

New Inside Out Full Placement Test

Name _____ Date _____

FULL PLACEMENT TEST

Section 1

Choose the best word or phrase (a, b, c or d) to fill each blank.

- (1) Roberta _____ from The United States.
 - a) are
 - b) is
 - c) am
 - d) be

- (2) What's _____ name?
 - a) -
 - b) his
 - c) him
 - d) he

- (3) My friend _____ in London.
 - a) living
 - b) live
 - c) lives
 - d) is live

- (4) Where _____?
 - a) works Tom
 - b) Tom works
 - c) Tom does work
 - d) does Tom work

- (5) I _____ coffee.
 - a) no like
 - b) not like
 - c) like don't
 - d) don't like

- (6) '_____ to Australia, Ginny?' 'Yes, two years ago.'
 - a) Did you ever go
 - b) Do you ever go
 - c) Have you ever been
 - d) Are you ever going

- (7) Tokyo is _____ city I've ever lived in.

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- a) the most big
 - b) the bigger
 - c) the biggest
 - d) the more big
- (8) A vegetarian is someone _____ doesn't eat meat.
- a) who
 - b) what
 - c) which
 - d) whose
- (9) _____ these days.
- a) I never a newspaper buy
 - b) I never buy a newspaper
 - c) I buy never a newspaper
 - d) Never I buy a newspaper
- (10) I _____ watch TV tonight.
- a) am
 - b) go to
 - c) going to
 - d) am going to
- (11) I wish I _____ more money!
- a) have
 - b) had
 - c) would have
 - d) was having
- (12) _____ be famous one day?
- a) Would you like
 - b) Would you like to
 - c) Do you like
 - d) Do you like to

Section 2

Choose the best word or phrase (a, b, c or d) to fill each blank.

- (13) It's my birthday _____ Friday.
- a) on
 - b) in
 - c) at
 - d) by
- (14) I _____ eighteen years old.

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- a) am
 - b) have
 - c) have got
 - d) -
- (15) I _____ a headache.
- a) am
 - b) do
 - c) have
 - d) got
- (16) Do you _____ a uniform at your school?
- a) carry
 - b) wear
 - c) use
 - d) hold
- (17) ‘What time is it?’ ‘I have no _____.’
- a) idea
 - b) opinion
 - c) answer
 - d) time
- (18) The meal was very expensive. Look at the _____!
- a) ticket
 - b) receipt
 - c) invoice
 - d) bill
- (19) How many _____ of trousers have you got?
- a) items
 - b) pairs
 - c) sets
 - d) times
- (20) Joel came back from his holiday in Brazil looking really _____.
- a) tanned
 - b) sunned
 - c) coloured
 - d) darkened

Section 3

Read the text below. For questions 21 to 25, choose the best answer (a, b, c or d).

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‘Heavier than air flying machines are impossible,’ said the well-known scientist Lord Kelvin in 1895. Thomas Watson, the chairman of IBM in 1943, was wrong too when he said that he thought there would be a world market for only five or so computers.

Predictions can, of course, be wrong, and it is very difficult to predict what the world will be like in 100, 50, or even 20 years from now. But this is something that scientists and politicians often do. They do so because they invent things and make decisions that *shape* the future of the world that we live in.

In the past they didn’t have to think too much about the impact that their decisions had on the natural world. But that is now changing. An increasing number of people believe that we should live within the rules set by nature. In other words, they think that in a world of fixed and limited resources, what is used today will not be there for our children. We must therefore look at each human activity and try to change it or create alternatives if it is not sustainable. The rules for this are set by nature, not by man.

- (21) What was Lord Kelvin suggesting?
- It is difficult to make accurate predictions.
 - It would be possible for people to fly.
 - It would be impossible for people to fly.
 - There would only be a few computers.
- (22) According to the text, which of the following statements is TRUE?
- Lord Kelvin and Thomas Watson were good friends.
 - The world does not have unlimited natural resources.
 - Our children will not make predictions about the future.
 - It is easy to predict what the world will be like 20 years from now.
- (23) *shape* (line 6) is closest in meaning to:
- do
 - create
 - look at
 - move
- (24) The article suggests we should live in a _____ way.
- selfish
 - sustainable
 - predictable
 - scientific
- (25) Choose the best title for the article.
- Predictions and more predictions!
 - Politicians and scientists
 - A sustainable future for our children
 - New inventions

Section 4 (26 to 33)

Write a letter or email to your new pen-friend from abroad and introduce yourself. Say where you come from, where you live and give a little information about your family and friends as well as your hobbies and interests. Say how long you have been learning English and how you would like to improve your English. Write 80-100 words.

