

***PRACTICE TESTS***  
Michigan **ECCE**

★ **PLUS**

Jenny Dooley



**STUDENT BOOK**

**1**



**Express Publishing**

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# Introduction

The **Examination for the Certificate of Competency in English** is designed for students who have acquired an intermediate competence in English language use. It tests students' ability to perform basic communicative transactions in all four skills: writing, listening, reading, and speaking.

**Practice Tests Michigan ECCE plus – Book 1** consists of 8 practice tests, 8 speaking tests, and a glossary. There is one complete set of separate answer sheets (pp. 144-148) to be photocopied and used for the Writing, the Listening, and the Reading sections.

Each **Practice Test** consists of:

- A **Writing** section to be completed in 30 minutes. Students are required to produce a short email/letter or essay (about one page in length) in response to a written prompt.

The minimum grade needed to pass this section is a **650** on a 0-1000 scale.

- A **Listening** section to be completed in about 45 minutes. There are two parts to this section.

**Part 1** includes 25 short conversational exchanges, each followed by a question. The answer choices for each question are three pictures. Students choose one of the pictures to answer the question.

**Part 2** requires students to listen to four short talks on different subjects, each given by a single speaker. Each talk will last about one and a half minutes and will be played twice. Each talk will be followed by five questions, which will be printed in the answer booklet along with the answer choices (A, B, C, and D). There will be a total of 20 questions for this section.

The minimum score to pass this section is **65%**.

- A **Reading** section to be completed in 75 minutes. There are 65 multiple-choice questions in this section. The questions have four choices each, and are divided as follows:

**Grammar** 15 questions based on grammar points.

**Vocabulary** 14 questions based on vocabulary points.

**Reading** 36 questions based on the reading of texts.

The minimum score to pass this section is **65%**.

- A **Speaking** Test to be completed in 10-15 minutes There are four stages.

In **Stage 1** students are required to give personal information about themselves in response to questions by the examiner.

In **Stage 2** students are required to ask specific questions about related pictures to gather the information needed to make a decision.

In **Stage 3** students are required to make a choice between two options/solutions and develop an opinion while supporting it, based on the information gathered in Stage 2.

In **Stage 4** students are required to answer further elaboration questions related to the topic.

The minimum grade needed to pass this section is a **650** on a 0-1000 scale.

# Instructions for the ECCE Practice Tests

## A WRITING

- Choose either Task 1 (Email/Letter) or Task 2 (Essay). Write on only ONE of these tasks.
- Once you have chosen your task, darken the circle for “Email/Letter” or “Essay” on your writing answer document.
- You will have 30 minutes to write your answer.
- Use #2 (soft) pencil only.
- Use only the lines provided on the writing answer document to complete this section. You should write about one page.
- Do not write your answer in this booklet.
- You will not be graded on the appearance of your paper, but your handwriting must be readable.
- You may use the planning area provided in this booklet, but it will not count toward your score.

### EXAMPLE

#### Task 1: Email

The local mall is planning to add a new business. They want local residents to suggest what type of business should be added.

- Write an **email** to the mall management suggesting what type of business you think should be added. Give reasons to support your ideas.
- Start your email, “Dear Mall Management.”

#### Task 2: Essay

All students should be required to study music and art.

- Write an **essay** on whether you agree or disagree with the statement above.
- Include specific reasons and details to support your opinion.

## B LISTENING

This section of the test has two parts. Mark all your answers on the separate answer sheet. Do not make any stray marks on the answer sheet. If you change your mind about an answer, erase your first answer completely. If you do not know the answer, you may guess. Try to answer as many questions as possible.

In Part 1, you will hear 25 short conversations. After each conversation, you will hear a question about it. You will hear each conversation and question once. The answer choices are shown as pictures. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet, not in the test booklet. You should mark A, B, or C.

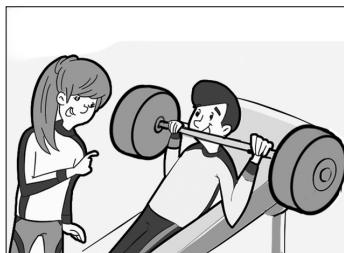
### EXAMPLE

You will hear: Woman: *Come in. How can I help?*  
Man: *Well, I came to see you because I need to get a problem off my chest.*  
Woman: *That’s what I’m here for.*  
Question: *Who is he talking to?*

The answer choices are:



A



B



C

The correct answer is C.

In Part 2, you will hear four short talks. After each talk, you will hear five questions about it. Before each talk begins, you will have time to preview the questions that are printed in the test booklet. You will hear each talk twice. Then you will hear the questions once. If you want to, you may take notes in your booklet as you listen. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet not in the test booklet. You should mark A, B, C, or D.

### EXAMPLE

*You will hear: Good morning, everyone, and welcome to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Now, as you can see from the floor plan you are holding, the museum has so many departments that it would be impossible to visit them all in one day. During our tour, we will be looking at two galleries on the first floor, which is where we are at the moment. We will also spend a few hours on the second floor, where you will have the opportunity to see some very interesting drawings, prints, and photographs.*

Question number 1: Where does the speaker say they are now?

- A. on the first floor
- B. on the second floor
- C. on the third floor
- D. on the fourth floor

The correct answer is **A**.

## C

### READING

This section of the examination contains 65 questions. Each question has only one correct answer. Mark all your answers on the separate answer sheet. Do not make any stray marks on the answer sheet. If you change your mind about an answer, erase your first answer completely. If you do not know the answer, you may guess. Try to answer as many questions as possible. You have **75 minutes** to answer all 65 questions. If you finish before the time is over, you may check your answers within the reading section only.

#### READING: GRAMMAR (15 questions)

Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence.

### EXAMPLE

- 1** "Which boy is your son?"  
"He's the one ..... the guitar."  
A. who play  
B. playing  
C. he's playing  
D. is playing

The answer that correctly completes the sentence is **B**.

- 2** I liked the movie ..... that I saw it twice.  
A. very  
B. too much  
C. very much  
D. so much

The answer that correctly completes the sentence is **D**.

#### READING: VOCABULARY (14 questions)

Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence.

### EXAMPLE

- 1** The swimmer took a ..... breath and dove into the pool.  
A. deep  
B. wide  
C. strong  
D. large

The correct answer is **A**.

**READING** (36 questions)

There are two different types of reading tasks. Choose the best answer to each question and mark it on your answer sheet.

The first type consists of two reading passages followed by 6 multiple-choice questions each.

