



South Valley University

Qena Faculty of Arts

English Department

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Level IV

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Table of Contents

Part One: Preparing Presentations	3
Organization of Presentations	4
Organization	4
Mechanics of Presentation	6
Visual Aids for Presentation	7
Things to Remember When Making a Presentation	9
Handling Questions and Discussions	14
Part Two: Reading Comprehension Passages	15
1. The Twins of Siam	16
2. The Four Wives	21
3. Number Thirteen	24
4. A Donkey in The Well	26
5. The Strange Animal	28
6. The Auroras	32
7. The Woman on The Bus	36
8. The Oregon Territory	38
9. The Perfect Peace	42
10. The Lady or The Tiger	43

Part Three: Grammar Exercises	53
Section One: Grammar	54
Section Two: Capitalization and Punctuation	64
Section Three: Multiple Choice Question	82
Part Four: Translation of English Proverbs	102
English Proverbs	103
Important Links for Some Linguistic Drills	105
Bibliography	106

Part One

Preparing Presentations

Organization of Presentations

Golden Rule

Human attention is very limited. Don't cram too much information, either in each slide, or in the whole talk. Avoid details: they won't be remembered anyway.

Organization:

- Have a very clear introduction, to motivate what you do and to present the problem you want to solve. The introduction is not technical in nature, but strategic (i.e. why this problem, big idea).
- If you have a companion paper, mention it during the talk and recommend it for more details. Don't put all the details in the talk. Present only the important ones.
- Use only one idea per slide.
- Have good conclusions slide: put the main ideas, the ones you really want people to remember. Use 1 one "conclusions" slide.
- The conclusion slide should be the last one. Do not put other slides after conclusions, as this will weaken its impact.
- Having periodic "talk outline" slides (to show where you are in the talk) helps, especially for longer talks. At least one "talk outline" slide is very useful, usually after the introduction.

- Don't count on the audience to remember any detail from one slide to another (like color-coding, applications you measure, etc.). If you need it remembered, re-state the information a second time.
- Especially if you have to present many different things, try to build a unifying thread. The talk should be sequential in nature (i.e. no big conceptual leaps from one slide to the next).
- Try to cut out as much as possible; less is better.
- Help the audience understand where you are going. Often it's best to give them a high-level overview first, and then plunge into the details; then, while listening to the details they can relate to the high-level picture and understand where you are. This also helps them save important brainpower for later parts of the talk, which may be more important.

Mechanics of Presentation:

- Use a good presentation-building tool, like MS PowerPoint. Avoid Latex, except for slides with formulas. Good looks are important.
- Humor is very useful; prepare a couple of puns and jokes beforehand (but not epic jokes, which require complicated setup). However, if you're not good with jokes, better avoid them altogether. Improvising humor is very dangerous.
- The more you rehearse the talk, the better it will be. A rehearsal is most useful when carried out loud. 5 rehearsals is a minimum for an important talk.
- The more people criticize your talk (during practice), the better it will be; pay attention to criticism, not necessarily to all suggestions, but try to see what and why people misunderstood your ideas.
- When using printed slides, avoid overlay slides; they are awkward to use.
- Not everything has to be written down; speech can and should complement the information on the slides.
- Be enthusiastic and natural.
- Act your talk: explain, ask rhetorical questions, act surprised, etc.

- Give people time to think about the important facts by slowing down, or even stopping for a moment.
- Do not go overtime under any circumstance.
- Listen to the questions very carefully; many speakers answer different questions than the ones asked.

Visual Aids for Presentation:

- Use suggestive graphical illustrations as much as possible. Don't shun graphical metaphors. Prefer an image to text. In my presentations I try to have 80% of the slides with images.
- Do not put in the figures details you will not mention explicitly. The figures should be as schematic as possible (i.e. no overload of features).
- Do not "waste" information by using unnecessary colors. Each different color should signify something different, and something important. Color-code your information if you can, but don't use too many different colors. Have high-contrast colors.
- A few real photos related to your subject look very cool (e.g. real system, hardware, screen-shots, automatically generated figures, etc.). Real photos are much more effective during the core of the talk than during the intro. I hate talks with a nice

picture during the introduction and next only text; they open your appetite and then leave you hungry.

- For some strange reason, rectangles with shadows seem to look much better than without (especially if there are just a few in the figure).
- Sometimes a matte pastel background looks much better than a white one.
- Exploit animation with restraint. Do not use fancy animation effects if not necessary.
- However, there are places where animation is extremely valuable, e.g., to depict the evolution of a complex system, or to introduce related ideas one by one.
- Use strong colors for important stuff, pastel colors for the unimportant.
- Encode information cleverly: e.g. make arrow widths showing flows proportional to the flow capacity.
- Use thick lines in drawings (e.g. 1 1/2 points or more).

Things to remember when making a presentation:

The seven pointers below offer sound advice that will help you deliver more effective presentations with greater confidence.

1. Your Audience Wants You to Do Well:

An audience would rather be entertained than bored; they would rather see you do well than see you fail. Perhaps because they, too, have panicked before a group, people in an audience tend to identify with the presenter, putting out a kind of "wave of good will." All you have to do is surf that wave and you will have an enormous advantage over your fears.

2. Your Audience is a Collection of Individuals,**Not a Monolithic Thing:**

The temptation to see your audience, as a nameless, faceless wall sets up a situation so intimidating that self-sabotage is practically assured. Fortunately, an audience is not one massive collective consciousness. Each person reacts differently to a presenter.

To help you see your audience as a group of individuals, make eye contact with individual members in the group. Direct individual eye contact neutralizes the audience's ability to intimidate you.

People who have no trouble speaking to one person can go to pieces talking to a group. It might be useful to view the presentation as a series of "simultaneous one-on-ones."

3. Direct Eye Contact with Audience:

Making frequent direct eye contact with audience members lets them see that their attention matters to you. They will invariably repay this with like attention. Making real eye contact with the audience also lets the presenter see whether or not they understand the information being presented. If comprehension doesn't show in the eyes of the audience, the presenter can adjust the message. If the presenter avoids their eyes, the audience instantly senses fear. Their attention - and the presenter's credibility - evaporates.

4. Your Script is a Departure Point. You Are Only a Vessel for the Information You Are Delivering:

If you memorize a script word-for-word and expect it to retain any feeling of real life, you - and your audience - will be disappointed. Audiences are impatient with memorized scripts. Memorization drains the life out of your presentation and prevents the audience from feeling like they know you. This feeling of "knowing you" is what makes an audience like and consequently trust you. If the audience likes and trusts you--which can happen only if they have a sense of the life passing through you - they will

listen to you. A speech memorized word-for-word sends the message that you are not alive.

Having complete familiarity with and an emotional connection to your material puts your attention and energy where it belongs. Add the need to have the audience receive and understand your material, and you won't have time to think about what your hands are doing, whether or not the audience likes you or whether you've gotten a parking ticket during your presentation. You won't have any energy left to devote to the things that can rob you of the connection you're making with your material and your audience.

When a presentation goes particularly well, it is usually because the presenter is concentrating on the message and the audience. When the presenter's concentration is focused in this manner (that is, when the need to think about yourself has been taken away), presenting stops being a form of torture and becomes instead a means of creative expression.

5. Oxygen Deprivation Breeds Panic:

This sounds like an over-simplification. It is not. People who can think on their feet continue to breathe as they present. Stopping your breath is a common fear response. The most common cause of "presenter panic," and the most controllable, is a lack of oxygen to the brain. As the brain becomes oxygen-starved

it starts to shut down. Trying to pursue a train of thought and bring an audience along with you as your brain shuts down puts you at an enormous disadvantage. When the audience can see you breathing, it is a subtle reminder, though one they are unconscious of, that you are a human being. When you stop breathing, they will not be able to consciously pin down what's wrong, but they will start wondering if you are human and will stop identifying with you.

6. However You Think Your Presentation Will Go, It Won't:

Presentations are like real life: Both seldom go exactly as we imagine. From your presentation rehearsals, you will know the essential elements of what you plan to say, i.e., the points you want to cover, what you want from your audience, the general route you plan to take. Learn to be comfortable with this knowledge and with your trial runs.

What happens too often is that in the rehearsal process, presenters fall in love with a vision of how the presentation will go. When the actual presentation doesn't match the imagined version, panic sets in and everything falls apart. In life, when things don't go as we'd imagined, we make the necessary adjustments and move on. Presentations require that same degree of flexibility.

Having knowledge of and an emotional connection to your material will help you forget about expectations and simply take the situation as it comes. It also helps if you have a clear and definite reason for delivering your material to your audience. Audiences know when you are "in the situation" because you seem alive and spontaneous.

If something goes wrong, acknowledge it openly and move on. Your audience will like you for it, and when they like you there is a stronger chance that they will believe you. Minor flubs simply remind them that you are human, just like they are. This reminder of shared humanity is essential if they are to identify with you; and they must, on some level, for that is the only way they will hear your message. If something goes wrong, acknowledge it openly and move on. Your audience will like you for it.

7. Don't Confuse Eagerness to Present with Anxiety:

Give yourself some credit. What you feel before a presentation isn't only fear, though fear is a natural and useful component. Part of your uneasiness is simply the desire to deliver what you have been working on and refining in your mind. You started working on the presentation knowing that at some point you would be sharing it with an audience. When that time approaches, it makes sense to get excited. However, because so

many people get anxious before presenting, this excitement may be mistaken for fear. While fear may be present, so is the eagerness to bring your presentation to its logical conclusion. After all, it is not really a presentation until you share it with an audience.

