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STORIES

ICATS
ENGLISH
LINGUISTICS
CONTEST 2023

GRADE 9 & 10
ADOLESCENTS

Time Allowed: 90 Mins.
Maximum Marks: 90

2023
QUESTION
BOOKLET

ICATS ENGLISH LINGUISTICS CONTEST 2023

ADOLESCENTS (GRADE 9 & 10)

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
15. ANY ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT OR MALPRACTICE MUST BE REPORTED TO INTERNATIONAL CATS CONTESTS AT INFO@CATSCONTESTS.ORG



Read this passage. Then answer questions 1 through 7.

Coffee

If you are addicted to coffee and doctors warn you to quit the habit, don't worry and just keep relishing the beverage, because it is not that bad after all! In fact, according to a new study, the steaming cup of Java can beat fruits and vegetables as the primary source of antioxidants. Some studies state that coffee is the number one source of antioxidants in the American diet, and both caffeinated and decaf versions appear to provide similar antioxidant levels.

Antioxidants, in general, have been linked to a number of potential health benefits, including protection against heart diseases and cancer, but Vinson, a dietician said that their benefits ultimately depend on how they are absorbed and utilized in the body. The research says that coffee outranks popular antioxidant sources like tea, milk, chocolate and cranberries. Of all the foods and beverages studied, dates actually have the most antioxidants based solely on the serving size, but since dates are not consumed anywhere near the level of coffee, the drink comes as the top source of antioxidants, Vinson said.

Besides keeping you alert and awake, coffee has been linked to an increasing number of potential health benefits, including protection against liver and colon cancer, type 2 diabetes and Parkinson's disease, according to some recently published studies.

The researchers, however, advise that one should consume coffee in moderation because it can make you jittery and cause stomach pains.

Q1. Who is Vinson in the paragraph?

A A Doctor

B A Health consultant

C A Nutritionist

D A Dietician



Q2. Of all the foods and beverages studied, _____ actually have most antioxidants.

A dates

B tea

C cranberries

D coffee



Q3. Which beverage helps in preventing against liver and colon cancer?

A Tea

B Milk

C Coffee

D Hot chocolate

Q4. The synonym of the 'chief' as given in para 1 is:

A new

B primary

C version

D similar



Q5. Which of the following is the primary source of antioxidants?

A Java

B Fruits

C Vegetables

D Both A and B



Q6. What does the author mean when he uses the word 'absorbed'?

A Solely

B Immersed

C Utilised

D Potential



Q7. Which word in para 1 conveys the opposite of 'sober'?

A Decaf

B Quit

C Addicted

D Primary

Read this article. Then answer questions 8 through 14.

Telling Plastic to 'Bag It'
by Patricia Smith

1 Two years ago, a dead gray whale washed ashore in Seattle's Puget Sound. When scientists examined the contents of the whale's stomach, they found more than 20 plastic bags.

"It was a gut-wrenching experience for me," says Robb Krehbiel, 23, of Seattle, "Nothing that we use for a few minutes should ever end up in the belly of a whale. That's just so wrong."

5 For the last seven months, Krehbiel has been working on a campaign to ban plastic grocery bags in Seattle. The ban passed in December and will go into effect July 1.

Seattle will join cities like San Francisco; San Jose, California; Portland, Oregon; Brownsville, Texas; and Westport, Connecticut, as well as the Outer Banks of North Carolina and several counties in Hawaii, that have already banned plastic grocery bags. And Washington, D.C., has begun charging a five-cent tax on plastic bags to discourage customers from using them.

10 Since 2009, 12 states have considered a variety of plastic-bag bans, according to The National Conference of State Legislatures. No statewide bans have passed. But the list of cities and counties with bag bans is growing.

Americans use between 70 billion and 100 billion plastic bags annually, with families taking home an average of 1,500 a year.

