

DIAGNOSTIC GRAMMAR ACTIVITY

Your performance on this test will not be factored in the grade, but Mr. Apol and Ms. Lorey would like you to take this seriously so that we know where to start with you in grammar instruction. Each question is followed by a list of choices. Circle the letter of the correct choice.

Parts of Speech

1. In the following sentence, which words are nouns? Greg needed more computer memory to handle his many programs.

- a. Greg, computer, memory, his, programs
- b. Greg, memory, programs
- c. computer, memory, programs

2. In the following sentence, which words are verbs? Melissa was worried about her job interview.

- a. was, worried
- b. worried
- c. was, worried, about

3. In the following sentence, which words are adjectives? For important interviews you should wear conservative clothes.

- a. important
- b. important, conservative
- c. important, wear, conservative

4. In the following sentence, which words are adverbs? Because she arrived early, she easily found a parking place.

- a. Because, early, easily, parking
- b. arrived, early, easily
- c. early, easily

5. In the following sentence, which words are prepositions? Just between you and me, only one of the managers is going to the meeting.

- a. between, of, to
- b. between, and, of, to
- c. of, to

Sentence Structure

6. Identify the following: While sitting in the outer office waiting to be called for the interview and looking through magazines.

- a. correct and complete sentence
- b. fragment
- c. run-on sentence
- d. comma splice sentence

7. Identify the following: You should take deep breaths then you can control your nervousness.
- correct and complete sentence
 - fragment
 - run-on sentence
 - comma splice sentence
8. Identify the following: Don't focus on yourself and your nervousness, concern yourself with the employer's needs and questions.
- correct and complete sentence
 - fragment
 - run-on sentence
 - comma splice sentence
9. Identify the underlined expression: As you wait for your interview, select appropriate reading material.
- complete sentence
 - dependent clause
 - independent clause
 - phrase
10. Identify the underlined expression: When you meet the interviewer, you should smile and offer a handshake.
- fragment
 - dependent clause
 - independent clause
 - phrase

Plural Nouns

11. Many _____ are hiring new employees.
- company's
 - companies
 - company's
12. Only the Nixons and the _____ are unable to attend.
- Obama's
 - Obams
 - Obamas
13. This job requires you to work two _____ every month.
- Sundaies
 - Sundays
 - Sunday's

Possessive Nouns

14. The manager sent _____ résumé to the Accounting Department.
- Lisas
 - Lisa's
 - Lisas'
15. In three _____ time, the car loan will be paid.
- years
 - year's
 - years'
16. The prices of all other _____ are lower than our prices.
- vendors
 - vendor's
 - vendors'
17. All _____ e-mail messages must be answered immediately.
- customers
 - customer's
 - customers'
18. Each _____ vote will be counted in the election.
- stockholder
 - stockholder's
 - stockholders'

Pronouns

19. Do you know who will replace _____ next week?
- I
 - me
 - myself
20. His friend and _____ will both apply for the job.
- he
 - him
 - himself
21. Although _____ motor was damaged, the car started.
- it's
 - its
 - its'
22. No one has keys except you and _____.
- I
 - me
 - myself

23. Are you sure that _____ report is finished?
a. their
b. there
c. they're
24. That is _____ homework.
a. you're
b. your
25. No one wants Zeeland East to _____ tonight! Go Chix!
a. lose
b. loose

Verb Agreement

26. A list of the names and addresses of our customers _____ now being prepared.
a. is
b. are
27. Some e-mail writers think that grammar and punctuation _____ count.
a. don't
b. doesn't
28. A description of the property, along with other legal documents, _____ sent to you.
a. was
b. were
29. Neither the management nor the staff _____ how to solve the problem.
a. know
b. knows

Verb Mood and Tense

30. Lisa said she last _____ the key about a week ago.
a. saw
b. seen
31. If you had _____ a different color, we could have filled your order.
a. chose
b. choosed
c. chosen
32. Timothy wished that he had _____ about the job opening earlier.
a. knowed
b. knew
c. known

33. Many of the reports were _____ over a year ago.
- a. wrote
 - b. written

Adjectives and Adverbs

34. For the past two weeks, the printer has worked _____.
- a. beautiful
 - b. beautifully
35. When we have a _____ picture of the incident, we will respond.
- a. clearer
 - b. more clearer
36. Tracy thought she had done _____ on the employment test.
- a. good
 - b. well
37. Don't take the manager's criticism _____.
- a. personally
 - b. personal

Commas and semicolons

38. Which of the following is punctuated correctly?
- a. For example, you should bring to an interview your social security number, a list of references and extra copies of your résumé.
 - b. For example you should bring to an interview, your social security number, a list of references, and extra copies of your résumé.
 - c. For example, you should bring to an interview your social security number, a list of references, and extra copies of your résumé.
39. Which of the following is punctuated correctly?
- a. The funny, entertaining clown was slightly creepy.
 - b. The funny and entertaining, clown was slightly creepy.
 - c. The funny entertaining clown was slightly creepy.
40. Which of the following is punctuated correctly?
- a. Stacy Love, who is a manager for MegaData, asked us to meet Thursday, February 5.
 - b. Stacy Love who is a manager for MegaData, asked us to meet Thursday, February 5.
 - c. Stacy Love, who is a manager for MegaData, asked us to meet Thursday February 5.