

**UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN
THE POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL**

**TEST OF ENGLISH FOR HIGHER DEGREE
ADMISSIONS:
SAMPLE QUESTIONS**

May, 2013.

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| Foreword | 3 |
| Syllabus | 5 |
| General Information | 6 |
| Waivers | 7 |
| Section A: Parallelism | 8 |
| Section B: Discourse Reference | 13 |
| Section C: Stylistic Variation | 16 |
| Section D: Concord | 21 |
| Section E: Mechanics | 25 |
| Section F: Vocabulary Choices, Collocations Sense Relations and Tenses | 27 |
| Recommended Reading: | 33 |
| Answers: | 34 |

FOREWORD

Test of English for Higher Degree Admissions: Sample Questions is a text specially prepared for applicants to the different Master degree programmes of the University of Ibadan. It is meant to intimate them with the level of English to be considered in examining them for qualification for admission or interactive sessions/entrance examinations leading to final admission. Thus, the text represents the nature of the questions to be asked in the examination.

The test, as shown in the samples in this publication, will cover aspects of English grammar, vocabulary choices (for general and professional purposes) and acceptable style of writing. This design has been informed by the extremely low level of English language competence observed among our graduate students, a number of whom could not construct the simplest intelligible sentence of English after completing their programmes. If this happens at the University of Ibadan in spite of the rigorous and intensive programmes that we run, then it should be worse in most other universities. Given that all universities source students from the same public pool, it is not exaggerative to say that the Nigerian university system may fail to achieve its goals if this situation is not remedied.

Against the above background, the University of Ibadan has decided to sort out the issue of linguistic expressivity right from the entry point into the university's higher degree programmes. In other words, it is only those who could communicate effectively in English at the level required of a graduate student that WILL be considered for admission processing.

It should be understood that the test is not with the intention to deliberately and uncritically weed off candidates. Rather, it is designed to improve the quality of our graduates and brighten their chances in society. Hence, the sample questions, with their answers, in this text, are to assist them to understand what is expected of them in the examination. The syllabus is provided for them to be informed about the extent of the preparation they have to make. Applicants may consult the recommended texts and other standard books that adequately treat the topics listed in the syllabus.

As you will be instructed presently in this publication, you could practise the questions as many times as possible, scoring and

rating yourself in each attempt. These efforts are expected to be complemented with hands on tasks undertaken through practices indicated in standard and relevant books.

The road to a reputable graduate programme is not a smooth one, but its end product is fulfilling, rewarding and distinctive. We all must strive towards putting the University of Ibadan Postgraduate School on this pedestal, where it has always been.

I wish you all the best of luck in the test.

Thank you.

Prof. Abel Olorunnisola,
Dean,
The Postgraduate School,
University of Ibadan.

SYLLABUS

1. **PARALLELISM:**
CONCEPT, NATURE AND MANIFESTATIONS
2. **SENTENCE AND IDEA CONNECTION:**
COHESION AND COHERENCE
3. **STYLISTIC VARIATION:**
WORD CHOICE AND EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION
LEXICAL VARIANTS AND EXPRESSION OF IDEAS
4. **CONCORD**
SUBJECT VERB AGREEMENT
- WITH AGREEMENT
RULE OF PROXIMITY
CONCORD AND ANOMALY
5. **MECHANICS**
SPELLING
CAPITALISATION
PUNCTUATION
6. **VOCABULARY CHOICES, COLLOCATION, SENSE
RELATIONS AND TENSES**
REGISTERS: TECHNICAL LANGUAGE/JARGON OF
DISCIPLINES, E.G. THE SOCIAL SCIENCES,
AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY, SCIENCES, PHARMACY,
MEDICINE, THE HUMANITIES, TECHNOLOGY, ETC.
SYNONYMY
ANTONYMY
POLYSEMY
AMBIGUITY
TENSE AND ASPECT

GENERAL INFORMATION

There are 150 questions in all, set on all the units included in the syllabus. Answers to all questions have been provided in the last pages of this publication. You are advised to do the following:

1. Study the instructions on each section carefully and attempt the questions within 60 minutes as many times as you can.
2. Convert your mark to 100%.
3. Rate your performance at each attempt, using the following scales:

| | |
|-------------------------|--------|
| A. Highly proficient: | 85-100 |
| B. Proficient: | 70-84 |
| C. Fairly proficient: | 60-69 |
| D. Scarcely proficient: | 50-59 |
| E. Not proficient: | 40-49 |
| F. Illiterate: | 0-39 |

*Note that none of the questions in this text will be included in the examination that you will write. Consequently, you are expected to read and practise widely, using the samples only as a guide and standard.

