

ENGLISH TEST

Durée : 1 heure 20.



Hello and welcome to the Concours Pass Test of English. This test has been designed especially and exclusively for students participating in Concours Pass.

During this test you will have a series of exercises to help determine your proficiency in spoken and written English. For the entire test please remember that you are asked to choose just one answer for each question according to what you have heard or read. Then you should mark that answer clearly on your answer sheet by filling in the corresponding space. The sample question has been done for you to use as an example.

On behalf of everyone at Concours Pass, thank you for your interest and participation, and good luck to you all.

PART I

SHORT CONVERSATIONS

Directions

In Part I you will hear short dialogues between two people. Each dialogue is followed by one question. Neither the dialogues nor the questions will be repeated. In your test book you will read the question heard on the CD and four answers to that question.

Now listen to a sample question :

Man. – I just don't know what to do for my next vacation!

Woman. – Why don't you come with us to Morocco?

Man. – Unfortunately, hot weather really isn't my cup of tea.

Narrator. – What does the man mean?

In your test book you read :

What does the man mean?

A. He has never been to a hot country.

B. He would love to go.

C. He does not like hot weather.

D. He takes his tea hot.

The best answer to the question "What does the man mean?" is choice C, "He does not like hot weather." Therefore, you should choose answer C.

Now begins Part I.

1. What is the man doing?
A. Apologizing. B. Reassuring.
C. Thanking. D. Looking for a new kind of nightlife.
2. What does the woman think about Bob?
A. He is difficult to find.
B. He is happy to share.
C. He thinks positively.
D. He thinks negatively.
3. What does the man mean?
A. He is afraid of big crowds.
B. It is too expensive.
C. He wants a ticket.
D. He hates Cold Play.
4. What will the woman probably do?
A. Get a dictionary.
B. Mark a word to see it better.
C. Delete a word.
D. Have the last word.
5. Where are the two people?
A. In the man's kitchen.
B. In the man's bathroom.
C. In the man's living room.
D. In the woman's house.
6. What do we know about the two speakers?
A. They have not seen each other for a long time.
B. They are meeting for the first time.
C. They are best friends.
D. They will be more careful next time.
7. What is the man's problem?
A. The house is dirty. B. He misses his parents.
C. His parents upset him. D. He forgot to call his parents.
8. What class are they probably talking about?
A. Marketing. B. Finance.
C. Mathematics. D. Botany.

9. How does the man feel about the new assistant?
- A. He feels superior to him.
 - B. He finds him dishonest.
 - C. He is angered by him.
 - D. He is worried about him.
10. What will the two people probably do now?
- A. Wait for Karla.
 - B. Beat up Karla.
 - C. Be late to the show.
 - D. Take a taxi.
11. What is said about Matt?
- A. He cannot swim.
 - B. He is feeling ill.
 - C. He has left school.
 - D. People are angry with him.
12. What does the man mean?
- A. He would join them in a second.
 - B. He would never join them.
 - C. He has always wanted to join them.
 - D. He has changed his mind.
13. Where is this conversation probably taking place?
- A. A bank.
 - B. A department store.
 - C. A doctor's office.
 - D. A hotel.
14. What does the man mean?
- A. They are out of time.
 - B. They have plenty of time.
 - C. It is difficult business.
 - D. The woman should not ask that question.
15. What does the woman mean?
- A. Not yet.
 - B. Never.
 - C. Help yourself.
 - D. Please leave.
16. What does the man imply?
- A. He does not like coffee.
 - B. The coffee is too cold.
 - C. There is not enough coffee.
 - D. He is satisfied.

17. What does the woman mean?
 - A. The man should have asked her sooner.
 - B. He should change his mind.
 - C. The decision is not important.
 - D. He must make a decision.

18. What can be inferred about the two speakers?
 - A. They will be late.
 - B. They will be early.
 - C. They will be just on time.
 - D. They will not go to the concert.

