

Class 5 | English Olympiad

Instructions: Each question has one correct answer. Choose the best option (A/B/C/D). Answer key is provided at the end. This paper is for practice only — not an official exam paper. Recommended time: **45 minutes**.

Q1. 'Had I known earlier, I ___ acted differently.' — Conditional Type 3.

A. would act

B. will have acted

C. would have acted

D. would be acting

Q2. Identify the SUBJUNCTIVE mood: Which sentence is correct?

A. I suggest that he goes immediately.

B. I suggest that he go immediately.

C. I suggest that he will go immediately.

D. I suggest that he went immediately.

Q3. 'Equivocate' means to ___ .

A. be very direct

B. use ambiguous language to avoid commitment

C. speak two languages

D. make equal

Q4. The rhetorical device in 'I have a dream' (repeated phrase) is called ___ .

A. chiasmus

B. anaphora

C. epistrophe

D. asyndeton

Q5. 'Verisimilitude' means ___ .

A. the appearance of being true or real

B. complete honesty

C. a type of rhyme

D. a kind of visual illusion

Q6. Which sentence contains a SPLIT INFINITIVE?

A. He tried to quickly run away.

B. He quickly tried to run away.

C. He tried to run away quickly.

D. Quickly he tried to run away.

Q7. 'Tendentious' writing ___ .

A. is very tender and emotional

B. promotes a particular cause or viewpoint

C. tends to be very short

D. focuses on descriptions of nature

Q8. The Greek root 'philo' means ___ .

A. fear

B. love

C. many

D. before

Q9. 'Bildungsroman' is a literary genre focusing on ___ .

A. war and conflict

B. the moral and psychological growth of a protagonist

C. historical events

D. supernatural creatures

Q10. 'Ennui' means ___ .

A. extreme anger

B. a feeling of listlessness and boredom

C. great excitement

D. deep sadness

Q11. Which figure of speech is used in 'The pen is mightier than the sword'?

A. simile

B. metonymy

C. synecdoche

D. hyperbole

Q12. 'Serendipity' means ___ .

A. a planned discovery

B. the occurrence of fortunate events by chance

C. deep sadness

D. a type of journey

Q13. 'Loquacious' means ___ .

A. logical

B. very talkative

C. quiet

D. local

Q14. A 'chiasmus' is a rhetorical device where ___ .

A. words are repeated at the start of clauses

B. the structure of one clause is reversed in the next

C. two opposite ideas are placed together

D. a word is used in multiple senses

Q15. 'Hubris' in Greek tragedy refers to ___ .

A. excessive pride leading to downfall

B. deep sadness

C. a plot twist

D. the moral of the story

Q16. 'Solecism' means ___ .

A. a grammatical error or improper usage

B. speaking alone on stage

C. a formal speech

D. a type of poem

Q17. Choose the correct word: 'The suspect was ___ of all charges.' (declared innocent)

A. acquitted

B. convicted

C. indicted

D. charged

Q18. 'Tendentious' is to 'neutral' as 'opaque' is to ___ .

A. dark

B. transparent

C. hidden

D. cloudy

Q19. 'She turned a blind eye to the problem.' This is an example of:

A. a simile

B. a metaphor

C. an idiom

D. personification

Q20. The literary term 'foil' refers to a character who ___ .

A. is the villain

B. contrasts with the protagonist to highlight traits

C. narrates the story

D. appears only briefly

Q21. 'Recondite' means ___ .

A. obvious and well-known

B. obscure and known only to specialists

C. recently discovered

D. recommended

Q22. 'Epistolary' novels are written in the form of ___ .

A. verse and poetry

B. letters or diary entries

C. short stories

D. dramatic dialogue

Q23. 'Neither the teacher nor the students ___ happy.' Which verb is correct?

A. was

B. were

C. is

D. are

Q24. 'Garrulous' most nearly means:

A. excessively talkative, especially about trivial things

B. very serious

C. very hungry

D. full of energy

Q25. A 'deus ex machina' in storytelling refers to ___ .

A. a machine in a factory

B. an unlikely or contrived solution to a problem

C. a god-like main character

D. a divine prophecy

Q26. 'Penultimate' means ___ .

A. the last

B. the second-to-last

C. the first

D. the best

Q27. Which sentence is CORRECT?

A. Between you and I, this is a mistake.

B. Between you and me, this is a mistake.

C. Between you and myself, this is a mistake.

D. Between I and you, this is a mistake.

Q28. 'Irony' is most clearly demonstrated in:

A. A fire station burning down.

B. A very tall man.

C. Running very fast.

D. A quiet room.

Q29. 'Inimical' means ___ .

A. closely related

B. hostile or harmful

C. unusual

D. highly skilled

Q30. The word 'meliorate' is closest in meaning to:

A. measure

B. improve

C. meditate

D. eliminate

Q31. 'Pejorative' language is language that ___ .

A. is very formal

B. is intended to show criticism or disapproval

C. is very simple

D. relates to the past

Q32. 'Catharsis' in drama refers to ___ .

A. the climax of a plot

B. the emotional release felt by the audience

C. a type of villain

D. the setting of a play

Q33. A 'litotes' is a figure of speech involving ___ .

A. gross exaggeration

B. understatement using a negative ('not bad' for 'good')

C. comparison with 'like' or 'as'

D. giving life to objects

Q34. 'Whom' or 'who'? 'It was ___ that solved the problem.'

A. who

B. whom

C. whose

D. whoever

Q35. 'Contrite' means ___ .

A. restricted

B. deeply sorry and remorseful

C. controversial

D. contradictory

Q36. 'The road was a ribbon of moonlight.' The device used is:

A. simile

B. personification

C. metaphor

D. alliteration

Q37. 'Prolix' writing is ___ .

A. very brief

B. using too many words; tediously lengthy

C. very poetic

D. in prose form

Q38. 'We shall overcome' (repeated) uses the device of ___ .

A. anaphora

B. epistrophe

C. chiasmus

D. antithesis

Q39. 'Endemic' means ___ .

A. widespread globally

B. regularly found in a particular area or group

C. completely eradicated

D. relating to medicine

Q40. A 'synecdoche' uses ___ to represent the whole (or vice versa).

A. a comparison

B. a part

C. an opposite

D. a sound

Answer Key

Q1: C Q2: B Q3: B Q4: B Q5: A Q6: A Q7: B Q8: B Q9: B Q10: B
Q11: B Q12: B Q13: B Q14: B Q15: A Q16: A Q17: A Q18: B Q19: C
Q20: B Q21: B Q22: B Q23: B Q24: A Q25: B Q26: B Q27: B Q28: A
Q29: B Q30: B Q31: B Q32: B Q33: B Q34: A Q35: B Q36: C Q37: B
Q38: A Q39: B Q40: B