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Section 5

Choose the best word or phrase (a, b, c or d) to fill each blank.

- (34) Harry can _____ English.
 - a) to speak
 - b) speaking
 - c) speak
 - d) speaks

- (35) I'm not interested _____ sports.
 - a) for
 - b) about
 - c) in
 - d) to

- (36) She likes _____ expensive clothes.
 - a) wearing
 - b) to wearing
 - c) wear
 - d) is wearing

- (37) Harry _____ his father's car when the accident happened.
 - a) was driving
 - b) drove
 - c) had driven
 - d) has been driving

- (38) I was wondering _____ tell me when the next plane from Chicago arrives?

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- a) could you
 - b) can you
 - c) if you could
 - d) if could you
- (39) If I _____ him, I would have spoken to him, wouldn't I?
- a) saw
 - b) had seen
 - c) have seen
 - d) would have seen
- (40) I like your hair. Where _____?
- a) do you have cut
 - b) have you cut it
 - c) do you have cut it
 - d) do you have it cut
- (41) I think Joey must _____ late tonight. His office light is still on.
- a) have worked
 - b) work
 - c) be working
 - d) to work
- (42) John tells me Jack's going out with Helen, _____ I find hard to believe.
- a) which
 - b) who
 - c) whose
 - d) that
- (43) What _____ this weekend, Lance?
- a) will you do
 - b) are you doing
 - c) will you have done
 - d) do you do
- (44) The weather has been awful. We've had very _____ sunshine this summer.
- a) little
 - b) a little
 - c) few
 - d) a few
- (45) Did you hear what happened to Kate? She _____.
- a) is arrested
 - b) arrested
 - c) has been arrested

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- d) is being arrested

Section 6

Choose the best word or phrase (a, b, c or d) to fill each blank.

- (46) I usually _____ up at about 7.30.
a) go
b) be
c) do
d) get
- (47) I _____ football every week.
a) play
b) go
c) do
d) have
- (48) My sister _____ the cooking in our house.
a) does
b) makes
c) cooks
d) takes
- (49) Don't forget to _____ the light when you leave the room.
a) turn up
b) turn in
c) turn off
d) turn over
- (50) She was in _____ when she heard the tragic news.
a) crying
b) tears
c) cries
d) tearful
- (51) He _____ that he hadn't stolen the computer, but no one believed him.
a) reassured
b) informed
c) insisted
d) persuaded
- (52) Could you _____ me that book for a couple of days, please?
a) lend
b) owe
c) borrow

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- d) rent
- (53) Greg is _____ a lot of time at Yvonne's house these days!
- a) taking
 - b) spending
 - c) having
 - d) doing

Section 7

Read the text below. For questions 54 to 58, choose the best answer (a, b, c or d).

Many hotel chains and tour operators say that they take their environmental commitments seriously, but often they do not respect their social and economic responsibilities to the local community. So is it possible for travellers to help improve the lives of locals and still have a good holiday?

The charity, Tourism Concern, thinks so. It has pioneered the concept of the fair-trade holiday. The philosophy behind fair-trade travel is to make sure that local people get a fair share of the income from tourism. The objectives are simple: employing local people wherever possible; offering fair wages and treatment; showing cultural respect; involving communities in deciding how tourism is developed; and making sure that visitors have minimal environmental impact.

Although there is currently no official fair-trade accreditation for holidays, the Association of Independent Tour Operators has worked hard to produce responsible tourism guidelines for its members. Some new companies, operated as much by principles as profits, offer a fantastic range of holidays for responsible and adventurous travellers.

- (54) Tourism Concern...
- a) is a tour operator.
 - b) is a hotel.
 - c) is a charity.
 - d) his a chain of hotels.
- (55) Which of the following is NOT one of Tourism Concern's objectives?
- a) Good pay for local people.
 - b) Showing respect for local cultures.
 - c) Saving tourists money.
 - d) Protecting the local environment.
- (56) According to the text, fair-trade travel is all about...
- a) making money for charity.
 - b) money from tourism going to local people.
 - c) travellers getting a good deal.