**EXAMPLE**

Mental stress can have potentially fatal consequences. Not only can too much stress push us over the edge and make us act irrationally, but it can also build up over a period of time and affect our ability to resist illnesses. The key to understanding the problem of stress is to realize that these days it rarely serves its original purpose – to prepare us to fight or flee from an attacker.

- 1 According to the passage, when do we become ill more easily?
- A. if we act irrationally
  - B. if we are pushed too hard
  - C. if we are under stress for a long time
  - D. if we are unable to detect stress

The correct answer is **C**.

The second type consists of two multi-text readings with four short related texts totaling about 550 words. The texts will be followed by 12 questions.

**A**

# LATIN AMERICAN CELEBRATION

You are invited to an evening at my house - 327 Amsterdam Ave - on September 1 as a farewell to you all before I leave for my year abroad. It's a Latin American theme. So, please wear something connected to Central or South America. I'll be making special South American dishes, so make sure to arrive around 6:30. I can't guarantee there'll be anything left to eat if you're late!

RSVP by August 20.  
Carrie

**B**

**INBOX**

From: Carrie Donahue  
To: enquiries@costumes.me  
Subject: Costume Question

Dear Sir or Madam,

I'm holding a Latin American-themed party and I would really like a costume for it. What I have in mind is a carnival performer costume. Can you tell me if you have anything similar? I did not see one on your site. If you do, could you email me a link to it? My friend wants to dress up as some kind of matador, so maybe you could make us a deal?

Thank you in advance for your time and attention.

Best,  
Carrie Donahue

**EXAMPLE**

The following question refers to section A.

- 1 What is the purpose of the event? (*global question*)
- A. to celebrate a new job
  - B. to celebrate moving into a new house
  - C. to say goodbye to people abroad
  - D.** to say goodbye to friends at home

The following question refers to section B. (*global question*)

- 2 What is the main purpose of section B?
- A. to place an order
  - B. to ask for a discount
  - C.** to check the availability of something
  - D. to request a link



# Practice Test 1

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## WRITING

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### Writing Instructions

Read the two Writing tasks. Choose either Task 1 (Email/Letter) or Task 2 (Essay). Write on only ONE of these tasks.

Once you have chosen your task, darken the circle for “Email/Letter” or “Essay” on your writing answer document.

You should write about one page. You have 30 minutes.

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### Writing Prompt

#### Task 1: Email

**The city council is thinking about passing a law allowing children 13 and younger to ride public transportation for free. This would raise prices for all other riders. The city council wants to know what local residents think about this.**

- Write an **email** to the city council to explain your opinion. Give reasons to support your ideas.
- Start your email, “Dear City Council Members.”

#### Task 2: Essay

**Advertising is often said to be dishonest and harmful. It causes people to buy products they do not need or cannot afford. The government should have the right to control advertising.**

- Write an **essay** on whether you agree or disagree with the statement above.
- Include specific reasons and details to support your opinion.

### Remember

Once you have chosen your task, darken the circle for “Email/Letter” or “Essay” on your writing answer document.

Listening Test, Part 1

In this part, you will hear 25 short conversations. After each conversation, you will hear a question about it. You will hear each conversation and question once. The answer choices are shown as pictures. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet, not in the test booklet. You should mark A, B, or C.

Do you have any questions?



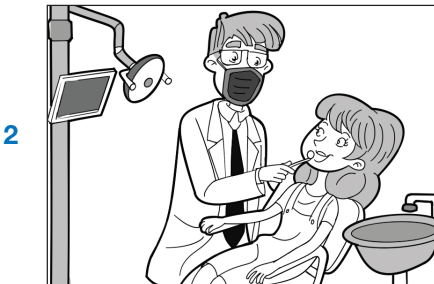
A



B



C



A



B



C



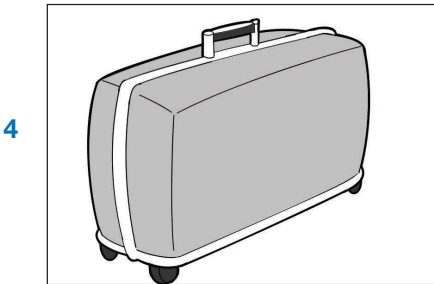
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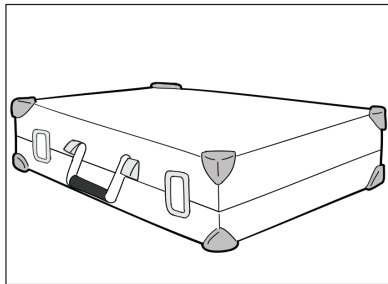
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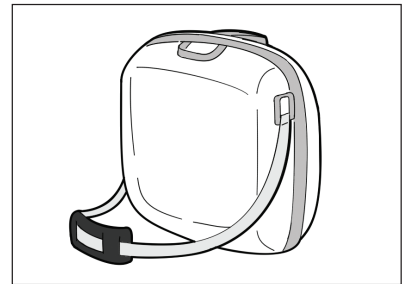
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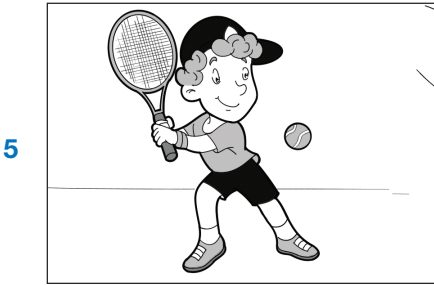
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B



C



A



B



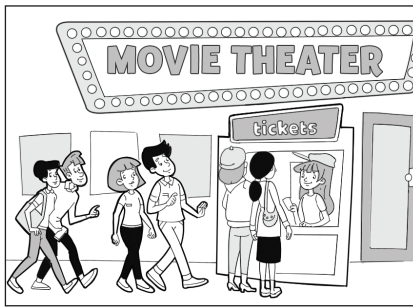
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Practice Test 1

LISTENING TEST, PART 1



A



B



C



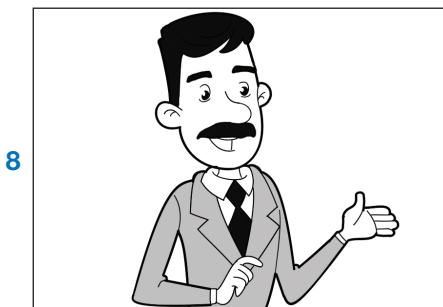
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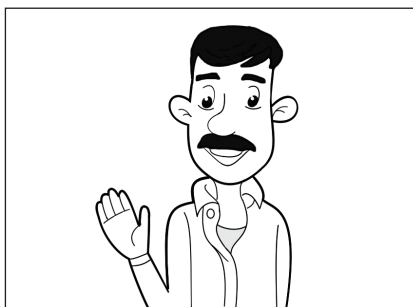
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C



