

PRACTICE TEST 1 EXPLANATIONS

SECTION I: MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. **C** The “exigence” of a speech or piece of writing is the need or demand that prompted the author to write it. Here, the author is pleading with the members of Parliament to provide equal rights and justice for the Irish people under their control. We cannot prove that there is a “lack of interest,” (A). If there was, the author would likely not bother to address them. Choice (B) is probably too extreme and not supported by the text. Choice (D) might be true but is not specifically addressed here. That leaves (C), the one most consistent with the sentiments expressed.
2. **A** The first paragraph asks the audience to choose between two options: “whether we mean to continue the injustice which has been already done to [Ireland], or to hold out the hope that it will be treated in the same manner as England and Scotland.” In context, we can assume that England is being treated fairly (with “justice”) by its own Parliament. There is no explanation as to why the British have not already extended such justice to Ireland, (B). The author does not explicitly identify himself as a nationalist, (C). Choice (D) may seem close, but we don’t actually know if the rights had been steadily eroding or were simply never there to begin with. Choice (A) is the most consistent with the overall theme.
3. **D** The second paragraph states that “England never did do justice to Ireland,” but then admits that “What we have got of it we have extorted from men opposed to us on principle.” So, the Irish people have gotten some concessions from the British, but only through struggle. Choice (A) seems close to this, but the word “only” makes this far too extreme and is likely using the word “extortion” too literally. Choice (B) is incorrect since the author seems to care more about “equal justice” than “money.” Choice (C) cannot be right, since the author is pleading for more rights, implying that not all of them have been won. That leaves us with (D). The paragraph acknowledges that some progress has been made in the past, but more is being demanded.
4. **C** The writer sounds somewhat bitter when he says “England never did do justice to Ireland—she never did.” But he sounds more hopeful and resolute, (C), when he pledges “my heart is as young and as ready as ever in the service of my country.” There is no evidence of a “patronizing” tone, as in (A), an “ingratiating” tone, (B), nor “sympathy,” (D). Choice (C) is the best answer.
5. **A** The third paragraph states that “I cannot forget the year 1825. We begged then as we would for a beggar’s boon; we asked for emancipation by all that is sacred amongst us, and I remember how my speech and person were treated, when I had no opportunity of reply. The other place turned us out and sent us back again, but we showed that justice was with us.” According to the footnote, 1825 was the year that the author’s Catholic Association was abolished. So, although we do not know all the details, 1825 was a year in which the author requested something that was important to him and his followers, and they were rebuffed. This is most consistent with (A). Choice (B) is partly right, since “emancipation” failed, but he does not establish that “reform” is a disappointing alternative. Choice (C) is unrelated to “1825.” Choice (D) may have some truth, but it is not his primary purpose in this paragraph.

