American Language Course Placement Test (ALCPT) / English Comprehension Level (ECL) Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



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Questions



- 1. What does the teller need from him to complete the form?
 - A. Name
 - **B.** Address
 - C. Signature
 - D. Date
- 2. What action does Jack suggest in regard to borrowing money?
 - A. Receive
 - B. Take
 - C. Borrow
 - D. Give
- 3. What action is directly linked to the speaker's friend's suggestion?
 - A. Buying a bike
 - **B.** Purchasing tires
 - C. Changing the oil
 - D. Refueling the car
- 4. How often does city recycling usually take place?
 - A. Daily
 - B. Weekly
 - C. Monthly
 - D. Collection
- 5. What does a person likely mean when they say "Stay away from me!"?
 - A. They are inviting you closer.
 - B. They want to talk.
 - C. They want distance.
 - D. They are feeling friendly.

- 6. What does David Robinson's height indicate about him?
 - A. He is tall
 - B. He is average height
 - C. He is short
 - D. He is of normal height
- 7. What did Rene use to bite his brother?
 - A. His hands
 - B. His teeth
 - C. His words
 - D. His nails
- 8. What is the appropriate term for items used to support and organize clothes on a hanger?
 - A. Hangers
 - **B. Shelves**
 - C. Bins
 - D. Hooks
- 9. What does the speaker refuse to do in the argument between friends?
 - A. Participate
 - B. Take sides
 - C. Listen
 - D. Judge
- 10. What might indicate that the students need to correct their work?
 - A. They finished quickly.
 - B. They showed improvement.
 - C. They did not understand.
 - D. They followed instructions.

Answers



- 1. C 2. C 3. B 4. D 5. C 6. A 7. B 8. A 9. B 10. C



Explanations



1. What does the teller need from him to complete the form?

- A. Name
- **B.** Address
- C. Signature
- D. Date

The teller needs a signature to complete the form because a signature serves as a formal validation of the information provided. It is an important element that signifies agreement or approval. When filling out forms, especially those related to banking or financial transactions, a signature is often required for authenticity and to ensure that the person completing the form is indeed the one who authorized the transaction. This process helps prevent fraud and assures that the transaction is legally binding. Other information such as name, address, or date may be necessary for identification or record-keeping purposes, but the signature is typically the critical component that finalizes the document.

2. What action does Jack suggest in regard to borrowing money?

- A. Receive
- B. Take
- C. Borrow
- D. Give

The action Jack suggests in regard to borrowing money is to "borrow." This option directly addresses the act of taking funds from someone with the intention of returning them later, which is the essence of borrowing. It conveys the specific idea that Jack is recommending someone to seek out a loan or financial assistance from another person or source. The other choices do not accurately reflect this core action related to borrowing; for instance, "receive" might imply acceptance of money but does not convey the active pursuit of funding with a return obligation that borrowing does. Similarly, "take" and "give" do not encapsulate the concept of borrowing, as they either imply a one-sided action without the necessary return framework or suggest providing rather than receiving. Therefore, "borrow" is the most precise and appropriate choice in this context.

3. What action is directly linked to the speaker's friend's suggestion?

- A. Buying a bike
- **B.** Purchasing tires
- C. Changing the oil
- D. Refueling the car

The action that is directly linked to the speaker's friend's suggestion is purchasing tires. This indicates that the friend likely recommended buying new tires for a vehicle, perhaps because the existing tires are worn out or unsuitable for driving. The context might involve a conversation about maintaining a vehicle, where the friend points out that tires are crucial for safety and performance. Choosing tires signifies a specific recommendation that aligns directly with the needs of vehicle maintenance, unlike the other options which involve different aspects of vehicle care. For instance, while buying a bike or changing the oil are related to transportation, they do not stem from the suggestion about tires. Refueling the car, while also necessary, does not relate to the condition or performance of tires. Thus, purchasing tires stands out as the most relevant action linked to the friend's suggestion.

4. How often does city recycling usually take place?

- A. Daily
- **B.** Weekly
- C. Monthly
- **D.** Collection

The correct answer indicates that the term "collection" encompasses the process of gathering recyclable materials, which can occur according to a specific schedule determined by the city. While different cities may have varying schedules for recycling collection, it is common for municipalities to organize these collections rather than specify an exact frequency such as daily, weekly, or monthly. The term "collection" allows for flexibility in how often recycling is picked up, as it can be tailored to local guidelines and resources. Some cities may choose a weekly schedule, while others may opt for bi-weekly or monthly pickups based on community needs and participation levels. This understanding reflects the broader concept of waste management practices rather than limiting the answer to a fixed frequency.