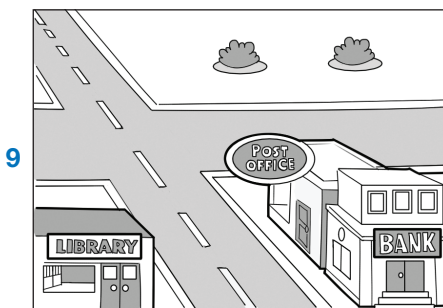
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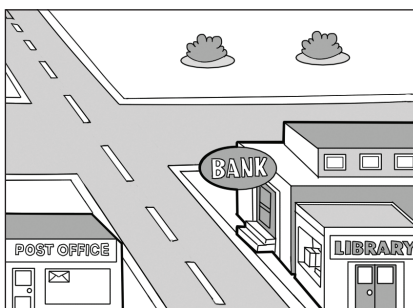
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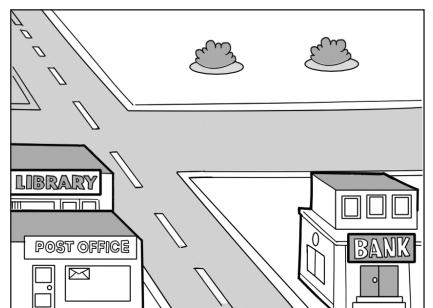
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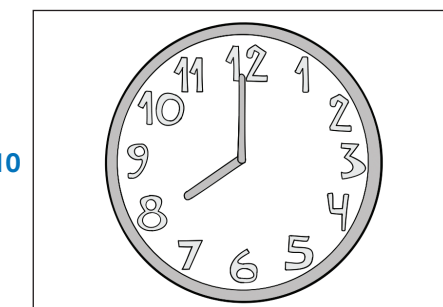
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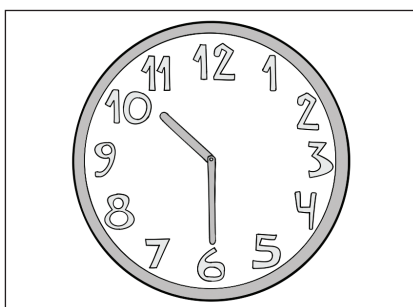
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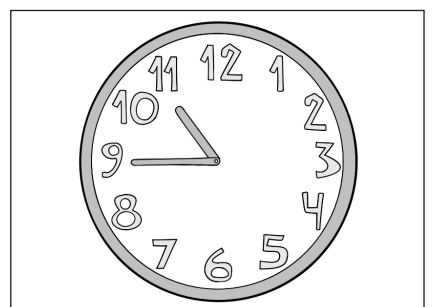
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A



B



C

11



A



B



C

12



A



B



C

13



A



B



C

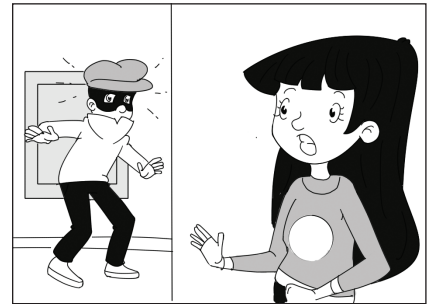
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A

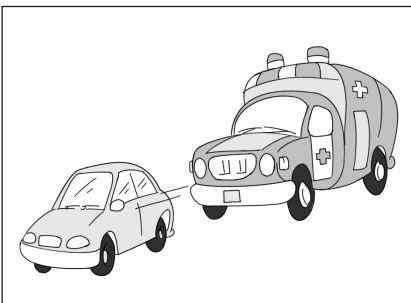


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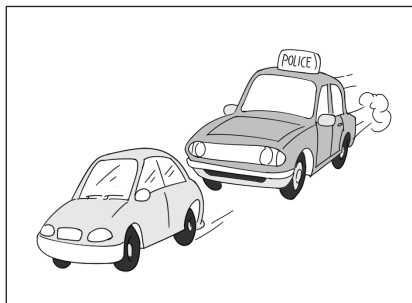


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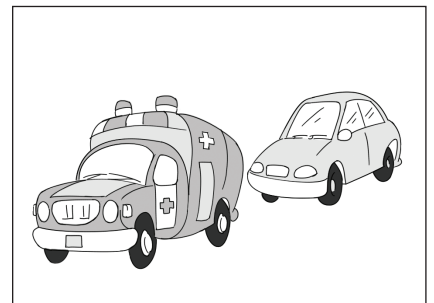
15



A



B



C

Practice Test 1

LISTENING TEST, PART 1



A



B



C



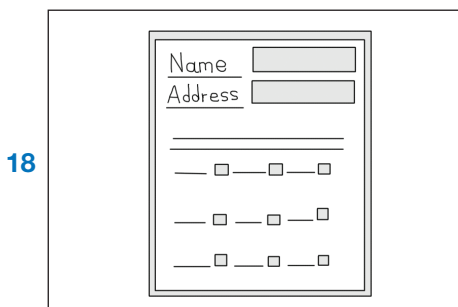
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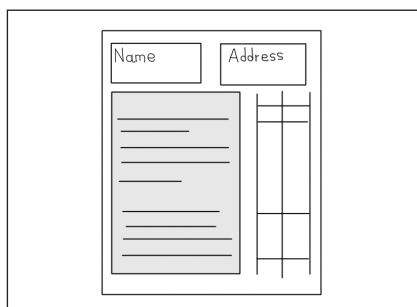
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C



