

FreedomProject Academy

8TH GRADE ENGLISH PLACEMENT TEST

Instructions:

1. Print the entire test. Printing the accompanying literature selection is optional. You may open the document and read it on your computer.
2. All work must be completed only by the student. It is imperative for us to see the student's own work for accurate placement. No outside sources are to be used including but not limited to the following: textbooks, dictionaries, notes, text messages, Internet sources, smart phones, tablets, parents, family, or friends.
3. Be sure to include the student's name and note the time it took to complete the test at the top of the first page.
4. Scan completed test and email to tests@fpeusa.org .

Name _____ Date: _____ Time to complete: _____
8TH GRADE ENGLISH PLACEMENT TEST. Please answer all questions by hand in **cursive**.

GRAMMAR

Put **S** for “Sentence” and **F** for “Fragment.”

___ 1.) After we visit the library and gather information for the research paper.

___ 2.) Listen closely to our guest speaker.

___ 3.) Fishing, skiing, and swimming in the lake.

Underline the simple subject once and the simple predicate twice.

1.) Many new inventions and devices make life easier.

2.) Have you ever seen a talking computer?

3.) Hearing-impaired viewers can read subtitles and enjoy their favorite television shows.

Classify the following sentences as declarative (DEC), interrogative (INT), imperative (IMP), or exclamatory (EXC). Add the appropriate end mark.

_____ 1.) Have you ever watched a honeybee or a bumblebee in a garden

_____ 2.) Notice the yellow pollen that collects on the legs and body of the bee

_____ 3.) What a remarkable insect the bee is

Look at the words in italics. Label each as a noun (N), pronoun (Pro), or adjective (Adj).

1.) Recent *studies* show that the Winnebago people developed a *calendar* based on careful observation of the *heavens*.

2.) An *archaeologist* has found that markings on an old *calendar* stick are the precise records of a *lunar* year and a solar year.

3.) The calendar stick is a carved *hickory* branch with *four* sides.

4.) *It* is worn along the *edges* and shows other signs of frequent use.

Look at the words in italics. Label each as a verb (V), adverb (Adv), preposition (Prep), conjunction (Conj), or interjection (I).

- 1.) The first crossword puzzle was published *in* 1913.
- 2.) It *appeared* on the Fun Page of a New York City newspaper, *and* readers *immediately asked* the editors *for* more.
- 3.) *Wow!* Almost every daily newspaper in the United States *now* publishes crossword puzzles.

Place parentheses () around each prepositional phrase and underline the word or phrase it modifies. Label each prepositional phrase as an adjective phrase or an adverb phrase.

- 1.) The pony with the white forelock is Sally's.
- 2.) Outside the door the hungry cat waited patiently.
- 3.) The first United States space shuttle was launched in 1981.

Identify each group of italicized words as an Independent Clause (I) or a Subordinate Clause (S). If it is Subordinate, also label as an adjective clause or adverb clause.

- 1.) My mother, *who was born and raised in Jamaica*, really knows how to cook.
- 2.) Whenever I have a chance, *I try to learn her secrets*.
- 3.) *As soon as we pay for these items*, let's take them home.

Identify each sentence as simple (S), compound (CD), complex (CX), or compound-complex (CD-CX).

- _____ 1.) We visit the Liberty Bell whenever we go to Philadelphia.
- _____ 2.) Have you chosen a topic for your report yet, or are you still making your decision?
- _____ 3.) When George Washington Carver was working on soil improvement and plant diseases, the South was recovering from the Civil War, and his discoveries gave planters a competitive edge.

Identify each italicized word as a direct object (DO), indirect object (IO), predicate nominative (PN), or predicate adjective (PA).

- 1.) My sister has become a computer-repair *technician*.
- 2.) The teacher showed the *class* a *film* about the Revolutionary War.
- 3.) At first the colt seemed *frightened*.

Identify each incorrect pronoun and write the correct form.

- 1.) The computer experts in our class are Rosalinda and her.
- 2.) Pablo and me are planning to visit the Andes Mountains.
- 3.) Will you attend the rally with Scott and I?

Identify each incorrect verb and write the correct form.

- 1.) I seen that magician on television.
- 2.) You should have went with Thomas to the game.
- 3.) Sandra throwed the ball to the shortstop.

Circle each letter that should be capitalized.

- 1.) the curtiss soap corporation sponsors the tv show called *five friends*.
- 2.) when grandma murray from mobile, alabama, visited us, she watched the program.
- 3.) in the silliest show, the people in the next town, longview, thought that a sea monster was living in lake cranberry and reported it to the department of the interior.

Place correct punctuation in each of the sentences below – end marks, commas, semicolons, and colons.

- 1.) Some turtles live on land others live in lakes streams or oceans
- 2.) Three species of tortoises that can be found in the United States are as follows the desert tortoise the gopher tortoise and the Texas tortoise

Place correct punctuation in each of the sentences below – underlining, quotation marks, apostrophes, or hyphens.

- 1.) A two thirds majority said they didnt want to have the dance Friday night Shawn said.
- 2.) Does the public library have copies of the Seminole Tribune?

LITERATURE: VOCABULARY / COMPREHENSION

Answer all parts of the comprehension questions after reading the separately attached passage from *A Christmas Carol – Stave I, “Marley’s Ghost.”* For vocabulary, circle the letter of the correct answer. Please answer all other questions in complete sentences by hand in cursive. (30 pts.)

1.) “It was cold, bleak, biting weather: foggy withal: and he could hear the people in the court outside go **wheezing** up and down, beating their hands upon their breasts, and stamping their feet ...”

In the sentence above, **wheezing** means which of the following? (1 pt.)

- a. hurrying
- b. jumping to keep warm
- c. breathing with a rattling sound
- d. talking as they met friends

2.) “Scrooge had a very small fire, but the clerk's fire was so very much smaller that it looked like one coal. But he couldn't **replenish** it, for Scrooge kept the coal-box in his own room ...”

In the sentence above, **replenish** means which of the following? (1 pt.)

- a. light
- b. feel its warmth
- c. refill
- d. extinguish it

3.) “What right have you to be dismal? What reason have you to be **morose**? You're rich enough.”

In the sentence above, **morose** means which of the following? (1 pt.)

- a. light-hearted
- b. charitable
- c. gloomy
- d. mean-spirited

4.) “Christmas among the rest. But I am sure I have always thought of Christmas time, when it has come round—apart from the **veneration** due to its sacred name and origin, ...”

In the above sentence, **veneration** means which of the following? (1 pt.)

- a. celebration
- b. customs or traditions
- c. meaning
- d. reverence

5.) “The clerk in the tank involuntarily applauded: becoming immediately sensible of the **impropriety**, he poked the fire, and extinguished the last frail spark for ever.”

In the above sentence, **impropriety** means which of the following? (1 pt.)

- a. improper behavior
- b. observing good manners
- c. regretting his actions
- d. improvement of his situation

Please answer all of the remaining questions in **complete sentences** by hand in **cursive**. Points will be deducted if these directions are not followed.

6.) Use at least 3 adjectives to describe Scrooge’s counting-house. (3 pts.)

7.) How does Scrooge treat his helper/clerk (Bob Cratchit)? Give examples. (4 pts.)

8.) Who comes to visit Scrooge? (2 pts.) _____

9.) What famous line is Scrooge known for saying? (2 pts.) _____

10.) For what reason did Scrooge think that his nephew should not have a Merry Christmas, and what was the nephew’s witty response? (4 pts.)

11.) Why did Scrooge warn his clerk that he might lose his job? (4 pts.)