WAIVERS

Waivers are allowed only for candidates who had attempted and passed the General Paper of the British Graduate Record Examination (GRE). This should be at a level commensurate with the cut-off point considered for admission into the departments/units such candidates have applied to. The candidates will request the examination body to officially send their results, before the date scheduled for the University's Test of English for Graduate Students, to:

The Secretary
Postgraduate School
University of Ibadan
Ibadan, Nigeria.

SECTION A

PARALLELISM

Choose from the options written against letters a-d the expression that represents **the most standard/acceptable** structure:

1. (a) The lady likes singing and cooking.
(b) The lady likes singing and to cook.
(c) The lady likes to always sing and cooking.
(d) The lady likes singing and to be cooking.
2. (a) Dr Ogunmola admires people with character and who seem to have integrity.
(b) Dr Ogunmola admires people who have character as well as people with integrity.
(c) Dr Ogunmola admires people who have character and integrity.
(d) Dr Ogunmola admires people with character and who have integrity.
3. (a) I like to listen, to speak, to read and to do some writing.
(b) I like listening, speaking, reading and writing.
(c) I like listening, speaking, to read, and do writing.
(d) I like listening, speaking, reading, writing.
4. (a) He was bruised for our iniquities and crushed for our transgressions.
(b) He showed forgiveness for our iniquities, he was crushed for our transgressions.
(c) He was bruised for our iniquities, and they were always crushing him for all our transgressions.
(d) He was bruised for our iniquities, and was also to be crushed for our transgressions.
5. (a) The writing of a good student should be precise and original.
(b) The writing of a good student should be precise and show originality.

- (c) The writing of a good student should be full of precision and be original.
- (d) The writing of a good student should be full of precision and originally correct.
- 6 (a) The king was flattered by the chiefs, praised by his family but the people hated him.
- (b) The king was flattered by the chiefs, his family praised him but the people hated him.
- (c) The king was flattered by the chiefs, praised by his family but hated by the people.
- (d) The king's chiefs flattered him, praised by his family but hated by the people.
- 7 (a) Industry is good but to be lazy is bad.
- (b) Industry is good but laziness is bad.
- (c) Industry is good but being lazy is bad.
- (d) Industry is good but doing something lazily is bad.
- 8 (a) Yesterday, I went to school, shopped at Idea Konsult and lunched at Tantalizers.
- (b) Yesterday, I went to school, shopping at Idea Konsult and lunched at Tantalizers.
- (c) Yesterday, I went to school, shopped at Idea Konsult and lunching at Tantalizers.
- (d) Yesterday, I went to school, shopped at Idea Konsult and eating at Tantalizers.
- (9) (a) The prophet predicted that he would become governor; that he would meet a beautiful stranger and that his first son would become president.
- (b) The prophet predicted that he would become governor; a beautiful stranger will meet him and that his first son would become president.
- (c) The prophet predicted that he would become governor; he would meet a beautiful stranger; his first son would become president.
- (d) The prophet predicted that he would become governor; a beautiful stranger, will meet him; his son, to become a future president.

