

ACT ENGLISH PRACTICE PAPER

QUESTION 1

In the sentence below, which of the following subordinating conjunctions will MOST change the meaning of the sentence when substituted for the underlined "if"?

1. That bear won't attack us if we lay down and play dead.

select

once

select

after

select

if only

select

unless

QUESTION 2

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence. If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

2. Neither Danny or Rebecca was adequately prepared for the tennis match that afternoon.

select

either

select

also

select

nor

select

NO CHANGE

select

and

QUESTION 3

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence.
If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

3. We enjoyed going to Alice's art class, and the long drive over was starting to become a deterrent.

also

but

therefore

and then

NO CHANGE

QUESTION 4

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence.
If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

4. My first task of the day was watch that black-and-white Italian film once again.

to watch

watched

will watch

having watched

NO CHANGE

QUESTION 5

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence. If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

5. As Amad and Sarah walked down the street, they had found a penny lying on the concrete.

they were finding a penny

NO CHANGE

they find a penny

they had finding a penny

they found a penny

QUESTION 6

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence. If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

6. Susan has went to the book store to buy the texts she needed for the semester.

went

goes

gone

NO CHANGE

had went

QUESTION 7

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence. If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

7. If I were a teacher, I would grade fairly.

have been

NO CHANGE

can be

was

am ever

QUESTION 8

In 1929, E.F. Lindquist, a professor in the University of Iowa College of Education, began designing tests for the Iowa Academic Meet. The purpose of the meet was to identify exemplary high school students. Test-takers began with a first round of testing. This round occurred during the school day and covered ten core academic subjects. Students who scored well in the first round participated in district-level tests that were more difficult. High-scorers from the second round participated in a third round of testing. The top ten students in each subject area were rewarded with medals at a banquet. Although the test was a success, Lindquist wanted to reduce the competitive aspect of the test. To achieve this goal, Lindquist renamed the test the Iowa Every-Pupil Achievement Testing Program.

The tests popularity provided Lindquist with the opportunity to study how to best write, administer, and score a standardized test. However, Lindquist was not yet satisfied. He grew concerned that the test focused too much on rote memorization of content rather than on skill development. Lindquist began to work on a test for middle school students that would test skills. This test which was first administered in 1935 became known as the Iowa Test of Basic Skills. In 1942, the Every-Pupil test is discontinued and replaced with the Iowa Tests of Educational Development. As Lindquist had hoped, this test focused on testing skills rather than pure content memorization.

By the late 1950s, Lindquist had gained significant renown in the world of standardized testing, so he became involved in the process of developing a college admissions testing program. Although the SAT had been a commonly used admissions test since 1926, it was primarily marketed in the northeast and used as an admissions test for universities in that region. Schools outside this area used a variety of different tests that covered different content and was administered at different times. This led to unreliable results.

In 1958, that a standardized, national test be developed was proposed by Lindquist. He also hoped that, unlike the SAT, the new test would measure academic achievement so that it could be used to gauge each student's level of preparation for college-level work.

Lindquist and a man named Ted McCarrel began developing the new test. One of McCarrel's main jobs was contacting admissions officers and convincing schools to use the new test. However, like the SAT, the ACT began as a regional test. Unlike the SAT, however, it was primarily used in the Midwest. With time and effort, the test became more popular in other parts of the country.

In 1959, the ACT was administered for the first time. The test was similar to the Iowa Tests of Educational Development. It consisted of four parts; English, math, social studies, and natural science. The social studies and natural science portions required students to interpret readings from each field; thus, Lindquist was able to maintain his goal of testing skills rather than memorized facts. Students had forty-five minutes to complete each section of the test. The ACT quickly became a staple of the college admissions process. In the first year, 132,963 students took the test, and that number grew in subsequent years.

Today, many colleges and universities in the U.S. accept ACT results from students applying for admission. So, don't worry! I'm sure your college will accept it too!

8. Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the passage. If the bolded portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

select

that a standardized, national test be proposed by Lindquist developed

select

that a standardized, national test be developed proposed Lindquist

select

the development of a standardized, national test was proposed by Lindquist

select

Lindquist proposed that a standardized, national test be developed

select

NO CHANGE

QUESTION 9

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence.
If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

9. Hans had fallen quick when the wind caught his ladder.

select

NO CHANGE

select

quickly

select

pretty quick

select

quicker

select

quickest

QUESTION 10

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence.
If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

10. She was surprisingly quick on the uptake.

select

surprised quick

select

surprised quickly

select

NO CHANGE

select

surprisingly quickly

select

quick

QUESTION 11

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence. If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

11. Aerin's beautiful written speech brought tears to the eyes of his fellow classmates at graduation.

select

beautifully written

select

NO CHANGE

select

beautiful wrote

select

beautifully wrote

select

beautifully

QUESTION 12

During the final months of 2007, the prices of basic grains nearly doubled in Northern Africa, Latin America, and much of Asia, the high prices caused a global food crisis. The catastrophe sparked and incited an international debate regarding the licensing of new technologies to developing nations. One economist warned that because of the risk of unforeseen price shocks, officials should proceed very cautiously. The construction of private farms pose a serious financial threat to farmers in the United States; nevertheless, of the five most industrialized nations, the United States exports more crops.