19. What is said about Hillary?
 - A. She should act her age.
 - B. She is becoming successful.
 - C. She is just starting her career.
 - D. She is making no career progress.

20. What does the man mean?
 - A. Scott is right.
 - B. Scott will not meet her.
 - C. Scott is angry with her.
 - D. He cannot help her.

PART II

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Directions

In Part II you will hear four announcements. Each announcement is followed by several questions. The announcements are about a number of different subjects and will not be repeated. In your test book you will read the questions and four proposed answers to each question. The question numbers will be said by the narrator in order to indicate how much time you have.

Questions 21 and 22 refer to the following announcement.

21. What kind of announcement is this?
 - A. A traffic report.
 - B. A health report.
 - C. A weather report.
 - D. A sports report.

22. What is NOT predicted?
- A. Wind.
 - B. Fire.
 - C. Cooler temperatures.
 - D. Warmer temperatures.

Questions 23 and 24 refer to the following announcement.

23. Who is probably speaking?
- A. A student.
 - B. A teacher.
 - C. A dean.
 - D. A film critic.
24. Which of the following is true?
- A. It is the first year the school has organized a cinema club.
 - B. Registration will take place this week.
 - C. Students can view films in the school.
 - D. Special events are sometimes planned.

Questions 25 through 27 refer to the following announcement.

25. Where could you hear this announcement?
- A. A store.
 - B. A stadium.
 - C. A hospital.
 - D. A business.
26. Which item might a person be permitted to bring?
- A. A thermos.
 - B. A sandwich.
 - C. A bottle of water.
 - D. None of the above.
27. Which of the following is forbidden?
- A. Eating.
 - B. Drinking.
 - C. Drinking alcohol.
 - D. Leaving and re-entering.

Questions 28 through 30 refer to the following announcement.

28. Where was this announcement probably made?
 - A. At a police station.
 - B. At a radio station.
 - C. At a bus station.
 - D. At an underground station.

29. Which of the following is TRUE?
 - A. There will be no traffic at Bury St Edmunds.
 - B. Engineering work is taking place due to weather damage.
 - C. Cambridge may receive additional traffic.
 - D. It is impossible to travel to Peterborough.

30. Which of the following is TRUE?
 - A. Only a part of the line will be at all affected.
 - B. The disruption is 24 hours per day.
 - C. The disruption is 7 days per week.
 - D. There are alternatives for traveling in downtown London.

You will now do the written section of the test. You will have 40 minutes to answer the 50 questions in parts III, IV, and V. Please stop the CD now and start it again only once the 40 minutes are finished.

PART III

COMPLETE THE SENTENCE

Directions

In Part III there are 20 incomplete sentences, each with four words or phrases given beneath. You are to choose the one word or phrase that best completes the sentence. You may now begin.

31. We were for the bus when the rain began.

A. waited	B. waiting
C. wait	D. waits

32. He was told that he would be fired.

A. direct	B. directly
C. directive	D. in direct

52. In which case is the man NOT necessarily at home now?
- A. He is working in his house.
 - B. He has been working in his house for an hour.
 - C. He works in his house.
 - D. In ten minutes he will have been working in his house for 10 hours.
53. Which of the following contains an error?
- A. knowledge of this work
 - B. cost of this work
 - C. opinion of this work
 - D. substitute of this work
54. In which case are the cards counted?
- A. He has counted the cards.
 - B. He was counting the cards.
 - C. He was going to count the cards.
 - D. He has been counting the cards.
55. Which of the following is principally an outdoor activity?
- A. Playing chess.
 - B. Hunting.
 - C. Playing board games.
 - D. Collecting stamps.
56. In which case did the man NOT see any of the show?
- A. He fell asleep when the show had begun.
 - B. He fell asleep when the show began.
 - C. He was falling asleep when the show began.
 - D. He had fallen asleep the show began.
57. Which stock price is going up?
- A. The stock price is crashing.
 - B. The stock price is plunging.
 - C. The stock price is going through the roof.
 - D. The stock price is weakening.
58. In which case does the speaker NOT live alone?
- A. I'm used to living alone.
 - B. I've been living alone.
 - C. I used to live alone.
 - D. I was living alone.

