



ACIBADEM

MEHMET ALİ AYDINLAR
UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

PROFICIENCY TEST

FOR

INSTITUTES OF GRADUATE STUDIES

(SAMPLE)

THIS TEST HAS 4 PARTS:

LISTENING (10%)
USE OF ENGLISH (40%)
READING (20%)
WRITING (30%)

LISTENING (10%)

You are about to listen to a lecture on happiness only **ONCE**. Read the questions below and **while listening** answer the best option for each question. You have 5 minutes to look at the questions before you listen.

1. How do psychologists measure happiness?

- A. They watch people in daily life.
- B. They give people a happiness test.
- C. They interview people about their lives.
- D. They make Gratitude Visits.

2. What have psychologists learned about happiness?

- A. Most people say they are happy.
- B. Happy people share some common characteristics.
- C. People are happy for different reasons.
- D. Happiness is difficult to measure.

3. Which of the three characteristics are connected to happiness?

- A. Intelligence, goals and experience
- B. Family and friends, religion/beliefs, and goals
- C. Money, education and youth
- D. Education, work and friends

4. Which of the following is NOT a characteristic of happy people?

- A. having connection with family and friends
- B. having a lot of money
- C. having religious or other beliefs
- D. having goals

5. In the lecture, it says: Now, another question psychologists have tried to resolve is, can we change how happy we are? Can we learn to be happier? Some psychologists think the answer is "No, we can't." Why does the speaker say, "Some psychologists think the answer is 'No, we can't.'?"

- A. To introduce a different topic
- B. To explain her opinion
- C. To describe what most people think

D. To ask what the students think

6. How can people learn to feel happier?

- A. by doing exercises that focus on the positive things in their lives
- B. by talking to a psychologist about their feelings
- C. by not thinking about their problems
- D. by changing their personalities

7. How do you thank someone during the Gratitude Visit?

- A. You tell your friends about your visits
- B. You visit the person and read him/her a letter
- C. You ask the person to visit you at your house
- D. You invite the person to visit a special place with you

8. Why does a Gratitude Visit make people feel happier?

- A. it helps them feel connected to others by thanking them
- B. it is part of their religious beliefs
- C. it allows them to set goals for themselves
- D. it helps them get a better education

9. What do psychologists say about our personalities?

- A. Our level of happiness depends a lot on our personality
- B. We can totally change our personalities
- C. People have different personalities
- D. Our personalities help us feel connected to others

10. What is one of the main points of the lecture?

- A. People can do things to become happier
- B. Unhappy people can totally change their personalities
- C. Some people are happier than others
- D. Happiness is studied by psychologists

11. We had to walk home in the end because Jimmy _____ his car keys.
A has been losing C was losing
B had lost D had been losing
12. _____ the ancient Egyptians _____ more advanced technology than other civilizations?
A Did/ have C Will/ have
B Have /had D Was/ having
13. 'What would you like to drink, tea or coffee?' '..... tea, please.'
A I have C I'll have
B I'm going to have D I had
14. I met him two years ago, but I _____ him since.
A didn't see C was not seeing
B hadn't seen D haven't seen
15. Dangerous chemicals _____ in a secure place.
A have to keep C will keep
B has been kept D must be kept
16. In the past, we used toxic chemicals in our garden. Now, we use _____ toxic products.
A fewer C less
B a little less D a little
17. He said he agreed with me to some extent. _____ he didn't entirely agree.
A In contrast C In addition to this
B In other words D Particularly
18. Fred quarreled _____ Jane _____ the preparations of the party. I couldn't go because I was suffering _____ flu but I thanked them _____ inviting me.
A about / on / for / from C about / for / from / to
B with / on / for / from D with /about / from / for
19. I wish I _____ for that job earlier. I would be working now.
A would apply C had applied
B applied D have applied
20. I think you need to have your television _____.
A repaired C repairing
B to repair D to be repaired
21. _____, she wouldn't be sick now.
A If you take her to the doctor
B Unless you give her an aspirin
C Unless you gave her that medicine
D If she had followed the doctor's orders

II- Choose the best alternatives to complete the paragraph.

E-MAIL or SNAIL MAIL?

Modern technology 22_____ about enormous improvements in communications so far, yet many people are still worried about 23_____ the latest computer technology. I am often surprised to meet colleagues 24_____ still don't know what the 'e' in e-mail stands for and they are 25_____ embarrassed to ask. They assume you have to 26 _____ in computers to send a message via e-mail, but in fact it is 27_____ thing in the world. It is also cheaper to send an e-mail message 28 _____ to send an ordinary letter or a snail message 29 _____ also takes much longer. An e-mail message is only 30_____ more expensive than a local telephone call to send; on top of the call itself you also have to pay a fee to your 'server'. If you 31_____ a letter by first-class mail, it will take a couple of days 32_____ there whereas an e-mail will not take longer than a few seconds. Once you become used to using the system you will be amazed 33_____ how much more efficient it is than other means of communication . Of course, before you have access to e- mail, you will need a fairly powerful computer, which can be quite expensive.

