**Proficiency Exam consists of 3 parts:**

1. **Use of English**
2. **Cloze Test**
3. **Vocabulary**
4. **Paragraph Completion**
5. **Closest Meaning**
6. **Reading**
7. **Writing**
8. **Opinion Essay**

**Sample Question Types in Proficiency**

1. **Use of English**
2. **Choose the correct option to fill each space.**

The Murder in the Rue Morgue

Paris! In Paris it was, in the summer of 1840. There I first **1)**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that strange and interesting young fellow, August Dupin. He was the last member of a well-known family, a family which **2)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** rich and famous; he himself, **3)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, was far from rich. He cared little about money. He had enough to buy **4)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**\_\_\_\_necessary things of life-and a few books; he did not trouble himself about the rest. Just books. With books he was happy. We first met **5)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**we were both trying **6**)**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** the same book. As it was a book which few had ever heard of, this chance brought us together in an old bookstore. Later we met again in **7)\_\_\_\_\_\_** same store. Then again in another bookstore. Soon we began to talk. I was deeply interested **8)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**the family history he told me. I was surprised, too, at how much and how widely he had read; more importantly, the force of his busy mind was like a bright light in my soul. I felt that the friendship of such a man would be, for me, priceless. We passed the days reading, writing and talking. I soon noticed that a special reasoning power he had, an unusual power. Using it gave him great pleasure. He told me once, with a soft and quiet laugh, that most men **9)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** windows over their hearts; through these he **10)**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_see into their souls. Then he surprised me by telling what he knew about my own soul.

One night we were walking down one of Paris’s long and dirty streets. Suddenly he said:

‘You’re right. He is a very little fellow, that’s true, and he **11)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** more successful if he acted in lighter, less serious plays.’

At first I saw nothing strange in this. Dupin had agreed with me, with my own thoughts, but suddenly I realized that Dupin had agreed with something which was only a thought.

‘That is indeed what I was thinking. But, tell me, in Heaven’s name, the method- if method there is- by which you have been able to see into my soul in this matter.’

‘It was the fruit-seller’.

‘Fruit-seller!? I know no fruit-seller.’

‘I mean the man who **12)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**you as we entered this street- it may have been ten or fifteen minutes ago, perhaps less.’

‘Yes, yes, that’s true. I remember now.’

One morning this strangely interesting man showed me once again his unusual reasoning power. We heard that an old woman **13)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** by unknown persons. The police had no answer. They did not know what to do. But not Dupin. He knew what to do...........

1. a) met b) was meeting c) meet d) had met
2. a) is once b) has once been c) have once been d) had once been
3. a) although b) since c) however d) despite
4. a) much b) the most c) less d) little
5. a) which b) what c) when d) who
6. a) find b) to find c) finding d) to finding
7. a) a b) some c) x d) the
8. a) on b) of c) in d) onto
9. a) have b) will have c) are having d) is having
10. a) should b) could c) had better d) must
11. a) will be b) be c) would have been d) would be
12. a) ran into b) run off c) ran on d) run out
13. a) is killed b) is being killed d) had been killed d) will be killed

\*adapted from stories by Edgar Allan Poe

1. **Choose the correct option to fill each space.**

**14**. Emily is really ……………………! She seems to think she is better than everyone else!

a) ignorant b) extravagant c) arrogant d) self-conscious

**15**. The two men looked so alike that it was impossible to …………………… between them.

a) divide b) distinguish c) identify d) separate

**16**. I don’t know why she …………… the job offer; I was under the impression that she really wanted it.

a) turned down b) turned over c) turned up d) turned on

**17**. Our new house is very …………… to get to the office; I can get there in five minutes.

a) available b) convenient c) relevant d) reasonable

**18**. Because of the heavy fog and snow, the rescue team couldn’t reach the …………………… of the plane crash, before nightfall.