10. (a) I was writing the letter when she lays the table for breakfast.
(b) I was writing the letter when she laid the table for breakfast.
(c) I was writing the letter while she lay the table for breakfast.
(d) I was writing the letter while she was laying the table for breakfast.
- 11 (a) The girl was asked to buy some fish and that she should return to the village.
(b) The girl was asked to buy some fish and then to return to the village.
(c) The girl was asked to buy some fish and then, return back to the village.
(d) The girl was asked to buy some fish and ordered, “go back to the village”?
- 12 (a) Saying is one thing; to do it is another.
(b) Saying is one thing; doing is another.
(c) Saying is one thing; to have done it is another.
(d) Saying is one thing, do it is another.
- 13 (a) What Ade needs is a doctor and rest cure.
(b) What Ade needs is a doctor and to rest cure.
(c) What Ade needs is a doctor and a rest cure.
(d) What Ade needs is a doctor and enough rest cure.
- 14 (a) He believes that courage is better than fear, and that faith is truer than doubt.
(b) He believes that courage is better than fearing and that faith is truer than doubt.
(c) He believes that courage is better than fear and that faithfulness is truer than to doubt.
(d) He believes that courage is better than fear and that faith is truer than doubting.
- 15 (a) The man was not only a politician in a skillful way but also an able artist.
(b) The man was not only a skilful politician but also an art man.
(c) The man was not only a politician skillfully but also an able artist.

- (d) The man was not only a skilful politician but also an able artist.
- 16 (a) When Bayo grows up, either he wants to be a business tycoon or actor.
(b) Bayo wants to be either a business tycoon or an actor when he grows up.
(c) Bayo wants to be either a business tycoon or do acting job when he grows up.
(d) Bayo wants to be either a business tycoon or act on stage when he grows up.
- 17 (a) They could not decide whether to go to church or travelling.
(b) They could not decide whether to go to church or to begin travelling.
(c) They could not decide whether to go to church or to travel.
(d) They could not decide whether going to church or to travel.
- 18 (a) She swam with swiftness and gracefully.
(b) She swam swiftly and gracefully.
(c) She swam swiftly and with grace.
(d) She swam swiftly and with much graciousness.
- 19 (a) The man closed the door, opened the windows and threw himself on the couch.
(b) The man closed the door, opened the windows and was wanting to throw himself on the couch.
(c) The man closed the door, was opening the windows and threw himself on the couch.
(d) The man was closing the door, was opening the windows and threw himself on the couch.
- 20 (a) The manager was asked to write his report quickly, accurately and with thoroughness.
(b) The manager was asked to write his report quickly, accurately and thoroughly.
(c) The manager was asked to write his report quickly, with accuracy and thoroughly.
(d) The manager was asked to write his report quickly, with accuracy and with thoroughness.

- 21 (a) The woman advised the boys to get a lot of sleep and to eat little.
- (b) The woman advised the boys to get a lot of sleep and that they should not eat much.
- (c) The woman advised the boys that they should get a lot of sleep and to eat little.
- (d) The woman advised the boys that they should get a lot of sleep and not to be eating much.
22. (a) The dictionary can be used to find word meanings, pronunciations and looking up spellings.
- (b) The dictionary can be used to find: word meanings, checking how to pronounce words and spellings.
- (c) The dictionary can be used to find word meanings, pronunciations and to check for spellings.
- (d) The dictionary can be used to find word meanings, pronunciations and spellings.
23. (a) Mr Johnson bought a car for his wife and gave it to her on her birthday.
- (b) Mr. Johnson bought a car for his wife to give her on her birthday.
- (c) Mr. Johnson bought a car for his wife and would like to have it given to her on her birthday.
- (d) Mr. Johnson bought a car for his wife, gave it to her on her birthday.
- 24 (a) He was given the flag after he was taking the oath.
- (b) He was given the flag after he had taken the oath.
- (c) He was giving the flag after taking the oath.
- (d) He was given the flag after he takes the oath.
- 25 (a) James loves to eat rice on Sundays and to eat beans only on Saturdays.
- (b) James loves eating rice on Sundays and to eat beans only on Saturdays.
- (c) James loves to be eating rice on Sundays and eat beans only on Saturdays.
- (d) James loves to have to eat rice on Sundays and eating beans only on Saturdays.