A



B



C



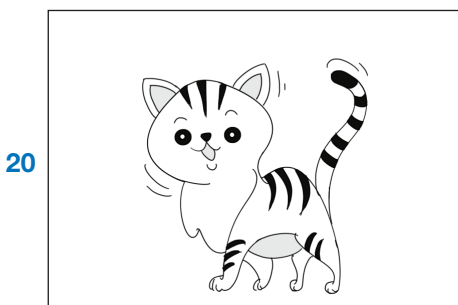
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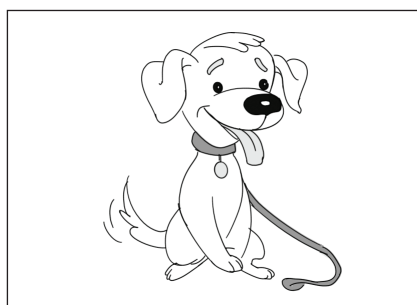
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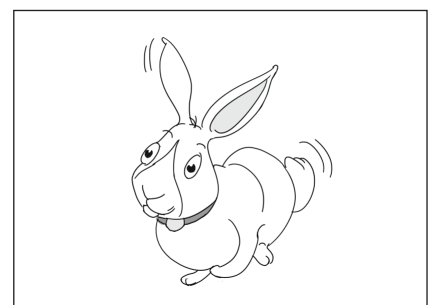
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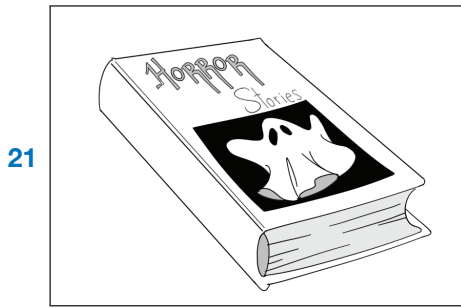
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B



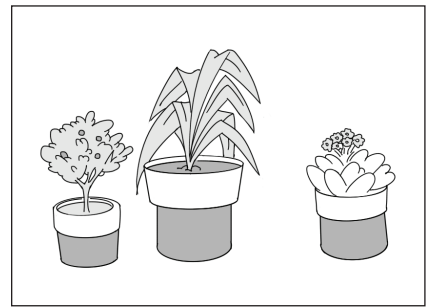
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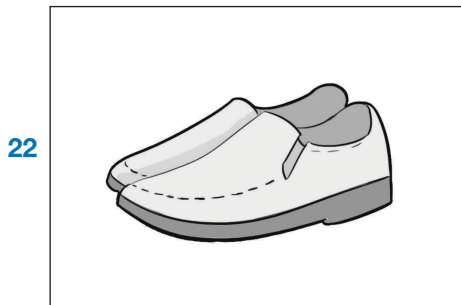
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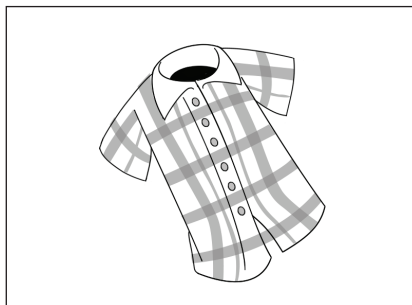
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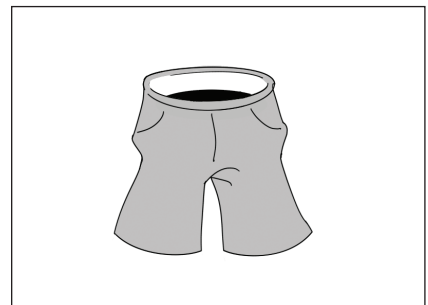
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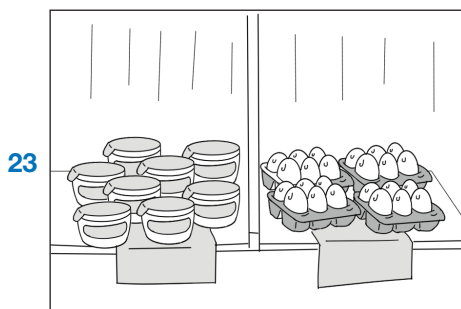
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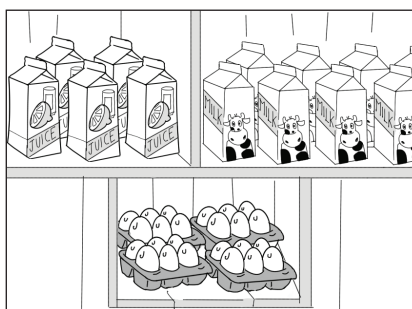
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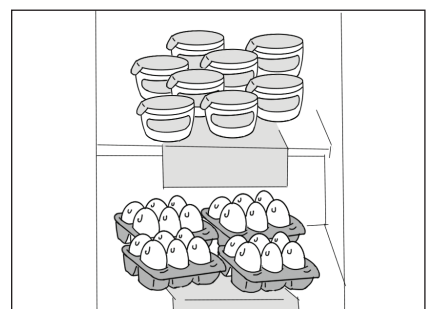
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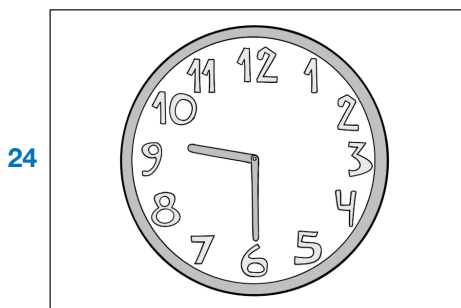
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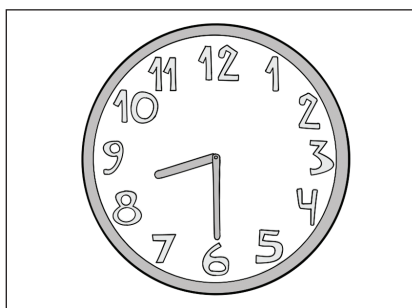
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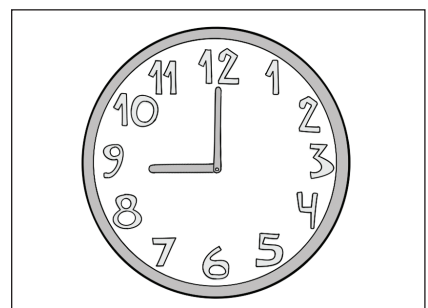
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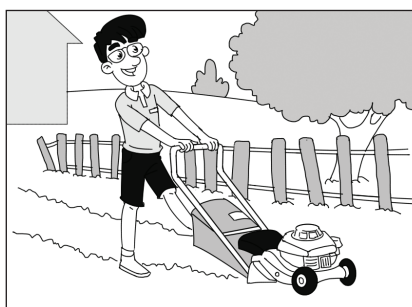
B



C



A



B



C

**Listening Test, Part 2**


In this part, you will hear four short talks. After each talk, you will hear five questions about it. Before each talk begins, you will have time to preview the questions that are printed in the test booklet.

You will hear each talk twice. Then you will hear the questions once. If you want to, you may take notes in your booklet as you listen. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet not in the test booklet. You should mark A, B, C, or D.