a) creators b) survivors c) inventors d) conductors

**19**. You’ve kept us waiting here for two hours. Next time make sure you are …………………….

a) effective b) enthusiastic c) relevant d) punctual

**20**. Nancy and I had both bought exactly the same kind of school bag without knowing it. It was a complete …………… .

a) coincidence b) luck c) opportunity d) fortune

**21**. The house had …………………… burned down when the fire brigade arrived. ……………………, nobody got hurt.

a) completely / Luckily b) deeply / Unfortunately

c) briefly / Fortunately d) terribly / Unluckily

**22**.They couldn’t find a house in London at a price they could …………………… .

a) obtain b) afford c) demand d) require

1. A novelist has to possess the ability to …………………… stories that will interest people.

a) take up b) put up c) make up d) set up

**C. Find the sentence that completes each paragraph.**

**24.** In China, Japan and other oriental countries, where tea is the national drink, people almost never use sugar in their tea. ……………………………………………………………………………………... . Most people everywhere want their tea and coffee very hot, but many Americans drink iced tea and sometimes iced coffee, especially in the summer.

1. However, in England, where tea is also a national drink, many people use sugar.
2. Coffee is a favourite drink of people in all parts of the world.
3. Some people put cream and sugar in their coffee.
4. Drinking too much tea is harmful.

**25.** Different people spend their weekends in different ways. Some enjoy going to the mountains to hike, ski, or just relax. ……………………………………………………………………………… . Still others like to relax by staying home and reading a good book.

1. Water skiing is much more difficult than snow skiing.
2. Spending a weekend at a seaside resort can be very expensive.
3. Some people work very hard; others have relaxing jobs.
4. Others prefer going to the beach to enjoy the seashore activities and to get a suntan.

**26.** My most embarrassing experience happened when I had just left university. I had just started teaching in a secondary school. One morning my alarm clock didn’t ring. I had forgotten to wind it up. …………………………………………………………………………………………… .

1. When I arrived, the students had already gone into class.
2. After two or three minutes, the students began laughing.
3. I woke up at half past eight and school began at nine.
4. When I jumped into my car, I noticed I had a flat tyre.

**27.** ……………………………………………………………………………………………. . Today’s telephone fills a number of important and different functions, probably more than Bell ever dreamed. For example, the telephone can help save lives. Many cities have permanent crisis number listed, and anyone feeling frightened or depressed can call and ask for help and advice.

1. Alexander Graham Bell is one of the most important inventors of his time.
2. Alexander Graham Bell probably never realized how many uses modern society would find for his invention.
3. Without the telephone, our world would never be the same.
4. It took Alexander Graham Bell many years to invent the telephone.

**D. Find the sentence that is closest in meaning to the one given for each question.**

**28.** Due to the fact that the demand for tea was very high in the 19th century, its price was astronomical.

a) It was not until the 19th century that the demand for tea started to increase.

b) The demand for tea was so high in the 19th century that its price was enormous.

c) In the 19th century the price for tea didn't increase despite the demand.

d) It was its astronomical price which decreased the demand for tea in the 19th century.

**29.** French is the only language other than English spoken on five continents.

a) French and English are the only languages that are spoken on five continents.

b) Unlike French, English is spoken on five continents.

c) French and English are spoken widely in official and commercial circles.

d) Before English, French was the only language spoken on five continents.

**2. READING**

**LONG LIFE**

**(1)** Scientists are finally beginning to unlock the secret everyone has been dying to know: just how long can we live? They confidently predict that in the 21st century people will be living to the incredible age of 130. And this is just the start. Experts studying the process of ageing believe it is possible that people will live long enough to have great-great-great-great-great-grandchildren. This prediction is based on research and on the fact that the centenarian population is developing quickly as our general health improves. There are around 4000 people over 100 in Britain-ten times more than 30 years ago.

**(2)** Dr. Vijg, a Dutch biologist, is the coordinator of a project which is studying the growing senior citizen population. Dr.Vijg and his colleagues are looking at our genes, which, they believe, hold the key to what kills us, early or late in life.

**(3)** A century ago average life expectancy in Europe was 45. Today, if we look after ourselves, drive our cars carefully, and cut down on things like butter, alcohol and cigarettes, we can add nearly 30 years to that figure**.** Dr.Vijg thinks that by the year 2020, we will all have added a couple more years to our lives.