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- d) a great cultural experience.
- (57) According to the text, there are _____ companies that are operated on principles as well as profits.
 - a) a few
 - b) no
 - c) some old
 - d) many
- (58) Choose the most appropriate title for the article.
 - a) Holidays from heaven
 - b) Cheap adventure holidays
 - c) Fair-trade holidays
 - d) Great holiday deals

Section 8 (59 to 66)

You are going to take part in a magazine competition for a story with the title ‘A Perfect Day’. Write your story and use at least three of the following linking words: *after, before, then, as soon as, by the time, just as, during, while*. Write 150-200 words.

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Section 9

Choose the best word or phrase (a, b, c or d) to fill each blank.

- (67) Who _____ in that house?
 - a) does live
 - b) lives
 - c) does he live
 - d) he lives
- (68) I'll call you when I _____ home.
 - a) get
 - b) 'll get
 - c) 'll have got

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- d) 'm getting
- (69) If you _____ me, what would you do?
a) was
b) would be
c) were
d) have been
- (70) I don't know where _____ last night.
a) did he go
b) he did go
c) went he
d) he went
- (71) John and Betty are coming to visit us tomorrow but I wish _____.
a) they won't
b) they hadn't
c) they didn't
d) they weren't
- (72) I'm so hungry! If only Bill _____ all the food in the fridge!
a) wasn't eating
b) didn't eat
c) hadn't eaten
d) hasn't eaten
- (73) I regret _____ harder in school.
a) not studying
b) not to study
c) to not study
d) not have studied
- (74) Surely Sue _____ you if she was unhappy with your work.
a) will tell
b) would have told
c) must have told
d) had told
- (75) Our neighbours aren't very polite, and _____ particularly quiet!
a) neither they aren't
b) either they aren't
c) nor are they
d) neither did they be
- (76) We had expected that they _____ fluent English, but in fact they didn't.

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- a) were speaking
 - b) would speak
 - c) had spoken
 - d) spoke
- (77) I'd rather _____ next weekend, but I do!
- a) I don't have to work
 - b) I didn't have to work
 - c) not to work
 - d) no working
- (78) Harriet is so knowledgeable. She can talk about _____ subject that comes up.
- a) whatever
 - b) whenever
 - c) wherever
 - d) whoever

Section 10

Choose the best word or phrase (a, b, c or d) to fill each blank.

- (79) I always _____ milk in my coffee.
- a) have
 - b) drink
 - c) mix
 - d) make
- (80) I _____ TV every evening.
- a) watch
 - b) look at
 - c) see
 - d) hear
- (81) Can you give me a _____ with my bag.
- a) leg
 - b) back
 - c) hand
 - d) head
- (82) Before you enter the triathlon, please bear in _____ that you're not as young as you used to be!
- a) thought
 - b) question
 - c) mind
 - d) opinion

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- (83) The breath test showed he had consumed more than three times the legal limit of alcohol, so the police arrested him for _____.
a) trespassing
b) mugging
c) speeding
d) drunk driving
- (84) The meeting was _____ and not very interesting.
a) time-wasting
b) time-consuming
c) time-using
d) out of time
- (85) After the movie was released, the main _____ point was its excessive use of violence.
a) discussion
b) speaking
c) conversation
d) talking
- (86) There have been several big _____ against the use of GM foods recently.
a) campaigns
b) issues
c) boycotts
d) strikes

Section 11

Read the text below. For questions 87 to 92, choose the best answer (a, b, c or d).

Standards of spelling and grammar among an entire generation of English-speaking university students are now so poor that there is ‘a degree of crisis’ in their written use of the language, the publisher of a new dictionary has warned. Its research revealed that students have only a limited *grasp* of the most basic rules of spelling, punctuation and meaning, blamed in part on an increasing dependence on ‘automatic tools’ such as computer spellcheckers and unprecedented access to rapid communication using e-mail and the Internet. The problem is not confined to the US, but applies also to students in Australia, Canada and Britain.

Students were regularly found to be producing incomplete or rambling, poorly connected sentences, mixing metaphors ‘with gusto’ and overusing dull, devalued words such as ‘interesting’ and ‘good’. Overall they were unclear about appropriate punctuation, especially the use of commas, and failed to understand the basic rules of subject/verb agreement and the difference between ‘there’, ‘their’ and ‘they’re’.

Kathy Rooney, editor-in-chief of the dictionary, said, ‘We need to be very concerned at the extent of the problems with basic spelling and usage that our research has revealed.’

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This has significant implications for the future, especially for young people. We thought it would be useful to get in touch with teachers and academics to find out what problems their students were having with their writing and what extra help they might need from a dictionary. The results were quite shocking. We are sure that the use of computers has played a part. People rely increasingly on automatic tools such as spellcheckers that are much more passive than going to a dictionary and looking something up. That can lull *them* into a false sense of security.’