How do some countries cope with food crises better than others. It is technology that accounts for the majority of the difference. The rate at which countries adopt innovations depends significantly on environmental factors. These environmental factors include climate, soil and elevation. The variability in environment inhibits new technologies from gaining worldwide popularity that are suited for one particular region over another. For example, the pesticides used in Europe are much more acidic than North America. Without the different levels of acidity, pests would prevent the crops to grow.

12. Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the passage. If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

select

NO CHANGE

select

a greater number of

select

the most crops

select

that great number

select

the greater number of

QUESTION 13

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence. If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

13. It's a general rule that the temperatures in spring differ with the temperatures in winter, though there are some exceptions.

select

NO CHANGE

select

without

select

as

select

from

by

QUESTION 14

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence.
If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

14. "That's not the way you would write that!" she exclaimed.

"That's not the way you would write that," she exclaimed!

"That's not the way you would write that," she exclaimed.

"That's not the way you would write that!" she exclaimed.

NO CHANGE

"That's not the way you would write that!" she exclaimed!

QUESTION 15

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence.
If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

15. Sawyer attended that high school his first solo violin performance took place in the auditorium during his sophomore year.

that high school? His first

that high school, his first

that high school; his first

NO CHANGE

select

that high school, but his first

QUESTION 16

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence. If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

16. James chose a large, rusty car, Philip chose a brand new car, and I chose the cheapest, ugliest car on the lot.

select

James chose a large, rusty car, Philip chose a brand new car; and I chose the cheapest, ugliest car on the lot.

select

James chose a large rusty car Philip chose a brand new car and I chose the cheapest ugliest car on the lot.

select

NO CHANGE

select

James chose a large, rusty car; Philip chose a brand new car; and I chose the cheapest, ugliest car on the lot.

select

James chose a large rusty car, Philip chose a brand new car, and I chose the cheapest ugliest car on the lot.

QUESTION 17

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence. If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

17. The sun was blotted out as thousands of birds silhouettes appeared overhead.

select

NO CHANGE

select

birds silhouette's

select

bird's silhouettes

select

birds' silhouettes

select

bird's silhouettes'

QUESTION 18

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence.
If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

18. The Emperor Augustus dog has the sniffles.

select

The Emperor Augustuses dog has the sniffles.

select

The Emperor Augustus' dog has the sniffles.

select

The Emperor Augustus' dog's have the sniffles.

select

NO CHANGE

select

The Emperor Augustu's dog has the sniffles.

QUESTION 19

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence.
If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

19. A few guests' bags had been stolen that night.

select

of the guest's

select

guests

select

guest

select

guest's

select

NO CHANGE

QUESTION 20

Alfred Tarski, born on January 14, 1901, became known during his lifetime as a brilliant mathematician and teacher. He is best known for proving several advanced geometric theorems. By the time Tarski moved to the United States, much of Europe has already fallen into the grips of World War II. Hundreds of mathematical problems were solved by Tarski.

Tarski enrolled in Warsaw University in 1920. Originally wishing to study biology, mathematics was the subject in which Tarski ultimately excelled. He graduated with honors, and began his career as a math teacher. A true mathematical virtuoso, Tarski was concerned with neither the application of his research nor publishing his findings.

Discoveries made by Tarski influenced the work of one of the world's greatest physicists, Albert Einstein. Einstein and Tarski had many similar interests in common. Unlike Albert Einstein, however, Tarski was especially fond for pure mathematics. Although Tarski and Einstein were contemporaries, Einstein was the most prolific writer of the two.

In 1929, Tarski married his co-worker, Maria Witkowska. An affinity for mathematics ran in the family. Tarski even admitted that his wife knew more about algebra, geometry and trigonometry than did he. Tarski's two children, Jan, and Ina, grew up to be prominent mathematicians themselves; however, neither Jan nor Ina have received a great deal of international attention.

20. Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the passage. If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

select

fond in

select

NO CHANGE

select

fond about

select

fond with

select

fond of

QUESTION 21

In 1929, E.F. Lindquist, a professor in the University of Iowa College of Education, began designing tests for the Iowa Academic Meet. The purpose of the meet was to identify exemplary high school students. Test-takers began with a first round of testing. This round occurred during the school day and covered ten core academic subjects. Students who scored well in the first round participated in district-level tests that were more difficult. High-scorers from the second round participated in a third round of testing. The top ten students in each subject area were rewarded with medals at a banquet. Although the test was a success, Lindquist wanted to reduce the competitive aspect of the test. To achieve this goal, Lindquist renamed the test the Iowa Every-Pupil Achievement Testing Program.

