



# INTERNATIONAL CATS CONTESTS

COMPETENCE & APTITUDE TESTING SERVICES

**GRADE 7 & 8  
JUVENILES**



LETTER  
COMPREHENSION  
SPELLING  
GRAMMAR  
VOCABULARY  
COMPOSITION  
ESSAY  
PUNCTUATION  
INNOVATIVE  
CREATIVE  
STORIES

**ICATS**  
**ENGLISH**  
**LINGUISTICS**  
**CONTEST 2018**

# ICATS ENGLISH LINGUISTICS CONTEST 2018

JUVENILES (GRADE 7 & 8)

TIME ALLOWED : 90 MINUTES, MAXIMUM MARKS : 90  
TOTAL QUESTIONS : 30 MCQS

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. DON'T START ATTEMPTING THE PAPER UNTIL INSTRUCTED BY THE INVIGILATORS.
2. INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE EXAMINATION INVIGILATORS MUST BE CARRIED OUT PROMPTLY.
3. CAREFULLY RECHECK YOUR NAME, FATHER NAME, SCHOOL NAME, ADDRESS ETC AT THE BUBBLE SHEET / ANSWER SHEET.
4. RECORD ALL ANSWERS ON THE BUBBLE SHEET ONLY. SELECT BEST ANSWER FROM THE FOUR GIVEN OPTIONS AND MARK ONLY ONE OPTION IN EACH QUESTION.
5. USE BLUE / BLACK INK TO FILL UP THE CIRCLES FOR YOUR ANSWERS ON THE BUBBLE SHEET. USE OF LEAD PENCIL IS NOT ALLOWED.
6. USE OF ANY HELPING MATERIAL INCLUDING CELL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.
7. EVERY CORRECT ANSWER EARNS THREE POINTS. THERE WOULD BE NEGATIVE MARKING. ONE POINT WOULD BE DEDUCTED FOR EVERY INCORRECT ANSWER.
8. CANDIDATES MAY NOT LEAVE THE EXAMINATION ROOM UNESCORTED FOR ANY REASON, AND THIS INCLUDES USING THE WASHROOM.
9. NO MATERIALS OR ELECTRONIC DEVICES SHALL BE BROUGHT INTO THE ROOM.
10. THERE ARE FIVE CATEGORIES OF THE CONTEST AS UNDER:
  - A. TODDLERS (GRADE 1 & 2)
  - B. KIDS (GRADE 3 & 4)
  - C. JUNIORS (GRADE 5 & 6)
  - D. JUVENILES (GRADE 7 & 8)
  - E. ADOLESCENTS (GRADE 9 & 10 / O-LEVELS)
11. ONLY REGISTERED STUDENTS CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE CONTEST.
12. NO CANDIDATE SHALL TAKE OUT OF THE HALL ANY ANSWER BOOK(S) OR PART OF AN ANSWER BOOK, WHETHER USED OR UNUSED, OR OTHER SUPPLIED MATERIAL.
13. IF A PARTICIPANT DOES NOT UNDERSTAND A WORD OR PHRASE ON THE EXAM PAPER, NEITHER EXAMINER NOR INVIGILATOR IS PERMITTED TO ANSWER.
14. FOR INFORMATION ABOUT UPCOMING CONTESTS OR PROVIDING VALUABLE FEEDBACK, PLEASE VISIT [WWW.CATSCONTESTS.ORG](http://WWW.CATSCONTESTS.ORG)
15. ANY ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT OR MALPRACTICE MUST BE REPORTED TO INTERNATIONAL CATS CONTESTS AT [INFO@CATSCONTESTS.ORG](mailto:INFO@CATSCONTESTS.ORG)



Read the following passage and answer question numbers 1 through 5.

## Mount Everest Then and Now

Standing 29,035 feet above sea level, Mount Everest is the highest mountain on Earth. It is part of the Himalayas, a mountain range that crosses the countries of Tibet and Nepal. For a mountain climber, getting to the top of Mount Everest is the ultimate challenge.

Mount Everest is so enormous that it is impossible to climb to the top and descend to the bottom in one day. Climbers must carry tents and supplies with them as they move slowly up steep, icy slopes. Blizzards and strong winds are common. Climbers endure challenges like deep ditches, tall walls of solid ice, and giant snow towers that might topple over at any moment. In addition, Mount Everest is so high that the air around it does not contain much oxygen. This makes it hard for climbers to breathe, think, and move. For this reason, most climbers breathe oxygen from tanks, just like astronauts do in outer space.

In spite of its many dangers, climbers from all over the world travel to Mount Everest. In May, the best month to attempt the climb, many climbers from different countries join together to form expeditions. Many of these people will make it to the top of Mount Everest. Guides and Sherpas show these climbers the best routes. Ropes and ladders, set up by preceding climbers, help new groups of climbers through the most dangerous and difficult parts of Mount Everest. Modern equipment, like satellite phones and laptop computers, keeps climbers in touch with each other and the outside world. Extra-warm clothing and sleeping bags offer protection from the bitter cold.