5. What does a person likely mean when they say "Stay away from me!"?

- A. They are inviting you closer.
- B. They want to talk.
- C. They want distance.
- D. They are feeling friendly.

When someone says "Stay away from me!", it indicates a desire for physical space or distance from the person they are addressing. This expression often suggests that the speaker is uncomfortable, upset, or wants to be alone. The phrase communicates a clear boundary, emphasizing that they do not want to engage in any interaction at that moment. Therefore, the correct interpretation aligns with the notion of wanting distance, highlighting that the speaker is not seeking closeness or conversation.

6. What does David Robinson's height indicate about him?

- A. He is tall
- B. He is average height
- C. He is short
- D. He is of normal height

The answer indicating that David Robinson is tall is correct because the context suggests that his height is significantly above the average height for adult males. Height can be a comparative measure, and in this case, if David Robinson is described in a way that emphasizes his height and suggests he stands out among others, it is reasonable to conclude that he is considered tall. This understanding relies on the common perception of height in sports or general discussions about physical attributes, particularly in contexts where height is often highlighted, such as basketball, where David Robinson was a prominent player. The other options fall short in capturing the implied significance of his height in relation to typical benchmarks for adult height.

7. What did Rene use to bite his brother?

- A. His hands
- B. His teeth
- C. His words
- D. His nails

The reason "His teeth" is the correct answer lies in the common understanding of what it means to bite. Biting specifically involves using the teeth to come into contact with another object or person, typically in a way that can cause pain or is aggressive. In this context, when the question asks what Rene used to bite his brother, it is implied that the act of biting would logically require the use of teeth, as they are the anatomical parts designated for such action. Other options, like hands, words, or nails, do not align with the physical act of biting as they serve different functions. Hands could grasp or hold but cannot bite, words refer to verbal communication that cannot physically affect another person in the way biting does, and nails, while they can scratch or claw, do not represent the traditional action of biting. Thus, "His teeth" is the most appropriate and accurate choice.

- 8. What is the appropriate term for items used to support and organize clothes on a hanger?
 - A. Hangers
 - **B. Shelves**
 - C. Bins
 - D. Hooks

The appropriate term for items used to support and organize clothes on a hanger is "hangers." Hangers are specifically designed to hold garments like shirts, dresses, and pants, ensuring they maintain their shape and are easily accessible. They often come in various shapes and materials, which serve the purpose of both functionality and organization in a wardrobe. While shelves, bins, and hooks might be involved in the broader task of organizing clothing, they serve different functions. Shelves provide a flat surface for stacking or displaying items but are not designed to hold clothing in a way that prevents them from losing their shape. Bins are typically used for storage, often for items that are not hung, while hooks are meant for hanging items but do not provide the complete support a hanger does. Therefore, the use of "hangers" is the most suitable term for what is needed to organize clothes effectively on a hanger.

- 9. What does the speaker refuse to do in the argument between friends?
 - A. Participate
 - B. Take sides
 - C. Listen
 - D. Judge

The correct choice indicates that the speaker chooses not to take sides in the argument between friends. This response signifies a desire for neutrality and impartiality, reflecting an understanding that taking sides could escalate tensions or damage relationships among those involved in the dispute. By refusing to take sides, the speaker demonstrates a commitment to fostering communication and understanding rather than contributing to conflict. This behavior can be valuable in situations where emotions are heightened, as it allows for a more constructive dialogue and helps both parties feel heard without feeling alienated by a perceived bias from the speaker. This choice also suggests that the speaker values friendship and does not want to contribute to division between the friends by endorsing one viewpoint over another. In contrast, choices related to participation, listening, or judging indicate a more active role in the argument, which the speaker explicitly opts to avoid in this scenario.

10. What might indicate that the students need to correct their work?

- A. They finished quickly.
- B. They showed improvement.
- C. They did not understand.
- D. They followed instructions.

The choice that indicates students need to correct their work is linked to their lack of understanding. When students do not grasp the material or the instructions fully, it suggests that their work may contain errors or misunderstandings that need addressing. Recognizing that they did not understand is crucial, as it points to the possibility that they may have made mistakes due to confusion about the subject matter or the task requirements. In contrast, finishing quickly might suggest they comprehended the content and could apply it efficiently, showing that no corrections are needed. Improvement is a positive sign and indicates that students are progressing rather than needing to correct their work. Following instructions typically suggests that students are on the right track, and it does not imply any errors related to understanding the content or the task. Hence, the emphasis on understanding directly correlates to the need for correction, making this the most fitting answer.