The diagnostic test begins on the following page. The diagnostic is in 2 parts, each with 15 questions. Please answer each section to the best of your ability, keeping track of your answers, and then use our answer key and Google Form to see how you did.

This test is meant to help give an **accurate picture** of your knowledge; your results are for your benefit only, and will help you to choose an appropriate class for your level. As such, if you do not have **any** idea as to the correct answer to any particular question, please select the last multiple choice option, "**I don't know,**" as your answer to that question rather than taking a random guess. If you can make an educated guess as to the right answer, then do so.

PART A:

1. How many **verbs** are in the following sentence:
   The old woman is very happy because she saw her granddaughter recently.
   a. 1
   b. 2
   c. 3
   d. 4
   e. 5
   f. I don't know

2. How many **nouns** are in the following sentence:
   The man felt joy and happiness while looking at the clouds in the sky.
   a. 1
   b. 2
   c. 3
   d. 4
   e. 5
   f. I don't know

3. Name the **part of speech** to which all of the following words belong:
   quickly, happily, very, suddenly
   a. participle
   b. adverb
   c. preposition
   d. conjunction
   e. I don't know

4. Which word makes the sentence correct:
   The painting that was stolen by the robbers _____ lost forever.
   a. who
   b. are
   c. will
   d. is
   e. have been
   f. I don't know

5. Which word makes the sentence correct:
   The little doll houses in the window of the toy store _____ painted green.
   a. was
   b. have been
   c. shall
   d. is
   e. seem
   f. I don't know

6. Identify the sentence or sentences that contain a **linking verb**:
   a. The flowers wilt in the sun.
   b. He has eaten lunch already.
   c. The teacher is angry.
   d. All contain a linking verb
   e. None contain a linking verb
   f. I don't know

7. Which word makes the sentence correct:
   The food belongs to the kids. It is the _____ food.
   a. kids
   b. kid's
   c. kid'es
   d. kids'
   e. I don't know

8. In the following sentence, which underlined word is **not** an **adverb:**
   The <u>very</u> <u>happy</u> dog <u>quickly</u> jumped over the fence <u>yesterday</u>
   a. very
   b. happy
   c. quickly
   d. yesterday
   e. all underlined words are adverbs
   f. I don't know

9. Which underlined word or group of words in this sentence is **not correct:**
   My friend has a <u>more prettier</u> pony than <u>I</u> do, but <u>mine</u> is <u>very colorful</u>.
   a. more prettier
   b. I
   c. mine
   d. very colorful
   e. all underlined words are correct
   f. I don't know

10. The **simple past tense** form of "to think" is _____
   a. thinks
   b. thank
   c. thought
   d. will have been thinking
   e. I don't know

11. Which underlined word in this sentence is **not correct:**
   My <u>oldest</u> brother and <u>me</u> have decided that <u>we'll</u> speak to <u>their</u> teacher.
   a. oldest
   b. me
   c. we'll
   d. their
   e. I don't know

12. Read the following sentence:
   Jane wanted to eat a cookie, but mom would not let <u>her</u>, so she played with Grace instead.
   What is the **antecedent** of the underlined pronoun?
   a. Jane
   b. mom
   c. she
   d. Grace
   e. I don't know

13. Read the following sentence:
    I don't think you should eat <u>that</u>; it fell on the ground earlier.
    What **part of speech** is the underlined word in this sentence?
    a. pronoun
    b. adjective (including articles)
    c. noun
    d. verb
    e. preposition
    f. conjunction
    g. I don't know

14. Read the following sentence:
    Who let <u>the</u> dogs out?
    What **part of speech** is the underlined word in this sentence?
    a. pronoun
    b. adjective (including articles)
    c. noun
    d. verb
    e. preposition
    f. conjunction
    g. I don't know

15. Select the answer that contains an **infinitive**.
    a. to speak
    b. speaking
    c. spoke
    d. spoken
    e. shall speak
    f. speaks
    g. I don't know

PART B:

1. Read the following sentence:
   Yesterday I bought <u>an apple</u> for my sister.
   The phrase "an apple" is the _____ in this sentence.
   a. subject
   b. subject complement
   c. direct object
   d. indirect object
   e. I don't know

2. Read the following sentence:
   James is <u>the captain</u>
   The phrase "the captain" is the _____ in this sentence.
   a. subject
   b. subject complement
   c. direct object
   d. indirect object
   e. I don't know

3. How many **prepositional phrases** are in the following sentence:
   The carpenter from Wisconsin hit the nail on the edge of the board with a hammer.
   a. 1
   b. 2
   c. 3
   d. 4
   e. 5
   f. I don't know

