

English Mini-Test 1 Answer Explanations

- The correct answer is D.** *Every day* gives a sense of time to the sentence, but *everyday* is an adjective that means *common* or *ordinary*. *Each and every day* is an introductory phrase and thus should be set off from the remainder of the sentence with a comma.
- The correct answer is F.** Because *carbon dioxide emissions* is a plural noun phrase, the underlined word needs to be a plural verb in order to complete the independent clause. Choice G is incorrect because it uses a singular verb. Choices H and J are incorrect because *effect* used as a verb means “to cause,” which does not match the context of this sentence. Thus, the correct answer is choice F, *affect*.
- The correct answer is B.** Although *contribute* and *attribute* sound similar, the passage needs the word that means “add or donate to.” Choices A and C are variations of the incorrect word *attribute*, which means “to assign a cause to something.” Choice D uses the correct verb but incorrectly uses it in the passive voice. Therefore, choice B is the best answer.
- The correct answer is F.** Choice G is incorrect because it implies that *public transportation* is the agent that directly reduces drivers on the road. Choice H is incorrect because it illogically states that public transportation will increase emissions and the number of cars, when in fact it will decrease them. Choice J is incorrect because although this statement may be accurate, it does not specifically connect to the topic of carbon dioxide emissions introduced in the previous sentence.
- The correct answer is A.** *Who* is the correct pronoun to use in this sentence. The antecedent and the subject of the sentence is *people*, so choices C and D are incorrect. Since *whom* is used as the object of a sentence and *people* is the subject, choice B is incorrect.
- The correct answer is G.** The phrase *release fumes into the atmosphere* is modifying the noun *vehicles*, so the correct form to use is the verbal *releasing*. A verbal is a word that looks like a verb but is actually used as a modifier in the sentence to describe a noun phrase.
- The correct answer is C.** The phrase *from point A to point B* is redundant. Without it, the sentence retains its meaning and is clearer.
- The correct answer is H.** A comma is needed before the conjunction *but* in order to separate two independent clauses.
- The correct answer is A.** This version correctly uses the pronoun *that* to connect *exercise* with the phrase describing it, *works multiple muscles at one time*. Choice B needs a conjunction, and choice C needs a comma between *exercise* and *working*. Choice D incorrectly uses a conjunction in front of the verbal, *working*.
- The correct answer is H.** Choice F is missing a comma before *making*, and choice G adds an unnecessary comma after *makes*. Choice J violates parallel structure and incorrectly uses a conjunction. Choice H correctly uses parallel structure to clearly convey that bicycling both exercises the heart and makes the rider more fit.
- The correct answer is C.** Choices A and D are incorrect because they use the adverb *then* instead of the conjunction *than*, which indicates comparison. Choice B is incorrect because it does not use parallel structure with the phrases *while on a bike* and *during driving*. Choice C correctly uses the comparative *than* and has parallel structure in the phrases *while on a bike* and *while driving*.
- The correct answer is F.** *Is* is the correct tense and number of the verb. Choice G results in an incomplete sentence with no definite verb. Choice H is incorrect because the verb *are* is plural but the subject *a cyclist* is

singular. Choice J is wordy and unclear because *more* indicates a comparison, which does not occur in this sentence.

- 13. The correct answer is B.** This is the most concise choice. *Safer than* says the same thing as *are safer when compared to* but in fewer words. *Bike riders* says the same thing as *people who ride bikes* in fewer words. Choice C is incorrect because it uses *then* instead of the comparative *than*. Choice D is incorrect because it does not explain how bike riders are being compared to drivers, so it loses the intended meaning that they are safer.
- 14. The correct answer is F.** This choice correctly uses commas to form a list. Choices G and J are incorrect because *while* indicates a contrast, but this sentence only contains a list. Choice H is incorrect because it places the comma after the conjunction *and* instead of before.
- 15. The correct answer is B.** An additional paragraph on the financial benefits of riding a bike would fit the structure of the rest of the essay and logically support the writer's main argument about the benefits of bikes. Choices C and D are incorrect because the topics of famous bike riders and cities where biking is popular do not directly add to the writer's argument about the benefits of biking.