59. Which of the following would one prefer to have?
A. a recovery B. an illness
C. a backache D. a hangover
60. Which of the following is correct?
A. little so time B. so little time
C. little such time D. such little time

PART V

READING COMPREHENSION

Directions

In Part V you will read posts from an internet forum about living abroad. Read each one and answer the corresponding questions on the basis of what you have read. You may now begin.

Questions 61 through 65 refer to the following article.

India's Essar Oil Buys 50% Stake In Kenyan Refinery, Enters Global Oil Arena

January 17, 2008 7:37 a.m. EST

Jupiter Kalambakal – AHN News Writer

Mumbai, India- India's Essar Oil Ltd. cracked into the global oil market for the first time with the purchase of 50 percent ownership in Kenya Petroleum Refineries Ltd. (KPRL) for an undisclosed amount.

Essar Oil purchased the shares of KPRL from Shell Petroleum Company, Chevron Global Energy and BP Africa shareholders through subsidiary Essar Energy Overseas Ltd. The government of Kenya, which opened the sale through limited auction, retains half of the ownership of KPRL.

While terms were not disclosed, FinanceAsia.com reported Essar may have paid as much as \$750 million.

The purchase, however, is still subject to certain clearances including government approvals. Contract close is expected before the end of the first quarter.

Plans are underway to upgrade the refinery, including the addition of secondary units, amounting to \$400 to \$450 million.

The agreement was made possible after Shell, Chevron and BP backed out of the expansion.

Essar, in a statement, stated that it has a strategy of achieving refining capacity of one million barrels per day. It already has three exploration and production blocks in Madagascar and one in Nigeria.

61. Why is this event considered important for Essar Oil?
 - A. It is the first time they have fully controlled a foreign company.
 - B. It is the first time they have broken into the world market.
 - C. They bought a company for a very low price.
 - D. It will be their last transaction of this type.
62. "Ownership" is closest in meaning to
 - A. Equipment
 - B. Possession
 - C. Competition
 - D. Shipping
63. Why was Essar able to buy KPRL?
 - A. They were the first to make an offer.
 - B. They were the last to make an offer.
 - C. They are from India.
 - D. The competitors retracted from the deal.
64. "Purchase" is closest in meaning to
 - A. buyer
 - B. seller
 - C. competition
 - D. acquisition
65. What is Essar's strategy?
 - A. To stop investing abroad.
 - B. To close older production blocks.
 - C. To modernize and increase production.
 - D. To outsource their production.

Questions 66 through 70 refer to the following article.

San Francisco Proposes Carbon Offset Fund

December 19, 2007 11:24 a.m. EST

Vittorio Hernandez – AHN News Writer

San Francisco, CA (AHN) – San Francisco wants to establish a carbon offset fund to finance initiatives that will reduce the city's greenhouse gas emissions. Money raised will go to non-profit groups that will produce biodiesel fuel.

Even the city government will chip into the fund by requiring a donation to the green kitty for each airline trip taken by a city official. Later the contribution will include road travels, which also results to carbon dioxide emissions from cars.

San Francisco City Mayor Gavin Newson explained, “This will determine the actual cost of travel in a way we haven't in the past because there is an environmental cost every time we get in that airplane or get in that car.”

The city is the first in the U.S. to establish a carbon fund. San Francisco has taken the lead in turning green by setting green standards for new buildings, imposing a carbon tax on enterprises, providing incentives for homes and offices to install solar panels and setting up a recycling program that will convert grease and used cooking oil into biodiesel.

The carbon fund contribution rate for air travel depends on the distance covered. A roundtrip to New York from San Francisco will cost the city coffers \$80. Jared Blumenfeld, director of the city's Department of Environment, said that amount will be sufficient to produce 10 gallons of cleaner fuel coming from renewable sources of energy.