SECTION B:

DISCOURSE REFERENCE

From the options indicated against letters a-d, identify the words/expressions that the underlined words connect with in each of the sets of sentences below:

26. Spiritual growth is not physical growth. No one sees one, but all see the other
- physical growth.
 - growth.
 - spiritual growth.
 - spirit growth.
27. Jordan just bought a fridge. The door fell down.
- The door of the house.
 - The door of the fridge.
 - The door being repaired.
 - The door just repaired.
28. Ronke: I know the meaning of the word ‘voodoo’.
Verena: I do too
- know.
 - know it.
 - know the meaning of the word “voodoo”.
 - will know.
29. He was charged with the following offences: sleeping with his neighbour, his secretary, his niece and his guard’s daughter. People condemned him for the incest than for the rest.
- Sleeping with his neighbour.
 - Sleeping with his secretary.
 - Sleeping with his niece.
 - Sleeping with his guard’s daughter.

30. Two things are involved in this matter: dealing with individuals who do not like music and coping with a war-bent society. Philistinism is more important here.
- Coping with a war-bent society.
 - Dealing with individuals who do not like music.
 - Not like music.
 - A war-bent society.
31. Tell me your plans, and I will give you some money.
- When you have done so.
 - After you have told me your plans.
 - After you have let me know your plans.
 - If you let me know your plans.
32. Insert the disk into the player. Then, press the play button.
- In the course of that.
 - After that.
 - If you have done that.
 - Do it and after that.
33. He said “I will marry you if you want”. But I felt his condition was discouraging.
- I will marry you.
 - If.
 - If you want.
 - If you prefer that I marry you.
34. This examination is meant to determine the level of English language competence of applicants. This is because coping in higher degree classes requires being able to use the English Language effectively.
- This examination.
 - Conducting the examination.
 - Determining the English Language competence of applicants.
 - Conducting this examination for applicants.

35. The University of Ibadan is the first and the best University in Nigeria. No one denies that.
- The fact that the university is the best.
 - The fact that UI is the first and the best.
 - The fact that the University of Ibadan is the first and best university in Nigeria.
 - The fact that the University of Ibadan is the first and the best University in Nigeria.
36. Discourse analysis is the study of language used by members of a speech community. It looks at both language form and language function and includes the study of both spoken interaction and written texts.
- The study of language.
 - Discourse studies.
 - Discourse analysis.
 - Language function.
37. I am presently in South Africa. I won't deceive you, I like it.
- South Africa.
 - Life in South Africa.
 - Eating.
 - Being in South Africa.
38. Laide, why did you take her money. That's shameful.
- Taking her money.
 - Stealing her money.
 - Keeping her money.
 - Seizing her money.

SECTION C:

STYLISTIC VARIATION

Instruction 1:

*Choose from the options written against letters a-d the items that could be **most appropriately used** in a letter to the Head of your institution or organisation.*

39. a. He wasn't a member of the committee.
b. He was not a member of the committee.
c. He was'nt a member of the committee.
d. He was not member of the committee.
40. a. The Vice-chancellor was not on seat.
b. The Vice Chancellor was not available in the office.
c. The Vice-chancellor was not present in the office.
d. The Vice Chancellor was not in his seat.
41. a. I had a dash for the service.
b. I had a kickback for the service.
c. I had a settlement for the service.
d. I had something for the service.
42. a. It's such a comfortable place.
b. It is such a comfy place.
c. It's such a comfy place.
d. It is such a comfortable place.
43. a. It amounts to putting the hand of the clock back.
b. It amounts to putting the clock back.
c. It amounts to putting back the clock.
d. It amounts to putting the clock backward.
44. a. Discourage drinking hot drinks during working hours.
b. Discourage drinking spirits during working hours.
c. Discourage drinking tipsy drinks during working hours.
d. Discourage drinking peppery drinks during working hours.
45. a. I seek for approval for the results presented.
b. I ask for approval for the results presented.