Handling Questions and Discussions:

1. Often it is necessary for you to restate the question for the rest of the audience (because they may not have heard it).
2. Answer questions as briefly as possible, sticking to the point.
3. If the question requires a deep and specialized answer off the main track, give a brief answer and offer to answer more fully after the talk.
4. Some questions are "real" questions and you should attempt to answer them. If you don't know the answers, then admit this and offer to find out the answer for the next week.
5. Some questions are not "real" questions but rather are extensive comments that do not require an answer other than "That's interesting".

End of Part One

Part Two

Reading Comprehension Passages

(1)**The Twins of Siam**

A young mother was lying on a bed. She had just given birth to twin boys. She was tired but happy. A woman was helping her. Suddenly the woman screamed. "What's the matter?" the mother cried. She lifted her head and looked at her babies. The babies were joined at their chests. She couldn't separate them. That happened in Siam – now called Thailand – in 1811. The mother named her babies Chang and Eng. Chang and Eng grew up and became the famous Siamese twins. People came from all over Siam to stare at the twins. One day, when the twins were 18, an American saw them. He thought, "I can make money with the twins." He asked Chang and Eng, "Will you come with me to the United States?" Chang and Eng wanted to go to the United States, so they went with the man. They never saw Siam or their family again. Chang and Eng traveled with the American for ten years. Later they traveled alone. People paid to see them and ask them questions about their lives. Finally, the twins got tired of traveling. They got tired of answering questions. They decided to live quietly in North Carolina. Soon after they moved to North Carolina, the twins met two sisters. The sister's name was Adelaide and Sarah. The twins fell in love with the sisters. Chang married Adelaide and Eng married Sarah. The marriages were

very unusual. Adelaide and Sarah lived in separate houses. The twins lived in one house for four days. Then they went to the other house for four days. The marriages were unusual, but they were long and happy. Chang and Eng had ten children, and Eng and Sarah had eleven children. The twins were happy with Adelaide and Sarah, but they weren't happy with each other. Sometimes they argued and they didn't talk to each other. They asked doctor after doctor, "Please separate us." Every doctor said, "I can't separate you. The operation is too dangerous." So, the twins stayed joined together. One night when the twins were 63, Eng suddenly wake up. He looked at Chang, who was lying beside him. Chang wasn't breathing. Eng screamed for help, and one of his sons came. "Uncle Chang is dead," the young man said. "Then I'm going to die, too," Eng said, and he began to cry. Two hours later Eng was dead. For 63 years the twins of Siam lived together as one. In the end, they also died as one.

Questions:**Vocabulary**

- Read the following sentences, and then guess the meaning of the underlined words. Circle the letter of your answer.
1. A woman was helping the young mother. Suddenly the woman screamed. "What's the matter?" the mother cried.
 - a. yelled in a loud voice.
 - b. smiled happily.
 2. The babies were joined at their chests. She couldn't separate them.
 - a. take them apart.
 - b. wake them up.
 3. People came all over Siam to stare at the twins.
 - a. take picture of.
 - b. look at.
 4. The twins weren't always happy with each other. Sometimes they argued.
 - a. spoke quietly.
 - b. spoke in angry voices.

Comprehension: Understanding the Main Idea:

- Circle the letter of the best answer.
1. This story is about
 - a. dangerous operation.
 - b. unusual marriage.
 - c. Siamese twins brothers
 2. The twins talked to many doctors because
 - a. the twins were often sick.
 - b. they wanted the doctors to separate them.
 - c. the doctors wanted to study the twins.

Remembering Details:

- Read the sentences. One word in each sentence isn't correct. Find the word and cross it out. Write the correct word.
1. The story happened in Siam – now called China – in 1811.
 2. Chang and Eng grew up and became the famous Siamese doctors.
 3. People came from all over Siam to laugh at the twins.
 4. An Australian asked Chang and Eng to come with him to the United States.
 5. Chang and Eng traveled with American for ten days.

6. After they moved to North Carolina, the twins met two cousins.
7. The marriage was unusual, but they were long and unhappy.
8. Every doctor said, "I can separate you because the operation is too dangerous."

Understanding Reasons:

- Find the best way to complete each sentence. Write the letter of your answer on between brackets.
1. The young mother lifted her head ()
 2. Chang and Eng went to the United States ()
 3. People paid ()
 4. The twins went to doctor after doctor ()
 - a. to ask the twins questions.
 - b. to ask about an operation.
 - c. to travel with the American.
 - d. to look at her babies.

(2)

The Four Wives

Once upon a time there was a rich merchant who had 4 wives he loved the 4th wife the most. He adorned her with rich robes and treated her to delicacies. He took great care of her and gave her nothing but the best. He also loved the 3rd wife very much. He's very proud of her and always wanted to show her off to his friends. However, the merchant is always in great fear that might run away with some other men.

He too, loved his 2nd wife. She is a very considerate person, always patient and in fact is the merchant's confidante. Whenever the merchant faced some problems, he always turned to his 2nd wife and she would always help him out and tide him through difficult times.

Now, the merchant's 1st wife is a very loyal partner and has made great contributions in maintaining his wealth and business as well as taking care of the household. However, the merchant did not love the first wife and although she loved him deeply, he hardly took notice of her.

One day, the merchant fell ill. Before long, he knew that he was going to die soon. He thought of his luxurious life and told himself, "Now I have 4 wives with me. But when I die, I'll be alone How lonely I'll be!"

Thus, he asked the 4th wife, "I loved you most, endowed you with the finest clothing and showered great care over you. Now that I'm dying, will you follow me and keep me company?"

"No way!" replied the 4th wife and she walked away without another word. The answer cut like a sharp knife right into the merchant's heart.

The sad merchant then asked the 3rd wife, "I have loved you so much for all my life. Now that I'm dying, will you follow me and keep me company?"

"No!" replied the 3rd wife. "Life is so good over here! I'm going to remarry when you die!" The merchant's heart sank and turned cold.

He then asked the 2nd wife, "I always turned to you for help and you've always helped me out. Now I need your help again. When I die, will you follow me and keep me company?"

"I'm sorry, I can't help you out this time!" replied the 2nd wife. "At the very most, I can only send you to your grave".

The answer came like a bolt of thunder and the merchant was devastated. Then a voice called out: "I'll leave with you. I'll follow you no matter where you go." The merchant looked up and there was his first wife. She was so skinny, almost like she suffered from malnutrition. Greatly grieved, the merchant said, "I should have taken much better care of you while I could have!"

Actually we all have 4 Wives in our Lives, !!

- The 4th wife is our body. No matter how much time and effort we lavish in making it look good, it'll leave us when we die.
- Our 3rd wife is our possessions, status and wealth. When we die, they all go to others.
- The 2nd wife is our family and friends. No matter how close they had been there for us when we're alive, the furthest they can stay by us is up to the grave.
- The 1st wife is in fact our soul. Often neglected in our pursuit of material wealth and sensual pleasure. It is actually the only thing that follows us wherever we go. Perhaps it's a good idea to cultivate and strengthen it now rather than to wait until we're on our deathbed to lament.

(3)

Number Thirteen

The number thirteen has long been regarded as an omen of misfortune, and examples of the negative superstition attached to this number abound. Most tall buildings in the United States, for example, do not have a thirteenth floor, and airplanes often bypass a thirteenth row. In addition, many towns will give the street between 12th and 14th a name other than 13th. Fear of the number thirteen has even been accorded its own psychological jargon: triskaidekaphobia.

Even though American culture contains numerous examples of its tradition of suspicion of the misfortunes caused by the number thirteen, this number is also held in high esteem. The reason for the esteem that the United States holds for the number thirteen is that the United States consisted of thirteen colonies at its inception. The seal of the United States, found on the back of

the modern bill, includes thirteen stars and thirteen stripes as well as a bald eagle holding thirteen arrows in one claw and a laurel branch, with thirteen leaves and thirteen berries in the other. This abundant use of the number thirteen in the seal of the United States, of course, commemorates the country's thirteen original colonies.

Questions:

1. The main idea of the passage is that

- a. the United States has some positive associations to the number thirteen
- b. there are positive and negative feelings about the number thirteen
- c. it is difficult to treat triskaidekaphobia
- d. there are many negative superstitions about the number thirteen

2. What is the overall organization of information in the passage?

- a. An extended definition of triskaidekaphobia is presented.
- b. A chronological history of changing feelings about the number thirteen is outlined.
- c. Two contrasting views of the number thirteen are presented.
- d. Various reasons for negative feelings about the number thirteen are presented.

3. The first paragraph mainly presents

- a. an explanation and examples of triskaidekaphobia

- b. positive associations with the number thirteen
- c. ways that certain towns react to the number thirteen
- d. various psychological fears, including fear of the number thirteen

4. What is the topic of the second paragraph?

- a. Various examples of suspicions about the number thirteen
- b. Symbolism on U.S. currency
- c. A history of the thirteen original U.S. colonies
- d. An explanation for positive feelings about the number thirteen in the United States

(4)

A Donkey in the Well

One day a farmer's donkey fell down into a well. The animal cried piteously for hours as the farmer tried to figure out what to do.

Finally, he decided the animal was old, and the well needed to be covered up any way; it just wasn't worth it to retrieve the donkey. He invited all his neighbors to come over and help him. They each grabbed a shovel and began to shovel dirt into the well.

