

International Olympiad on English Language & Literature

Segment: Grade 6-8

Test on Reading Skill

Name: _____

Country: _____

Institute: _____

Email: _____

Signature of the participant

Signature of the invigilator

Rules and Regulations:

1. You have to be present in the examination hall well before the commencement of the test.
2. You will not be permitted to enter the examination hall 30 minutes after the commencement of the test.
3. You will not be permitted to leave the examination hall until after 30 minutes of commencement of the test.
4. If you have any paper/chit with you, surrender them to the invigilator now.
5. All are multiple-choice questions.
6. Please use a BLACK ball point pen to mark your answers. DO NOT use pencil.
 - Choose the MOST appropriate answer.
 - Darken the circle corresponding to the answer of your choice. An example:

Question	Answer
The shape of the Earth is _____ (A) Spherical (B) Spheroidal (C) Ovoid (D) Ellipsoidal	A B C D <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>

- Marks will not be awarded if more than one answer is chosen.
 - Your answer must be given only in the answer sheet (overleaf).
 - **Answers given anywhere else will not be evaluated.**
7. Please DO NOT tear out or add any sheet from/to the question paper.
 8. Please enter your Registration No. and affix your signature on the answer sheet before starting to answer the questions.

Read the following passage and answer the following questions marked 1, 2, 3, 4:

Quantum mechanics is a highly successful theory: it supplies methods for accurately calculating the results of diverse experiments, especially with minute particles. The predictions of quantum mechanics, however, give only the probability of an event, not a deterministic statement of whether or not the event will occur. Because of this probabilism, Einstein remained strongly dissatisfied with the theory throughout his life, though he did not maintain that quantum mechanics is wrong. Rather, he held that it is incomplete: in quantum mechanics the motion of a particle must be described in terms of probabilities, he argues, inly because some parameters that determine the motion have not been specified. If these hypothetical ‘hidden parameters’ were known, a fully deterministic trajectory could be defined. (Line 9) Significantly, this hidden-parameter quantum theory leads to experimental predictions different from those of traditional quantum mechanics. Einstein’s ideas have been tested by experiments performed since his death, and most of these experiments support traditional quantum mechanics, Einstein’s approach is almost certainly erroneous.

1. The author regards the idea that traditional quantum mechanics is incomplete with-
 - a) Approval
 - b) Surprise
 - c) Indifference
 - d) Apprehension
 - e) Skepticism
2. It can be inferred from the passage that the author’s conclusion that Einstein’s approach is ‘erroneous’ might have to be modified because
 - a) It is theoretically possible to generate plausible theories with hidden parameters within them.
 - b) Some experimental tests of Einstein’s theory do not disconfirm the hidden-parameter theory of quantum mechanics.
 - c) It is possible for a theory to have hidden parameters and yet be probabilistic.
 - d) Traditional quantum mechanics has not yet been used to analyze all of the phenomena to which it could be applied.
 - e) There are too many possible hidden parameters to develop meaningful tests of hidden parameter theories.
3. According to the passage, Einstein posed objections to the
 - a) Existence of hidden parameters in quantum theory.
 - b) Probabilistic nature of quantum mechanics.
 - c) Idea that quantum mechanics is incomplete.
 - d) Results of experiments testing quantum theories.
 - e) Importance accorded quantum mechanics in Physics.
4. The passage suggests that which of the following would have resulted if the experiments mentioned in the lines 9 to 10 had not supported the predictions of traditional quantum mechanics?
 - a) Einstein, had he been alive, would have revised his approach to quantum mechanics.
 - b) Hidden-parameter theories have been considered inaccurate descriptions of real-world phenomena.
 - c) A deterministic description of the motion of a particle might still be considered possible.
 - d) Quantum mechanics would have ceased to attract the attention of physicists.
 - e) Einstein, had he been alive, would have abandoned attempts to specify the hidden parameters that describe motion.

Read the following passage and answer the questions marked 5, 6, 7 and 8:

Simone de Beauvoir's work greatly influenced Betty Friedan's- indeed, made it possible. Why, then, was it Friedan who became the prophet of women's emancipation in the United States? Political conditions, as well as, a certain anti-intellectual bias, prepared Americans and the American media to better receive Friedan's deradicalized and highly pragmatic *The Feminine Mystique*, published in 1963, than Beauvoir's theoretical reading of women's situation in *The Second Sex*. In 1953 when *The Second Sex* first appeared in translation in the United States, the country had entered the silent, fearful fortress of the anticommunist McCarthy years (1950-1954), and Beauvoir was suspected of Marxist sympathies. Even *The Nation*, a generally liberal magazine, warned its readers against the 'certain political learnings' of the author. Open acknowledgement of the existence of women's oppression was too radical for the United States in the fifties, and Beauvoir's conclusion, that change in women's economic condition, though insufficient by itself, 'remains the basic factor' in improving women's situation, was particularly unacceptable.