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|-----|---------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 22. | A has brought | B brings | C had brought | D is bringing |
| 23. | A use | B to use | C using | D to be using |
| 24. | A about whom | B whose | C whom | D who |
| 25. | A enough | B such | C too | D both |
| 26. | A skill | B be skilled | C be skillfully | D skillful |
| 27. | A simply | B simpler | C simple | D the simplest |
| 28. | A than | B as | C from | D then |
| 29. | A who | B whose | C which | D when |
| 30. | A little | B least | C less | D fewer |
| 31. | A will send | B send | C are sent | D are going to send |
| 32. | A get | B getting | C to be gotten | D to get |
| 33. | A at | B with | C of | D on |

III- Circle the most suitable word or phrase underlined in each sentence.

- A) Many people feel nervous about flying, and worry about the possibility of an accident. **34. Furthermore/ However**, according to statistics, flying is actually safer than walking down the street.
- B) Our local supermarket no longer opens every day, **35. as / on account of** very few people live in our village.
- C) There are a number of objections to the planned motorway. **36. As well as this / First of all**, the new road will destroy valuable farming land. **37. In contrast / In addition to this**, it will bring thousands of vehicles to our quiet area, and flood the countryside with tourists. **38. As a result / For example**, our peaceful way of life will be destroyed forever.
- D) **39. Owing to / Since** the increased demand for parking spaces, the company has decided to enlarge the car park behind the main building. **40. Consequently / Nevertheless** the exit road on the west side of the car park will be closed from Monday 5th November to allow building work to begin.

READING (20%)

I- Read the texts and answer the questions by choosing the best option.

Memory Athletes

1. He put in his earplugs and the competition hall went quiet. In front of him were 99 photos next to names. For 15 minutes he memorized as many of the names as possible. Then the judge took the names away. He wrote down as many as he could—a total of 107 first and last names. He moved on to the next event. Here he had 15 minutes to learn and recite 400 random words. He took a deep breath. Once again, he made it and advanced to the final round. He had five minutes to memorize two decks of cards. As he said each card in the correct order, the audience was silent. Then Joshua Foer heard, “We have a new United States Memory Champion!” He had won.
2. Joshua Foer would be the first to admit that for some things he has an average memory. He regularly forgets where he has put his car keys. He forgets phone numbers of close friends. Yet in the space of a year, he trained his memory and won a national competition. How did he do it?
3. Foer, a journalist, first entered the world of mental athletes in 2005. He was writing a story about the U.S. Memory Championship. Once there, he watched one contestant in amazement. Ed Cooke memorized 252 random digits as easily as one simple telephone number. Afterwards, Cooke explained that his memory was actually quite average. He just knew *how* to remember. Cooke offered to teach Foer, and the adventure began.
4. It turns out that mental athletes use techniques from 2,500 years ago in ancient Greece. These techniques, called mnemonic devices, can help anyone improve their memory. Most of these devices require a person to connect a mental picture to the information he or she must remember. For example, a friend introduces a new person. As you repeat this person's name, you create a mental picture. You think of where you are and what colour shirt you are wearing. If you attach this visual image to the new name, you are more likely to remember it later on.
5. Science backs up the effectiveness of mnemonic devices. Research shows that you can develop your brain with memory exercises just as athletes develop muscles with physical exercises. The hippocampus is a part of the brain that affects memory. Dr. Majid Fotuhi explains, “When you've acquired the skills, you're more likely to use your memory more often. And the more you use your memory, the stronger your hippocampus gets.” With practice, these mnemonic devices can turn an average memory into a very powerful tool.
6. At first, Foer didn't think he had a chance of getting to the finals - let alone winning. He decided to compete anyway. And he won the championship because he learned how to memorize. Has this training changed his life? Maybe. When he uses memory techniques, he does remember things more easily. But he is still a man of average memory. A few days after he became the U.S Memory Champion, he went out to dinner with some friends. Afterwards, he said goodnight and took the subway home. As he walked into his house, he suddenly realized he had driven to the restaurant. Foer had forgotten his car.

41. Which of the following actions shows that Foer was probably nervous during the completion?

- A. He put in his earplugs.
- B. He took a deep breath.
- C. He recited each card.
- D. He advanced to the final round.

42. Which statement is not correct, according to paragraph 2?

- A. Foer knows that his memory is average.
- B. He often forgets little things such as phone numbers and car keys.
- C. Before his training, he believed his memory was better than most people's.
- D. For 12 months, Foer worked hard to improve his memory.

43. Why was Foer amazed by Ed Cooke, according to paragraph 3?

- A. Cooke explained that he had just an average memory.
- B. Cooke offered to help Foer train for a national competition.
- C. Cooke quickly learned and recited over two hundred numbers.
- D. Cooke was a contestant in a national competition.

