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C1 ADVANCED

Use of English

Practice Test 17



PART 1

QUESTIONS
1-8

MULTIPLE-CHOICE CLOZE

Adding recovery time to train schedules

INSTRUCTIONS

For questions 1-8, choose the option which best completes the text.

As regular rail commuters know, most trains follow a fixed published timetable. But every so often, the railway gains a minute. The addition of what's called a 'recovery minute' is (1) _____ to allow the morning service, which is gradually (2) _____, to catch up with central schedules - the network's official time records. This sounds simple, but according to planners, because they only get six weeks' (3) _____ of the need to add a recovery minute, it's difficult to insert it into schedules without mistakes being made, (4) _____ services to stop temporarily. In 2012, a recovery minute was added during one weekend but it resulted in over forty trains across one region being cancelled as the booking system (5) _____ down. Some operators are in favour of removing recovery minutes while others (6) _____ that the practical challenges are (7) _____ if everyone adds the minute in the same way and at the same time. They say that we have always taken the published timetable as the reference for daily planning and we shouldn't break this (8) _____ without considering the consequences.

GAP	A	B	C	D
1	designed	targeted	framed	drafted
2	delaying	lessening	slowing	declining
3	advice	notice	information	instruction
4	compelling	making	causing	influencing
5	came	fell	ran	went
6	argue	disagree	dispute	question
7	governmental	controlled	manageable	adaptable
8	join	link	chain	union



PART 2

QUESTIONS
9-16

OPEN CLOZE

Finding solutions during quiet breaks

INSTRUCTIONS

For questions 9-16, write one word in each gap.

How often do we struggle to figure out a problem and then, after a quiet break, we return already knowing exactly what to do? We tend to view rest simply (9) _____ a period of inactivity, but it actually has profound implications for a lot of human tasks, including a positive effect on problem-solving. Research now suggests that (10) _____ only are we able to come up with answers to life issues while resting, but these answers are often better than the ones we might think of once the routines of our normal work take (11) _____. Rest aids concentration too, and it's believed that new information isn't processed and absorbed fully until we've had a useful mental break. So, if you're faced (12) _____ a difficult problem, set it aside, reflect (13) _____ it and return to it an hour later. But (14) _____ made a complex decision, you (15) _____ wish to revisit it after a second quiet break on the off-chance that (16) _____ could be a better solution waiting to be considered.

ANSWER GRID

9		13	
10		14	
11		15	
12		16	



PART 3

QUESTIONS
17-24

WORD FORMATION

The intelligent octopus

INSTRUCTIONS

For questions 17-24, use the word given in capitals to form a word that fits the gap.

Many creatures have special significance for humans but none is perhaps more intriguing than the octopus. Octopuses, often seen as examples of (17) _____, have a powerful hold on scientific imagination. There are many species of octopus and most of them are solitary, highly adaptable marine animals that are (18) _____ by their flexible bodies. They tend to blend in with the colours and even the surface patterns of their (19) _____, which makes them hard to spot. They have a sharp sense of (20) _____ and have sensitive arms that can detect tiny movements that are (21) _____ by the less sensitive human hand, such as tiny (22) _____ from small creatures in the water. Many octopuses also have special cells across their skin, which allow them to change colour. Their bodies contain no rigid bones and are remarkably flexible, so narrow openings can admit them despite looking impossibly small to us in (23) _____ with their bodies. This remarkable flexibility lets them escape from narrow containers with ease, adding to our view of the octopus as being (24) _____.

QUESTION	BASE WORD	YOUR ANSWER
17	WISE	
18	CHARACTER	
19	SURROUND	
20	SEE	
21	DETECT	
22	VIBRATE	
23	COMPARE	
24	MYSTERY	



PART 4

QUESTIONS
25-30

KEY WORD TRANSFORMATION

Key Word Transformations - Test 17

INSTRUCTIONS

For questions 25-30, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Use between 3 and 8 words.

25 The price varies according to the number of guests.

DEPENDING

The price varies, _____ guests.

26 You may not be admitted after noon.

RISK

There is _____ admitted after noon.

27 However early he leaves, traffic will still be heavy.

MATTER

It _____ sets off; traffic will be heavy.

28 Ava is responsible for making the weekly schedule.

CHARGE

Ava _____ the weekly schedule.

29 Leo appears to have decided not to sell the shop after all.

MIND

Leo appears _____ selling the shop.

30 I only thought of that solution when Maya mentioned it.

OCCURRED

That solution _____ Maya mentioned it.



ANSWER KEY

PRACTICE TEST 17

INSTRUCTIONS

Accepted answers are shown where more than one form is valid.

PART 1 | MULTIPLE-CHOICE CLOZE

1	A
2	C
3	B
4	C
5	D
6	A
7	C
8	B

PART 2 | OPEN CLOZE

9	AS
10	NOT
11	OVER
12	WITH
13	ON
14	HAVING
15	MAY / MIGHT
16	THERE

PART 3 | WORD FORMATION

17	WISDOM
18	CHARACTERISED
19	SURROUNDINGS
20	SIGHT
21	UNDETECTABLE
22	VIBRATIONS
23	COMPARISON
24	MYSTERIOUS

PART 4 | KEY WORD TRANSFORMATION

25	DEPENDING ON THE NUMBER OF
26	A RISK OF NOT BEING
27	DOES NOT MATTER HOW EARLY HE / DOESN'T MATTER HOW EARLY HE
28	IS IN CHARGE OF MAKING
29	TO HAVE CHANGED HIS MIND ABOUT
30	HAD NEVER OCCURRED TO ME UNTIL