None of these modern conveniences were available in 1953, when Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay became the first two men to reach the top of Mount Everest. For them, just getting to Mount Everest was difficult. It involved a 170-mile trek through the mountains before they could begin climbing to the peak. Today, climbers just take a short plane ride to get to the foot of the mountain.

Hillary was a beekeeper from New Zealand who began climbing mountains when he was 20. Norgay was a Sherpa, part of a group of people who have lived in small villages in Nepal for five centuries. Since the Sherpas have lived in the Himalayas for so long, mountain climbing is an important part of their culture.

Hillary and Norgay were part of a British expedition made up of nine climbers. The government of Nepal had allowed very few groups to try to climb Mount Everest. Each of those early expeditions had failed. Hillary's group was hopeful, but since no climber had ever made it to the top of Mount Everest, there was no established route to follow. They had to find their own route as they went along, step by dangerous step.

Each of the climbers in Hillary's expedition wanted to be the first to reach the top of Mount Everest, but they were all disciplined men who understood that for any of them to have a chance, they had to work together. John Hunt, the leader of the group, divided the group into small teams and gave each team an assignment. Some teams had to find a route through the worst areas. Others had the hard, painful task of cutting a path in the ice and fixing ropes for the climbers to hold on to. Hunt also chose two men, Charles Evans and Tom Bourdillon, to try to reach the summit. If Evans and Bourdillon did not succeed, Hillary and Norgay would be given the chance to reach the top.

Evans and Bourdillon were not successful, however, and had to turn back. Hillary and Norgay then

tried to find their way through the unknown territory of the highest points of Mount Everest. They had to cut steps into icy slopes. They had to constantly calculate how much oxygen they had left in their tanks, knowing they would be in grave danger if their oxygen ran out. When they had nearly reached their goal, they had to climb a 40-foot wall of ice that looked impossible. Hillary did find a way, and the route is now called the Hillary Step in his honor.

Though Hillary and Norgay were elated to reach the top, they knew their battle was only half over. Making it down Mount Everest was just as difficult. They succeeded, however, and achieved lasting fame and the world's admiration. Although climbing Mount Everest will always be an incredible accomplishment, Hillary, Norgay, and their expedition deserve credit for paving the way for everyone else.

**Q1. Choose the most reliable resource for a reader researching how people train to climb Mount Everest.**

- A** a newspaper article titled "Mount Everest: Hidden Gem of the Himalayas"
  - B** an eyewitness account from a person who climbed Mount Everest
  - C** an interview with a person writing a book about mountain climbing
  - D** an Internet site titled How to Climb a Mountain in Ten—or a Thousand—Steps
- 

**Q2. A part of Mount Everest is named "the Hillary Step" because Sir Edmund Hillary had found**

- A** the true peak.
- B** a safe way down.
- C** the path to the top.
- D** a way to the base camp.



**Q3.** Choose the sentence from the passage which supports the idea that John Hunt's group faced greater difficulties than groups climbing later.

- A** Mount Everest is so enormous that it is impossible to climb to the top and descend to the bottom in one day.
  - B** Blizzards and strong winds are common.
  - C** Climbers endure challenges like deep ditches, tall walls of solid ice, and giant snow towers that might topple over at any moment.
  - D** Hillary and Norgay then tried to find their way through the unknown territory of the highest points of Mount Everest.
- 

**Q4.** The best reason for comparing climbers to astronauts is because both

- A** are viewed by people as heroes.
  - B** experience changes in the atmosphere.
  - C** must be in excellent physical condition.
  - D** belong to groups formed by governments.
- 

**Q5.** Choose an opinion stated in the passage.

- A** Standing 29,035 feet above sea level, Mount Everest is the highest mountain on Earth.
- B** The government of Nepal had allowed very few groups to try to climb Mount Everest.
- C** John Hunt, the leader of the group, divided the group into small teams and gave each team an assignment.
- D** Although climbing Mount Everest will always be an incredible accomplishment, Hillary, Norgay, and their expedition deserve credit for paving the way for everyone else.