Beth Marshall, an English professor, said, ‘The type of student we’re getting now is very different from what we were seeing 10 years ago and it is often worrying to find out how little students know. There are as many as 800 commonly misspelled words, particularly pairs of words that are pronounced similarly but spelled differently and that have different meanings – for example, “faze” and “phase”, and “pray” and “prey”.’

- (87) *grasp* (line 4) is closest in meaning to:
- a) ability
 - b) use
 - c) understanding
 - d) skill
- (88) We can infer from the style of the text that this article was printed in a...
- a) newspaper.
 - b) dictionary.
 - c) novel.
 - d) guidebook.
- (89) Kathy Rooney carried out research to see...
- a) if students could spell certain words.
 - b) how widespread the use of computers is.
 - c) if academics were in touch with their students.
 - d) how dictionaries can help students.
- (90) *them* (line 22) refers to:
- a) spellcheckers
 - b) computers
 - c) people
 - d) dictionaries
- (91) According to Beth Marshall, students today...
- a) spell 800 words incorrectly on average.
 - b) like using spellcheckers.
 - c) mispronounce and misspell words.
 - d) are not as knowledgeable as they were in the past.
- (92) Choose the best title for the article.
- a) Standards of spelling and grammar

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- b) Dictionaries of the future
- c) Students don't know their 'there' from their 'they're'
- d) Automatic tools

Section 12 (93 to 100)

Write a review of a film you have seen for a local English-language newspaper. Include information about the plot, the acting, the cinematography and anything else you think is relevant. Write 200–220 words.

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FULL PLACEMENT TEST ANSWERS

Section 1: Each correct answer is worth 1 mark.

- (1) b
- (2) b
- (3) c
- (4) d
- (5) d
- (6) c
- (7) c
- (8) a
- (9) b
- (10) d
- (11) b
- (12) b

Section 2: Each correct answer is worth 1 mark.

- (13) a
- (14) a
- (15) c
- (16) b
- (17) a
- (18) d
- (19) b
- (20) a

Section 3: Each correct answer is worth 1 mark.

- (21) c
- (22) b
- (23) b
- (24) b
- (25) c

Section 4 Writing (26 – 33): Use the marking criteria provided on page 3 of the Answer Key to give a **total score of 8 marks**.

Section 5: Each correct answer is worth 1 mark.

- (34) c
- (35) c
- (36) a
- (37) a
- (38) c
- (39) b

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- (40) d
- (41) c
- (42) a
- (43) b
- (44) a
- (45) c

Section 6: Each correct answer is worth 1 mark.

- (46) d
- (47) a
- (48) a
- (49) c
- (50) b
- (51) c
- (52) a
- (53) b

Section 7: Each correct answer is worth 1 mark.

- (54) c
- (55) c
- (56) b
- (57) a
- (58) c

Section 8 Writing (59 – 66): Use the marking criteria on page 3 of the Answer Key to give a **total score of 8 marks**.

Section 9: Each correct answer is worth 1 mark.

- (67) b
- (68) a
- (69) c
- (70) d
- (71) d
- (72) c
- (73) a
- (74) b
- (75) c
- (76) b
- (77) b
- (78) a

Section 10: Each correct answer is worth 1 mark.

- (79) a
- (80) a
- (81) c

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- (82) c
- (83) d
- (84) b
- (85) d
- (86) a

Section 11: Each correct answer is worth 1 mark.

- (87) c
- (88) a
- (89) d
- (90) c
- (91) d
- (92) c

Section 12 Writing (93-100): Use the marking criteria below to give a **total score of 8 marks**.

Marking writing sections 4, 8 and 12 of the New Inside Out FULL PLACEMENT TEST

Use the marking criteria below to give a total score of 8 marks for each writing section. While the same scale is used to assess the students' performance for all three writing tasks, a greater degree of sophistication, range and accuracy is required as the test progresses.

MARKING CRITERIA

- 8 Complete, accurate and appropriate.
- 7 No more than one omission, mainly accurate, rarely inappropriate.
- 5–6 No more than one omission, minor inaccuracies, sometimes inappropriate.
- 3–4 Several omissions, noticeable inaccuracies, often inappropriate.
- 1–2 Many omissions, mainly inaccurate, mostly inappropriate.
- 0 Too little or too incomprehensible to mark.