English Mini-Test 2 Answer Explanations

- 16. The correct answer is G.** The verb *lay* requires a direct object after it. In other words, someone *lays* something down, or something *lies*. The national park is doing the action in the sentence: it *lies* in the desert. The sentence also does not need a comma between *desert* and *lies* since the phrase *that was once a desert* is necessary for understanding what region is being talked about.
- 17. The correct answer is B.** Choice B is correct because it has subject-verb agreement and creates a complete grammatical sentence. Choice A is incorrect because it uses a plural verb, *span*, with a singular subject, *national park*. Choice C is incorrect because a main verb (rather than the verbal, *spanning*) is needed after *that*. Choice D is incorrect because it creates a run-on sentence.
- 18. The correct answer is H.** Choice H correctly uses *its* to show possession, indicating that the trail belongs to the Virgin River. Because *it's* is a contraction of *it is*, choice F is incorrect. Choices G and J are incorrect because *one's* and *the* do not clearly refer back to the Virgin River.
- 19. The correct answer is D.** This sentence most clearly and concisely communicates the idea that the vegetation is *abundant*, or plentiful. Choices A and B are incorrect because it is unclear what is being described as *abundant*. Choice C is incorrect because it describes the vegetation as *contained* rather than *abundant*.
- 20. The correct answer is F.** Since the previous sentence mentioned a variety of 800+ species of plants, it makes sense that this sentence should mention plant diversity rather than jumping to a new topic like *hanging gardens*, *spring and summer flowers*, and *Native Americans*.
- 21. The correct answer is C.** Two independent clauses are joined by a comma and conjunction. Choices A and B are incorrect because *then* expresses a sequence of events, which is not occurring in this sentence. Choice D is incorrect because it lacks a comma before the conjunction *and*.
- 22. The correct answer is J.** Because the information set off by the conjunction *that* is essential to the word *animals*, there is no need to set it off with commas, nor is there a need to split the two clauses into two separate sentences. Choice J modifies the noun *animals* and keeps the descriptive information within the same sentence.

- 23. The correct answer is D.** Choices A and B are incorrect because they place an unnecessary comma between the verb *live* and its modifier, *along the river*. Choice C is incorrect because it places an unnecessary comma between the subject of the sentence, *bank beavers and many different birds*, and the verb *live*. Choice D clearly communicates the author's intended meaning without grammatical errors.
- 24. The correct answer is G.** Choices F and J are incorrect because they lack a main verb to make a complete sentence. Choice H is incorrect because the past tense verb *was* is not consistent with the rest of the passage.
- 25. The correct answer is A.** This passage consistently uses the present tense, so choices C and D are incorrect because they use past tense. Choice B is incorrect because the noun *sandstone* is singular, but the verb *make* is plural.
- 26. The correct answer is F.** The pronoun *that* sets off a clause that further modifies *trails*. Choice G is incorrect because *where* does not effectively set off the clause that follows. Choices H and J incorrectly split the two clauses.
- 27. The correct answer is A.** Choice B is incorrect because it adds an unnecessary comma after the conjunction *and*. Choice C is incorrect because it adds the unnecessary word *therefore* and an unnecessary comma after *visitors*. Choice D creates a very long sentence, so it is not the best option. Choice A is correct because these two ideas are most clearly conveyed in two separate sentences.
- 28. The correct answer is J.** The sentence contains a series, so there needs to be a comma between each element. Choices G and H misuse commas, while choice F lacks one altogether.
- 29. The correct answer is C.** The sentence is incomplete because it has the verbal *being* instead of an active verb. Only choice C completes the sentence.
- 30. The correct answer is J.** The best placement for the paragraph is where it is now. It makes sense to talk about the attractions of the park before discussing when to visit. The other choices interrupt the flow of the passage.