At first, the donkey realized what was happening and cried horribly. Then, to everyone's amazement, he quieted down. A few shovel loads later, the farmer looked down the well, and was astonished at what he saw. As every shovel of dirt hit his back, the donkey did something amazing. He would shake it off and take a

step up. As the farmer's neighbors continued to shovel dirt on top of the animal, he would shake it off and take a step up.

Pretty soon, everyone was amazed, as the donkey stepped up over the edge of the well and trotted off.

The Moral

"Life is going to shovel dirt on you, all kinds of dirt. The trick to getting out of the well is to shake it off and take a step up. Each of our troubles is a stepping stone. We can get out of the deepest wells just by not stopping, never giving up Shake it off and take a step up!"

Remember the five simple rules to be happy:

1. Free your heart from hatred
2. Free your mind from worries
3. Live simply
4. Give more
5. Expect less

(5)

The Strange Animal

Part one

There were many people to tell that boy what to do. There was his mother and his father, his grandfather, and his older brother. And there was also an aunt, who was always saying: ‘Do this. Do that.’ Every day this aunt would shout at him, and make a great noise that would frighten the birds. The boy did not like his aunt. Sometimes he thought that he might go to some man to buy some medicine to put into her food to make her quiet, but of course he never did this. In spite of his entire aunt’s shouting and ordering about, the boy always obeyed her, as his father said he must. ‘She has nothing to do but shout at you,’ the boy’s father explained. ‘It keeps her happy.’ ‘When I’m a big man I’ll come and shout in her ear,’ the boy said. It was good to think about that.

There was a place that the aunt knew where a lot of fruit grew. It was a place which was quite far away, and the boy did not like going there. Near this place there were caves and the boy had heard that a strange animal lived in this caves.

One of his friends had seen this strange animal and had warned people about going near that place. But the aunt insisted on sending the boy to pick fruit there, and so he went, his heart a cold stone of fear inside him. He found the tress and began to pick the fruit, but a little later he heard the sound of something in the bush beside him. He stopped his task and stood near the tree in case the strange animal should be coming. Out of the bush came the strange animal. It was just as his friend had described it and the boy was very frightened. Quickly he took out the drum which he had brought with him and began to bear it. The strange animal stopped, looked at the boy in surprise, and began to dance. All day the boy played the drum, keeping the strange animal dancing. As long as he played the drum, he knew that there was nothing that the strange animal could do to harm him.

At last, when night came, the strange animal stopped dancing and disappeared back into the bush. The boy knew that it had gone back to its cave and so he was able to walk home safely. When he reached home, though, his aunt had prepared her shouting. ‘Here is all the fruit? She shouted. Thinking that he had

eaten it, she then began to beat him until the boy was able to run away from her and hide in his own hut. The boy told his father the next day of the real reason why he had been unable to bring back fruit from the tree. He explained that there had been a strange animal; dancing. The father listened and told the story to the aunt, who scoffed at the boy. ‘There are no strange animals at the place,’ she said. ‘You must be making all this up.’ But the father believed the boy and said that the next day they would all go to the fruit place with him. The aunt thought that this was a waste of time, but she was not going to miss any chance of shouting, and so she came too.

When the family reached the tree there was no strange animal. The aunt began to pick fruit from the tree and stuff it into her mouth. Calling to the boy to give her his drum, she hung it on the branch of a tree in a place where he would not be able to get at it on the branch of a tree in a place where he would not be able to get at it easily. ‘You must pick fruit,’ she shouted to the boy. ‘You must not play a drum in idleness.’ The boy obeyed his aunt, but all the time he was listening for any sounds to come from the bush. He knew that sooner or later the strange animal would appear and that they would then all be in danger.

Part two

When the strange animal did come, it went straight to the boy's father and mother and quickly ate them up. Then the aunt tried to run away, but the strange animal ran after her and ate her too. While this was happening, the boy had time to reach up for his drum from the branch of the fruit tree. Quickly he began to play this drum, which made the strange animal stop looking for people to eat and begin to dance. As the boy played his drum faster and faster, the strange animal danced more and more quickly. Eventually the boy played so fast that the animal had to spit out the father and mother. The boy was very pleased with this and began to play more slowly. At this, the strange animal's dancing became slower. 'You must play your drum fast again,' the boy's father said. 'Then the strange animal will have to spit out your aunt.' 'Do I have to?' The boy asked, disappointed that he would not be allowed to leave the aunt in the stomach of the strange animal. 'Yes,' the boy's father said sternly. 'You must.' Reluctantly, the boy again began to play the drum and the strange animal began to dance more quickly. After a few minutes it was dancing so quickly that it had to spit out the aunt. Then darkness came and the strange animal went back to its cave. The aunt she was quiet as well, and she never shouted at the boy again. Being swallowed by a strange animal had taught the aunt not to waste her time shouting; now, all that she wanted to do was to sit quietly in the sun. The boy was very happy.

(6)

The Auroras

The auroras are a phenomenal display of greenish-white light typically visible in the skies above the polar regions of the Earth. This natural light show constantly changes in configuration and can shift dramatically in seconds; it may change from a barely visible glow to blinding sheets of swaying, shimmering light. However, it is not just an enjoyable light show; it is also a phenomenon that bears further study because of its potential impact on civilization.

Richard Carrington, an English physicist and astronomer, was the first person to determine the actual cause of the auroras. On September 1, 1859, Carrington observed a tremendous solar flare on the surface of the Sun. Two nights later, an intense aurora spread over large parts of Europe. Carrington came to the conclusion that the huge solar flares two nights earlier had played a role. Carrington's first hunch has since been scientifically established. It is now known that the solar wind, a continuous flow of charged subatomic particles from the Sun that streams around the Earth, causes the auroras as it passes through the Earth's geomagnetic field.

The auroras are generally a polar phenomenon; however, particularly strong auroras have at times appeared over densely populated areas of the Earth and have wreaked havoc. The 1859 aurora noted by Carrington took out telegraph communication throughout much of Europe by overwhelming the pulses of electromagnets. A century later, in 1958, a tremendous auroral storm above North America overloaded utility circuits and caused a blackout in much of northeastern Canada. Twenty auroral superstorms have been recorded since 1880, and human dependence on electrical devices has been increasing steadily. With this large number of superstorms and ever-widening use of

electrical devices, further auroral interference into the lives of humanity seems likely.

Questions

1. The purpose of this passage is to
 - a. provide a biography of Richard Carrington
 - b. explain where the auroras occur
 - c. recount an amazing nineteenth-century even
 - d. describe the cause and impact of a phenomenon
2. Where in the passage does the author describe the mutations that occur during an aurora?
 - a. The second sentence in paragraph 1
 - b. The third sentence in paragraph 2
 - c. The fifth sentence in paragraph 2
 - d. The second sentence in paragraph 3
3. Where in the passage does the author note an intense auroral storm that occurred on September 3?
 - a. The second sentence in paragraph 1
 - b. The third sentence in paragraph 2
 - c. The first sentence in paragraph 3
 - d. The third sentence in paragraph 3
4. Where in the passage does the author indicate what actually causes the auroras?

- a. The first sentence in paragraph 1
 - b. The first sentence in paragraph 2
 - c. The fifth sentence in paragraph 2
 - d. The third sentence in paragraph 3
5. Where in the passage does the author describe a strong auroral storm that affected Canada?
- a. The first sentence in paragraph 1
 - b. The third sentence in paragraph 2
 - c. The fifth sentence in paragraph 2
 - d. The third sentence in paragraph 3
6. Where in the passage does the author indicate how many superstorms have been noted since the later part of the nineteenth century?
- a. The third sentence of paragraph 1
 - b. The second sentence in paragraph 2
 - c. The second sentence in paragraph 3
 - d. The fourth sentence in paragraph 3
7. The tone of this passage is
- a. Sensitive
 - b. Uncaring
 - c. Pretentious
 - d. advisory
-

8. This passage would most likely be assigned reading in a course on:
- a. Medicine
 - b. Astronomy
 - c. Oceanography
 - d. art

(7)

The Woman on the Bus

It was about four or five years after the war in Vietnam when Jack first came to work in our school. He was a good Spanish teacher: he settled into our routines at once; and he proved to be popular with the students. But he always remained a little distant - not quite fitting in with the group of teachers who gathered in the teachers' lounge at various times during the day. He never had much to do with anyone else, keeping pretty much to himself. We heard through the grapevine that Jack had had a hard time in the war. He ended up in a veterans' hospital and spent two years there after the war. He had little use of his left hand, and

he once told us that it had happened while in a prison camp in the north. Jack, however, was reluctant to talk about the matter, and no one felt comfortable pressing him with questions. Conversation with him always dried up after a minute or so. I suppose I knew him as well as anyone.

On several occasions, we had sat near each other to grade exams. We even walked to a fast-food place across the street for lunch a few times. He sometimes talked about his students - who were the best, who had the best pronunciation skills, who were the class clown, etc. But it was all “shoptalk.” He also mentioned his wife and family a few times. He had three sons of whom he was very proud: Andrew, Nick, and Daniel. His parents lived in upstate New York, and he had gone to college there. But these were the only facts anyone knew about him. It’s strange how you can work alongside a person for such a long time and still know so little about him, particularly about what goes on inside his head. But some people are like that. Anyway, Jack came into school on this particular morning quite nervous and excited. He also seemed eager to talk.

Comprehension Check

1. What kind of work do Jack and the narrator of the story do?

.....

2. What had happened to Jack immediately after the war?

.....
3. How well did the narrator of the story know Jack?