Do you have any questions?


Now you will hear the first talk. Look at the questions.

**Listen to a radio announcement about a local event.**

- 26** What time of year does the event take place?  
 A. fall  
 B. spring  
 C. winter  
 D. summer
- 27** What does the speaker imply about the Chevy truck?  
 A. It was unlikely to be sold.  
 B. It should have been cared for better.  
 C. It was sold for \$2,000.  
 D. It could easily be repaired.
- 28** According to the speaker, why was the Chevy truck bought?  
 A. to be restored to working condition  
 B. to be used as an advertisement  
 C. to be given as a gift  
 D. to be used to transport fruit
- 29** What does the speaker ask her listeners to take note of?  
 A. the change they receive  
 B. the time the yard sale begins  
 C. the prices at the yard sale  
 D. the signs for the yard sale
- 30** What does the speaker mean when she says:   
 A. It is difficult to find the prices on some items.  
 B. You need to watch what other people pay.  
 C. You need to be able to spot a bargain.  
 D. It is important to examine items in detail.


Now you will hear the second talk. Look at the questions.

**Listen to a professor opening a debate club.**

- 31** Why did the professor start late?  
 A. Some students could not find the building.  
 B. The professor could not fit everyone into the classroom.  
 C. They had to wait for other students to arrive.  
 D. The professor had to travel a long way.
- 32** What information did the professor hand out?  
 A. a list of different arguments  
 B. a list of useful websites  
 C. details of famous historical figures  
 D. some important quotes
- 33** What must group B do?  
 A. argue that history does not matter  
 B. elect someone to write down the points  
 C. open the debate with their points  
 D. write down what group A argues
- 34** Why does the professor change the usual format of the debate club?  
 A. to make it more formal  
 B. to make it fairer  
 C. to make it simpler  
 D. to make it more interesting
- 35** What does the speaker imply when he says:   
 A. They ran out of time after two people had spoken.  
 B. Two people debated very well last time.  
 C. There were two main issues discussed last time.  
 D. It was mainly two people who spoke last time.

Now you will hear the third talk. Look at the questions.

**Listen to a radio announcement about an event.**

- 36** What does the charity do?  
 A. saves child laborers in Arizona  
 B. provides money and food to children  
 C. provides education and shelter to children  
 D. offers child laborers financial aid for college
- 37** What does the speaker suggest by mentioning work experience?  
 A. It is valuable for children of all ages.  
 B. It is only available in hospitals and offices.  
 C. It ensures children become independent from the charity.  
 D. It is often with people who have benefited from the charity.
- 38** What does the speaker say about the items donated for the auction?  
 A. They are all autographed.  
 B. They are worth a lot of money.  
 C. They are from celebrities from Mexico.  
 D. They have never been seen in public before.
- 39** Why does the speaker mention a website?  
 A. The rules can be found there.  
 B. The donations can be viewed there.  
 C. eBay can be accessed through there.  
 D. The celebrity profiles can be found there.
- 40** What does the speaker mean when she says:   
 A. Radio West gives the most generous donations to charity.  
 B. Radio West sponsors the biggest charity events.  
 C. Radio West supports the same charity every year.  
 D. Radio West annually hosts an event for charity.

Now you will hear the fourth talk. Look at the questions.

**Listen to a yoga instructor talking to a group of employees.**

- 41** How do some of the audience members react to the speaker?  
 A. with doubt  
 B. with fear  
 C. with enthusiasm  
 D. with amusement
- 42** Who does the speaker ask to put their hands up?  
 A. people who work long hours  
 B. people who currently practice yoga  
 C. people who take a lot of sick days  
 D. people who have experienced back pain
- 43** Why does the speaker mention coffee?  
 A. to inform them that coffee is complimentary at his yoga studio  
 B. to illustrate how reaching for a cup is similar to a popular yoga pose  
 C. to suggest that stretching should be part of their morning routine like coffee  
 D. to explain that some stretches can make us mentally alert similar to the feeling we get from coffee
- 44** What will the speaker hand out to the audience?  
 A. a list of tips to ease backache  
 B. a business card  
 C. a leaflet with exercises on it  
 D. an advertisement for yoga classes
- 45** What is the main purpose of the talk?  
 A. to increase relaxation in the workplace  
 B. to respond to health questions  
 C. to promote alternative therapy at work  
 D. to advise individuals about eating healthy

Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence.

- 46 "Can I have a birthday party?"  
"You ..... ask your father."  
A. need  
B. have to  
C. ought  
D. must to
- 47 "Are you going to paint your room by yourself?"  
"No, I'll ..... my brother to help me."  
A. make  
B. put  
C. get  
D. do
- 48 "We've been driving since this morning."  
"We'll stop ..... something to eat in the next town."  
A. have  
B. having  
C. to have  
D. to be having
- 49 "Why are you back so soon?"  
"Nobody ..... at the playground, so I left."  
A. wasn't  
B. were  
C. weren't  
D. was
- 50 I wish I ..... told Kim about it. Now she's upset.  
A. wouldn't  
B. didn't  
C. hadn't  
D. haven't
- 51 What did you say ..... for her birthday?  
A. wants Kelly  
B. does Kelly want  
C. did Kelly want  
D. Kelly wants
- 52 "Do you like Chinese food?"  
"Yes, but I prefer Japanese ..... Chinese."  
A. than  
B. to  
C. from  
D. rather
- 53 ..... the firefighters arrived, the building was already in flames.  
A. At the time  
B. Until the time  
C. As soon as  
D. By the time
- 54 I want all of you ..... in your essays by Friday.  
A. handing  
B. to hand  
C. have handed  
D. had handed
- 55 I liked the movie ..... that I saw it twice.  
A. very  
B. too much  
C. very much  
D. so much
- 56 I'm taller than Bob, .....?  
A. aren't I  
B. I am not  
C. am I  
D. don't I
- 57 I ..... play football before I broke my leg.  
A. was used to  
B. used to  
C. got used to  
D. use to
- 58 It's time ....., David. It's 10 o'clock.  
A. you're getting up  
B. get up  
C. to get up  
D. you'll get up
- 59 ..... to be the oldest living person in the entire state.  
A. He's said  
B. It's said  
C. He says  
D. They say
- 60 We don't ..... get visitors these days.  
A. often  
B. never  
C. sometimes  
D. rarely

Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence.

