

COLUMBIA INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

SAMPLE PLACEMENT TEST

PART A (20 marks)

Choose the correct completion.

1. Rita is wearing a blouse. _____ Blouse is light blue.

- a) Hers
- b) She's
- c) Her

2. That is _____.

- a) a mistakes
- b) mistakes
- c) a mistake

3. _____ you a student in this class?

- a) Do
- b) Does
- c) Is
- d) Are

4. They _____ speak the same language.

- a) aren't
- b) don't
- c) doesn't

5. "Do you know Fatima?"

"Yes, I do. I _____ she is a very nice person"

- a) am thinking
- b) thinking
- c) think

6. How _____ tea do you drink a day?

- a) many
- b) much

7. There are seven _____ in this class.

- a) woman
- b) womans
- c) women

8. The police _____ a thief yesterday.

- a) caught
- b) caught
- c) caught

9. Did you talk to _____ ?

- a) anybody
- b) someone
- c) somebody

10. In my opinion Harry's Steak House is _____ restaurant in the city?

- a) badder
- b) worse
- c) the worst

11. I know a man _____ last name is Goose.

- a) which
- b) whom
- c) that his
- d) whose

12. Did you recognize the woman _____ came into the room?

- a) who
- b) whom
- c) which

13. John was washing the dishes _____ he heard the bad news?

- a) until
- b) when
- c) while

14. _____ you open the window, please?

- a) may
- b) could
- c) should

15. Annie, you _____ study for the test. If you fail this time, I will call your mother.

- a) should
- b) had better to
- c) had better

16. I have decided _____ here over vacation.

- a) staying
- b) to stay

17. It is important _____ English.

- a) learning
- b) to learn

18. John is interested _____ English.

- a) at studying
- b) to study
- c) in studying

19. This woman reminds me _____ my mother.

- a) of
- b) to
- c) about

PART B (10 marks)

Write questions to the underlined words.

Example: Kate is upstairs.
Where is Kate?

1. John lives in an apartment.

2. The movie starts at 8:15.

3. I'm writing a letter.

4. John lives in that house

5. I called Mary yesterday.

6. I read this book because Ann recommended it to me.

7. I was sleeping when the phone rang.

8. He has a haircut once a month.

9. I went shopping with Liz.

10. This Mary's book.

PART C (16 marks)

Directions: Use any appropriate tense.

Jose: Hi, my name is Jose.

Ali: Hi, my name is Ali.

1. Jose: (*you, study*) {1} _____ at this university?
2. Ali: Yes, I (*be*) {2} _____. And you?
3. Ali: Yes, I (*be*) {3} _____ here since last September.
Before that I (*study*) {4} _____ English at another school.
4. Ali: What (*you, take*) {5} _____ this term?
5. Jose: I (*take*) {6} _____ chemistry, math, psychology, and American history. What (*you, take*) {7} _____ ?
6. Ali: I (*study*) {8} _____ English. I (*need*) {9} _____ to improve my English before I (*take*) {10} _____ regular academic academic courses next semester.
7. Jose: How long (*you, be*) {11} _____ here?
8. Ali: I (*be*) {12} _____ here since the beginning of this semester. Actually, I (*arrive*) {13} _____ in the United States six months ago, but I (*study*) {14} _____ English at this university only since January. Before that I (*live*) {15} _____ with my brother in Washington, D.C.
9. Jose: You (*speak*) {16} _____ very well. (*You, study*) {17} _____ a lot of English before you (*come*) {18} _____ to the United States?

10. Ali: Yes. I (*study*) {19} _____ English for ten years in my own country. And also, I (*spend*) {20} _____ some time in Canada a couple of years ago. I (*pick*) {21} _____ up a lot of English while I (*live*) {22} _____ there.
11. Jose: You (*be*) {23} _____ lucky. When I (*come*) {24} _____ to the United States, I (*study, never*) {25} _____ any English at all. So I has to Spend a whole year studying nothing but English before I (*start*) {26} _____ school.
12. Ali: How long (*you, plan*) {27} _____ to be in the United States?
13. Jose: I (*be, not*) {28} _____ sure. Probably by the time I (*return*) {30} _____ home, I (*be*) {31} _____ here for at least five years. How about you?
14. Ali: I (*hope*) {32} _____ to be finished with all my work in two and a half years.

PART D (10 marks)

Use either active or passive, in any appropriate tense for the verbs in parentheses.

1. The game (*win, probably*) _____ by the other team tomorrow. They are a lot better than we are.
2. The first fish (*appear*) _____ on the earth about 500 million years ago. Up to now, more than 20, 000 kinds of fish (*name*) _____ and (*describe*) _____ by scientists. New species (*discover*) _____ every year, so the total increases constantly.