.....
4. What did the narrator know about Jack?

.....
5. What was peculiar about Jack’s behavior on the morning of the day when he told his story?

.....
6. What had happened to him on the bus the afternoon before?

(8)

The Oregon Territory

During the same era when Texas was being annexed by the United States, the Oregon Territory was on the road to statehood, and the settlement of the Oregon Territory played an equally important role in the expansion of the United States. In the late 1700s, in the period after the War of Independence from England, both the United States and England laid claim to the Oregon Territory. Fur traders and missionaries reached the Pacific Northwest and sent back reports of wonderful green and fertile valleys suitable for farming. These reports enticed thousands of

settlers to move to the region. Thousands made the trip west, starting in the 1830s. The route that these settlers took became known as the Oregon Trail.

The Oregon Trail began in Independence, Missouri, and went all the way to the Oregon Territory in the Pacific Northwest. The trip along the trail was quite long, particularly considering that many of the settlers accompanied the wagons on foot. It covered more than 2,000 miles and took about six months. The trail was not just on flat land; it traversed the Great Plains region and then crossed over the Rocky Mountains. It was also a rather dangerous trip, but not for the reason that most people assume. Attacks by Native American tribes on travelers moving along the Oregon Trail were not a major problem. Instead, there was much more danger to travelers from communicable diseases such as cholera and smallpox, from natural forces such as flooded rivers on the plains, or from harsh weather in the Rockies.

Because of the huge number of American settlers who poured into the Oregon Territory in the 1830s and 1840s, England gave up on the idea of adding the Oregon Territory to its empire. In 1846, England gave up control to the United States of all territory in the Pacific Northwest south of the 49th parallel, excluding Vancouver Island, and later turned over the rest of its

North American territories to Canada. Today, with the exception of Vancouver Island, the 49th parallel is the boundary between the United States and Canada.

Questions:

1. The paragraph preceding the passage most probably discussed:
 - a. the expansion of the United States into Missouri
 - b. the road to Texas statehood
 - c. the War of Independence from England
 - d. the annexation of the Oregon Territory
2. Which of the following best expresses the topic of this passage?
 - a. The expansion of the United States into the Oregon Territory
 - b. The difficulty of traveling on the Oregon Trail
 - c. England's claim for the Oregon Territory
 - d. The life of settlers in the Oregon Territory
3. According to the passage, who claimed the Oregon Territory in the late eighteenth century?
 - a. The United States and England
 - b. Missouri and Canada
 - c. England and Canada
 - d. The United States and Missouri
4. The word "enticed" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to:
 - a. Informed
 - b. Forbid

- c. Attracted
 - d. Forced
5. The pronoun "it" in paragraph 2 refers to:
- a. the Pacific Northwest
 - b. the trip
 - c. settlers
 - d. foot
6. The word "communicable" in paragraph 2 could best be replaced by:
- a. Talkable
 - b. Deadly
 - c. Understandable
 - d. contagious
7. According to the passage, which of the following caused the least trouble for settlers traveling along the Oregon Trail?
- a. Disease
 - b. Attack
 - c. Flood
 - d. Inclement weather
8. The word "poured" in paragraph 3 could best be replaced by:
- a. rained heavily
 - b. served graciously
 - c. swarmed steadily

- d. spread precisely
9. Which of the following can be inferred about Vancouver Island from the passage?
- a. It is north of the 49th parallel.
 - b. It belongs to the United States.
 - c. It is located in Oregon.
 - d. It is part of Canada today.
10. Where in the passage does the author mention the modes of transportation used by travelers on the Oregon Trail?
- a. The third sentence in paragraph 1
 - b. The second sentence in paragraph 2
 - c. The fifth sentence in paragraph 2
 - d. The first sentence in paragraph 3

(9)

The Perfect Peace

There once was a King who offered a prize to the artist who would paint the best picture of "PEACE". Many artists tried. The King looked at all the pictures, but there were only two he really liked and he had to choose between them.

One picture was of a calm lake. The lake was a perfect mirror for peaceful towering mountains were all around it.

Overhead was a blue sky with fluffy white clouds. All who saw this picture thought that it was a perfect picture of peace.

The other picture had mountains too. But these were rugged and bare. Above was an angry sky from which rain fell, in which lightening played. Down the side of the mountain tumbled a foaming waterfall. This did not look peaceful at all.

But when the King looked, he saw behind the waterfall a tiny bush growing in a crack in the rock. In the bush a mother bird had built her nest. There, in the midst of the rush of angry water sat the mother bird on nest PERFECT PEACE.

"I choose this one" proclaimed the King. "PEACE does not mean to be in a place where there is no noise trouble, or hard work. PEACE means to be in the midst of all those things and still be calm in your heart. That is the REAL meaning of PEACE".

(10)

The Lady or the Tiger

(By Frank R. Stockton)

Part One

Long, long ago there lived a king who was crude and very much like a savage. He had learned some manners from his Latin neighbors, but mostly he was barbaric, loud, and gruff. He had

none of the grace and polish of his neighbors. He was a man of great fancies and even greater enthusiasm. Because he had so much authority as a king, he was able to force some of these fancies into reality. Or at least he tried to.

His personality was normally calm when everything was in order. When there was a little hitch, however, he was exultant and happy. He loved it when things went wrong because that meant that he could then correct them. He loved to make the crooked straight, to crush down the uneven places in life.

He decided that there should be a way to add culture to the lives of his subjects. His method was the public arena. There, humans and beasts performed before audiences. But his fancies asserted themselves here. The arena that he built was not for the honor and glory of gladiators. It was not for beasts to fight each other to the finish. It was, he believed, for the purpose of widening and developing the mental energies of his people. It was a vast amphitheater with encircling galleries, mysterious vaults, and unseen passages. It was to be a means for poetic justice. It was to be a place where crime was punished or virtue rewarded—all by chance.

When the king was interested in people and their crimes, he would dictate that their fate should be decided in the arena. This king knew no traditions from other kingdoms. His only allegiance

was to himself and his own fancies. This fancy, the chance-fate decision in the arena, came about because of his romantic, yet barbaric, idealism.

When all the people had gathered in the galleries and the king was seated on his throne high up on one side of the arena, he would give a signal. A door beneath him would open, and the accused person would step out into the amphitheater. Directly opposite the accused there were two doors, exactly alike and side by side. The person on trial had to walk over to these doors and open one of them. He could open whichever door he wanted; he was subject to no pressure from the king or his court. The only influence was that of fate or luck.

If the accused opened one door, a hungry tiger came out. It was the fiercest and most cruel that could be found, and it immediately jumped on him and tore him to pieces as a punishment for his guilt. When the fate of the criminal was thus decided, sad iron bells were rung, and great wails went up from the hired mourners who were posted outside the arena. The audience went home with bowed heads and doleful hearts, sad that one so young and fair (or so old and respected) should have merited such a fate.

If he opened the other door, a lady came out. The king always chose the ladies himself. He made sure that each was of

the same age and station as the accused and that she was beautiful. The rule was that the accused was to marry her immediately. It didn't matter if he were already married and had a family. The lady was a sign of his innocence, so if the accused already loved another, that other was to be forgotten. It was the king's way. He allowed nothing to interfere with his design. Indeed, immediately, after the lady appeared, another door beneath the king opened, and out came a priest, musicians, singers, and a troupe of dancers. In a procession, they all cheerfully marched and sang for the couple standing in the middle of the arena. The bells rang, the audience shouted its approval, and the innocent man, preceded by children strewing flowers in the couple's path, led his new bride to his home.

This was the king's semibarbaric method of administering justice, and its fairness is obvious. The criminal could not know which door the lady was behind. He opened whichever door he wanted to without knowing whether in the next instant he was to be eaten or married. On some occasions the tiger came out of one door, and on other occasions it came out of the other. In this system, there was instant punishment for guilt and instant reward for innocence – whether the accused wanted the reward or not. There was no escape from the judgment of the king's arena.

The institution was a popular one. When the people gathered together on one of the trial days, they never knew whether they were to witness a bloody slaughter or a festive wedding. This element of uncertainty usually made the occasion more interesting than it would have been otherwise. The people were entertained, and no one doubted that justice was being served. All believed that the accused had his fate in his own hands.

Comprehension

1. What was the king like?

.....

2. How was he different from his neighbors?

.....

3. Why did he build the arena? What did it look like?

.....

4. How did the system begin on trial days?

.....

5. How did the accused choose which door to open?

.....

6. What was behind the two doors?

.....

7. If the accused chose the door with the tiger, what happened?

How did the people react?

.....

8. If the accused chose the door with the lady, what happened?

How did the people react?

.....

9. Why did the king (and the people) think that this system was a fair one?

.....

10. Did the people of the kingdom like the system?

.....

Part Two

The semibarbaric king had a daughter whom he loved deeply. She was as passionate, fanciful, and strong as her father and was devoted to him. As is the case in many fairy tales, this

daughter, the apple of her father's eye, was in love with a young man who was below her in station. He was a commoner. He was also brave, handsome, and daring. And he loved the royal daughter with all his being. The princess had enough barbarism in her that their love affair was dramatic .. too dramatic. It was a secret for months, but then the king found out about it.

The king didn't hesitate for a minute. He sent the young man to prison and set a date for his trial in the arena. When the date arrived, everyone in the kingdom wanted to attend. They all knew of the king's interest in the case, and there was excitement in the air.