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21. Choose the answer that best corrects the bolded portion of the passage. If the bolded portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

select

This test which was first administered in 1935, became

select

This test, which was first administered in 1935 became

select

This test; which was first administered in 1935, became

select

This test, which was first administered in 1935, became

select

NO CHANGE

QUESTION 22

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence. If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

22. The best ingredients for a BLT are: bacon, lettuce, tomato, toasted bread, and mayo.

select

The best ingredient for a BLT is: bacon, lettuce, tomato, toasted bread, and mayo.

select

NO CHANGE

select

The best ingredients for a BLT are, bacon, lettuce, tomato, toasted bread, and mayo.

select

The best ingredients for a BLT are bacon, lettuce, tomato, toasted bread, and mayo.

select

The best ingredients for a BLT: bacon, lettuce, tomato, toasted bread, and mayo.

QUESTION 23

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence. If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

23. While they are both great pastry chefs, Eric's chocolate chip cookies are definitely better than Henry.

select

NO CHANGE

select

Henrys'

select

Henrys

Henry's

that by Henry

QUESTION 24

When the patent on Alexander Graham Bell's revolutionary invention, the telephone, expired in 1894 thousands of new firms entered the telecommunication industry. Among them were a collection of profitable companies that merged to form what would later become known as The Bell System. The Bell System had amassed such weight in the industry that in 1933, when Congress passed a law declaring phone service a public utility, the Bell System quickly transformed into a monopoly.

Lawmakers enthusiastic supported a series of provisions intended to stimulate competition. Appointed as the nation's sole provider of telecommunication services, widespread criticism about the Bell System began to surface.

The Federal Communications Act has so far been highly effective and the industry has grown tremendously as a result. In fact, for the past three years, the profitability of the largest three telecommunication companies has been greater than the largest three automotive companies. The number of calls provided by the top three companies range from five billion to six billion per day. Today, virtually everyone has made a phone call over the course of their lives. Most people do not know, however, that payment for swaths of electromagnetic wavelengths have become commonplace.

One explanation for such high call volume and large profits is that calls are becoming much less expensive for companies to provide, regardless for many large fixed expenses such as communication towers, base stations, and paying for utility poles. Over the last century, telephones had become an important part of modern society. In fact, the cost of delivering one telephone call today is about a thousandth of the cost in the 1950s. The increasing affordability and abundance of phone calls mark the progress made since the time of Alexander Graham Bell and the Bell System.

24. Choose the answer that best corrects the bolded portion of the passage. If the bolded portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

needing to pay for utility poles

select

utility poles

select

NO CHANGE

select

utility poles that are necessary

select

one must also pay for utility poles

QUESTION 25

The Chunnel actually consists of three tunnels: a southern tunnel, a northern tunnel, and a service tunnel in the middle. The southern tunnel carries passengers from France to England, while the northern tunnel carries people from England to France. The service tunnel serves as an escape route in case of emergency and also allows workers to enter the tunnel to perform routine maintenance.

25. Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the passage. If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

select

NO CHANGE

select

one southern tunnel, a northern tunnel, and a service tunnel

select

two tunnels, which are southern and northern, and another tunnel

select

including a south tunnel, north tunnel, and a tunnel for service

select

a southern tunnel, a north tunnel, and another tunnel, a service tunnel

QUESTION 26

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence. If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

26. My three favorite activities are skateboarding, to swim, and playing golf.

select

NO CHANGE

select

skateboarding, swimming, and playing golf

select

skateboard, swimming, and playing golf

select

skateboard, swim, and play golf

select

skateboarding to swim and playing golf

QUESTION 27

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence. If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

27. A group of travelers in the hotel lobby seem to be ready for breakfast.

select

NO CHANGE

select

seems

select

have seemed

select

are seeming

select

to seem

QUESTION 28

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence. If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

28. There was a team of ice skaters gathered in the hotel lobby earlier today.

select

are

select

NO CHANGE

select

is

select

has been

select

were

QUESTION 29

Choose the answer that best corrects the underlined portion of the sentence. If the underlined portion is correct as written, choose "NO CHANGE."

29. Bob and Joe were so hungry that a whole pizza might not have satisfied his hunger.

select

NO CHANGE

select

their

select

its

select

he's

select

there

QUESTION 30

Which of the following, if any, would NOT be an acceptable substitution for the underlined word?

30. As the two cars collided into each other, the drivers' airbags deployed with a loud bang.

select

slammed

select

intersected

select

crashed

select

smashed

select

plowed