- 61** The lion was ..... again after escaping from the zoo.  
 A. captured  
 B. ordered  
 C. arrested  
 D. released
- 62** Just a small ..... of spaghetti for me, please.  
 A. helping  
 B. batch  
 C. topping  
 D. division
- 63** The swimmer took a ..... breath and dove into the pool.  
 A. deep  
 B. wide  
 C. strong  
 D. large
- 64** Can you ..... the potatoes, while I make the sauce?  
 A. shave  
 B. rub  
 C. peel  
 D. treat
- 65** I can't cut the meat. This knife is .....  
 A. broad  
 B. pointless  
 C. rounded  
 D. dull
- 66** That cake looks ..... delicious.  
 A. fully  
 B. absolutely  
 C. nicely  
 D. actually
- 67** The view from my window is ..... by a tall building.  
 A. constructed  
 B. obstructed  
 C. subtracted  
 D. distracted
- 68** They didn't ..... him to pass the test, but he surprised them all.  
 A. suspect  
 B. anticipate  
 C. expect  
 D. wait
- 69** Can you give me ..... with these groceries, please?  
 A. a lift  
 B. a hand  
 C. a leg  
 D. an arm
- 70** Many foods today are ..... colored.  
 A. insincerely  
 B. falsely  
 C. artificially  
 D. wrongly
- 71** The company ..... over 1,000 people.  
 A. specializes  
 B. treats  
 C. reserves  
 D. employs
- 72** My mother doesn't mind what I do. She's very .....  
 A. easy-going  
 B. strong-willed  
 C. ready-made  
 D. hard-headed
- 73** You ..... got me into trouble!  
 A. meaningfully  
 B. decidedly  
 C. dutifully  
 D. deliberately
- 74** The letter ..... his worst suspicions.  
 A. confirmed  
 B. established  
 C. doubted  
 D. attributed

Choose the best answer to each question and mark it on your answer sheet.

**This passage is about light pollution.**

In 1828, Paris lit up its streets for the first time. News quickly spread and the city became known as “The City of Light.” Bright city lights are now a symbol of modern civilization and progress. They brighten up streets, neighborhoods, homes, and even the sky. This has given growth to light pollution which can have some serious negative effects.

According to the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA), there is much to lose as dark starry nights disappear behind the yellow glow of city lights. This not only obstructs views of the sky, but it also wastes energy, harms humans, and threatens the study of astronomy. Billions of dollars, millions of barrels of oil, and tons of coal are wasted each year for lighting. Not only that, but excessive lighting is said to cause health problems in people such as anxiety, fatigue, headaches, sleeping disorders, and even cancer. Finally, astronomers have to search for remote areas unaffected by light in order to observe the heavens. For example, Chile’s Atacama Desert is popular for its crystal clear dark skies.

In order to reduce light pollution, the group urges people to turn to more dark-sky friendly fixtures: outdoor lighting that is aimed at the ground. Lighting should also be used only when needed and light bulbs changed to low wattage.

Since the beginning of time, humans observed and learned from the heavens above. It is only in recent history that people have lost the dark-sky view and an important part of their natural surroundings. For this reason, the IDA has gone a step further and is now preserving areas around the world as Dark-Sky Sanctuaries where truly dark skies still exist. In their view, it is part of the world’s heritage and vital to conserve for future generations.

- 75 What is the main purpose of this passage?  
A. to illustrate the negative aspects of street lights  
B. to recommend the best dark-sky location  
C. to inform people about proper lighting  
D. to discuss the serious issue of light pollution
- 76 In the second sentence of the second paragraph, what does **it** refer to?  
A. the use of city lights  
B. the darkness of the night  
C. the sky view  
D. a loss of dark nights
- 77 Based on the information in the second paragraph, what can result from too much lighting?  
A. stricter laws to protect Dark-Sky Sanctuaries  
B. a decrease in popularity for astronomy  
C. an increase in safety in neighborhoods  
D. a feeling of tiredness in people
- 78 Why do astronomers study the stars in the desert?  
A. They like to get a different perspective.  
B. They waste less energy there.  
C. It is a popular location.  
D. They can see clearly there.
- 79 According to the article, where should lighting be directed?  
A. upwards  
B. inwards  
C. downwards  
D. outwards
- 80 What does the organization believe about dark skies?  
A. Cities should be fined for causing their disappearance.  
B. They have important historical significance.  
C. They have disappeared in most parts of the world.  
D. Future generations should be told about them.

**This passage is about natural dyeing.**

It is a procedure as old as time, transforming common plants into natural fabric dyes. Although its popularity died out in the late 1800s, it seems to be making a comeback. Natural dyeing encourages artistic drive, getting colors yourself, and using plants to make a substance that is heavily used in today's culture.

Botanists, plant scientists, believe in this economical and environmentally friendly method. Natural dyes exist all around us and come from simple things like tree leaves, berries, herbs, and common flowers. Botanists say that if you are looking at a plant, then you are observing a potential dye. It rivals chemically manufactured dyes, used on the clothes we buy, that produce harmful substances. Instead, natural dyeing teaches people to be aware of the environment and how to reuse products.

Nevertheless, there are some drawbacks to growing dye plants. Not only are they not as exotic as other plants, but colors can be unpredictable, too. Dyes depend on the land that plants are grown in, including the climate, water, and soil. Colors can also change from year to year, so you can never be accurate in your predictions. However, natural dyers cherish the inconsistent process. They call it serendipity: the luck of finding something by chance.

Natural dyes promote reusing items. They breathe new life into old clothes, transforming them into "new" high fashion pieces. Its popularity is reaching new levels as community dye gardens are making neighborhoods greener. They also teach the future generations how to carry on this beautiful, natural process.

- 81 What is the main purpose of the passage?  
A. to criticize chemical production  
B. to discuss an eco-friendly process  
C. to compare different dyeing techniques  
D. to explain how to grow plants for dyeing
- 82 According to scientists, where can you find natural dyes?  
A. in clothing  
B. in factories  
C. in all edible plants  
D. in everyday plants
- 83 How does natural dye differ from other dyes?  
A. It releases harmful chemicals.  
B. It is used on clothing.  
C. It is made without harming anything.  
D. It takes longer to produce.
- 84 How do natural dyers feel about unreliable colors?  
A. They view it as a surprise.  
B. They think it is a disadvantage.  
C. They would rather know color details.  
D. They enjoy guessing colors.
- 85 According to the text, how does the natural dyeing process assist fashion?  
A. It makes clothes more valuable.  
B. It strengthens old fabrics.  
C. It reuses out-of-date items.  
D. It establishes new trends.
- 86 In the fourth sentence of paragraph 4, what does the word **they** refer to?  
A. the community  
B. community dye gardens  
C. high fashion pieces  
D. natural dyes

A

**DENALI TREKKERS**

Don't believe us? Ask our climbers!