The king's men searched for the fiercest tiger in the realm. They also searched for the fairest maiden in the land so that he could have a fitting bride in case he was found innocent. Of course, everyone knew that he had committed the "crime" of loving the princess, but the king did not allow the facts of the case to alter his decision. The trial would go on as planned. The youth would be gone no matter what happened; he would either be dead or married. The king could enjoy the proceedings for the sport of it.

The day arrived. The people were standing in every corner of the arena. All was ready when the moment came. A signal was given and the door opened, allowing the princess lover to enter.

The crowd gasped. He was handsome. Half the audience did not know that one so attractive had lived among them; no wonder the princess loved him! How terrible for him to be there!

The princess had thought about this trial day and night for a long time. She knew she couldn't bear to miss the spectacle, but there was another reason for her being there. She had such power, influence, and force of character (as well as plenty of gold) that she did what no one had ever done before; she found out the secret of the doors for that day. She knew in which room stood the hungry tiger and in which waited the lady. She knew, too, that the doors were so thick that there was no way anyone could ever hear some hint from behind them. If she were going to warn her lover, she would have to do it by signal.

She also knew something which made the whole process more complicated. She knew that the lady was one of the most beautiful maidens in the whole country, and the thought of her young man living with this woman enraged her. She hated the lady and hated what might happen.

When the accused bowed to the royal box, as was the custom, he looked only at the princess, and immediately he knew. He had expected her to find out the secret of the doors, and now he knew that she had to find out the secret of the doors, and now

he knew that she had the answer. It was only left for her to tell him.

His quick glance at her asked, "Which?" It was as plain as if he had shouted it. There was no time to lose: the quick question had to be answered just as quickly so that the king would not suspect.

Her right hand was resting on a pillow in front of her. She raised it slightly and made a small, fast movement to the right. No one but her lover saw her. Every eye in the arena was fixed on him.

He turned, and with a firm and rapid step he walked across the empty space. Every heart stopped beating, every breath was held, and every eye was upon him. Without hesitation, he went to the door on the right and opened it. Did the tiger come out of that door, or did the lady?

The more we think about this question, the harder it is to answer. It involves a study of the human heart which leads to mazes of passion, love, hate, and excitement. Do not answer this for yourself, but put yourself in the place of the princess.

She was hot-blooded and semibarbaric, and her soul burned with the twin desires of longing and jealousy. She knew that she had already lost him. But to whom?

How often she had lain awake at night imagining the horror of her lover being killed by a tiger! Even in her dreams, she had covered her face with her hands to hide from the cruelty.

But how much more often had she seen him at the other door! In her mind she had screamed and torn her hair when she saw his happy face at opening the door to the lady. Her soul burned in agony as she saw him rush to that woman and then be wedded in the next moment, when all about her were joyous. She lived through the misery of the procession, the happy couple, the singing and dancing, the shouts of the crowd, the laughter of the wandering children. Her tears, of course, were lost in all the joy.

Would it be better for him to die at once? Then he could go to the place after death and wait for her.

And yet, that awful tiger, those shrieks, that blood!

Her decision had been made in the instant that she moved her hand. She had known that he would ask, but she had put off her decision until the last moment. She finally decided, and without hesitation, she indicated the right-hand door. This is not a question to be taken lightly. Her decision was serious for her, so I do not presume to answer for her. I leave it to all of you. Which came out of the opened door - the lady or the tiger?

Comprehension

1. What was the king’s daughter like? How was she similar to her father?
.....
2. Why did the king send his daughter’s lover to prison?
.....
3. Why did he think that he would be rid of the young man no matter what happened?
.....
4. Why was the audience surprised when the young man entered the arena?
.....
5. What had the princess discovered about the doors?
.....
6. Describe the silent communication between the young man and the princess.
.....
7. What emotions did the princess feel?
.....
8. What did she feel when she imagined her lover opening the door that hid the tiger?
.....
9. What did she feel when she imagined him opening the door that hid the lady?
.....

End of Part Two

Part Three

Grammar Exercises

SECTION ONE**GRAMMAR****• Fill in the blanks with the appropriate answer:**

1. We swam the river.
 - a. over
 - b. across
 - c. through
2. Whenever I talk, she cuts me
 - a. short
 - b. shortly
 - c. shortening
3. I have been watching a lot of film
 - a. late
 - b. lately
 - c. either could be used here
4. They searched far and
 - a. wide
 - b. widely
5. She spent the day in bed.
 - a. whole
 - b. all
 - c. either could be used here

6. Prices keep
- a. arising
 - b. rising
 - d. either could be used here
7. I don't think that she got your letter. You had better write
- a. back
 - b. again
 - c. either could be used here
8. I have to see my parents twice since January.
- a. gone
 - b. been
 - c. either could be used here
9. My sister always me at chess.
- a. wins
 - b. beats
 - c. either could be used here
10. I almost never when I play chess with my sister.
- a. win
 - b. beat
 - c. either could be used here
11. I finished early I worked fast.
- a. because
 - b. because of

- c. so
12. your stupidity, we are in trouble now.
- a. Because
 - b. Because of
 - c. Either could be used here
13. It's time you that stereo repaired.
- a. get
 - b. got
 - c. had got
14. She acts she knows his secrets.
- a. as if
 - b. as though
 - c. either could be used here
15. It is time she a job.
- a. finds
 - b. found
 - c. has found
16. I wish I longer hair.
- a. have
 - b. had
 - c. have had
17. It seems the cat was injured in the fall.
- a. as if
 - b. as though

- c. either could be used here
18. It is high time she smoking.
- a. gives up
 - b. gave up
 - c. give up
19. It would have been better if you a doctor.
- a. consult
 - b. consulted
 - c. had consulted
20. It would be better if you the police.
- a. inform
 - b. informed
 - c. had informed
21. I prefer classical music heavy metal.
- a. to
 - b. than
 - c. over
22. I wait than leave.
- a. prefer
 - b. rather
 - c. would rather
23. I prefer calling my friends writing to them.
- a. to
 - b. than

- c. rather than
24. I riding to driving.
- a. would rather
 - b. prefer
 - c. rather
25. She to marry her boyfriend next month.
- a. is expecting
 - b. is expected
 - c. has expected
26. Dinosaurs to have lived several million years ago.
- a. are thought
 - b. are thinking
 - c. have thought
27. The authorities to be working on a new industrial policy.
- a. have known
 - b. are known
 - c. are knowing
28. I by airplane.
- a. never traveled
 - b. have never traveled
 - c. am never traveling
29. I my homework yet.
- a. did not finish
 - b. have not finished

- c. am not finishing
30. He since I last saw him.
- a. grew
 - b. has grown
 - c. had grown
31. I how to ride a bicycle.
- a. learned
 - b. have learned
 - c. had learned
32. It yesterday.
- a. hasn't rained
 - b. didn't rain
 - c. didn't rained
33. The army at dawn.
- a. attacked
 - b. has attacked
 - c. had attacked
34. She speaks fluent German because she in Germany for six years.
- a. lived
 - b. has lived
 - c. was living
35. When I home, the children computer games.
- a. reached, played
 - b. reached, were playing
-

- c. was reaching, were playing
36. I my first car five years ago.
- a. bought
 - b. have bought
 - c. had bought
37. This time yesterday, I in my garden.
- a. am working
 - b. was working
 - c. will be working
38. This time tomorrow, I my homework.
- a. am doing
 - b. will do
 - c. will be doing
39. My grandfather own six cars.
- a. used to
 - b. would
 - c. Either could be used here
40. I will call you when I ready.
- a. am
 - b. will be
 - c. would be
41. Although he was the most deserving candidate, he the job.
- a. do not get
 - b. did not get

- c. had not got
42. She many national and international awards for her work.
- a. has won
 - b. is won
 - c. had won
43. We the project by the end of this month.
- a. will deliver
 - b. will be delivering
 - c. will have delivered
44. She told me that she her homework.
- a. did
 - b. has done
 - c. had done
45. He jobless for six months.
- a. is
 - b. has been
 - c. is being
46. He stray dogs for many years.
- a. has been feeding
 - b. is feeding
 - c. have been feeding
47. I looked around but I anyone.
- a. didn't see
 - b. hadn't seen

- c. haven't seen
48. I said that I in that offer.
- a. am not interested
 - b. was not interested
 - c. was not interesting
49. They are preparing the report. / The report by them.
- a. is prepared
 - b. was prepared
 - c. is being prepared
50. They took the child to hospital. / The child to hospital.
- a. was taken
 - b. has taken
 - c. is taken
51. She answered the question. / The question by her.
- a. is answered
 - b. was answered
 - c. has answered
52. She has written four novels. / Four novels by her.
- a. were written
 - b. have written
 - c. have been written
53. The dacoit killed the traveler. / The traveler by the dacoit.
- a. has killed
 - b. was killed

c. had killed

54. They robbed him at gunpoint. / He at gunpoint.

a. is robbed

b. was being robbed

c. was robbed

55. He has won a lottery. / A lottery by him.

a. was won

b. has been won

c. had been won

56. She called me a liar. / I a liar.

a. called

b. am called

c. was called

57. He sells newspapers at the railway station. / Newspapers by him.

a. are sold

b. have sold

c. are being sold

58. He bought the painting at an auction. / The painting ... at an auction.

a. has bought

b. was bought

c. had been bought

SECTION TWO

Capitalization and Punctuation

Understanding the basic rules of capitalization is important, and knowing how to punctuate sentences correctly will help you to write more clearly. This first section consists of five sets of questions that test your skill at finding mistakes in capitalization and punctuation. In the first set, you will be looking for errors in capitalization only. In the second and third sets, the errors are in punctuation only. Sets 4 and 5 ask you to find mistakes in both capitalization and punctuation.