- c. I seek approval of the results presented.
 - d. I seek approval for the results presented.
46. a. I informed the Board about the development.
b. I told the Board about the development.
c. I talked to the Board about the development.
d. I gisted the Board about the development.
47. a. Some of our students were arrested at the beer parlour.
b. Some of our students were arrested at the pub.
c. Some of our students were arrested at the drinking joint.
d. Some of our students were arrested at the drinking place.
48. a. The audience rose on their feet when the commissioner entered the hall.
b. The audience rose to their feet when the commissioner entered the hall.
c. The audience rose at their feet when the commissioner entered the hall.
d. The audience rose for their feet as the commissioner entered the hall.
49. a. I spoke with Dr. Lawanson.
b. I spoke with Dr Lawanson.
c. I spoke with Dc Lawanson.
d. I spoke with Doc. Lawanson.
50. a. Tell Prof. Adewole to see the Vice-chancellor.
b. Tell Prof. Adewole to see the VC.
c. Tell Prof. Adewole to see the Vice Chancellor.
d. Tell Profess Adewole to see the Vice Chancellor.
51. a. I cannot crack my brain over such terrible issues.
b. I cannot rack my brain over such terrible issues.
c. I cannot bother my brain over such terrible issues.
d. I cannot overload my brain over such terrible issues.

52. a. The case will not scale through at the Executive Committee meeting.
b. The case will not sail through at the Executive Committee meeting.
c. The case will not scale up at the Executive Committee meeting.
d. The case will not sail over at the Executive Committee meeting.
53. a. The College takes a deep interest in the matter.
b. The Colleges has interest in the matter.
c. The College expresses deep interest in the matter.
d. The College feels deep interest in the matter.

Instruction 2:

*From the items written against letters a-d in each question below, select an option that **best represents the Standard/British English version** of each underlined word or expression.*

54. My father is an academician.
a. academics b. academic c. academician d. academia
55. Those boys have assassinated my character.
a. injured my name.
b. spoilt my name.
c. injured my reputation.
d. damaged my reputation.
56. The brain behind the conspiracy has been apprehended.
a. The main person who caused.
b. The chief offender in respect of.
c. The instigator of.
d. The cause of.
57. The tree has been burnt to ashes.
a). burnt fully.
b). burnt to the ground.
c). burnt completely.
d). burnt beyond recognition.

58. This is a very cheap paper.
a). simplified b). easy c). simple d). non-complex
59. Chief Owosebi is the cog in the wheel of this club
a). craft b). clog c). encumbrance d). disturbance
60. The chief donor has just been invited to the high table to make his speech.
a). podium b). raised plat form c). entitled seat d). lectern.
61. It's strange the reclusive old man now cracks jokes.
a). talks b). makes jokes c) uses jokes d). smiths jokes
62. My friend is very diplomatic in answering questions from his girlfriend.
a). careful b). tactical c). tactful d). selective.
63. There was a fatal accident at the UI gate last week.
a). disastrous b). serious c). deadly d). calamitous.
64. I like to have bread and fried egg for breakfast.
a). mixed egg b). scrambled egg c). shaken egg d). omellete.
65. Goodygy lacks home training.
a. Goodygy is not well trained by her parents.
b. Goodygy is not well taught.
c. Goodygy is not well brought up.
d. Goodygy is not well mentored.
66. If care is not taken, you may not complete the assignment.
a. If proper care is not taken.
b. If proper precautions are not taken.
c. If you are not careful.
d. If no precaution is applied.
67. I was in the manager's office last week Friday.
a). last Friday b). Friday of last week c). Friday week d). Friday for last week.

68. My mother put the shoe in a nylon bag.
a). leather bag b). cellophane bag c). non-leather bag d). syntectic bag
69. I should enjoy national cake; I am a Nigerian.
a). national values b). national privileges c). national advantages
d). national opportunities
70. I just picked race when I saw my father.
a). disappeared b). broke into a run c). started with a run d).
decided to run away.
71. God so good, I remember the Standard English word for “hot drinks”.
a). I am lucky b). I thank my star c). Thank God d). To God be the glory.

