

FreedomProject Academy

10TH GRADE ENGLISH PLACEMENT TEST

Instructions:

1. Print the entire test.
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, 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. The Grammar section of this test should be in manuscript (printed) writing; however, the Literature and Writing sections should be in **cursive**. If the student has not learned cursive, take steps to work on that skill over the summer to prepare for school in the fall.
5. Scan completed test and email to tests@fpeusa.org.

Name _____ Date: _____ Time to complete: _____
10TH GRADE ENGLISH PLACEMENT TEST. Please answer all questions. The grammar section should be in manuscript (printing) writing. Place all labels **above** the word(s) wherever no lines are provided.

GRAMMAR

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

The [1] *first* pioneers on the Great Plains [2] *encountered* many kinds [3] *of* dangerous animals. Grizzly bears and [4] *huge* herds of bison were menaces to [5] *early* settlers. One of the [6] *most* ferocious beasts of the plains [7] *was* a [8] *grizzly* protecting her cubs. However, [9] *neither* the bison *nor* the grizzly was the most feared animal [10] *on* the frontier. Not even the deadly [11] *rattlesnake* – nor [12] *any* of the other prairie creatures—was dreaded as much as the skunk. You may think, [13] “*Oh*, that is [14] *ridiculous*.” However, it is true.

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

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle Certainly gave [1] *readers* a wonderful [2] *gift* when he [3] *created* the character of Sherlock Holmes. [4] *Holmes* is a [5] *master* of the science of deduction. He [6] *observes* seemingly insignificant [7] *clues*, applies logical reasoning, and reaches simple yet astounding conclusions. The Hound of the Baskervilles is an excellent [8] *example* of how Holmes solves a baffling [9] *mystery*. This story is one of Conan Doyle’s best because it is both [10] *eerie* and mystifying.

Classify the following sentences as declarative, interrogative, imperative, or exclamatory. Add the appropriate end mark.

_____ 1.) Have you read any of these stories__

_____ 2.) Read just one of these stories, and see why millions love them__

_____ 3.) How clever Sherlock Holmes is__

_____ 4.) Sir Arthur Conan Doyle wrote four novels and fifty-six short stories__

Identify the following italicized words as a Participle (Part), a Gerund (Ger), an Infinitive (Inf), or an Appositive (App).

- 1.) John began with every intention of *cleaning* his entire room, the official disaster *area* of his home.
- 2.) He first tackled the pile of CDs *lying* near his *unused* sound system.
- 3.) By *repairing* the stereo, he could give himself a reason *to update* his music collection.

Underline each Subordinate Clause and label each as a noun, adjective, or adverb.

- 1.) The man who rented us the bikes was helpful.
- 2.) What we found was a nail in the tire.
- 3.) We decided to take the bike to whatever bike shop was the nearest.

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

- _____ 1.) Amanda loved the sound of the orchestra at her school's winter concert, and she decided then to study the violin.
- _____ 2.) Amanda knew that playing the proper notes could be especially difficult on a violin.
- _____ 3.) When students can actually create music with this stubborn instrument, they have reason to be proud.
- _____ 4.) As it happens, you're right, and I'm wrong.

Circle each incorrect pronoun and write the correct form.

- 1.) Van is more energetic than me.
- 2.) Rick couldn't spot Maura and I in the huge crowd at the state fairgrounds.
- 3.) Whomever can possibly take her place?
- 4.) Us players surprised the coach with a victory party.

Make corrections to the following sentences to show proper subject-verb agreement or pronoun-antecedent agreement.

- 1.) The teacher reminded everyone to sharpen their pencil.
- 2.) Both of the finalists played his or her best.
- 3.) One problem is that the filmmaker, in most cases, have to get quite close to the animal.
- 4.) A zoom lens or a telephoto lens are generally used.

Circle each letter that should be capitalized.

- 1.) the u. s. senate and the house of representatives may pass a bill into law, but the president can veto it.
- 2.) michelangelo's *the creation of the world* and *the last judgment* are paintings that depict scenes from the bible.
- 3.) the opossum can be found as far south as argentina and as far north as canada.

Use correct punctuation in each of the sentences below – commas, underlining (italics), quotation marks, semicolons, colons, apostrophes, hyphens, parentheses, and dashes.