66. “chip into” is closest in meaning to
A. take from
B. contribute to
C. copy
D. advertise
67. What is the main idea of the article?
A. S.F. has a model plan to reduce CO₂ emissions
B. S.F. has the lowest CO₂ emissions
C. S.F. has the money to reduce CO₂ emissions
D. S.F. needs more money to reduce CO₂ emissions
68. “actual” is closest in meaning to
A. calculated
B. imagined
C. present
D. real

69. How does the city of San Francisco plan to reduce CO₂ emissions?
- A. reducing its own road travel
 - B. reducing its own airline travel
 - C. making money available for various environmental projects
 - D. imposing cleaner fuel for air travel
70. “roundtrip” is closest in meaning to
- A. a direct trip
 - B. a first-class trip
 - C. a trip to New York
 - D. a trip to New York and back

Questions 71 through 75 refer to the following article.

Germany To Begin Single Euro Payment Area To Ease Transactions

January 28, 2008 11:58 a.m. EST

Vittorio Hernandez – AHN News Writer

Berlin, Germany (AHN) – By the end of January, Germany will start implementing the Single Euro Payments Area measures designed to facilitate cross-border monetary transactions. It covers transfer, withdrawal and payment to make such financial transactions simpler and cheaper.

Aside from relaxing the stringent rules, uniform benchmarks on money transactions aim to provide a free and fair competition among remittance and money transfer companies. The deadline for 25 EU member states to adopt the SEPA is November 2009, which should make the procedure as easy and secure as domestic transactions.

Beside the 25 countries, the SEPA includes Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.

Under the present system, all bank clients need an international bank account number and a common bank code for cross-border money transfer within EU. In the future, a European Commission card will be used for financial transactions all over Europe. The card can be used at all ATMs and for payments.

To recipients of the money sent, like families of migrant workers, the biggest benefit is the speed of transaction. Unlike the present system which takes between three to eight working days to complete, the common cross-border debiting system will cut transaction time to just a day after the transfer.

But it may not automatically reduce withdrawal fees since each EU nation has its own rules governing amounts charged on electronic cash withdrawals.

Responding to the allegations of an annual from the music industry representative saying piracy rates in China were as high as 99 percent, Zhang replied, "I'm not sure about the accuracy of 99 percent. I still feel this is a grave situation in China right now."

He noted that several means to be employed would include the prosecution of offenders. Zhang noted that the government had already taken action, giving certificates to legal download distributors.

According to AFP, China was the Country of Honor during the year's Midem conference, with vice culture minister Meng Xiaosi opening the festival together with French Culture Minister Christine Albanel.

"In this period of crisis, it is very important for us to bring a country that is a (music) El Dorado to Midem," said director Dominique Leguern.

76. What is the main idea of the article?
- A. Internet piracy is a universal problem.
 - B. China is the worst internet piracy offender.
 - C. China intends to reduce internet piracy.
 - D. China has reduced internet piracy.
77. "crack down" is closest in meaning to
- A. investigate
 - B. attack
 - C. explain
 - D. minimize
78. What have the Chinese already done about piracy?
- A. Legitimize legal activities.
 - B. Prosecuted criminals.
 - C. Made thorough investigations.
 - D. Compensated artists for lost earnings.
79. "accuracy" is closest in meaning to
- A. amount
 - B. exaggeration
 - C. accusation
 - D. precision
80. Why was Zhang Xin Jian invited to the conference?
- A. China has a bad history of piracy.
 - B. China refuses to fight piracy.
 - C. China has succeeded in fighting piracy.
 - D. China has a new plan to fight piracy.

PART VI
TELEFON CALLS

Directions

In Part VI you will hear conversations between two people. Each conversation will be heard only once and will be followed by several questions. In your test book you will read the questions and the four proposed answers to each question. The question numbers will be said by the narrator in order to indicate how much time you have.

Questions 81 through 83 refer to the following telephone call.