- A** Though emancipation can refer to a great many things, you must go by what is present in the speech. There is nothing here about actual slavery, though it is metaphorically mentioned, so eliminate (B). It does not discuss the representation of faith, so rule out (C). Voting is not mentioned, which removes (D) from consideration. Choice (A) makes the most sense in context.
- B** The fourth paragraph states, “I may be laughed and sneered at by those who talk of my power; but what has created it but the injustice that has been done in Ireland? If you refuse justice to that country, it is a melancholy consideration to me to think that you are adding substantially to that power and influence.” The author is pointing out the irony of the fact that Britain’s oppression of Ireland has enhanced his leadership power, despite their “laughing and sneering” at it. This matches (B). The author is not explicitly questioning motives, (A), nor demanding acceptance, (D). Choice (C) is close, but overlooks what has “created” the speaker’s power: the British injustice against Ireland. Choice (B) is the best answer.
- D** “Justice,” (A), “emancipation,” (B), and “reform,” (C), are all presented as things the author wants or wanted in the past for his people. The concept that is not like the others is “power and influence,” (D). The writer has “power and influence”; he is not demanding them from Parliament.
- D** In the last paragraph, the author starts off by saying “Condemn me elsewhere as much as you please,” and finishes the paragraph by saying “I demand, I respectfully insist: on equal justice for Ireland, on the same principle by which it has been administered to Scotland and England. I will not take less. Refuse me that if you can.” He is not looking for any explanations, (A), nor does he provide two alternatives, (B). Choice (C) sounds rather extreme. Choice (D) is the best answer.
- D** Since Protestantism is a religious category, we are looking for a paragraph that mentions religion. If you look at the footnote for paragraph 5, “Papist” is a reference to the Catholic faith. The speaker also claims that someone is sending out “men called ministers of God to slander and calumniate me.” This is consistent with the quote. Choice (D) is the best answer.
- C** The speech’s overall theme is one of advocacy for equal justice and fairness for the Irish people. Therefore, the author would likely oppose slavery, (A). As a member of the Catholic minority, he would likely approve of freedom of religion, (B). Although languages, (D), are not mentioned in his speech, he is delivering the speech in English, yet is a champion of the Irish people and culture. Choice (C) is the best answer, since nowhere does the author advocate for political violence. Instead, he is trying to further his political goals through speech and persuasion.
- 2. A** In paragraphs 2 and 3, the writer acknowledges that Ireland has not gotten just treatment from Britain nor have certain considerations been granted. But in the last paragraph, he is still asking for the Parliament to cooperate with him. This is most consistent with (A). Choice (C) is too extreme, and (D) is outright incorrect, as the author states that he is *not* fatigued.

13. **A** This speech explores the issues of freedom and human rights and acknowledges that different countries may have different notions of what these things are. In the final paragraph, the author urges her listeners to use the forum of the United Nations to work out these differences. Choice (B) is incorrect, since it makes it sound as though human rights are being upheld in all nations already. Choice (C) is unsupportable and too extreme. Choice (D) may seem close, but the writer's focus is on international standards for human rights, not those in the United States.
14. **A** By referring to human freedom as "one of the greatest issues of our time," the author is clearly trying to capture the listeners' attention, (A). All of the other choices are more relevant to other parts of the speech.
15. **C** The Declaration of the Rights of Man and the French Revolution are both relevant to France, (D), but also are examples of documents and events that made human rights and freedom a central concern. Eliminate (A). Another reason to make these historical allusions might be to establish herself as educated about the topic at hand, (B). Choice (C) is the exception, since the Declaration of the Rights of Man and the French Revolution are similar in approach, not different.
16. **A** The opening paragraph explicitly equates human rights with freedom, (B). The rights enumerated in paragraph 2 are drawn directly from the American Bill of Rights, (C). Democracy, (D), is mentioned in the fourth paragraph. Although the "right to work" is mentioned as a Soviet value, the author explicitly says that forced employment for everyone is a form of slavery. Choice (A) is the best choice.
17. **A** In paragraph 5, the author states that "A society in which everyone works is not necessarily a free society and may indeed be a slave society; on the other hand, a society in which there is widespread economic insecurity can turn freedom into a barren and vapid right for millions of people." "Barren" is a good clue here, since land that is barren does not yield anything useful. Since she is talking about an idea like "freedom," (A) is the closest choice.
18. **C** Choices (B) and (D) may look tempting, but, in the overall context of the speech, the point is that terms such as "right to work" may be interpreted differently by the different nations who use them. The U.S.S.R. may think of the right to work in a positive way, while an American such as the author may consider it a form of slavery. Choice (C) is the best choice.
19. **C** The final paragraph states that "The place to discuss the issue of human rights is in the forum of the United Nations...we can consider together our mutual problems and take advantage of our differences in experience...we can with mutual good faith in the principles of the United Nations Charter, arrive at a common basis of understanding." This is most consistent with (C). Choice (D) is too extreme, since the United Nations may not be the *only* place where these discussions can be had.
20. **A** In the quote provided, the author strongly suggests that a failure to secure freedoms for the average person may lead to war—the people "will not acquiesce forever." Choice (A) is a reference to wars about freedom versus tyranny.
21. **C** This question asks us to consider why the writer's speech was delivered in the immediate aftermath of World War II. Choices (A) and (B) both provide logical explanations for this. Since (C) and (D) both mention the Soviet Union (U.S.S.R.), we must consider the facts as they are presented in her speech. According to her speech, the U.S.S.R. may have notions of human rights that do not square with those of other nations such as the United States, which matches (D). Choice (C) is backwards, since the Soviet Union did not adopt Western standards of human rights after the War (nor were they defeated!).