4. Which of the following sentences is grammatical:
   i. The soccer ball which I found in the backyard belongs to him.
   ii. The soccer ball, which I found in the backyard, belongs to him.
   iii. The soccer ball that I found in the backyard belongs to him.
   iv. The soccer ball, that I found in the backyard, belongs to him.
      a. i, ii, and iii
      b. i and ii
      c. i and iv
      d. ii and iii
      e. None are grammatical
      f. All can be grammatical depending on context
      g. I don't know

5. Identify the sentence that uses the **subjunctive mood** correctly:
      a. I wish that you would stop chewing so loudly.
      b. I wouldn't do that if I was you.
      c. If he were taller, he will be able to go on the ride, but he isn't.
      d. If it rains tomorrow, then I will stay inside.
      e. I don't know

6. Read the following sentence:
   I love <u>shopping</u>.
   What type of word is "shopping" in this sentence?
      a. Verb
      b. Past participle
      c. Present participle
      d. Adverb
      e. Gerund
      f. I don't know

7. Read the following sentence:
   The customer had already waited for 3 hours.
   What is the **tense** of the verb this sentence?
   a. Simple past
   b. Past perfect
   c. Past progressive
   d. Past perfect progressive
   e. Pluperfect
   f. Past participial
   g. I don't know

8. Which of the following two sentences is grammatical:
   i. The man, whom I saw on the street, was bald
   ii. The man whom I saw on the street was bald
   a. Sentence i only
   b. Sentence ii only
   c. Neither is grammatical
   d. Both can be grammatical depending on context
   e. I don't know

9. Read the following sentence:
   <u>After</u> I returned home from school, I ate dinner.
   What type of word is "after" in this sentence?
   a. Subordinating conjunction
   b. Coordinating conjunction
   c. Adverb
   d. Preposition
   e. I don't know

10. Which of the following sentences is **grammatical**:
    i. I thought I could win the race, but I was wrong.
    ii. I thought I could win the race, however I was wrong.
    iii. I thought I could win the race, though I was wrong.
        a. i only
        b. ii only
        c. iii only
        d. i and ii
        e. i and ii
        f. ii and iii
        g. None are grammatical
        h. All can be grammatical depending on context
        i. I don't know

11. Read the following sentence:
    Go to your room!
    What **mood** is the sentence in?
        a. Indicative
        b. Subjunctive
        c. Imperative
        d. Interrogative
        e. Conditional
        f. It has no mood
        g. I don't know

12. Select the sentence that contains a **stylistic error**.
        a. Having read your application, I have a few questions for you.
        b. As you know, it is my job to clean the floors.
        c. Stalking its prey, the lion moves quietly along the ground.
        d. As the captain of the ship, it is important for me to know how to steer.
        e. Did you see that beautiful sailboat yesterday?
        f. I don't know

13. Read the following sentence:
    The door was slammed loudly by the young girl wearing a pink dress.
    Which of the following qualities is **true** of this sentence?
    a. Past progressive tense
    b. Passive voice
    c. Ditransitive
    d. Compound sentence
    e. Pluperfect
    f. I don't know

14. Select the sentence that is **ungrammatical**.
    a. I will either go to the beach or my friend's house.
    b. Henry hikes in the summer and skis in the winter.
    c. Lemons can be eaten both with dinner and with dessert.
    d. Both the bad weather and that annoying sound put me in a bad mood today.
    e. Have you ever seen a piece of pizza bigger than that?
    f. I don't know

15. Select the sentence that is in the **future progressive** tense.
    a. Tomorrow I go to the store.
    b. Tomorrow I will be going to the store.
    c. Tomorrow I will go to the store.
    d. Tomorrow I will have gone to the store.
    e. Tomorrow I will have to go to the store.
    f. I don't know

PART C:

1. In the paragraph by John Updike titled "Consider the Beer Can," he wrote: "It was beautiful – as beautiful as the clothespin, as inevitable as the wine bottle, as dignified and reassuring as the fire hydrant." What is the predominant **figure of speech** used here?

    a. Personification
    b. Metaphor
    c. Simile
    d. Anthropomorphism
    e. I don't know

2. Read the following passage from *Wilson's Letter to Congress* by President Wilson, April 2, 1917:

    > We have no quarrel with the German people. We have no feeling toward them but one of sympathy and friendship. It was not upon their impulse that their government acted in entering this war. It was not with their previous knowledge or approval. It was a war determined upon as wars used to be determined upon in the old, unhappy days when peoples were nowhere consulted by their rulers and wars were provoked and waged in the interest of dynasties or of little groups of ambitious men who were accustomed to use their fellowmen as pawns and tools.