- 1.) Ive just finished tonights homework! Gina exclaimed as she completed her twenty first math problem.
- 2.) Gina also finished assignments in English History and Biology they were difficult.
- 3.) It was now 1000 P.M. time for Gina to go to sleep.
- 4.) Liberias history its founding that is is unique.
- 5.) However the U.S. government didnt officially recognize Liberia until President Lincolns administration 1862.

LITERATURE: VOCABULARY / COMPREHENSION

Read this selection and then answer the questions which follow.

10 GRADE ENGLISH PLACEMENT TEST LITERATURE SELECTION ***The Scarlet Letter, Chapter 2: The Market-Place***

The grass plot before the jail, in Prison Lane, on a certain summer morning, not less than two centuries ago, was occupied by a pretty large number of the inhabitants of Boston; all with their eyes intently fastened on the iron-clamped oaken door. Amongst any other population, or at a later period in the history of New England, the grim rigidity that petrified the bearded physiognomies of these good people would have augured some awful business in hand. It could have betokened nothing short of the anticipated execution of some noted culprit, on whom the sentence of a legal tribunal had but confirmed the verdict of public sentiment. But, in that early severity of the Puritan character, an inference of this kind could not so indubitably be drawn. It might be that a sluggish bond servant, or an undutiful child, whom his parents had given over to the civil authority, was to be corrected at the whipping post. It might be, that an Antinomian, a Quaker, or other heterodox religionist, was to be scourged out of the town, or an idle and vagrant Indian, whom the white man's fire water had made riotous about the streets, was to be driven with stripes into the shadow of the forest. It might be, too, that a witch, like old Mistress Hibbins, the bitter tempered widow of the magistrate, was to die upon the gallows. In either case, there was very much the same solemnity of demeanor on the part of the spectators; as befitted a people amongst whom religion and law were almost identical, and in whose character both were so thoroughly interfused, that the mildest and the severest acts of public discipline were alike made venerable and awful. Meagre, indeed, and cold, was the sympathy that a transgressor might look for, from such bystanders, at the scaffold. On the other hand, a penalty which, in our days, would infer a degree of mocking infamy and ridicule, might then be invested with almost as stern a dignity as the punishment of death itself.

It was a circumstance to be noted, on the summer morning when our story begins its course, that the women, of whom there were several in the crowd, appeared to take a peculiar interest in whatever penal infliction might be expected to ensue. The age had not so much refinement, that any sense of impropriety restrained the wearers of petticoat and farthingale from stepping forth into the public ways, and wedging their not unsubstantial persons, if occasion were, into the throng nearest to the scaffold at an execution. Morally, as well as materially, there was a coarser fiber in those wives and maidens of old English birth and breeding, than in their fair descendants, separated from them by a series of six or seven generations; for, throughout that chain of ancestry, every successive mother has transmitted to her child a fainter bloom, a more delicate and briefer beauty, and a slighter physical frame, if not a character of less force and solidity, than her own. The women who were now standing about the prison door stood within less than half a century of the period when the man-like Elizabeth had been the not altogether unsuitable representative of the sex. They were her countrywomen; and the beef and ale of their native land, with a moral diet, not a whit more refined, entered largely into their composition. The bright morning sun, therefore, shone on broad shoulders and well-developed busts, and on round and ruddy cheeks, that had ripened in the far-off island, and had hardly yet grown paler or thinner in the atmosphere of New England. There was, moreover, a boldness and rotundity of speech among these matrons, as most of them seemed to be, that would startle us at the present day, whether in respect to its purport or its volume of tone.

"Good wives," said a hard-featured dame of fifty, "I'll tell ye a piece of my mind. It would be greatly for the public behoof, if we women, being of mature age and church members in good repute, should have the handling of such malefactresses as this Hester Prynne. What think ye, gossips? If the hussy stood up for judgment before us five, that are now here in a knot together, would she come off with such a sentence as the worshipful magistrates have awarded? Marry, I trow not!"

"People say," said another, "that the Reverend Master Dimmesdale, her godly pastor, takes it very grievously to heart that such a scandal should have come upon his congregation."

"The magistrates are God-fearing gentlemen, but merciful over much,--that is a truth," added a third autumnal matron. "At the very least, they should have put the brand of a hot iron on Hester Prynne's forehead. Madam Hester would have winced at that, I warrant me. But she, --the naughty baggage,--little will she care what they put upon the bodice of her gown! Why, look you, she may cover it with a brooch, or such like heathenish adornment, and so walk the streets as brave as ever!"