22. **B** The overall thrust of this speech is to urge member states of the U.N. to engage in productive dialogue regarding the issues at hand. It does not claim that human rights have been successfully implemented in any particular countries, so eliminate (A), (C), and (D). Choice (B) is the best answer.
23. **D** All of the quotes are pertinent to human rights concerns except for (D). Although slavery is mentioned once, there is no focus on “knowledge.”
24. **B** Paragraphs 1 and 2 explicitly draw a connection between human rights and human freedom. There is no mention of “responsibility,” (A), nor does the author attach freedom to the loss of food or employment, (C). The writer does not weigh one of these values more heavily than the other, (D). Choice (B) is the most consistent with the text.
25. **B** This question asks us to choose a sentence that conveys the *complexity* of Hurston’s career and provide the most effective *introduction* to the essay. While (A) gives some detail about Hurston’s early life, it does not indicate that her career was “complex.” Choice (C) may convey more complexity than (A), but merely shows that Hurston was overlooked. Choice (D) is out of place since paragraph 1 is not about her college years. Choice (B) is the best answer, since it mentions that she was a “study in contrasts” and is general enough to provide a good introduction to the essay.
26. **C** This question asks us to provide a logical transition into a comparison and create a more objective tone. Eliminate (A) because it is not objective in its tone. Choice (B) is unsupported: advocacy for civil rights is not a focus of this essay. Choice (D) is likewise unprovable based on the text. Choice (C) is the best answer, because the word “Now” provides a good time transition, while “resonance” is a neutral way to communicate Hurston’s impact.
27. **C** Paragraph 2 states that Hurston had a “deeply individualistic personality” and grew up “in a community totally separate from the larger white society.” Choices (A) and (B) are not related to these ideas. Choice (D) may seem close, but is actually the opposite of the notion that her town was “totally separate from the larger white society.” That leaves (C), which is consistent with this idea.
28. **D** Choice (C) may be tempting, since sentence 8 mentions Billie Holiday, but, since the paragraph is focused on Hurston’s life, adding more about her would be a needless distraction from the focus of the essay. Choice (D) is the best answer.
29. **C** Crucially, this question is asking how Hurston’s work was viewed by her *contemporaries*, not by modern audiences. Choice (B) does not communicate anything regarding the opinions of her critics, while (A) and (D) are more relevant to modern audiences. Only (C) tells us how she was viewed by people in her time.
30. **B** To find a place to divide the paragraph, look for two distinct ideas. Sentences 6, 7, and 8 focus on Hurston’s early life, while the remainder of the paragraph focuses on her first novel. This means the answer is either (A) or (B). Because (A) is not supported by the paragraph, (B) is the best choice.