SECTION D: CONCORD

*Fill in the blank space in each of the following sentences with the **most suitable word** from the options written against letters a-d.*

72. Chief Owonikoko as well as his men _____ arrived.
a). have b). has c). are d). were
73. The man with his wives _____ coming.
a). were b). are c). is d). been
74. Julius Berger and Associates _____ not employ technicians.
a). do b). does c). has d). has
75. Either my friends or my brother _____ taken the car out.
a). have b). has c). was d) were
76. I was still sleeping when the national news _____ this morning.
a). were broadcasted b). was broadcasted c). was broadcast
d). were broadcast
77. The man, not his workers, _____ to blame.
a). are b). is c). were d). them
78. The hunter with the dogs _____ coming.
a). are b). has c). is d). were
79. His wife and comforter _____ arrived.
a). have b). has c). are d). were
80. The number of women _____ more than that of men in every society.
a). are b). is c). were d). been

81. It is on record that more than one person _____ in road accidents in Nigeria every day.

- a). die b). dying c). dies d). dead

82. The ten minutes I spent reading _____ not wasted.

- a). were b). was c). have d). been

83. So far, five days _____ been spent on this job.

- a). has b). have c). were d). haven

84. Either the chief or his wives _____ expected at the meeting.

- a). was b). are c). is d). been

85. The store, in addition to the secretary's office, _____ damaged.

- a). were b). was c). are d). have

86. The minutes of the meeting _____ adopted without any correction.

- a). was b). were c). have d). been

87. Each boy and girl _____ given an award.

- a). were b). was c). are d). been

88. The new army barracks _____ at Eleyele.

- a). are b). is c). were d). been

89. Either you or I _____ wrong.

- a). is b). being c). were d). am

90. You and I _____ done the best that we could.

- a). have b). having c). has d). am

91. Rice and beans _____ delicious.

- a). are b). were c). is d). being

92. The report, and this is a common feature of all the reports sent by those agencies, --- to have been written in a hurry.
 A. appear B. appearing C. appears D. apparently
93. Medical research shows that mumps --- a person only once in a lifetime.
 A. attack B. attacks C. attacked D. attacking
94. None of the respondents --- strongly convinced by the message of the posters.
 A. was B. have C. were D. has
95. Macaroni and cheese --- all I have had today.
 A. are B. is C. was D. were
96. Ms Ayo Obe --- one of those lawyers who --- that the legal system should serve humanity at all times.
 A. remain/believes B. remains/believes C. remain/believe
 D. remains/believe
97. "Stay off infidelity; many a home --- being destroyed by it".
 A. have B. has C. is D. are
98. The series of experiments that we conducted --- successful.
 A. was B. were C. where D. might
99. In a civilised country, the police do not stand by and watch people slaughter ---.
 A. themself B. themselves C. themselves D. one another
100. The truth is Danladi knows the course better than ---, but please let this be between you and --- .
 A. me/I B. I/me C. I/I D. me/me

101. As an intending husband, James --- to show kindness to his fiancée.

A. supposes
supposed

B. supposed

C. suppose

D. is

SECTION E:

MECHANICS

Select the most appropriate form of the words (in terms of spelling (103-120) or capitalisation (121-126) from each of the groups of items listed below:

Spellings

102. A. Prevailent (B) Prevalient (C) Prevalent (D) Privalent
103. A. priviledge B) Previlege C) Privilege D) Privilege
104. A) Gonorhea B) Gonoreah C) Gonorrhoea D) Gonoraeh
105. A) Acommodation B)Accomodation C)Accommodation D)
Acoommodation
106. A) Querry B) Query C) Queri D) Quarry
- 107 A) Strenous B) Strainuous C) Stranuous D) Strenuous
108. A) Occassion B) Occasion C) Ocassion D) Ocaassion
109. A) Grievious B) Grevus C) Greivious D) Grievous
110. A) Convinient B) Convenient C) Convinent D) Convinent
111. A) Heamoglobin B) Hemoglobine C) Hemoglobine D)
Haemoglobin
112. A) Greatful B) Graetful C) Grateful D) Graetful
113. A) Arguement B) Agurment C) Argueiment D)Argument
114. A) Maintanance B) Maintainance C) Maintenance D)
Maintinance
115. A) Modern B) Mordarn C) Mordern D) Murdern
116. A.) Permmision B) Permission C) Permission D) Permission
117. A.) Michevious B) Mischievous C) Mischeivious D) Mischievius

