

## Reading Check

I have prepared a series of questions to help us form your individual plan for reading success. **Please answer the questions honestly so you and I will know exactly what you are currently doing and thinking.** If the answers I have are not what you are doing then write down what you actually do or think. If you don't understand a question let me know.

1. When you start to take a reading test, which of the following do you do first?
  - A. Read the first passage all the way to the end
  - B. See how many questions there will be.
  - C. Turn the pages and glance at the titles of the passages.
  - D. Tell yourself to concentrate hard on every word.
  - E. Non of the above – here is what I do.—
  
- A. What is your strategy for reading an article?
  - A. Begin by reading the article all the way through.
  - B. Look first at the headings and subheadings.
  - C. Reread the introductory paragraph several times.
  - D. Make sure you understand every word of the article.
  - E. Non of the above – here is what I do.—
  
3. What can you achieve by reading an article's first paragraph and then the last paragraph?
  - A. You see immediately how the article is organized.
  - B. You reduce the time it takes to complete a reading.
  - C. You already know enough to start answering the questions.
  - D. You become more curious about the article's content and main idea.
  - E. I don't think I can achieve anything.
  
4. How does boredom interfere with your ability to understand a article?
  - A. It keeps you from paying attention to the author's meaning.
  - B. It makes it more difficult to learn vocabulary and spelling.
  - C. It makes you want to skip ahead to other passages on the same subject
  - D. It causes you to ask questions that are unrelated to the subject.
  - E. Non of the above – here is what I think.—
  
5. Which of the following strategies do you use to comprehend a reading passage?
  - A. Read slowly.
  - B. Read quickly.
  - C. Look ahead *before* reading.
  - D. Look ahead *after* reading.
  - E. Non of the above – here is what I do.—

6. Why would you ever want to visualize what you read”?
- A. It causes your mind to think actively about the story or article.
  - B. It gives you a needed rest from too much thinking.
  - C. It provides a link to your weekend plans.
  - D. It improves your ability to spot grammatical errors.
  - E. I rarely visualize when I read.
7. When you read the title of a story or article what happens ?
- A. You think of what’s going to be on the test.
  - B. You ask yourself a question about the reading.
  - C. You think back to some pleasant event in your life.
  - D. You wish that you could read something else.
  - E. Nothing
8. When answering a multiple-choice question, what do you do?
- A. quickly choose the first answer that seems right
  - B. choose the answer that agrees with your own ideas and opinions
  - C. read the passage a second time from beginning to end
  - D. base your answer on something in the reading passage
  - E. Non of the above – here is what I do.—
9. If you find yourself getting tired or bored, what do you do?
- A. stop reading for a brief time and then resume
  - B. force yourself to keep working
  - C. give up and wait for the test to be over
  - D. look out the window and daydream
  - E. Non of the above – here is what I do.—
10. If you lose interest in an article, what do you do?
- A. complain that the article is badly written
  - B. stop reading and start daydreaming
  - C. adopt a strategy for overcoming the problem
  - D. become impatient and read faster
  - E. Get frustrated
11. What do you think the plot of a story usually depends upon?
- A. blood-curdling suspense
  - B. conflict between characters
  - C. a fully described setting
  - D. a humorous tone
  - E. I don’t know

12. Which of the following do you think is an example of informational writing?
- A. An anthology of poems
  - B. An editorial on capital punishment
  - C. Chapters in a novel
  - D. Articles in a reference book
  - E. I don't know
13. Which statement do you think describes your idea of an exceptional reader?
- A. They never miss a multiple-choice question.
  - B. They never are bored by an article, story, or book.
  - C. They know a tremendous amount of history and science.
  - D. They know how to use different reading strategies.
  - E. Non of the above – here is what I think.—
14. What types of questions do you think are on a reading test ?
- A. want your opinion
  - B. make an inference
  - C. offer advice
  - D. Non of the above – here is what I think.—
15. Which of the following do you feel does NOT measure your reading skills?
- A. a test's answer sheet
  - B. an informational passage
  - C. a literary passage
  - D. a multiple-choice question
16. When you don't understand a long paragraph, what do you do?
- A. Go back and read the paragraph a second time.
  - B. Read the next paragraph and try to concentrate harder.
  - C. Skip to the questions at the end.
  - D. Start to read the whole article from the beginning.
  - E. Non of the above – here is what I do.—