81. Who is speaking?
A. Two students.
B. A student and a professor.
C. A student and a parent.
D. A student and a doctor.
82. What is the man's problem?
A. He does not like the class.
B. He does not like his group.
C. He has missed classes.
D. He will miss classes.
83. What will the man probably do?
A. Change groups.
B. Do his presentation alone.
C. Go see his professor.
D. Go see the woman.

Questions 84 through 86 refer to the following telephone call.

84. Why did the woman call the man?
A. To find a job.
B. To confirm travel plans.
C. To buy an apartment.
D. To rent an apartment.
85. What is the woman's disadvantage?
A. She does not have a car.
B. She will be around only in the summer.
C. She will be around only after the summer.
D. She is a fourth-year student.

86. What will probably happen next?

- A. The woman will contact the man.
- B. The man will contact the woman.
- C. The woman will contact a friend.
- D. The woman will go to Rome.

Questions 87 through 90 refer to the following telephone call.

87. Who is speaking?
 - A. A man and his secretary.
 - B. A man and his personal coach.
 - C. A man and his present employer.
 - D. A man and a potential employer.
88. What do we know about the man?
 - A. He is a student.
 - B. He has little work experience.
 - C. He is unemployed.
 - D. He has a job.
89. What is said about the man's career goal?
 - A. He is looking to work in a more international environment.
 - B. He wants a better salary.
 - C. He wants to be a team leader.
 - D. He doesn't want strings attached.
90. What will the man probably do next?
 - A. Drop out of school.
 - B. Quit his job.
 - C. Begin a new job on Friday.
 - D. Have a job interview.

PART VII

CONCOURS PASS RADIO

Directions

In Part VII you will listen to three shows on a popular radio station, CPR, otherwise known as Concours Pass Radio. Each show will be heard only once and will be followed by several questions. In your test book you will read the questions and four proposed answers to each question. The question numbers will be said by the narrator in order to indicate how much time you have.

Questions 91 through 93 refer to the following show.

91. What do we learn about Martha?
- A. She just got a divorce.
 - B. She does not like cold weather.
 - C. She paid a lot of money for her trip.
 - D. She is worried about her trip to Ethiopia.
92. What is NOT said about Ethiopia?
- A. There are few tourists.
 - B. It is extremely hot.
 - C. It is cheap.
 - D. It offers historical attractions.
93. What is said about Aksum?
- A. It has a lot of litter.
 - B. It is expensive.
 - C. It is a big tourist industry.
 - D. It has remained simple.

Questions 94 through 96 refer to the following show.

94. What does the speaker think about reality TV shows?
- A. They are worth a glance.
 - B. They are intelligent.
 - C. She has not liked them until "Foreign Exchange".
 - D. She does not say.
95. What is said about the scenario of "Foreign Exchange"?
- A. American students go to stay with foreign families.
 - B. Foreign students come to stay with American families.
 - C. The duration of the exchange can vary.
 - D. All of the above.

96. What is implied about the “Foreign Exchange”?

- A. It could destroy reality TV.
- B. The show may not have many seasons.
- C. It is an invasion of personal privacy.
- D. It is rarely intelligent.

Questions 97 through 100 refer to the following show.

97. What is said about Warren Buffett?
 - A. He is very well-liked.
 - B. He is not very well-known.
 - C. He is becoming more well-known.
 - D. He is pretentious.
98. What is the estimated value of Buffett's fortune?
 - A. USD \$52 billion.
 - B. USD \$100,000.
 - C. USD \$30 billion.
 - D. Information not given.
99. Which of the following is true?
 - A. Mr. Buffet is the richest man in the world.
 - B. There is some conflict between Mr. Buffet and Mr. Gates.
 - C. Mr. Buffet has an extravagant lifestyle.
 - D. Mr. Buffet is generous.
100. Which of the following best expresses Buffett's philosophy?
 - A. Work hard to give to your children.
 - B. Society allows you to get rich, so give back.
 - C. The boss deserves the biggest salary.
 - D. To succeed you must be modern.