118. A) Desentry B) Dysentry C) Dycentery D) Dysentery

119. (A) Receive B) Recive C) Recieve D) Recevie

Capitalisations

120. A. Vice-chancellor B) Vice Chancellor C. Vice-Chancellor D.
Vice-Chancelor

121. A) south-western Nigeria b. south-Western Nigeria C.
southwestern Nigeria D. Southwestern Nigeria

122. A. He is rather lordy B. He is rather Lordy C. He is rather the
lord D. He is rather the lordy.

123. A. either Christianity or Islam B. either christianity or islam C.
either Christianity or islam D. either christianity or Islam

124. A. He is King James, a real king B. He is King James, a real
King C. He is King James, a Real King D. He is King James,
a Real king

125. A. The Internet is Worldwide B. The internet is worldwide C.
The Internet is worldwide D. The internet is Worldwide

SECTION F: VOCABULARY CHOICES, COLLOCATIONS, SENSE RELATIONS AND TENSES

Instruction 1:

Choose from options A-D to fill the gaps in passages 1-2 below:

Passage I

Writing Today

In my former life, I often taught first-year composition: a course that supposedly taught students the writing...126.... they needed for college. The main focus of the course was the college essay. Now, freshmen usually had no...127... with the form of the essay; they just struggled with the...128.... Grammar issues aside — these would usually work themselves out during the term — the main focus would be...129.... an argument in a logical way. This fact usually separates the high-school essay from the college one: the amount of analysis...130...to an argument.

By Gerald Lucas: <http://grlucas.net/2012/05/12/writing-today/>

126. A. skills B. prowess C. power D. system
127. A. hasles B. trouble C. difficulty D. palaver
128. A. style B. theme C. content D. subject matter
129. A. pushing B. producing C. composing D. creating
130. A. pushed B. dictated C. allotted D. devoted

Passage 2

Chemical Substance

Chemical substances (also called pure131.....) may well be defined as "any material with a definite chemical composition". According to this definition, a chemical substance can either be a pure chemical element or a pure chemical132..... But, there are exceptions to this definition; a pure substance can also be defined as a form of133....that has both definite composition and distinct properties. The chemical substance index published by CAS also includes several alloys of uncertain composition. Non-.....134..... compounds are a special case (in inorganic chemistry) that135..... the law of constant composition, and for them, it is sometimes difficult to draw the line between a mixture and a compound, as in the case of palladium hydride.

131. A. materials B. substances C. elements D. purifiers

132. A. compound B. sulphur C. material D. combined compound

133. A. life B. matter C. content D. chemical

134. A. Combined B. stoichiometric C. physical D. chemical

135. A. disobeys B. violates C. flouts D. disregards

Instruction 2:

*In each of the questions below, choose the option that is **opposite in meaning** to the word(s) or phrase in bold face:*

136. **Ossified** is nearly opposite in meaning to....

- a. Durable
- b. Dainty
- c. Flexible
- d. Contumacious
- e. Pragmatic

137. Mr Akindele is the most **disingenuous** person I have ever seen.

- a. Transparent
- b. Parched
- c. Blank
- d. Ingratiating
- e. sincere

138. I felt **enervated** by the strain of moving.

- a. Idyllic
- b. Grandiose
- c. Decorous
- d. Frustrated
- e. energised

139. Adeola is very brash and **unprepossessing**.

- a. Ugly
- b. Arrogant
- c. Clever
- d. Didactic
- e. Pleasing

140. Joyce can be **obstreperous** at times.

- a. Placid
- b. Stubborn
- c. Raucous
- d. Febrile
- e. Amicable

Instruction 3:

*In each of questions below, choose the option, from the items listed against letters a-e that is **similar in meaning** to the word or phrase in bold face.*

141. **Periphrastic** is almost **similar** in meaning to....