**Sallie wrote a book report. It contains mistakes. Read the report and answer question numbers 6 through 11.**

### **Book Talk on *The Lost Lap***

(1) With the Olympic trials six months away, Mellie McBride with instinctive precision swims her laps. (2) Through dedication and hard work, she had won a place on the U.S. National Junior Swim Team. (3) Now her dreams of an Olympic gold medal are within her grasp. (4) The rythum of her swimming strokes and the strength of her kicks have produced a swimmer capable of record-breaking times. (5) Every practice brings her one stroke closer to the dream. (6) Her three coaches applause at the end of every practice reinforces the knowledge that her dedication will soon be rewarded. (7) Her confidence grows. (8) Mellie's confidence, however, is quickly shattered when she injures her right eye. (9) With only three months left until the Olympic trials, Mellie must take four weeks off from swimming practice for recovering. (10) Mellie finally returns to practice, hoping that her injury has not effected her swimming. (11) After just one extremely tiring practice race, Mellie finds that her time has increased by one full minute. (12) There is no way she can shave off one minute in the limited time she has before the Olympic trials. (13) With her dreams destroyed, she leaves practice in despair. (14) Mellie is forced to choose leave swimming behind or face the challenge. (15) Can she recover the lost lap will she hang up her swimsuit for good? (16) Read the heart-wrenching novella *The Lost Lap* by Alexa Sauls to discover if Mellie overcomes her obstacles or admits her defeat.

**Q6. Choose the correct way to revise below sentence for clarity.**

*With the Olympic trials six months away, Mellie McBride with instinctive precision swims her laps.*

- A** Six months away, Mellie McBride with the Olympic trials swims her laps with instinctive precision.
- B** Mellie McBride, with instinctive precision, swims her laps with the Olympic trials six months away.
- C** With the Olympic trials six months away, Mellie McBride swims her laps with instinctive precision.
- D** With instinctive precision, Mellie McBride, with the Olympic trials six months away, swims her laps.

**Q7.** Choose the correct way to spell the underlined word.

The rythum of her swimming strokes and the strength of her kicks have produced a swimmer capable of record-breaking times.

**A** rhithem

**B** rythym

**C** rhythm

**D** rhythem

**Q8.** Choose the best replacement for the underlined word.

Her three coaches applause at the end of every practice reinforces the knowledge that her dedication will soon be rewarded.

**A** coaches'

**B** coaches's

**C** coachs'

**D** coach's

**Q9.** Using an infinitive, what is the correct way to revise the underlined words?

With only three months left until the Olympic trials, Mellie must take four weeks off from swimming practice for recovering.

**A** to be recovered

**B** for recovery

**C** to recover

**D** for to recover

**Q10.** Choose the underlined word that is used incorrectly.

Mellie finally returns to practice, hoping that her injury has not effected her swimming.

**A** Finally

**B** Returns

**C** Injury

**D** effected



**Q11.** Choose the correct way to revise the run-on sentence.

*Can she recover the lost lap will she hang up her swimsuit for good?*

- A** Can she recover the lost lap, or will she hang up her swimsuit for good?
  - B** Can she recover the lost lap, but will she hang up her swimsuit for good?
  - C** Can she recover the lost lap, yet will she hang up her swimsuit for good?
  - D** Can she recover the lost lap, and will she hang up her swimsuit for good?
- 

**Read the poem and answer question numbers 12 through 15.**

### Nothing to Do Stew

One long, long dull day  
I had nothing to do,  
So I filled up a pot  
With a strange sort of stew.

It had dreamy ideas  
And a lot of big words,  
And bright mixed-up colors  
And silvery birds.

A piece of a moonbeam  
Got thrown in the mix,  
A chopped-up, old beanstalk,  
A house made of sticks.

The yap of a puppy,  
A strand of gold hair,  
The hush of the night owl,  
A thump on the stair

Got tossed in together  
And cooked all day long,  
While I stirred in some spices  
—It smelled a bit strong.

But I ate it with pleasure,  
That odd, crazy stew,  
Made out of a dull day  
With nothing to do.

**Q12.** Which line from the poem indicates the meal is not real?

**A** With a strange sort of stew.

**B** And a lot of big words,

**C** And cooked all day long,

**D** While I stirred in some spices

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**Q13.** The stew in this poem is a symbol of

**A** endless possibilities.

**B** a hearty portion.

**C** future happenings.

**D** an honest approach.

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**Q14.** The poet's purpose for writing this poem was most likely to

**A** teach a lesson about enjoying time alone.

**B** inform readers how to cook a stew.

**C** share an experience about making a special meal.

**D** tell about a person with a vivid imagination.

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**Q15.** Choose how this poem is different from a short story.

**A** This poem contains a predictable rhyme scheme.

**B** This poem uses figurative language.

**C** This poem tells about a specific event.

**D** This poem is told from a first person point of view.

**Q16.** Choose an antonym for the underlined word.

*Mrs. Ames had commented that for the past forty years, the barn had been a place to “defer decisions” about whether or not to discard old or broken items.*

**A** move

**B** substitute

**C** obtain

**D** remodel

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**Q17.** Choose the sentence that is written correctly.

**A** He is the student what lived in our neighborhood.

**B** Kate is the person that gave me the blue necklace.

**C** I saw them photographs you took on your trip.

**D** Willa is a new student who recently moved here.

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**Q18.** Choose the word for the blank line that best fits the meaning of the sentence.