SET 1:

- *For the following questions, choose the lettered part of the sentence that contains a word that needs a capital letter. If no additional words should be capitalized, choose answer e.*

1. My physician, /dr. Holly Watts, told me that/ I was healthy enough/ to run
a b c
in the Boston marathon. / None
d e

2. At the party, / I made myself sick / by eating glazed doughnuts/ and
a b c
english toffee. / None
d e

3. Alan Farnham, jr., was so lazy/ that no one wanted to / be on the
a b c

committee/ with him. /None

d e

4. Doug shouted angrily, / “why am I the one/ who always has to /

a b c

do the dishes?”/ None

d e

5. The constitution of / the United States certainly / cannot be considered /

a b c

an ordinary constitution. / None

d e

6. Tommy’s Bar and grill was / conveniently located on / one of the main

a b c

streets / in downtown Waynesburg. / None

d e

7. My peach-colored dog, / whose name is yep, / is a fine example of / an

a b c

intelligent, brave, and loyal toy poodle. / None

d e

8. Her name used to be Heather, / but she changed it / after the movie

a b c

heathers / came out a few years ago. / None

d e

SET 2:

- *Choose the punctuation mark that is needed in each of the following sentences. If no additional punctuation is needed, choose answer e.*

1. "I can't believe it!" shouted Karen. My blue socks have holes in them!"

- a. . b. , c. ! d. " e. none

2. My three cats, Bubba, Dave, and Roy like liver flavored kitty treats best.

- a. ; b. — c. ! d. , e. none

3. The following are my favorite foods biscuits, gravy, mashed potatoes, and French-cut green beans.

- a. : b. , c. . d. ; e. none

4. Max was so angry he stalked out fifteen minutes later he came back.

- a. ; b. , c. ? d. : e. none

5. We were all surprised when Bonita—a petite, conservatively dressed woman heaved a chair through the plate glass window.

- a. ; b. , c. — d. : e. none

6. Jack's hair, usually so neatly combed, is a mess today, as if he slept on it strangely.
a. ' b. , c. ; d. . e. none
7. After his vacation in the Rockies, Ramon decided to give up mountain-climbing for good.
a. , b. ; c. — d. . e. none
8. "I wonder" Syad mused, "if he knew what he did was wrong."
a. ? b. , c. : d. ; e. none
9. Big Bob Bailey our basketball coach, is the toughest man alive.
a. : b. ; c. — d. , e. none
10. My favorite books are ones about skeet shooting it's my favorite sport.
a. , b. ? c. ; d. ! e. none

SET 3:

- *Choose the answer that shows the best punctuation for the underlined part of the sentence. If the sentence is correct as is, choose e.*

1. Cats make wonderful pets even though they seem closer to being wild than dogs are.
 - a. pets, even though, they
 - b. pets, even though they
 - c. pets. Even though they
 - d. pets; even though they
 - e. correct as is
2. Many people believe in UFO's however I've never seen one.
 - a. UFO's however: I've
 - b. UFO's, however, I've
 - c. UFO's however, I've
 - d. UFO's; however, I've
 - e. correct as it is
3. "Am I crazy," asked Samantha, "Am I the only one who thinks volleyball is a waste of time?"
 - a. crazy?" asked Samatha. "Am
 - b. crazy?" asked Samatha, "Am
 - c. crazy," asked Samatha? "Am

- d. crazy?" asked Samatha, "Am
e. correct as it is
4. Some scientists maintain that we are born with a fear of snakes.
a. maintain, that we
b. maintain that, we
c. maintain: that we
d. maintain—that we
e. correct as it is
5. After the dog frightened the mail carrier, the dogs owner apologized over and over.
a. carrier the dogs
b. carrier, the dog's
c. carrier, the dogs'
d. carrier the dogs'
e. correct as is
6. The people who are at the back of the line should move to the front.
a. people, who are at the back of the line
b. people who are at the back of the line,
c. people, who are at the back of the line,
d. people who, are at the back of the line,
e. correct as is
7. The students asked whether I thought there would be a woman president within the next decade?

- a. president within the next decade!
 - b. president, within the next decade.
 - c. president within the next decade.
 - d. president, within the next decade?
 - e. correct as is
8. This is the first time you have ever been to a major league baseball game, isn't it?
- a. game isn't it?
 - b. game, is'nt it?
 - c. game, isn't it.
 - d. game isn't it.
 - e. correct as is
9. Chicken pox a virus is very contagious.
- a. pox, a virus,
 - b. pox, a virus
 - c. pox, a virus—
 - d. pox a virus,
 - e. correct as is
10. I was born on May 17,1962 in Corvallis, Oregon.
- a. May 17 1962 in Corvallis, Oregon.
 - b. May 17 1962, in Corvallis Oregon.
 - c. May 17,1962 in Corvallis, Oregon.
 - d. May 17,1962, in Corvallis, Oregon.

e. correct as is

SET 4:

- *For each question, find the sentence that has a mistake in capitalization or punctuation. If you find no mistakes, mark choice d.*

1. a. My favorite season is Spring.
b. Last Monday, Aunt Ruth took me shopping.
c. We elected Ben as treasurer of the freshman class.
d. No mistakes.
2. a. My best friend is moving to another city.
b. "What time does the movie begin?" he asked.
c. The boys' wore identical sweaters.
d. No mistakes.
3. a. She asked me, to show her how to make an apple pie.
b. He shouted from the window, but we couldn't hear him.
c. Occasionally, someone will stop and ask for directions.
d. No mistakes.
4. a. Science and math are my two best subjects.
b. We met senator Moynihan at a conference last June.

- c. Did you see the movie *Babe*?
 - d. No mistakes.
5. a. When you come to the end of Newton Road, turn left onto Wilson Blvd.
- b. A small river runs alongside the highway.
 - c. We learned that cape Cod was formed 20,000 years ago.
 - d. No mistakes.
6. a. The tour guide asked us if we had any questions?
- b. Lauren's father is an auto mechanic.
 - c. We asked if he could give us change for a dollar.
 - d. No mistakes.
7. a. Did you read that article in *Newsweek*?
- b. My Uncle took us to Yankee Stadium.
 - c. Christina has a Persian cat named Snow ball.
 - d. No mistakes.
8. a. "I'll come and stay with you, grandma," I said.
- b. "Don't ever tell a lie, he warned.
 - c. "Why won't you play with us?"he asked.
 - d. No mistakes.
9. a. I always have a hard time getting up in the morning.
-

- b. We took: a tent, a cooler, and a sleeping bag.
 - c. The fog was as thick as potato soup.
 - d. No mistakes.
10. a. This is someone else's coat.
- b. Which of these songs was recorded by Bruce Springsteen?
 - c. That book must be yours.
 - d. No mistakes.
11. a. Don't stand in my way.
- b. Cecilia and I fought our way through the crowd.
 - c. The vegetables were old rubbery and tasteless.
 - d. No mistakes.
12. a. Remember to walk the dog.
- b. "Don't run"! Mr. Ellington shouted.
 - c. It's supposed to snow today and tomorrow.
 - d. No mistakes.
13. a. Charleen's parents worried whenever she drove the car.
- b. Who designed the Brooklyn Bridge?
 - c. Diseases like Smallpox and Polio have been eradicated.
 - d. No mistakes.
14. a. Can you find the Indian ocean on this map?
- b. Which river, the Nile or the Amazon, is longer?

- c. Lerner Avenue runs into the Thompson Parkway.
 - d. No mistakes.
15. a. He's the best dancer in the school.
- b. We were planning to go, but the meeting was canceled.
 - c. "Okay," she said, I'll go with you."
 - d. No mistakes.
16. a. Does Judge Parker live on your street?
- b. Twenty government officials met to deal with Wednesday's crisis.
 - c. The Mayor spoke at a news conference this morning.
 - d. No mistakes.
17. a. My brother Isaac is the best player on the team.
- b. Because of the high cost; we decided not go.
 - c. Where's your new puppy?
 - d. No mistakes.
18. a. I have learned to appreciate Mozart's music.
- b. My cousin Veronica is studying to be a Veterinarian.
 - c. Mr. Shanahan is taller than Professor Martin.
 - d. No mistakes.
19. a. "You look just like your mother," Ms. Jones told me.
- b. "Please be careful," he said.

- c. Tyler asked, "why do I have to go to bed so early?"
- d. No mistakes.
20. a. Do you prefer root beer over orange soda?
- b. In which year did world war II end?
- c. I like to study the geography of the Everglades.
- d. No mistakes.
21. a. Colds like many other viruses are highly contagious.
- b. Call me when you feel better.
- c. Did you wash your hands, Michael?
- d. No mistakes.
22. a. The industrial revolution began in Europe.
- b. Is Labor Day a national holiday?
- c. General Patton was a four-star genera.
- d. No mistakes.
23. a. Carmen brought bread, and butter, and strawberry jam.
- b. Let's look at the map.
- c. Be sure to thank Aunt Helen for the gift.
- d. No mistakes.
24. a. My Aunt Georgia loves to read Eighteenth-Century novels.
- b. Eli's sister's cousin lives in Alaska.

c. Is that a German shepherd?

d. No mistakes.