17. Which of the following sentences do you think come from a literary work?
- A. "The newest addition to cellphone design is the built-in digital camera."
  - B. "He must have felt that shock of recognition in her. Incredible!"
  - C. "Energy is made up of very small units of energy called *quanta*."
  - D. "Scroll down to the text links and click the name of the game you want to download."
  - E. I don't know.
18. In a newspaper article, where do you look for the author's main idea ?
- A in the first paragraph
  - B. in the second paragraph
  - C. usually found in the first few paragraphs
  - D. always summarized at the end
  - E. I don't know
19. If an article of nonfiction begins by describing a specific event, what do you expect?
- A. the rest of the article will be badly organized
  - B. this one event is the author's main idea
  - C. the article is all about a past war
  - D. the main idea will be found in the body of the article.
  - E. I don't know
20. If a multiple-choice question seems especially hard, what do you do?
- A. Read the question and the answers over and over again.
  - B. Try to eliminate one or two choices and then guess between the remaining two.
  - C. Quickly choose an answer and go to the next question.
  - D. Read the entire article or story a second time.
  - E. None of the above – here is what I do.—
21. What do you do when you see an asterisk (\*) after a word?
- A. Look for the word's definition at the bottom of the page.
  - B. Make a good guess about the word's meaning.
  - C. Look in a dictionary for the word "asterisk."
  - D. Read the paragraph preceding the word.

22. Which of the following statements do you believe is true for both a poem and an article?

- A. Both are sources of information.
- B. Both are written in a literary style.
- C. Both contain details and a main idea.
- D. Both are written in verse form.
  
- E. I don't know.

23. What do you do when you want to find more meaning from a poem

- A. look for a biography of the poet's life
- B. try hard to figure out the poem's meaning.
- C. conclude that the poem is not worth reading
- D. read only the first stanza of the poem.
- E. Non of the above – here is what I do.—

24. Three of the four statements below were written by the same author. Which statement do you believe stands out from the others because of its different style and tone?

- A. "I followed still, up a very narrow staircase to the attic, and thence by a ladder and through a trap-door to the roof of the hall. I was now on a level with the crow colony, and could see into their nests."
- B. "My pupil was a lively child, who had been spoilt and indulged, and therefore was sometimes wayward. But as she was committed entirely to my care, she soon became obedient and teachable."
- C. "Mr. Rochester, as he sat in his damask-covered chair, looked different to what I had seen him look before; not quite so stern—much less gloomy."
- D. "That was back when the wild behavior was still new. People suddenly forced to make sense of madness. All that public display. The dropping of inhibitions. Authority powerless. The kids going crazy."
- E. I have no idea.

25. What kind of work do you think contain both details and a main idea?

- A. a short story
- B. a poem
- C. an editorial
- D. all of the above
- E. I don't know

26. Of the following statements, which do you think were written in the first person?
- A. "Who blames me? Many, no doubt; and I shall be called discontented."
  - B. "Socrates went to great length to tell other people that they were wrong."
  - C. "Always make a backup copy of your image."
  - D. "Florence Lawrence was employed at the Biography Studios in New York."
  - E. I don't know.
27. Which word do you think can be used to describe the tone of a short story?
- A. accurate
  - B. inaccurate
  - C. humorous
  - D. unfair
  - E. I don't know.
28. What do you think is another word for the *organization* of an article?
- A. tone
  - B. detail
  - C. quotation
  - D. structure
  - E. I don't know.
29. What do you think every author of a novel, story, or poem use
- A. factual statements.
  - B. literary devices.
  - C. illustrations.
  - D. long stanzas.
  - E. I don't know.
30. If you become tired during a test, what do you do?
- A. take a short break and then continue.
  - B. force yourself to keep reading.
  - C. go back and reread the questions.
  - D. speed up your reading rate.
  - E. Non of the above – here is what I do.—
31. Before taking a test, what do you do first?
- A. decide which passage is the easiest.
  - B. look at each page and read each title.
  - C. read every question carefully.
  - D. read the first passage slowly.
  - E. Non of the above – here is what I do.—