Paper Vs. Plastic

Environmental groups say plastic bags, which are made from petroleum products, increase America's dependence on oil and are a chief cause of litter. It takes about 12 million barrels of oil to make the plastic bags used in the U.S. annually. Most plastic bags eventually end up in landfills, where it can take hundreds of years for them to decompose. But first, or instead, many become litter.

20 "They're hanging from trees and littering our beaches," says Eric Goldstein of the National Resources Defense Council, an environmental group.

Plastic bags are also a major source of pollution in the ocean, where they can harm sea turtles and other ocean creatures that mistake the bags for food and eat them.

But Mark Daniels of Hilex Poly, a plastics maker based in South Carolina, calls the bans "badly misguided efforts."

25 He says 90 percent of Americans already reuse plastic grocery bags—as garbage bags, to pack school lunches, and to store household items.

30 “Moving consumers away from plastic bags only pushes people to less environmentally friendly options, such as paper bags, which require more energy to produce and transport, and reusable bags, which are not recyclable,” Daniels says.

The plastic-bag manufacturing industry employs 10,000 Americans, and bans jeopardize those jobs, the industry says.

35 The U.S. is not the only place where bans have been instituted. Plastic bags are now banned in several nations including China, Italy, France, Bangladesh, Brazil, and Rwanda. Other countries tax plastic bags to discourage their use. In Ireland, for example, a 15-cent-per-bag tax introduced in 2002 has reduced their use by more than 90 percent.

Plastic Bottle Bans

40 Environmentalists in recent years have also targeted disposable plastic bottles for many of the same reasons they've set their sights on bags. The town of Concord, Massachusetts; several national parks, including the Grand Canyon; and a growing list of universities now ban the sale of disposable water bottles. A handful of big cities, like San Francisco and Seattle, ban the sale of plastic water bottles in government offices.

45 The plastic-bag bans already in effect have had a dramatic effect on litter, some officials say. In Brownsville, Texas, a plastic-bag ban in place for more than a year has eliminated more than 350,000 bags per day, according to former Mayor Pat Ahumada. He says the ban “transformed our city from littered and dirty to a much cleaner city.”

Under the Seattle ban, plastic bags will still be available for produce and bulk grocery items. The new law also imposes a five-cent fee on paper bags.

50 Three years ago, Seattle city officials approved a 20-cent-per-bag fee on paper and plastic bags. The idea was to create a financial incentive to reduce pollution; the fee was supposed to prompt people to bring reusable bags with them to shop.

But before the 2008 fee could take effect, the plastic-bag industry led a petition drive that forced the issue onto a citywide ballot. In August 2009, in the midst of the recession and after the industry spent \$1.4 million on the campaign, Seattle voters rejected the fee. It's not yet clear if the plastic bag industry will mount a similar campaign this time.

55 If there's a fight, Krehbiel, the Seattle activist, will be one of those arguing to keep the ban. “It's not going to be a silver bullet that solves all our environmental problems,” he says. “But my thinking is you do what you can, when you can, where you can.”

Plastic Bags: By the Numbers

1,500 - Average number of plastic shopping bags American families take home annually.

12 million - Barrels of oil it takes each year to make the plastic bags used in the U.S.

10,000 - Number of U.S. jobs in the plastic-bag manufacturing industry.

Q8. The Seattle activist's use of the phrase "gut-wrenching" in line 3 suggests that learning about the plastic bags in the whale's belly was

A physically demanding

C very informative

B emotionally painful

D extremely tense



Q9. Why does the author include the information about plastic bottles?

A to show where the idea for the plastic-bag ban originated

B to illustrate the conflict between environmentalists and businesses

C to show how the government is concerned with litter in public places

D to illustrate a widespread concern with plastic waste in the environment



Q10. In lines 48 through 54 of the article, the author explains events surrounding a citywide vote. Based on this information, readers can infer that

A Seattle voters were familiar with high fees

B economic concerns overrode concern for the environment

C Seattle city officials knew what the people really wanted

D leaders in the plastics industry were helpful in explaining a complex issue



Q11. Which evidence from the article suggests that plastic-bag bans are effective?