    What is Wilson's **message**?

    a. Germany as a whole is, without a shadow of a doubt, the most abominable country in the world.
    b. America harbors sympathy for small groups of ambitious men in Germany.
    c. America has no reason to hate the German people, who are unfortunately misguided by a small group of aggressors.
    d. The German people were asked for their approval upon entering the war, but the Americans still sympathize with their decision.
    e. I don't know

3. Read the following sentence: "The notes of a distant song which some one was singing reached her faintly, and countless sparrows were twittering in the eaves." (Taken from *The Story of an Hour*.) What **figure of speech** is used here?

    a. Metaphor
    b. Onomatopoeia
    c. Simile
    d. Juxtaposition
    e. I don't know

4. Take a look at this first line from E.B. White's essay *Progress and Change:* "In resenting progress and change, a man lays himself open to censure." Which of the following would support this topic sentence?

    a. As the new Tesla finally rolled onto the stage, the crowd erupted with applause.
    b. Robert criticized his brother for using a French press rather than a Keurig this morning even though they had to leave for work soon.
    c. The city marveled at how quickly the bullet train could cross the entire country with very little noise.
    d. Mary criticized her mother for not completing the census because of its importance in the House seat count.
    e. I don't know

5. Read the beginning to the following passage:

> Archaeologists have just created an exciting new method for quickly identifying dinosaur species based on fossils of teeth. This new system relies on large databases of known images of fossilized teeth, such that newly found fossils can be compared to existing records using artificial intelligence. The system has already been used successfully to identify the tooth of an ceratosaurus, a species which had sharp incisors for biting into prey.

The author is considering adding the following sentence to the end of this paragraph:

> Archaeologists do not know certain other things about the ceratosaurus, however, such as what color it was or what it ate; those facts may remain mysteries for a long time.

Should the author add this sentence? Why or why not?

a. No, because it reuses the words "archaeologists" and "such," and you should not use the same word twice in one paragraph.
b. No, because it is not related to the main topic of the paragraph.
c. No, because it is a complex sentence and would make the paragraph too long.
d. Yes, because paragraphs should be at least four sentences long.
e. Yes, because it adds details about the ceratosaurus and our knowledge of it.
f. I don't know

6. Read the following sentence:

> The doctor wants me to try a new medication; however, <u>as</u> I am still recovering from surgery and complications are possible, she recommended waiting a few months before getting the prescription.

Which of the following words or phrases would best replace the underlined word in the sentence?

a. given that
b. without knowing
c. while
d. because of the fact that
e. she knows
f. I don't know

7. Read the following passage:

> As Alice stepped onto the basketball court to take her first ever free-throw, she was paralyzed with fear: the anxious, silent crowd, her teammates cheering her on, and the timer counting down to zero made an already stressful situation even more intense. But eventually, she closed her eyes, and her breathing slowed. <u>This basketball and hoop were no different than the crumpled up pieces of paper that she used to throw into the trash can when she was a girl.</u> Alice smiled as she opened her eyes and threw the ball.

The underlined analogy in this passage has primarily which effect?

a. It alludes to the past to evoke a nostalgic response.
b. It recalls an everyday action to simplify a difficult task.
c. It employs ornate language to illustrate an unfamiliar scene.
d. It establishes a humorous comparison to lighten the mood.
e. I don't know

8. This question refers to the same passage as in the previous question.

   What is the **tone** of the passage?

   a. Ironic
   b. Antagonistic
   c. Sincere
   d. Comical
   e. I don't know

9. Read the first part of the famous opening line to Dickens's *A Tale of Two Cities:*

   > It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness…

   This passage is a classic example of what **literary device**?

   a. Anaphora
   b. Symbolism
   c. Synonyms
   d. Onomatopoeia
   e. I don't know

10. Jesse is trying to choose between the following two versions of a sentence for a formal essay:

    i. The teacher picked up the battered textbook.
    ii. The textbook, pages battered, was snatched up by the hands of the teacher.

    Which version would you recommend Jesse choose, and why?

    a. Sentence i, because it is less ambiguous
    b. Sentence i, because it is more active and direct
    c. Sentence ii, because it gives more detail and paints a picture
    d. Sentence ii, because it is more formal and intelligent
    e. The sentences are equally appropriate
    f. I don't know

11. Read the following sentence:

    John <u>had</u> asked for an apple, and Jack <u>wanted</u> a pear, but dad only gave <u>him</u> <u>some</u> grapes.

    Which word should the author change to make the sentence more **clear**?

    a. had
    b. wanted
    c. him
    d. some
    e. I don't know

12. Read the first stanza from Robert Frost's "The Road Not Taken":

    Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
    And sorry I could not travel both
    And be one traveler, long I stood
    And looked down one as far as I could
    To where it bent in the undergrowth;

    What is the **tone** of this stanza?

    a. Fearful
    b. Sardonic
    c. Energetic
    d. Contemplative
    e. I don't know