*After running for nearly an hour in the heat of the day, Ryan couldn't wait to \_\_\_\_\_ his thirst with a tall glass of ice-cold water.*

**A** quench

**B** halt

**C** drown

**D** swallow



**Q19.** Candace researched information about spider monkeys and wrote the following paragraph. Read her paragraph.

*Spider monkeys are not spiders at all. They are primates that live in the rain forests of Central and South America. Scientists are studying how these animals communicate. Spider monkeys are small, rarely growing larger than two feet tall. Spider monkeys live mostly in the tops of trees. They use their strong hands and tail to grip and move through the branches with ease.*

**Choose the sentence that is irrelevant to the paragraph.**

- A** They are primates that live in the rain forests of Central and South America.
  - B** Scientists are studying how these animals communicate.
  - C** Spider monkeys are small, rarely growing larger than two feet tall.
  - D** They use their strong hands and tail to grip and move through the branches with ease.
- 

**Q20.** In which sentence is the underlined word misspelled?

- A** My favorite desert is peach pie with vanilla ice cream.
  - B** My sister takes courses in English, history, and math.
  - C** The principal of our middle school is going to retire next year.
  - D** The soldier walked with his head up, shoulders back, and spine straight.
- 

**Q21.** In which sentence is the underlined word misspelled?

- A** The stationary was blue with yellow flowers printed around the border.
- B** The letter of recommendation must be written on official school stationary.
- C** The deer remained stationary as we approached from the edge of the meadow.
- D** The stationery weather provided perfect conditions for their flight over the island.

**Q22.** Choose the best way to revise the underlined word.

*First of all, I contribute to school newspapers since I was in third grade.*

**A** will contribute

**B** have been contributing

**C** had contributed

**D** will be contributing

**Q23.** What is the best way to combine these sentences?

*Clarendon students appreciate it. It might increase participation in town activities.*

**A** Neither would Clarendon students appreciate it, nor would it increase participation in town activities.

**B** Clarendon students appreciate it, but it might increase participation in town activities.

**C** Either Clarendon students appreciate it, or it might increase participation in town activities.

**D** Not only would Clarendon students appreciate it, but it might also increase participation in town activities.

**Q24.** Choose the sentence that should be deleted from Paragraph .

*Apgar was destined to become a leader. Being in a new field of medicine was difficult for anesthesiologists because they were often not seen as equal to other doctors. She was only the second woman accepted as an anesthesiologist. Soon afterward, Apgar was asked to lead the Anesthesiology Department at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital. She became the first female department head at the hospital.*

**A** Apgar was destined to become a leader.

**B** Being in a new field of medicine was difficult for anesthesiologists because they were often not seen as equal to other doctors.

**C** She was only the second woman accepted as an anesthesiologist.

**D** Soon afterward, Apgar was asked to lead the Anesthesiology Department at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital.

**Q25.** In the questions below the sentences have been given in Active/Passive voice. From the given alternatives, choose the one which best expresses the given sentence in Passive/Active voice.

I remember my sister taking me to the museum.

- A** I remember I was taken to the museum by my sister.
  - B** I remember being taken to the museum by my sister.
  - C** I remember myself being taken to the museum by my sister.
  - D** I remember taken to the museum by my sister.
- 

**Q26.** Read this section of a student's essay about his experience working on the school newspaper.

My first day on the newspaper staff was rather productive. After listening to the club sponsor, the chairs were moved so the staff could start working on their assignments. I received a pretty simple task; I would be taking pictures of the homecoming activities.

Which is the correct way to revise the underlined sentence?

- A** No change.
- B** So the staff could start working on their assignments, the chairs were moved after listening to the club sponsor.
- C** After listening to the club sponsor and moving the chairs, the assignments were started on by the staff.
- D** After listening to the club sponsor, the staff moved the chairs so they could start working on the assignments.



**Q27.** Those who persist in the endeavor at long last triumph \_\_\_\_\_ the odds of life.

**A** Over

**B** On

**C** Upon

**D** About

**Q28.** This, partly, explains how the Mehta family has been able to \_\_\_\_\_ its lavish lifestyle in recent times, despite the fact that all its assets have been \_\_\_\_\_

**A** keep, removed

**B** afford, attached

**C** develop, liquidated

**D** keep up, destroyed

A word or phrase is missing in each of the sentences below in question numbers 29 and 30. Four answer choices are given below each sentence. Select the best answer to complete the sentence.

**Q29.** Customer reviews indicate that many modern mobile devices are often unnecessarily \_\_\_\_\_.

**A** complication

**B** complicates

**C** complicate

**D** complicated

**Q30.** Robert has received top performance reviews \_\_\_\_\_ he joined the sales department two years ago.

**A** despite

**B** except

**C** since

**D** during

Compete  
if you are  
the best