A A city in Texas has eliminated thousands of bags per day.

B Officials in Seattle have passed a ban on bags.

C Many cities now ban the use of plastic bags.

D Many people reuse their plastic bags.

Q12. The author of the article balances different points of view on the issue of banning plastic bags by including

- A** information about plastic-bag bans in Europe and Asia
- B** arguments from environmentalists and businesses on plastic-bag bans
- C** data from scientists concerned with plastic bags in the environment
- D** quotes from people living in American cities where plastic bags are banned

Q13. Which statement is supported by sufficient evidence from the article?

- A** The petroleum industry is fighting plastic-bottle bans.
- B** A statewide ban on plastic bags is unlikely to happen.
- C** Paying a fee on plastic bags is unappealing to some people.
- D** Many Americans prefer paper or reusable bags to plastic bags.

Q14. The author most likely includes "Plastic Bags: By the Numbers" at the end of the article to

- A** introduce new facts about plastic bags into the argument
- B** compare figures about plastic-bag use across the country
- C** emphasize the figures about plastic bags mentioned in the article
- D** show that plastic-bag bans can cause factory closures and large-scale job loss

Q15. Choose the correct sentence out of four sentences given below.

- A** He had to hardly to go out when it began to rain.
- B** He had to hardly gone out when it began to rain.
- C** He had hardly gone out when it is began to rain.
- D** He had hardly gone out when it began to rain.

Q16. Choose the correct sentence out of four sentences given below.

- A** Either he or I am responsible for the loss.
- B** Either he or I is responsible for the loss.
- C** Neither he or I am responsible for the loss.
- D** Either he nor I am responsible for the loss.

Q17. Read the letter to the editor and then answer the following question.

I was dismayed on Friday when the Winchester City Council announced its intent to reduce library hours at all branches in an effort to cut costs. This reduction in services will negatively impact students in our community.

I have worked at the downtown branch for more than a decade, and I've seen just how important the library is. Every day, dozens of students come to the library after school to do homework. For many students, there are no other safe, supervised spaces available during the afternoons. To protect this space, contact your city council representatives and speak out against reducing library hours!

Who is the primary audience?

- A** local parents and community members
- B** members of the Winchester City Council
- C** fellow librarians
- D** students who use the library

Q18. Read the lab report conclusion and then answer the following question.

Based on the data gathered, we measured the boiling point of water as 99.51 degrees Celsius. The error against the expected measurement was 0.49 percent. Sources of error may have been impurities in the water, contamination of the equipment, or human error in reading the thermometer. If we repeated the experiment, we might achieve more accurate results by sterilizing our equipment, using distilled water, and verifying that the thermometer's readings are correct.

Who is the primary audience?

- A** theoretical physicists
- B** scientists who study water quality
- C** a writer for a popular science magazine
- D** a high school science teacher

Q19. Review the details below.

- **Would-be marathon runners must be physically prepared to follow a rigorous training schedule.**
- **Runners attempting their first marathon should have at least one year of running experience.**
- **Training at the race site can help new runners know what to expect from a marathon-length course.**

Choose the best topic sentence to introduce a paragraph containing these details.

- A** First-time marathon runners must take steps to prepare themselves for the race.
- B** Even experienced marathon runners must prepare for the physical and mental demands of running a 26.2 mile course.
- C** New runners are at a distinct disadvantage if they have never run a marathon race course before.
- D** Runners attempting their first marathon should have reasonable running experience.



Q20. Review the details below.

- **Texting during class is like passing notes and is a waste of time.**
- **If cell phones aren't properly silenced, they can interrupt classroom activities.**
- **Cell phones can be used to cheat on tests by sending answers to friends or by accessing the Internet.**

Choose the best topic sentence to introduce a paragraph containing these details.