44. Which is the best definition of a mnemonic device?

- A. a technique that began 2,500 years ago in ancient Greece
- B. a specific technique that helps people improve their memory
- C. connecting a mental picture to important information
- D. attaching a visual image to a new name

45. What logical conclusion can you make from paragraph 5?

- A. The brain is like a muscle because it can be trained.
- B. Everyone can become a national memory champion.
- C. Practice is not important for improving memory.
- D. It is very difficult to improve your memory.

46. What is the main idea of Paragraph 6?

- A. Foer still uses memory techniques.
- B. Attaching a visual image to a name is an example of a mnemonic device.
- C. Scientific findings show that practice improves memory.
- D. Foer won the championship because he learned how to improve his memory.

II- Read the texts and answer the questions by choosing the best option.

Why we like to gather together: Groups and human development

- 1 Undeniably, people like to gather together. An **analysis** of the way we live now demonstrates this in several ways. Of the seven billion people who **make up** the world's population, more than half now live in cities, and the majority of these people share housing with others. Of course, there are practical reasons for group living, but the reasons are not only practical. There are clear psychological benefits from living together. According to research from the U.S., some of the common factors shared by people who live to 100 years of age have to do with living arrangements. Nearly two thirds of people who are 100 or older live with other people, and more than 80% live in cities. People obviously do well when they gather together.
- 2 This is not a modern **tendency**—gathering together to live in groups has been one of the distinguishing features of human society for many thousands of years—but it is increasingly of interest to scientists. Researchers are starting to examine how group living has **affected** the development of human knowledge and learning since the beginning of our societies.
- 3 Discoveries of evidence of human learning 40,000 years ago have led some scientists to believe that this was when humans first started creating things like tools and jewelry. However, other scientists point to examples of more complex tools from earlier in history, which then disappeared. These tools, they say, show that human knowledge has not steadily increased over history. Instead, human knowledge has grown and declined, and then grown again, with this pattern repeating over thousands of years. The key influence, they argue, is how many people we live with.
- 4 Human knowledge develops more quickly and remains strong when we live in larger groups. Boyd and Kline (2010) researched the islands in Oceania, having chosen these because their traditional populations have been isolated from the rest of the world until recently. The study showed that at the time of first European contact, those islands with larger populations had a greater number of different types of tools for carrying out their daily work on the island. The islands with small populations had a limited number. The conclusion? Humans naturally and effectively share knowledge in groups, and the bigger the group, the more knowledge there is to share, and in this case, the greater the number of tools developed.
- 5 An example of how isolation from the group can result in a **decline** in human knowledge and development comes from Tasmania, the island off the south of Australia. Tasmania became separated from mainland Australia around 10,000 years ago. Research into the area suggests that after that separation, knowledge of tools and tool making declined in the human population remaining on the island.
- 6 So, what is the best organization for the development of human knowledge? The evidence presented seems to indicate the answer is living in larger groups. By doing this, we have a greater opportunity to learn, share, and develop our knowledge.

A- Read the five statements (a–e) below. Number the statements with the paragraph that contains the same idea. (There can be two points from a paragraph)

47. Living in larger populations boosts the development of knowledge. _____
48. Human knowledge has developed, then declined, and then developed again. _____
49. The majority of people in cities live with other people. _____
50. When groups become separated from larger populations, development reverses. _____
51. It is good for humans to live together. _____

B- Choose the correct answer.

52. Which are the two common factors shared by people living to 100 given in the text?

- A living in the U.S. and in cities
B living in cities and with other people
C living with other people and having benefits
D having benefits and living in the city

53. Scientists' interest in humans' tendency to gather together is _____.

- A affecting
B distinguishing
C declining
D growing

54. Forty thousand years ago, _____.

- A people started living in isolated groups on islands
B humans may have started making tools to do their work
C humans probably stopped using complex tools
D humans produced jewelry

55. What made the islands of Oceania suitable for the study?

- A Historically, they haven't had much connection with the world.
B They all have very small populations.
C They used very simple tools.
D People there still live a traditional lifestyle.

56. The writer concludes that humans should _____.

- A share work among themselves
B continue education to develop their knowledge
C answer questions about where they live
D live in bigger rather than smaller populations

C- The words (57–61) in the first column are from the text. The paragraph number is in parentheses. Match these words with their synonyms (a–e).

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|------------------|-------------|---------------|
| 57. analysis (1) |e..... | a trend |
| 58. make up (1) | | b influenced |
| 59. affected (2) | | c constitute |
| 60. tendency (2) | | d decrease |
| 61. decline (5) | | e examination |

WRITING (30%)

I- The graph below shows the amount of money spent on books in Germany, France, Italy and Austria between 1995 and 2005.

Write a report for a university lecturer describing the information below. Write at least 150 words. (10%)



II- Write a paragraph of at least 250 words on one of the topics given below. Give reasons for your answers and include any relevant examples from your own experience. (20 %)

1. Nowadays, families are not as close as in the past and a lot of people have become used to this. Explain the reasons for this and discuss any possible effects it may have on society.
2. An increasing number of professionals, such as doctors and engineers, are leaving their own country for some reasons to live and work in developed countries. What problems does this cause? What solutions can you suggest to deal with this situation?