English Mini-Test 3 Answer Explanations

- 31. The correct answer is C.** Choice A has a verbal, *housing*, instead of a verb, which makes the sentence incomplete. Choice B only has dependent clauses. Choice D incorrectly uses a semicolon with dependent clauses. Only choice C properly uses a comma to set off the subordinate clause *known worldwide as the heart of Christianity* from the independent clause, *Rome is home to Vatican City and the Pope*.
- 32. The correct answer is F.** Choice G is incorrect because *although* would be used to introduce a dependent clause. Choice H is incorrect because *therefore* implies a cause-and-effect relationship rather than a contrasting one. Choice J is incorrect because it employs a semicolon when a comma is necessary. Choice F correctly uses *however* to show the contrast between modern Rome as the center of Christianity and Rome as historically pagan.
- 33. The correct answer is D.** This choice correctly uses a preposition to show the relationship between the noun *culture* and the phrase *the Roman Empire*. Choice A is missing a word or punctuation mark that explains this relationship. Choice B incorrectly uses a semicolon. Choice C is unclear and implies that the *unique culture* was the *Roman Empire* itself.

- 34. The correct answer is J.** Choice F is incorrect because the complete sentence reads awkwardly without any punctuation here. Choice G is incorrect because it adds an unnecessary comma after the subject *Rome*. Choice H is incorrect because the phrase *Rome today* should not be set off from the rest of the sentence by a comma. Choice J clearly places the adverb *today* at the beginning of the sentence, showing that it modifies the rest of the sentence that follows.
- 35. The correct answer is B.** Choice B clearly uses the preposition *by* to explain that traditional values are shown in the architecture. Choice A is incorrect because it implies that the architecture is the object of the verb *evidenced*. Choice C is incorrect because it lacks a preposition (such as *in*) to connect *seen* and *the prominent architecture*. Choice D incorrectly uses the noun form *evidence* rather than the verb and preposition *evidenced by*.
- 36. The correct answer is G.** *With or without the consent of the the Roman public* is a parenthetical statement that provides extra information, so it must be separated from the independent clause by a comma after *generations*.
- 37. The correct answer is B.** By giving an historical figure and date, this information gives the passage context and puts it on a timeline compared to the rest of history. Omitting this information would lose this context.
- 38. The correct answer is F.** The sentence already has proper comma usage and uses the correct plural form of the noun *elite*. The word is not being used to show possession, so the use of an apostrophe in choices G and H is incorrect. Choice J incorrectly uses a semicolon instead of a comma to set off the parenthetical phrase *particularly the senatorial elite*.
- 39. The correct answer is D.** Only *existing* is needed. The definition of *extant* means “still existing”; removing this non-vital information also rids the sentence of redundancy.
- 40. The correct answer is J.** A comma is needed to separate the dependent clause from the rest of the sentence. Choices F and G are incorrect because they lack commas, and choice H incorrectly uses a semicolon to separate two phrases that are not independent clauses.
- 41. The correct answer is C.** Choice A is incorrect because a semicolon should be used to connect two independent clauses. Choice B is incorrect because it lacks the preposition *for*, which makes the sentence unclear. Choice D is incorrect because *but for also* loses parallel structure. Choice C correctly maintains parallel structure: *not only for more respect ... but also for freedom of religion*.
- 42. The correct answer is J.** Choices F and H are incorrect because *hence* and *therefore* imply a cause-and-effect relationship, which does not fit the meaning of this sentence. Choice G is incorrect because *however* should be followed by an independent rather than a dependent clause. Choice J is correct because *although* conveys contrast and links a dependent clause to an independent clause.
- 43. The correct answer is A.** Given that the sentence begins with the introductory *although*, a comma is necessary to set off the dependent clause from the independent clause. Thus, we can deduce that choice A is the only correct option since choice B lacks a comma, choice C misuses a semicolon, and choice D lacks a comma and makes the clause confusing.
- 44. The correct answer is G.** The verb needs to agree with the plural subject *protests*. Therefore, *were* is the best choice.
- 45. The correct answer is C.** In order for the author's essay to have been about mythology and ancient Roman religion, the author would have had to describe Roman mythology and not just mention it. Instead, the author wrote about the conversion in Ancient Rome from paganism to Christianity.