**(4)** But that is nothing compared to what will happen once scientists have found out the secret of our genes. Some of the problem genes have already been tracked down, like those that cause hemophilia and muscular dystrophy. Dr. Vijg says, ’Nobody dies from old age-just from diseases that affect people as they get older.’ And he forecasts that within 30 years, science will be preparing people for a longer life. ‘Already the killer diseases are being eradicated,’ he says. ‘About 50% of cancers are curable, and I really believe that this will increase to 80%.’

**(5)** There are also encouraging developments in the fight against AIDS, and although a vaccine will not be available for some time, the experts are cautiously hopeful that by early in the next century the disease will have been brought under control. Doctors believe that the death rate from the biggest killers- diseases of the circulatory system- will decline **as man comes to his senses** by giving up smoking and eating more healthily. Dr. Vijg points to experiments with animals in laboratories. ‘**Those** given less food, but of a higher quality, lived to the human equivalent of 150 years.’

**(6)** Dr.Vijg believes that as life span increases, so will other expectations. Women will be having babies at an older age. ‘More and more women are having their first child when they are over 30,’ he says. ‘In another ten years, people might think it normal for a woman of 50 to be having her first child.’

**(7)** What about living forever? Will eternal life ever become a reality? ‘So far, that is science fiction,’ says Dr.Vijg. ‘Theoretically it is possible, but it will be another hundred, perhaps two hundred years before we know all the secrets of our genes.’

**1**. What is the **main idea** of the passage?

a) Dr.Vijg and his experiments

b) The predictions is about the centenarian population

c) People will be living longer as their general health improves.

d) Life span decreases in the future.

**2**.Which of the following statements **CANNOT** be inferred from **paragraph 3**?

a) Europeans can now expect to live until 75.

b) Car accidents cause a lot of deaths.

c) In 2020, Europeans will live until 150.

d) Too much fat in our diet reduces our life expectancy.

**3**.In **paragraph 4,** hemophilia is used as an example of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

a) a disease common a century ago.

b) one of the most serious killer-diseases.

c) a disease which affects people in old age.

d) a disease which is caused by a fault in our genes.

**4**.In paragraph 5, what does **‘as man comes to his senses’** mean?

a) when people start to behave logically

b) when people start to use all their abilities

c) when people start to live longer

d) when people start to learn more about diseases

**5**. In paragraph 5, the word ‘**those**’ refers to?

a) experiments

b) animals in laboratories

c) animals

d) experiments with animals

**6**.Which of the following is true according to **paragraph 7**?

a) eternal life is impossible in theory and practice.

b) living forever will always be considered science fiction.

c) we need hundreds of years to learn if eternal life is possible or not.

d) we will probably never be able to know the secrets of our genes.

**3. WRITING TEST SAMPLES**

**In writing section, students are given two topics but they are asked to write ONE essay. The essay type is as follows:**

**OPINION ESSAY**

You will be asked to write an essay giving your opinion about an argument or a problem.

**SAMPLE OPINION ESSAY QUESTION**

**“People who download music, movies, etc. illegally should be punished.” Do you agree or disagree with the statement above? Write an opinion essay supporting your arguments with reasons and examples. Write at least 250 words.**

**KEY**

1. **Use of English**
2. **Choose the correct option to fill each space.**

The Murder in the Rue Morgue

Paris! In Paris it was, in the summer of 1840. There I first **1)**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that strange and interesting young fellow, August Dupin. He was the last member of a well-known family, a family which **2)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** rich and famous; he himself, **3)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, was far from rich. He cared little about money. He had enough to buy **4)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** \_\_\_\_necessary things of life-and a few books; he did not trouble himself about the rest. Just books. With books he was happy. We first met **5)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**we were both trying **6**)**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** the same book. As it was a book which few had ever heard of, this chance brought us together in an old bookstore. Later we met again in **7)\_\_\_\_\_\_** same store. Then again in another bookstore. Soon we began to talk. I was deeply interested **8)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**the family history he told me. I was surprised, too, at how much and how widely he had read; more importantly, the force of his busy mind was like a bright light in my soul. I felt that the friendship of such a man would be, for me, priceless. We passed the days reading, writing and talking. I soon noticed that a special reasoning power he had, an unusual power. Using it gave him great pleasure. He told me once, with a soft and quiet laugh, that most men **9)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** windows over their hearts; through these he **10)**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_see into their souls. Then he surprised me by telling what he knew about my own soul.