- A** There are many legitimate arguments for allowing students to have cell phones in class, even if they are disruptive.
- B** Cell phones in the classroom can have a negative impact on student learning.
- C** Cell phones have become a near constant presence at school and at home.
- D** Cell phones should be allowed in the class during natural calamities.

Q21. Consider this claim:

Public schools should provide music classes because they are important for children's development.

Which is the strongest evidence to support the claim?

- A** Research has shown that music training can help improve reading skills through the way it teaches students to distinguish between sounds and recognize language patterns.
- B** At a recent conference for music educators, teachers noted that a lack of funding for the arts was making their jobs more difficult.
- C** In a recent survey, a majority of elementary school students reported that they enjoy their music classes as much as or more than they enjoy their math and science classes.
- D** None of the above.



Q22. Consider this claim:

Wikis, or websites that allow users to generate and alter content, are not reliable sources for academic research.

Which is the strongest evidence to support the claim?

- A** Eric Hammond, a political science professor, forbids his students from citing wikis as sources in any of their research papers.
- B** Many wikis were first launched in the twenty-first century, while encyclopedias have been used as reference sources since the eighteenth century.
- C** Many wikis allow anyone, not just subject-matter experts, to post information on their sites.
- D** None of the above.



Q23. Consider this claim:

People who live in warm, sunny climates are happier than those who don't.

Now consider how someone might argue against this. Which sentence presents the stronger and more reasonable counterclaim to the above claim?

- A** If people were happier in sunnier, warmer climates, then few people would live in places with cloudy, rainy climates.
- B** Many of the places ranked as the happiest in the world—like Denmark, Iceland, and Switzerland—do not have warm, sunny climates.
- C** Both of the above.
- D** None of the above.

Q24. Consider this claim:

It takes less time to care for long hair than short hair.

Now consider how someone might argue against this. Which sentence presents the stronger and more reasonable counterclaim to the above claim?

- A** Short hair takes less time to care for because it's quicker to wash and doesn't require as much brushing.
- B** Short hair takes less time to care for because you can keep it looking good by getting frequent haircuts.
- C** Both of the above.
- D** None of the above.



Q25. Complete the text with the transition that best connects the claim to the evidence that supports it.

Paper bags are not necessarily more environmentally friendly than plastic bags. _____, consider a UK Environment Agency study that found that a paper bag has to be used three times before it can be said to have a lower impact on global warming than a single-use plastic bag.

- A** By way of illustration
- B** Nonetheless
- C** Admittedly
- D** None of these



Q26. Complete the text with the transition that best connects the supporting evidence to analysis of that evidence.

Although the number of people who undergo cosmetic surgeries continues to grow, many don't understand the dangers and potential side effects of plastic surgery. Procedures may go awry, relationships with friends and family may be altered, and the physical change may not meet expectations. _____, plastic surgery—like any surgery—involves physical as well as emotional risks.

- A** For instance
- B** Clearly
- C** Nonetheless
- D** Regretfully

Q27. Look at this thesaurus entry:

vidid

Part of speech: adjective

Definition: bright

Synonyms: brilliant, colorful, vibrant

Which can be vivid?

A a painting

B a light bulb

C Both of these.

D None of these.



Q28. Look at this thesaurus entry:

hoist

Part of speech: verb

Definition: to pick up

Synonyms: elevate, haul, heave, raise

When would you be most likely to hoist something up?

A when tidying up a bathroom

B when moving heavy furniture

C Both of these

D None of these



Q29. Complete the analogy.

firefighter is to hose as builder is to _____.

A house

B shed

C hammer

D bridge



Q30. Complete the analogy.

tentacle is to octopus as leg is to _____.