"Ah, but," interposed, more softly, a young wife, holding a child by the hand, "let her cover the mark as she will, the pang of it will be always in her heart."

"What do we talk of marks and brands, whether on the bodice of her gown, or the flesh of her forehead?" cried another female, the ugliest as well as the most pitiless of these self-constituted judges. "This woman has brought shame upon us all, and ought to die. Is there not law for it? Truly there is, both in the Scripture and the statute book. Then let the magistrates, who have made it of no effect, thank themselves if their own wives and daughters go astray!"

"Mercy on us, good wife," exclaimed a man in the crowd, "is there no virtue in woman, save what springs from a wholesome fear of the gallows? That is the hardest work yet I Hush, now, gossips! for the lock is turning in the prison door, and here comes Mistress Prynne herself."

The door of the jail being flung open from within, there appeared, in the first place, like a black shadow emerging into sunshine, the grim and grisly presence of the town-beadle, with a sword by his side, and his staff of office in his hand. This personage prefigured and represented in his aspect the whole dismal severity of the Puritanic code of law, which it was his business to administer in its final and closest application to the offender. Stretching forth the official staff in his left hand, he laid his right upon the shoulder of a young woman, whom he thus drew forward; until, on the threshold of the prison door, she repelled him, by an action marked with natural dignity and force of character, and stepped into the open air, as if by her own free will. She bore in her arms a child, a baby of some three months old, who winked and turned aside its little face from the too vivid light of day; because its existence, heretofore, had brought it acquainted only with the gray twilight of a dungeon, or other darksome apartment of the prison.

When the young woman—the mother of this child—stood fully revealed before the crowd, it seemed to be her first impulse to clasp the infant closely to her bosom not so much by an impulse of motherly affection, as that she might thereby conceal a certain token, which was wrought or fastened into her dress. In a moment, however, wisely judging that one token of her shame would but poorly serve to hide another, she took the baby on her arm, and, with a burning blush, and yet a haughty smile, and a glance that would not be abashed looked around at her townspeople and neighbors. On the breast of her gown, in fine red cloth, surrounded with elaborate embroidery and fantastic flourishes of gold thread, appeared the letter A. It was so artistically done, and with so much fertility and gorgeous luxuriance of fancy, that it had all the effect of a last and fitting decoration to the apparel which she wore; and which was of a splendor in accordance with the taste of the age, but greatly beyond what was allowed by the sumptuary regulations of the colony.

LITERATURE: VOCABULARY / COMPREHENSION

Answer the comprehension questions after reading the above passages from *The Scarlet Letter*. You may refer back to them at any time. (30 pts.)

For the vocabulary section, circle the letter of the correct answer.

1.) "In either case, there was very much the same **solemnity** of demeanor on the part of the spectators"

In the line above, **solemnity** means which of the following? (1 pt.)

- a. cheerful
- b. eagerness
- c. playfulness
- d. seriousness

2.) "...being of mature age and church members in good **repute**..."

In the lines above, **repute** means which of the following? (1 pt.)

- a. reputation
- b. disrespect
- c. corruption
- d. belief

3.) "' Ah but," **interposed**, more softly, a young wife..."

In the lines above, **interposed** means which of the following? (1 pt.)

- a. erased
- b. respectfully
- c. intervened
- d. avoided

4.) "Then let the **magistrates** who have made it of no effect, thank themselves if their own wives and daughters go astray"

In the line above, **magistrates** mean which of the following? (1 pt.)

- a. judges
- b. townspeople
- c. pastors
- d. court

5.) "...and yet, a haughty smile..."

In the line above, **haughty** means which of the following? (1 pt.)

- a. arrogant
- b. playful
- c. humble
- d. timid

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

6.) Where does this story take place, and what time of year is it? (2 pts.)

7.) Who took a special interest in what was happening outside the prison doors? (2 pts)

8.) Who were these people waiting for to come out of the prison door? (2 pts.)

9.) As they were talking, the women thought that the one coming out of the prison door should have had a different punishment than what was given. What were the two things they felt the punishment should have been? (4 pts.)

10.) Describe who walked out with the prisoner. (4 pts.)

11.) What did the prisoner have in her hands? (2 pts.)