- a. Concise
- b. Circular
- c. Comprehensive
- d. Ardent
- e. Junior

142. His walk to the stage was brisk and **sprightly**.

- a. Nimble
- b. Sluggish
- c. Hurried
- d. Genuine
- e. Energetic

143. His essays are long and **prolix**.

- a. Antediluvian
- b. Terse
- c. Belligerent
- d. Wordy
- e. Awkward

144. Bukola Smith won **plaudits** for her skillful handling of the research.

- a. Denunciation
- b. Pleasure
- c. Recognition
- d. Disgrace
- e. Diffidence

145. The soldiers were subjected to **desultory** fire from the enemy position.

- a. Salacious
- b. Cursory
- c. Assiduous
- d. Random
- e. Asinine

146. The drug is used for **prophylactic** purposes.

- a. curative
- b preventive
- c. recuperative
- d. healing

147. The chairman's remark is **germane** to the issue under discussion.

- a. redundant
- b. relevant
- c. irrelevant
- d. crucial

148. It is unfortunate that his loss can no longer be **redeemed**.

- a. recovered
- b. revamped
- c. reclaimed
- d. reconsidered.

149. He has been **handicapped** by the manager's comments.

- a. prevented
- b. incapacitated
- c. debarred
- d. stopped

150. The **range** of options provided is not clear.

- a. limitation
- b. scope
- c. length
- d. breadth

Recommended Reading

1. Banjo, Ayo. 1996. *Making a Virtue of necessity: An Overview of English language in Nigeria*. Ibadan: Ibadan University Press.
2. Jowitt, David. 1991. *Nigerian English Usage*. Lagos: Learn Africa.
3. Leech, Geoffrey. 2006. *A Glossary of English Grammar*. Edinburg: Edinburg University Press.
4. Odebunmi, Akin. 2006. *Meaning in English: An Introduction*. Ogbomoso: Critical Sphere.
5. O'Dell, Felicity and McCarthy, Michael. 2008. *English Collocations in Advanced Use*. Cambridge: Macmillan.
6. Quirk, Randolph and Greenbaum, Sidney. 1973. *A University Grammar of English*. England: Longman.

ANSWERS

- | | | | |
|-------|-------|--------|---------------|
| 1. A | 41. B | 80. B | 120. B |
| 2. C | 42. D | 81. C | 121. D |
| 3. B | 43. B | 82. B | 122. A |
| 4. A | 44. B | 83. A | 123. A |
| 5. A | 45. D | 84. B | 124. A |
| 6. C | 46. A | 85. B | 125. C |
| 7. B | 47. B | 86. B | 126. A |
| 8. A | 48. B | 87. B | 127. B |
| 9. A | 49. B | 88. B | 128. A |
| 10. D | 50. C | 89. D | 129. C |
| 11. B | 51. B | 90. A | 130. D |
| 12. B | 52. B | 91. C | 131. B |
| 13. C | 53. A | 92. C | 132. A |
| 14. A | 54. B | 93. B | 133. B |
| 15. D | 55. C | 94. A | 134. B |
| 16. B | 56. C | 95. B | 135. B |
| 17. C | 57. B | 96. D | 136. C |
| 18. B | 58. B | 97. C | 137. A |
| 19. A | 59. B | 98. A | 138. E |
| 20. B | 60. A | 99. D | 139. E |
| 21. A | 61. B | 100. B | 140. A |
| 22. D | 62. C | 101. D | 141. B |
| 23. A | 63. C | 102. C | 142. E |
| 24. B | 64. B | 103. D | 143. D |
| 25. A | | 104. C | 144. C |
| 26. C | 65. C | 105. C | 145. D |
| 27. B | 66. B | 106. B | 146. B |
| 28. C | 67. A | 107. D | 147. B |
| 29. C | 68. B | 108. B | 148. A |
| 30. B | 69. B | 109. D | 149. B 150. B |
| 31. B | 70. B | 110. B | |
| 32. B | 71. C | 111. D | |
| 33. C | 72. B | 112. C | |

| | | |
|-------|-------|--------|
| 34. C | 73. C | 113. D |
| 35. D | 74. B | 114. C |
| 36. C | 75. B | 115. A |
| 37. A | 76. C | 116. B |
| 38. A | 77. B | 117. B |
| 39. B | 78. C | 118. D |
| 40. B | 79. B | 119. A |