A antelope

B limb

C fish

D snake

ICATS Science Contest 2022

National Toppers

Congratulations

Student Name	Father Name	Grade	School
AYAN KHUBAIB	M. WAQAR	1	RANGERS PUBLIC SCHOOL
AREEN FAROOQ	FARRUKH FAL FAROOQI	1	THE CITY SCHOOL
ABDUL REHMAN	BILAL RIAZ	1	BEACONHOUSE SCHOOL SYSTEM
MANEEHA ARSHAD BAJWA	MAMOONA NAZEER	2	NATIONAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL
JALAL	MUDDASAR	2	RANGERS PUBLIC SCHOOL
WANIA KHURRAM	MALIK KHURRAM DILDAR	2	THE CITY SCHOOL
ABDULLAH ALI	MUHAMMAD ALI	2	NATIONAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL
IRHA ATIF	M.ATIF SHEZAD AKBAR	2	MUST CREATIVE LEARNING SCHOOL AND COLLEGE
M.MUSA KHAN	SHAHID ALAM	2	THE CITY SCHOOL
UMAR FAROOQ	AMIR RIAZ	3	ISLAMABAD LYCEUM HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM
M. ABDULLAH ZAHEER	M. JAWWAD ZAHEER	3	LAHORE GRAMMAR SCHOOL
ESHAL ZAHID	ZAHID MEHMOOD	3	GLOBAL SCHOOL SYSTEM
AYESHA	NAEEM SAJJ	3	POLICE PUBLIC HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL
MAHAD ADNAN	ADNAN SHAFI	3	THE LYNX SCHOOL
MURTAJEZ HAIDER	MUHAMMAD	4	BEACONHOUSE SCHOOL SYSTEM
ESHAAL AWAIS	HUSNAIN HAIDER	4	LAHORE GRAMMAR SCHOOL
AYEZAH ASHRAF	M. AWAIS YAQOOB	4	LAHORE GRAMMAR SCHOOL
ZARA AHSAN	MIRZA MUSHARRAT BAIG ASHRAF	4	THE CITY SCHOOL
MOHAMMAD REHAN SAQIB	MUHAMMAD AHSAN SAQIB JAVED	4	FFC GRAMMAR SCHOOL & COLLEGE
PAREESHA Y ZAINAB	HUMAYUN SHAHZAD	4	FATIMA FERTILIZER SCHOOL
ZYMAL FATIMA	ABDUL WAHEED	4	ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL AND COLLEGE
ARSHIA FATIMA	TARIQ JAVED	5	LEARNING ACADEMIA
MOHAMMAD WAHAJ	SALMAN SHAHID	5	THE CITY SCHOOL
AMNA AKRAM	MUHAMMAD AKRAM	5	ENTERPRISE SCHOOL SYSTEM
ARHAMA IMRAN	M. IMRAN	5	ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL
SYEDA QURAT-UL-AIN NAQVI	SYED ZIL-E-HUSNAIN	6	LAHORE GRAMMAR SCHOOL
YASHFA KHAN	MUNEEB SULTAN	6	IIUI SCHOOLS
MUSTAFA MUQQADAM	MEHBOOB HASSAN MUQQADAM	6	ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL & COLLEGE COD
SHAHEER KHALID	BRIG MASOOD AHMED	6	ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL & COLLEGE
TAWASAL ZAHRA	ADNAN HAIDER	7	FAUJI FOUNDATION SCHOOL
KANZUL EIMAN AZEEM	MUHAMMAD AZEEM	8	GOVT. QUEEN MARY GRADUATE COLLEGE
SYED-MUHAMMAD-IRTAZA	SYED-MUHAMMAD-MURTAZA	8	BENCHMARK SCHOOL SYSTEM
RAYYAN IQBAL	MUHAMMAD QAISAR IQBAL	8	LAHORE GRAMMAR SCHOOL
FATIMA JAFFARI	SYED KAMRAN AHMED	9	AES SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
TALHA AFZAL	MUHAMMAD AFZAL	10	BEACONHOUSE SCHOOL SYSTEM
ABDULLAH ASHRAF	ASHRAF	10	FAUJI FOUNDATION COLLEGE

*Compete
if you are the best*