31. **B** Sentence 12 states that Hurston believed “that the accuracy of her representation would ultimately prevail over the political pressures her peers sought to inflict upon her.” Sentence 13 states that “Hurston was right.” So, if modern critics “admire” her (sentence 14), this idea is not a shift in meaning. Eliminate (A). Choice (C) is incorrect, since there is no conclusion being drawn from evidence. Choice (D) may seem close, but sentence 14 is not adding merely an additional detail. Choice (B) is the best choice, as it provides a good transition from the past to the present.
32. **D** In sentence 2, we are told that Jimmy Carter was president during a “particularly turbulent time in American history.” Choices (A), (B), and (C) all mention events that are troubling or difficult. Choice (D) does not appear to involve troublesome events; if anything, they seem to represent positive or neutral changes during Carter’s administration.
33. **B** Since the goal is to make the tone more objective, eliminate (A). Choice (C) is less opinionated, but does not match up with the beginning of the sentence, which is focused on humanitarian issues “around the world.” Choice (D) is close, but does not necessarily indicate a global focus. Choice (B) is the best answer, because it demonstrates Carter’s broad support for humanitarian causes in a sufficiently objective manner.
34. **B** The best answer to this question must provide a clear and logical meaning by placing phrases next to the nouns they are modifying. Choice (A) puts the phrase “on foreign oil” in the wrong place and creates confusion. Choice (C) is illogical, since purchasing foreign oil would not make America less dependent on the Middle East or reduce demand. Choice (D) is similar to (A), putting phrases in an illogical order. Only (B) provides a logical account of what Carter may have been trying to do in regard to foreign oil.
35. **A** Since sentence 8 was focused on Carter’s international efforts and sentence 9 states that “Carter works actively to improve the standard of living at home here in the United States,” it makes sense to mention that he does not focus all of his efforts abroad *before* sentence 9. Choice (A) is the best answer.
36. **D** Since the question asks for an option that would maintain an objective tone, any answers with a positive or negative slant should be eliminated. Only (D) is neutral in its tone, while encompassing most of the activities Carter engaged in throughout his lifetime.
37. **D** In order to place this sentence, we must determine who “they” is, related to building homes. Sentence 10 mentions Habitat for Humanity, while sentence 11 tells us that they build “quality housing.” Only (D) would allow us to place the sentence after these.
38. **D** Since the theme of the essay was primarily focused on Carter’s humanitarian work, we need an answer that continues with these ideas. Choice (A) is too much about his political career. Choice (B) is about his early life. Choice (C) is not obviously humanitarian. Choice (D) is the best answer, since it harmonizes with Carter’s other activities as outlined in the essay.
39. **A** Since the question asks about an “ownership” relationship between humans and cats, (A) is the best choice. Choices (B) and (D) are not explicitly about ownership, while (C) is irrelevant to cats.

40. **C** The best choice here will convey the main idea in the clearest manner possible. Since the opening modifying phrase is “When communicating with each other,” the best answer should start with the word “cats,” (C). All of the other choices create some confusion about who or what is “communicating.”
41. **C** Use Process of Elimination. Choice (A) is not true. Neither is (B), as sentence 6 is a different facet of communication than those mentioned elsewhere. Choice (D) is not quite right, since it is unclear why pain would be an essential detail in this essay. Choice (C) is the best answer.
42. **B** The third paragraph should be divided into two parts if it conveys two different ideas. Indeed, sentences 3–6 are focused on cats’ communication with each other, while sentences 7–9 are focused on cats’ communication with humans. This means the most logical place to divide the paragraph would be after sentence 6. Eliminate (A) and (C). Choice (D) can also be eliminated on the grounds that “incredibly” is descriptive enough on its own; time references are distracting in this transition. Choice (B) is the best answer.
43. **D** Since the essay is about cats, any reference to other animals would be a distraction. Choice (D) is the best answer.
44. **B** Only (B) and (D) are relevant to the question task, which asks about a “large number of emotions.” Of the two, (B) is the better choice, since it pertains to communicating “vocally with their owners,” another feature of the question.
45. **B** The main argument of this essay is that cats do communicate with each other and with humans in verbal and nonverbal ways. Choice (A) seems to contradict this idea. Choice (C) is contradicted by information in the essay. Choice (D) is not provable based on the passage and seems to deviate from the main argument. Choice (B) is the best answer and most in harmony with the overall argument in the essay.

SECTION II: FREE RESPONSE

Rubric—1 + 4 + 1 = 6 pts

- A. Thesis (0–1 pts)
- Responds to the prompt with a thesis that presents a defensible interpretation of the selected work.
- B. Evidence and Commentary (0–4 pts)
- Evidence: Provides specific evidence to support all claims in a line of reasoning.
 - Commentary: Consistently explains how the evidence supports a line of reasoning.
 - Explains how multiple literary elements or techniques in the poem contribute to its meaning.
- C. Sophistication (0–1 pts)
- Demonstrates sophistication of thought and/or develops a complex literary argument.