★★★★★

"I went on the 6-day expedition with Denali Trekkers and I have to say, it was one of the best things I have ever done! The mountain views were indescribable and I was extremely impressed by how knowledgeable our guide, Simon, was. The whole trip exceeded my expectations and I've already recommended Denali Trekkers to all of my friends!"

Trisha, Connecticut

**DENALI TREKKERS**

B

"I have worked with a lot of good guide companies in the past, but Denali Trekkers was by far the best I have ever come across. The landscape was breathtaking and my friends had the time of their lives - thanks Denali Trekkers!"

Liz Shaw



Enjoy the magnificent snow-capped sights of Denali, otherwise known as Mt. McKinley – North America's tallest mountain – knowing that you are in safe hands.

As one of the first companies to offer climbing guides to Denali's peak over 30 years ago, Denali Trekkers has some of the most experienced guides available.

Minimum requirements:

- Completion of a Denali climbing seminar
- Completion of a snow or glacier climb
- Overnight backpacking experience

This is a physically challenging activity and we recommend that you begin training 6 months to a year before your Denali climb.

We are currently offering an early bird promotion: book a year in advance and get 20% off your Denali seminar!

Go to our website:

[www.denali-trekkers.com](http://www.denali-trekkers.com) for further information.

C

Adventurers Plus Magazine

**Ask the Experts!****Question:**

I'm planning a guided hike up Denali next year, when do you think is the best time to go?

Randy Ponder, Minnesota

**Answer:**

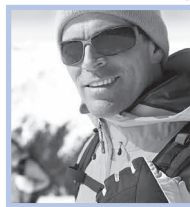
Firstly, I'd say you've chosen one of the best and most stunning Alaskan peaks to conquer. A trek up the sides of a 20,320-foot glacial mountain is going to be tough any time of year, but some seasons certainly make it more difficult than others.

Speaking from experience, climbs are usually best from May through July – that's when we've had the most success reaching Denali's peak.

Another piece of advice is not to go really late in the season. This is because planes won't be able to land on the exposed glaciers which risks leaving you stranded. If this happens, it's a 10-day walk through thick forest to reach the nearest base. Don't say you weren't warned and best of luck!

Simon Green, Denali Trekkers

D

**Treksmart monthly:  
Simon Green**

Senior Expedition Guide, Denali Trekkers

Simon Green has been a part of the Denali Trekkers Group for almost 8 years and he can't see himself anywhere other than on the mountain top of the USA's most dominant peak.

He grew up knowing that he would work outdoors and has spent his whole life in the Alaskan wilderness. Although many of his childhood friends moved to the bright lights of the city, Simon never had such ambitions. He found happiness in a slower pace of life, surrounded by the beauty of Denali and felt that nothing could compare to his hometown. His whirlwind stays and eager departures when visiting his city friends confirmed this, and since buying a home in Alaska 10 years ago, he has never looked back.

His way of life may seem isolated to some, but he says that he is faced with new challenges every day. He has braved the coldest winters in a tent and scaled some of the most dangerous mountains. He understands that some people think that playing it safe will mean a long and healthy life, but he sees this as not living at all.

Refer to page 20 when answering the questions below.

**The following question refers to section A.**

- 87 In the last sentence, what is meant by **exceeded my expectations**?
- A. It met minimum expectations.
  - B. It set a very high standard.
  - C. It was better than imagined.
  - D. It offered an element of surprise.

**The following questions refer to section B.**

- 88 Why do Denali Trekkers have some of the most experienced professionals?
- A. They recruited the best guides from all over the world.
  - B. They are one of the oldest mountain guide companies.
  - C. Their guides train for six months out of the year.
  - D. Their reputation attracts a lot of experienced guides.
- 89 In the first sentence under Minimum requirements, what could best replace **seminar**?
- A. coursebook
  - B. informative meaning
  - C. religious ceremony
  - D. medical checkup
- 90 According to the passage, what is the advantage of booking early with Denali Trekkers?
- A. You can choose your climbing guide.
  - B. You can start practicing climbing sooner.
  - C. You will get free entry to a seminar.
  - D. You will be entitled to a discount.

**The following questions refer to section C.**

- 91 What does Simon Green say is always a challenge?
- A. predicting the weather
  - B. choosing the best season to go
  - C. climbing up the mountain
  - D. picking the most suitable mountain
- 92 What should Randy Ponder be wary of?
- A. the month he starts
  - B. the hike back to base
  - C. the risk of getting lost
  - D. the danger of glaciers

**The following questions refer to section D.**

- 93 In the last sentence of paragraph 2, what does **this** refer to?
- A. Simon's inability to adapt to large cities.
  - B. How friends change once they move away.
  - C. Simon's inability to buy a house in the city.
  - D. Simon's preference to stay in Alaska.
- 94 How could Simon's outlook on life be described?
- A. optimistic
  - B. regretful
  - C. unrealistic
  - D. adventurous
- 95 What is the main point of paragraph 3?
- A. Simon feels fulfilled by his lifestyle.
  - B. Simon stresses the importance of safety.
  - C. Other people should learn from Simon's philosophy.
  - D. Simon respects that other people live differently.

**The following questions refer to two or more sections.**

- 96 Which sections include an opinion?
- A. A, B, and C
  - B. A, B, and D
  - C. B, C, and D
  - D. all sections
- 97 What do Trisha, Liz, and Simon agree on about Denali?
- A. It is difficult to climb.
  - B. It is huge.
  - C. It is beautiful.
  - D. It is dangerous.
- 98 What do sections B and C have in common?
- A. Both offer a discount.
  - B. Both include a website.
  - C. Both mention difficulty.
  - D. Both advise going in the winter.

A



**LATIN AMERICAN CELEBRATION**

You are invited to an evening at my house - 327 Amsterdam Ave - on September 1 as a farewell to you all before I leave for my year abroad. It's a Latin American theme. So, please wear something connected to Central or South America. I'll be making special South American dishes, so make sure to arrive around 6:30. I can't guarantee there'll be anything left to eat if you're late!