One night we were walking down one of Paris’s long and dirty streets. Suddenly he said:

‘You’re right. He is a very little fellow, that’s true, and he **11)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** more successful if he acted in lighter, less serious plays.’

At first I saw nothing strange in this. Dupin had agreed with me, with my own thoughts, but suddenly I realized that Dupin had agreed with something which was only a thought.

‘That is indeed what I was thinking. But, tell me, in Heaven’s name, the method- if method there is- by which you have been able to see into my soul in this matter.’

‘It was the fruit-seller’.

‘Fruit-seller!? I know no fruit-seller.’

‘I mean the man who **12)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**you as we entered this street- it may have been ten or fifteen minutes ago, perhaps less.’

‘Yes, yes, that’s true. I remember now.’

One morning this strangely interesting man showed me once again his unusual reasoning power. We heard that an old woman **13)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** by unknown persons. The police had no answer. They did not know what to do. But not Dupin. He knew what to do...........

1. **a) met** b) was meeting c) meet d) had met
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4. a) much **b) the most** c) less d) little
5. a) which b) what **c) when** d) who
6. a) find **b) to find** c) finding d) to finding
7. a) a b) some c) x  **d) the**
8. a) on b) of **c) in**  d) onto
9. **a) have**  b) will have c) are having d) is having
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1. **Choose the correct option to fill each space.**

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a) take up b) put up **c) make up** d) set up

**C. Find the sentence that completes each paragraph.**

**24.** In China, Japan and other oriental countries, where tea is the national drink, people almost never use sugar in their tea. ……………………………………………………………………………………... . Most people everywhere want their tea and coffee very hot, but many Americans drink iced tea and sometimes iced coffee, especially in the summer.

1. **However, in England, where tea is also a national drink, many people use sugar.**
2. Coffee is a favourite drink of people in all parts of the world.
3. Some people put cream and sugar in their coffee.
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**25.** Different people spend their weekends in different ways. Some enjoy going to the mountains to hike, ski, or just relax. ……………………………………………………………………………… . Still others like to relax by staying home and reading a good book.

1. Water skiing is much more difficult than snow skiing.
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3. Some people work very hard; others have relaxing jobs.
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**26.** My most embarrassing experience happened when I had just left university. I had just started teaching in a secondary school. One morning my alarm clock didn’t ring. I had forgotten to wind it up. …………………………………………………………………………………………… .

1. When I arrived, the students had already gone into class.
2. After two or three minutes, the students began laughing.
3. **I woke up at half past eight and school began at nine.**
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1. Alexander Graham Bell is one of the most important inventors of his time.
2. **Alexander Graham Bell probably never realized how many uses modern society would find for his invention**.
3. Without the telephone, our world would never be the same.
4. It took Alexander Graham Bell many years to invent the telephone.

**D. Find the sentence that is closest in meaning to the one given for each question.**

**28.** Due to the fact that the demand for tea was very high in the 19th century, its price was astronomical.

a) It was not until the 19th century that the demand for tea started to increase.

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**2. READING**

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**(2)** Dr. Vijg, a Dutch biologist, is the coordinator of a project which is studying the growing senior citizen population. Dr.Vijg and his colleagues are looking at our genes, which, they believe, hold the key to what kills us, early or late in life.

**(3)** A century ago average life expectancy in Europe was 45. Today, if we look after ourselves, drive our cars carefully, and cut down on things like butter, alcohol and cigarettes, we can add nearly 30 years to that figure**.** Dr.Vijg thinks that by the year 2020, we will all have added a couple more years to our lives.