5. According to the passage, one difference between *The Feminine Mystique* and *The Second Sex* is that Friedan's book
 - a) Rejects the idea that women are oppressed
 - b) Provides a primarily theoretical analysis of women's lives
 - c) Does not reflect the political beliefs of its author
 - d) Suggests that women's economic condition has no impact on their status
 - e) Concentrates in the practical aspects of the question of women's emancipation
6. The author quotes from *The Nation* most probably in order to
 - a) Modify an earlier assertion
 - b) Point out a possible exception to her argument
 - c) Illustrate her central point
 - d) Clarify the meaning of a term
 - e) Cite an expert opinion
7. It can be inferred from the passage that which of the following is not a factor in the explanation of why *The Feminine Mystique* was received more positively in the United States than *The Second Sex*?
 - a) By 1963 political conditions in the United States had changed.
 - b) Friedan's book was less intellectual and abstract than Beauvoir's.
 - c) Readers did not recognize the powerful influence of Beauvoir's book on Friedan's ideas.
 - d) Friedan's approach to the issue of women's emancipation was less radical than Beauvoir's.
 - e) American readers were more willing to consider the problem of oppression of women in the sixties than they had been in the fifties.
8. According to the passage, Beauvoir's book asserted that the status of women
 - a) Is the outcome of political oppression.
 - b) Is inherently tied to their economic condition.
 - c) Can be best improved under a communist government.
 - d) Is a theoretical, rather than a pragmatic issue.
 - e) Is a critical area of discussion in Marxist economic theory.
9. The availability of oxygen is an essential _____ for animal life, while carbon dioxide is equally _____ for plant life.
 - a) Choice, optional
 - b) Duplication, selective
 - c) Conversion, exchangeable
 - d) Condition, necessary
 - e) Luxury, harmful

10. Prudery actually draws attention to the vice it is supposed to ____; the very act that forbids speech or prohibits sight _____ what is hidden.
- a) Condemn, distorts
 - b) Monitor, signals
 - c) Repress, dramatizes
 - d) Obviate, fosters
 - e) Divulge, conceals
11. After thirty years of television, people have become ‘speed watchers’; consequently, if the camera lingers, the interest of the audience _____.
- a) Broadens
 - b) Begins
 - c) Varies
 - d) Flags
 - e) Clears
12. Compared mathematically to smoking and driving, almost everything else seems relatively risk-free, _____ almost nothing seems worth regulating.
- a) Yet
 - b) Since
 - c) So
 - d) Even though
 - e) As long as
13. Ironically, Carver’s precision in sketching lives on the edge of despair ensures that his stories will sometimes read too narrowly, much as Dicken’s social-reformer role once caused his broader concerns to be _____.
- a) Ignored
 - b) Reinforced
 - c) Contradicted
 - d) Diminished
 - e) Diversified
14. The demise of the rigorous academic curriculum in high school resulted, in part, from the progressive rhetoric that _____ the study of subjects previously thought _____ as part of school learning.
- a) Advocated, necessary
 - b) Enhanced, indispensable
 - c) Restricted, impractical
 - d) Undermined, popular
 - e) Sanctioned, inappropriate
15. While some see in practical jokes a wish for mastery in miniature over a world that seems very _____, others believe that the jokes’ purpose is to disrupt, by reducing all transactions to _____.
- a) Dubious, confusion
 - b) Disorderly, symmetry
 - c) Harmonious, dissonance
 - d) Unruly, chaos
 - e) Turbulent, uniformity
16. Some paleontologists debate whether the diversity of species has _____ since the Cambrian period, or whether imperfections in the fossil record only suggest greater diversity today, while in actuality there has been either _____ or decreased diversity.

- a) Changed, escalation
- b) Increased, stasis
- c) Expanded, discontinuity
- d) Declined, reduction
- e) Improved, derivation

17. Manipulating laboratory tissue cultures with hormones is one thing; using hormones to treat human beings, however, is contingent on whether hormones that _____ in the laboratory can affect _____ organisms, and in predictable ways.

- a) Develop, similar
- b) Succeed, simpler
- c) Fail, cellular
- d) Work, whole
- e) Reproduce, unknown