RSVP by August 20.  
Carrie

## INBOX

**B** From: Carrie Donahue  
To: enquiries@costumes.me  
Subject: Costume Question

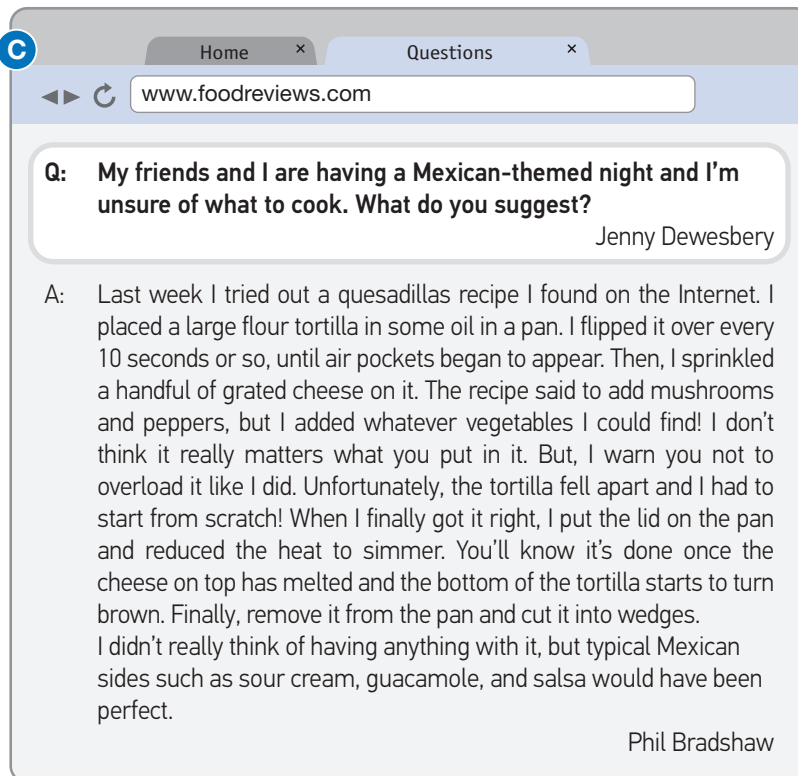
Dear Sir or Madam,

I'm holding a Latin American-themed party and I would really like a costume for it. What I have in mind is a carnival performer costume. Can you tell me if you have anything similar? I did not see one on your site. If you do, could you email me a link to it? My friend wants to dress up as some kind of matador, so maybe you could make us a deal?

Thank you in advance for your time and attention.

Best,  
Carrie Donahue

C



Home x Questions x

www.foodreviews.com

**Q: My friends and I are having a Mexican-themed night and I'm unsure of what to cook. What do you suggest?**  
Jenny Dewesbery

**A:** Last week I tried out a quesadillas recipe I found on the Internet. I placed a large flour tortilla in some oil in a pan. I flipped it over every 10 seconds or so, until air pockets began to appear. Then, I sprinkled a handful of grated cheese on it. The recipe said to add mushrooms and peppers, but I added whatever vegetables I could find! I don't think it really matters what you put in it. But, I warn you not to overload it like I did. Unfortunately, the tortilla fell apart and I had to start from scratch! When I finally got it right, I put the lid on the pan and reduced the heat to simmer. You'll know it's done once the cheese on top has melted and the bottom of the tortilla starts to turn brown. Finally, remove it from the pan and cut it into wedges. I didn't really think of having anything with it, but typical Mexican sides such as sour cream, guacamole, and salsa would have been perfect.

Phil Bradshaw

D

# Modern Life

With LIZ COLVIN



The news that Hollywood couples are having themed weddings has shown that dressing up for fun is definitely back – and nobody is more pleased than me.

I'm such a big fan of costume parties. Since I grew up in a drab, suburban neighborhood, I always jumped at the chance to wear outrageous clothing and "become" somebody else. A costume party is simply a chance to revisit and recapture that childlike sense of fun that we often lose as adults.

If you're thinking about throwing one, my advice to you – someone who has hosted dozens – is not to be too specific. If you want a big attendance, it's important to give a loose theme: a recent decade, a historical era, or a region of the world. People are most likely to put an effort into their costumes if you give them the freedom to be creative. And remember, not everyone likes dressing up, so don't insist everybody goes all out!

Also think about how you're going to complement the costumes. Music, drinks, and decorations that suit your theme will all make the occasion more memorable.

Refer to page 22 when answering the questions below.

**The following question refers to section A.**

- 99 What is the purpose of the event?
- A. to celebrate a new job
  - B. to celebrate moving into a new house
  - C. to say goodbye to people abroad
  - D. to say goodbye to friends at home

**The following questions refer to section B.**

- 100 What is the main purpose of section B?
- A. to place an order
  - B. to ask for a discount
  - C. to check the availability of something
  - D. to request a link
- 101 In the fifth sentence, what does **it** refer to?
- A. the carnival outfit
  - B. the costume party
  - C. the costume store
  - D. the matador outfit
- 102 Why does Carrie ask about a deal?
- A. to see if there are any sales
  - B. to make up for not having what she wants
  - C. because the order would be for two items
  - D. because her friend's costume is expensive

**The following questions refer to section C.**

- 103 In paragraph 2, what does the phrase **start from scratch** refer to?
- A. preparing the ingredients
  - B. making the dish
  - C. cutting the tortilla
  - D. searching for the recipe
- 104 What does the writer encourage Ms. Dewesbery to do?
- A. to find her own recipe
  - B. to stick to the recipe
  - C. to add lots of vegetables
  - D. to make the recipe her own
- 105 What does Phil say about the quesadilla recipe?
- A. It only takes 10 seconds to prepare.
  - B. He has used it on several occasions.
  - C. He added some sides to it.
  - D. He did not follow it exactly.

**The following questions refer to section D.**

- 106 What is the main purpose of paragraph 2?
- A. to give a sense of the writer's personality
  - B. to persuade people to hold costume parties
  - C. to explain why the writer likes costume parties
  - D. to show why costume parties are popular
- 107 According to the passage, what should the hosts of costume parties try to do?
- A. to keep the guest list short
  - B. to give guests a broad theme
  - C. to encourage everyone to dress up
  - D. to have the best costume
- 108 What does the writer say about costume parties?
- A. Movies are the best theme for costumes.
  - B. They are best suited for children.
  - C. The costumes should be the best part.
  - D. The theme is the most important aspect.

**The following questions refer to two or more sections.**

- 109 Which sections give advice?
- A. A, B, and C
  - B. A, C, and D
  - C. B, C, and D
  - D. A, B, and D
- 110 What suggestion from section D has Carrie followed for her costume party?
- A. matching theme and food
  - B. similar costumes and decorations
  - C. not making everyone dress up
  - D. not forcing people to prepare a dish



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