**(4)** But that is nothing compared to what will happen once scientists have found out the secret of our genes. Some of the problem genes have already been tracked down, like those that cause hemophilia and muscular dystrophy. Dr. Vijg says, ’Nobody dies from old age-just from diseases that affect people as they get older.’ And he forecasts that within 30 years, science will be preparing people for a longer life. ‘Already the killer diseases are being eradicated,’ he says. ‘About 50% of cancers are curable, and I really believe that this will increase to 80%.’

**(5)** There are also encouraging developments in the fight against AIDS, and although a vaccine will not be available for some time, the experts are cautiously hopeful that by early in the next century the disease will have been brought under control. Doctors believe that the death rate from the biggest killers- diseases of the circulatory system- will decline **as man comes to his senses** by giving up smoking and eating more healthily. Dr. Vijg points to experiments with animals in laboratories. ‘**Those** given less food, but of a higher quality, lived to the human equivalent of 150 years.’

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**(7)** What about living forever? Will eternal life ever become a reality? ‘So far, that is science fiction,’ says Dr.Vijg. ‘Theoretically it is possible, but it will be another hundred, perhaps two hundred years before we know all the secrets of our genes.’

**1**. What is the **main idea** of the passage?

a) Dr.Vijg and his experiments

b) The predictions is about the centenarian population

**c) People will be living longer as their general health improves.**

d) Life span decreases in the future.

**2**.Which of the following statements **CANNOT** be inferred from **paragraph 3**?

a) Europeans can now expect to live until 75.

b) Car accidents cause a lot of deaths.

**c) In 2020, Europeans will live until 150.**

d) Too much fat in our diet reduces our life expectancy.

**3**.In **paragraph 4,** hemophilia is used as an example of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

a) a disease common a century ago.

b) one of the most serious killer-diseases.

c) a disease which affects people in old age.

**d) a disease which is caused by a fault in our genes.**

**4**.In paragraph 5, what does **‘as man comes to his senses’** mean?

**a) when people start to behave logically**

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c) when people start to live longer

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**5**. In paragraph 5, the word ‘**those**’ refers to?

a) experiments

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**6.** Which of the following is true according to **paragraph 7**?

a) eternal life is impossible in theory and practice.

b) living forever will always be considered science fiction.

**c) we need hundreds of years to learn if eternal life is possible or not.**

d) we will probably never be able to know the secrets of our genes.

**3. WRITING TEST SAMPLE**

**In writing section, students are asked to write ONE essay. The essay types are as follows:**

**OPINION ESSAY**

You will be asked to write an essay giving your opinion about an argument or a problem.

**SAMPLE OPINION ESSAY QUESTION**

**“People who download music, movies, etc. illegally should be punished.” Do you agree or disagree with the statement above? Write an opinion essay supporting your arguments with reasons and examples. Write at least 250 words.**

**MODEL ANSWER**

**Download or not?**

Millions of people use the Internet for various purposes and file sharing is one of the most popular actions on the Internet. With all of the Internet's advantages such as speed and convenience, downloading music, films, works of art, etc. has developed into a highly controversial topic. I believe that people who are downloading music, movies or any other software illegally should be punished.

My first reason is that illegal downloading violates the rights of the artists. For example, when an album is downloaded illegally online, it robs the artists, producers, publishers, technicians and many other people in the business. Moreover, it deprives the record company of their profit. It is nothing but stealing from the real owners of the product.

Another reason is that illegal downloading demotivates the artists and producers. When they see that millions of people enjoy their music or films without paying anything, they feel that they work for nothing or that people exploit their talents. As a result, they are depressed or hopeless and stop creating films, songs or art.

On the other hand, some people claim that downloading music, films should be legal. They think that everyone has the right to reach good music or film but they cannot buy an original album or a DVD since they are very expensive. They may have a point. However, the rights of the artists, musicians, producers should be protected as well. Moreover, there are many legal downloading websites. People can get many original films or music by paying little money.

All in all, I think there should be a strict control on the people who download albums, films or any other work of art without paying anything. They should know that they are stealing from the real artists and producers and that they will be punished.