3. Captain Cook, a British navigator, was the first European to reach Australia's east coast. While his ship was lying off Australia, his sailors (bring) _____ a strange animal on board. Cook wanted to know the name of this unusual creature, so he (send) _____ his men ashore to ask the native inhabitants. When the natives (ask) _____ in sign language to name the animal, they said "Kangaroo". The sailors, of course, believed "Kangaroo" was the animal's name. Years later, the truth (discover) _____ "Kangaroo" means "What did you say"? But today, the animal (call, still) _____ a Kangaroo in English.

PART E

Complete each sentence with the verb in parentheses.

1. I was very tired. Otherwise, I (go) _____ to the party with you last night.
2. If you (sleep, not) _____ last night when we arrived, I would have asked you to go with us, but I didn't want to wake you up.
3. If I (have) _____ enough money, I will go with you.
4. If I (have) _____ enough money, I would go with you.
5. If I (have) _____ enough, I would have gone with you.
6. If Sally (be) _____ at home tomorrow, I'm going to visit her.

PART F Reading Comprehension

David and the Spider

Once upon a time there was a powerful king Name Saul. He had many soldiers. One of them was David. David was a brave soldier. He also sang beautiful songs. Saul loved David, and David was always ready to help his king. One afternoon David was in the palace garden. Everything looked very pretty. David thought, "It is a beautiful world". Then David saw a spider in the tree. The spider was spinning a web. David threw the spider on the ground. "You are ugly!" he said. "Everything in this garden is beautiful except you. You do no good in the world. You only spin webs". David was ready to step on the spider. Suddenly he stopped. "It is not your fault you are ugly and do no good in the world," he said sadly. The spider's shiny black eyes looked at David. Then she ran away. David went into the palace. He still thought that spiders were the ugliest animals in the world. He was sure they were not needed. One day King Saul got very sick. He was sick in his mind. His thoughts were all wrong. He did not love David anymore. He began to hate him. He thought David wanted to be King. Saul told his soldiers to kill David. Saul's son was David's friend. He told David what Saul said. David ran away before the soldiers came to get him. Saul was very angry. He and his soldiers looked everywhere for David. For many days they chased David through the mountains. Often they were very close to him. One hot day David came to a mountain full of many caves. He went into a cool, dark cave to rest. Soon he fell asleep. When he woke up, he heard Saul and his soldiers. "Look in every cave!" Saul shouted. David went far inside the cave to hide. He was afraid. He heard the soldiers looking in the caves. Suddenly he saw a big, ugly spider. It was spinning a web across the entrance of his cave. The spider was going up and down, around and around, faster and faster. Her ugly body was making a beautiful web. The soldiers were coming closer and closer. Then two men stood outside the cave. One of the men was Saul. "This is the last cave", the soldier said to Saul. "I will go in and look for David." The king told him, "You do not need to look in this cave. There is a spider web across the entrance. We can see that David did not go inside. The spider web is not broken. Saul was suddenly very tired. He told his soldiers to stop and rest. Then he fell asleep at the entrance of the cave. The spider sat in the middle of her web and watched the king with her shiny little eyes. David hid at the back of the cave. He watched the spider in her web. Later the king woke up. He left with his soldiers. David came out of the cave. He was happy to be alive. David said to the spider, "I'm sorry I said you do no good in the world. You saved my life!" The spider did not answer. She only looked at him with her shiny black eyes. Then she ran away to make another web. David went away, too. He promised himself never again to say any animal has no use.

Understanding the Story

A. What Happens?

Choose a, b, or c to complete each sentence.

1. David did not step on the spider in the garden because
 - a) The spider ran away
 - b) He couldn't catch the spider
 - c) It wasn't the spider's fault that she was so ugly

2. King Saul wanted to kill David because
 - a) David stole from him
 - b) David lied to him
 - c) He was sick in his mind

3. David got away from King Saul because
 - a) Saul's son told him that his father planned to kill him
 - b) Saul's soldiers told him to leave
 - c) Saul's son went with him

4. The spider saved David because
 - a) Saul's soldiers were afraid to go into the cave
 - b) Saul's soldiers thought no one was inside
 - c) Saul's soldiers were angry with Saul

5. David asked the spider to forgive him for
 - a) Saying that spiders do no good in the world
 - b) Saying that spiders are ugly
 - c) Trying to step on her in the garden

B. Answer the following questions in a sentence form

1. Why did King Saul love David before he got sick?

2. Why did the King Saul want to kill David?

3. Why did David go into the cave?

4. How did the spider save David's life?

5. Why did David go into the cave?

PART G Writing

Choose **one** of the following topics and write a composition of three paragraphs.

1. Write about the most important person in you life.

2. Write about the most enjoyable day in your life.

3. Write about your country.

