt of a poem by Luis Rodriguez and answer the four questions that follow.

“Mother by the Lake” by Luis Rodriguez

Soot-stained lyrics fill the crevices between brick.
El tren brakes on metal rails make a sonata for junk dogs:
A blues that never stops.
Stray cats and black-eyed rats roam the unfenced yards.
I’ve fallen into cobblestone love affairs.
I’ve stared at bridges and viaducts and potholes
And wondered what planet I was in.
Murder here is the source spring of new life.
A gun is a character in the drama between screams.
Bullets make for great lullabies.
Market cart alley shoppers take all the best deals.
If heartache were a city it would be Chicago.
If suicide had eyes, it would be the lonely gaze.
Of skyline at the edge of lake.

42. The **diction**, or word choice, of the poem helps to create **imagery**. Which of the following words *least* supports images of squalor?

- A. new life
- B. junk
- C. potholes
- D. screams

43. The diction also helps to provide meaning. Which of the following words upholds one of the poem’s themes: *Life in the Windy City is like a melancholic song*?

- A. sonata
- B. blues
- C. lullabies
- D. all of the above

44. The **syntax**, or order of words in a sentence, is:

- A. much less intelligently placed than William Shakespeare’s
- B. mindfully orchestrated so as to provide a lively rhythm
- C. purposefully flawed so as to pander to an over-educated reader
- D. non-existent

45. The author’s **tone** is markedly?

- A. elated
- B. sarcastic
- C. melancholic but hopeful
- D. realistic
- E. both C and D

After you finish your test, please double-check your answers and then place your test and your answer document in the corner of your desk (with answers covered) and do the following:

On another page, draw eight **subordinators** standing in a line (lunch line, DMV line, American Idol line...).