SET 5:

- *Questions 1 – 4 are based on the following passage. First read the passage, and then choose the answer that shows the best capitalization and punctuation for each underlined part.*

Madam Helena P. 1) Blavatsky born in Russia on May 8, 1831, claimed to have psychic powers and to be capable of performing feats of clairvoyance and telepathy. During her 60 years, she traveled to many 2) countries—including the United States, England, India, and Egypt, in order to study the occult. Although many considered her a 3) fake throughout her lifetime she was surrounded by faithful believers, including such influential persons as British statesman Allen O. Hume and Swedish countess Constance Wachtmeister. To this day, followers commemorate the date of her 4) death calling May 8 "White Lotus Day."

1. a. Blavatsky: born
- b. Blavatsky—born
- c. Blavatsky, born
- d. Blavatsky. Born
- e. correct as it is

- 2. a. countries, including
 - b. countries: including
 - c. countries. Including
 - d. countries including
 - e. correct as it is

- 3. a. fake, throughout
 - b. fake. Throughout
 - c. fake: throughout
 - d. fake; throughout
 - e. correct as it is

- 4. a. death. Calling
 - b. death, calling
 - c. death calling
 - d. death calling
 - e. correct as it is

- *Questions 5 – 8 are based on the following passage. First read the passage, and then choose the answer that shows the best capitalization and punctuation for each underlined part.*

January 2, 1996

Nina Pride

407 Willow Way

Iowa City, Iowa 52245

Bill 5) Fork, general manager

Bill's Overhead Door Opener Company

1297 Kentucky Way

Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Dear 6) Mr. fork;

I wish to complain about the door opener you installed in my garage on December 18, 1995. On January 1, 7) 1996 at 3:00 a.m. I returned home from a celebration at Tucker's Tavern in downtown Iowa City. When I attempted to enter my garage, the device you installed 8) malfunctioned and my car crashed into the

kitchen of my house. I hope you will make restitution without my having to take legal action.

Sincerely yours,

Nina Pride

5. a. Fork, general Manager
b. fork, General Manager
c. Fork, General Manager
d. Fork, General manager
e. correct as is
6. a. Dear Mr. Fork.
b. Dear, Mr. fork,
c. dear Mr. Fork:
d. Dear Mr. Fork:
e. correct as it is
7. a. 1996 at: 3:00 am, I
b. 1996 at 300 a.m., I
c. 1996 at, 3:00 a.m., I
d. 1996, at 3:00 am, I
e. correct as it is

- 8. a. malfunctioned, and my
- b. malfunctioned: and my
- c. malfunctioned? And my
- d. malfunctioned and, my
- e. correct as it is

SECTION THREE

- **Choose the appropriate answer from a, b, c, or d:**
1. John Butterfield the Southern Overland Mail Company with two stagecoaches in 1858.
 - a. he set up
 - b. setting up
 - c. set up
 - d. the setup

 2. The radiation piercing the atmosphere of tanning or burning in humans.
 - a. it is the cause
 - b. causing it
 - c. is the cause
 - d. the cause

 3. The during an earthquake are caused by seismic waves.
 - a. actually vibrate
 - b. actual vibrations
 - c. vibrations happen
 - d. from the actual vibrations

 4. During the Middle Ages,, large sets of bells with as many as 70 bells, first became popular.
 - a. with carillons
 - b. carillons are
 - c. carillons have
 - d. carillons

5., an author probably most famous for his tales of terror, also dabbled in some science fiction.
- To Edgar Allen Poe
 - Edgar Allen Poe
 - Edgar Allen Poe was
 - For Edgar Allen Poe to be
6. Humans living at high elevations to the lower level of oxygen in the air by producing more red blood corpuscles.
- adjust
 - to adjust
 - the adjustment
 - adjusting
7. By 1870, over 30 nations their own postage stamps.
- the issue
 - were issuing
 - issuing
 - they issued
8. The Statue of Liberty, completed in Paris in 1884, in New York Harbor in 1886.
- the unveiling
 - to unveil
 - it unveiled
 - was unveiled
9. Red Ribbon Week, a national campaign to keep young people from using drugs,
- annually in October
 - annually in October each year
 - takes place annually in October
 - taking place annually in October

10. In a triathlon, the, bike, and run.
- athlete swims
 - athletes swim
 - swim athletically
 - the swimming athlete
11. alcoholism are the slow destruction of the liver and possible death.
- Dangerously,
 - The eventual effect of
 - The long-term effects of
 - Chronic and eventual
12. Thomas Jefferson, a personally designed and constructed lap-top desk, wrote the Declaration of Independence in the summer of 1776.
- he used
 - had used
 - the use of
 - using
13. The Great Plains in the Midwest of the United States a rich, fertile farming area.
- definitely making
 - from the beginning
 - the pioneers planted
 - makes up
14. Parent flamingos lose their intense pink coloring until
- weaning young
 - their youths
 - they wean their young
 - young

15. Champagne can be purchased by the balthazar, cannot be purchased in this amount.
- Brandy
 - But
 - because brandy
 - but brandy
16. has a beautiful red coat, the red panda is called "hun-ho" or "fire fox" in China.
- It
 - Because it
 - On it
 - As soon as
17. long enough, every Down's syndrome individual gets Alzheimer's disease.
- The person lives
 - If the person living
 - If the person lives
 - Because the life
18. When San Diego's summer heat has withered most flowers, bloom.
- as soon as lilies
 - lilies
 - of lilies
 - by the time lilies start
19. dugout canoes where the floodplains have dried into long stretches of dry sand.
- Because oxen pull
 - Oxen pull
 - For oxen to pull
 - Oxen pulling

20. perceives the color black provided there is a complete lack of stimulation of the retina.
- When a person
 - A person will
 - If a person
 - A person
21. Elephant poaching the international ban on ivory was established.
- has diminished since
 - it has diminished
 - since diminishing
 - it has diminished since
22. A little fat is essential for humans retain body heat, gives muscles energy, and keeps skin soft.
- as it helps
 - although it
 - it helps
 - in helping
23. can consume 30,000 plant species, 90 percent of the human diet consists of only 20 of the available species.
- Humans
 - In contrast humans
 - Providing for humans
 - While humans
24. walking properly and has enough area to walk in, it should wear down the hoof as it regrows.
- If the animal is
 - The animal is
 - Although the animal
 - Although

25. Caffeine is primarily consumed in coffee and tea,
..... also found in cocoa, cola, and other soft drinks.
- but
 - but it
 - but it is
 - it is
26. farmers extra hours of light by which to harvest
crops before frost and winter come.
- The harvest moon
 - Whenever the harvest moon allows
 - During the harvest moon
 - The harvest moon gives
27. built in 1931, the Empire State Building has
actually shrunk six inches.
- It was
 - Because it
 - Until it was
 - Since it was
28. For every disease-carrying toxin, there is an antitoxin which
..... out the effect of the toxin.
- Cancels
 - the cancellation
 - to cancel
 - cancelling
29. Galileo's observations of the phases of Venus proved
..... formed the center of the planetary system.
- that the Sun
 - the Sun is
 - it is the Sun
 - what is the Sun

30. Historical records were used in China for centuries before spreading to Europe.
- suggesting that fireworks
 - fireworks
 - that fireworks
 - suggest that fireworks
31. The first mention of the cultivation of tea in a Chinese dictionary which dates about the year 350.
- Finding
 - to be found
 - it is found
 - can be found
32. The anteater has a long sticky tongue, capture ants and termites from their nests.
- which the use
 - uses it to
 - it is used
 - which it uses to
33. global climate is warming has been well documented.
- There is the
 - It is the
 - The
 - That the
34. Bank employees collect worn-out dollar bills, to a central office to be destroyed in a furnace.
- who send them
 - which are sent
 - who are sent
 - are sent

35. floats or sinks is determined by its density rather than its weight.
- Whether an object
 - An object if it
 - Because an object
 - An object
36. Edmund Halley, who had discovered Halley's comet in 1682, before he could again see the comet whose return he had accurately predicted.
- died
 - dying
 - on his death
 - to die
37. Bees perform a complex dance other bees about the location of a good source of nectar.
- tells
 - b. tell
 - it tells
 - that tells
38. Some radioisotopes which as radioactive waste are now being used in experimental cancer therapies.
- once discarded by scientists
 - scientists discarded
 - to discard by scientists
 - were discarded scientists
39. Although seismologists know, they are unable to predict with accuracy when or where a tremor might occur.
- what causes earthquakes
 - what earthquakes
 - causes earthquakes
 - that the quaking of the Earth
-

40. in the atmosphere is the temperature falling below freezing.
- Frost is produced
 - Frost produces
 - What produces frost
 - What is frost
41. Subduction is the process the ocean floor recycles itself.
- That
 - which is
 - by which
 - how
42. The surgeon operating without delay on an inflamed appendix a far more serious complication, which is the rupture of a germ-laden appendix.
- which prevents
 - preventing
 - prevents
 - prevention
43. Unless as injury-free as possible, older athletes can have their activity and quality of life affected.
- the remnants of
 - to remain
 - remaining
 - remain
44. famous civil rights leader, Martin Luther King, Jr. was named winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.
- A
 - Which was
 - He was a
 - Was a

-
45. After seven years to journey to Saturn, the spacecraft {Cassini} will spend four years exploring Saturn, its rings, and its icy moons.
- takes
 - taken
 - was taken
 - taking
46. Although applied for in October of 1793, Eli Whitney's patent for his cotton gin until March of the following year.
- Granting
 - it was not granted
 - to grant
 - was not granted
47. While repositioning, cruise ships passengers for what is called a line voyage.
- the embarkation of
 - embark
 - embarking
 - they embark
48. New York and New Jersey, the George Washington Bridge opened to traffic in 1931.
- Connecting
 - Which was connected
 - Connects
 - It connects
49. While those who are not working members of the press, press pins provide access to a press box for media members.
- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| a. kept out | b. keeping out |
| c. the keeper | d. was kept out |
-

50. Although their jobs, a majority of workers expect to move on to other jobs within five years of starting their current jobs.
- to enjoy
 - enjoy
 - the enjoyment
 - enjoying
51. Most adults, including 78 percent of men and 61 percent of women, that gender roles in marriage today are more equal than traditional.
- say
 - they say
 - saying
 - to say
52. If introduced into avocado groves, the seed and stem weevils, seed moth, and fruit fly the avocado industry in California.
- the ending
 - may end
 - to end
 - they will end
53. Lake Erie and the Hudson River, the Erie Canal opened in upstate New York in 1825.
- Linking
 - It was linked
 - Have been linking
 - They linked
54. While, Chu developed a way of trapping thousands of gas atoms using lasers.
- to work at Bell Laboratories
 - working at Bell Laboratories
 - worked at Bell Laboratories
 - was working at Bell Laboratories

-
55. On October 28, 1886, the Statue of Liberty, a gift from the people of France, in New York Harbor by President Cleveland.
- to dedicate
 - it dedicated
 - was dedicated
 - was dedicating
56. While making the embarrassing mistake of wearing a scarlet garment instead of somber black,, the atomic chemist and Quaker, discovered that he was color-blind.
- in John Dalton's laboratory
 - John Dalton was
 - John Dalton
 - John Dalton and
57. The birth of swing music can be traced to Battle of the Bands competitions at the Savoy Ballroom in Harlem.
- Held
 - were held
 - the holdings
 - to hold
58. Scientists now know that the lack of an embryonic thumb in birds is why almost impossible for birds and dinosaurs to be related.
- | | |
|----------|----------|
| a. is | b. it is |
| c. is it | d. it |
59. There launched in 1958 that fell back to Earth and burned up in the atmosphere.
- a lunar probe was
 - was a lunar probe
 - a lunar probe
 - with a lunar probe

60. Rarely now used for battle purposes.
- in the band
 - military bands are
 - banded
 - are military bands
61. In addition to quitting smoking and controlling blood pressure and diet, people need to think about how stress to avert potentially fatal heart problems.
- can they manage
 - the management
 - they manage
 - managing
62. Only recently popular all over the country.
- have indoor climbing gyms become
 - in becoming indoor climbing gyms
 - indoor climbing gyms have become
 - indoor climbing gyms
63. A motionless atom is colder than
- in the movement
 - to be moved
 - the atom moving
 - is a moving atom
64. According to a recent survey, were of telecommuters to lose their jobs, they would look for other telecommuting positions.
- to major
 - if a majority
 - a majority
 - in the major

65. When chest pain, some doctors recommend that they take one full 325-milligram aspirin.
- patients feel
 - feel impatient
 - do patients feel
 - as patients feel
66. There called Epstein-Barr which leaves people feeling chronically fatigued and feeling as if they have a recurring case of the flu.
- a viral
 - in a disease
 - a virus is
 - is a virus
67. Only in the Civil War killed or wounded.
- soldiers in America
 - were so many American soldiers
 - many in America
 - so many American soldiers were
68. Lifestyle is more important in a person's lifespan.
- as genetics are
 - with genes
 - genetically
 - than are genetics
69. A collision with another galaxy may be what, the Milky Way, may experience.
- Earth's galaxy is
 - is Earth's galaxy
 - Earth's galaxy
 - for Earth's galaxy

70. Should help keeping their weight, blood pressure, pulse, and cholesterol down, swimming is an excellent activity.
- adults need
 - needy adults
 - to need
 - need adults
71. In the vessels of the vascular system of the giraffe of valves that ensures a needed supply of blood to the head.
- are series
 - is serious
 - is a series
 - a series is
72. There has been a string ~of recent technology advances aimed at building new engines which are more clean and efficient than
- to engineer
 - are current engines
 - in engines currently
 - current
73. Scarcely started building his theme park when he launched his first television program titled {Disneyland}.
- Walt Disney
 - Walt Disney had
 - had Walt Disney
 - Walt Disney was
74. Iodine, needed for the thyroid gland to function properly, from iodized salt or seafood.
- obtaining
 - can be obtained
 - to obtain
 - it is obtained
-

75. Some experts feel that children lose a great deal of what during the school year over the long summer vacation.
- they learn
 - do they learn
 - learner
 - learning
76. Many thousands and sometimes even millions of in a single colony.
- ants living
 - the lives of ants
 - ants live
 - living ants
77. The Pilgrims felt that cold ocean water was bad for their health, ate fish when food supplies were low.
- they only
 - when only
 - so they only
 - because they
78. Our ability to see greatly influences we perceive the world around us.
- us
 - and
 - how
 - in which
79. The koala never drinks water because it gets all the liquid that from the leaves of eucalyptus trees.
- the need for it
 - needing it
 - it needs
 - it needs is

80. The stomach also secretes ammonia, a powerful alkali, as a neutralizing agent to the gastric acid.
- which acts
 - it acts
 - acts
 - that act
81. Once as a state in 1850, California imposed a tax of \$20 a month on foreign miners.
- instituting
 - instituted
 - the institution
 - to institute
82. Were, they would miss up to 30 percent of their required calories.
- not allow young children to snack
 - with snacks for young children
 - no snacks be allowed for young children
 - young children not allowed to snack
83. Motorists spend four times more on car repairs resulting from bad roads than state highway departments on maintaining the roads.
- doing
 - from
 - to do from
 - do
84. Even identical twins fingerprints.
- Distinct
 - with distinct
 - having distinct
 - have distinct

85. During an introduction, helpful to say something interesting and polite to make the conversation easier.
- is
 - it is
 - to it
 - its
86. trees that are too large for them to haul to a nearby stream.
- Beavers, which often fell
 - The fall of beavers and
 - Beavers often fell
 - How beavers fell
87. Nowhere in the United States but in New Jersey so many people per square mile.
- there
 - there are
 - there is
 - are there
88. When in the early 1940s, the sun's corona was found to be a baffling 2.7 million degrees Fahrenheit.
- measuring
 - was measured
 - measured
 - in measuring
89. used to lure children into behaving better can work at first, but the results are often temporary.
- Rewards are
 - Rewards
 - To reward
 - Rewards which

90. Oxygen is necessary for the survival of most organisms, but these organisms.
- damaged
 - it can also damage
 - is damaging
 - the damage
91. from the flax plant can be made into linen.
- Fibers
 - They are fibers
 - With fibers
 - Fibers are
92. About 5,000 years ago, was developed simultaneously and independently by both the Chinese and the Egyptians.
- the fan
 - fans
 - they were fans
 - it fanned
93. Although the strawberry a fruit, it is actually the base of the strawberry flower.
- a look like
 - like a look
 - liking to look
 - looks like
94. Hardly ever out of the loop at work; on the contrary, they often get more work done and see more of their families.
- telecommuters feel
 - do telecommuters feel
 - the telecommuters
 - the feeling of telecommuters

95. is lubricated can affect the longevity of the moving parts that rub together.
- How often machines
 - A machine often
 - Often a machine
 - How often a machine
96. A fluorescent lamp contains glows with white light when electricity passes through it.
- a glass tube
 - a tube is made of glass
 - a glass tube that
 - a glass tube that it
97. Dogs have more scent receptors than, so dogs can be trained to smell many things that humans cannot smell.
- do humans
 - b. with humans
 - too humane
 - humanly
98. With 36 black keys and 52 white keys, a total of 88 keys.
- a piano having
 - b. a piano has
 - to have a piano
 - have a piano
99. When warm air rises, and cools.
- it expands
 - b. so it expands
 - the expansion of it
 - its expansion

End of Part Three

Part Four

Translation of English Proverbs

English Proverbs

A proverb is a short sentence, usually known by many people, stating something commonly experienced or giving advice. Proverbs are also known as sayings. Every language and culture has its own proverbs. Here are some English proverbs.

1. Like father like son
2. Forbidden fruit is sweet
3. Birds of a feather flock together.
4. One man's meat is another man's poison.
5. East or west home is the best
6. A bird in the hand is worth than ten in the bush
7. When the cat is away the mice will play
8. A bad workman blames his tools
9. A burnt child dreads fire
10. A cat has nine lives
11. A friend in need is a friend indeed
12. A cock crows on his own dunghill
13. A drowning man will clutch a straw
14. Fine feathers make fine birds
15. A fox is not taken twice in the same snare

16. A jack-of-all trades master of none
17. A living dog is better than a dead lion
18. A penny saved is a penny gained
19. A tree is known by its fruit
20. Believe not all that you see nor half what you hear
21. Blood is thicker than water
22. Charity begins at home
23. Deeds not words
24. Diamond cut diamond
25. Do as you would be done by
26. Easy come easy go
27. Every cloud has a silver lining
28. Grasp all lose all
29. Half a loaf is better than no bread
30. Out of sight out of mind

End of the Course

Important Links for Some Linguistic Drills

Improving English Language:

1. Part One: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FUZLQg-LZOc&t=559s>
2. Part Two: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y2DY_CYt_FU&t=430s

Essay Writing:

1. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tvaXf_i33ow&t=213s

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Good Luck