

ESL Language Use

The ESL Language Use test measures your proficiency in using correct grammar in English sentences. There are five content areas measured on this test: (a) Nouns, Pronouns, Pronoun Case Structure; (b) Subject-Verb Agreement; (c) Comparatives, Adverbs, Adjectives; (d) Verbs; and (e) Subordination/Coordination.

ESL Language Use Sample Questions

Directions for questions 1–10

The sentence below has a blank space. Choose the word or phrase that makes a grammatically correct sentence.

- _____ washing his sweater, Jacob hung it up to dry.
 - After
 - Before
 - By
 - Until
- Dr. O'Hara is certain that some day, men and women will _____ to Mars.
 - travel
 - travels
 - traveling
 - traveled
- Water _____ at a temperature of zero degrees Celsius.
 - having frozen
 - freezing
 - freeze
 - freezes
- _____ you get a new haircut?
 - Have
 - Does
 - Are
 - Did
- Jacques Cousteau will be remembered for his inventions and for _____ to marine science.
 - dedication
 - his dedication
 - being dedicated
 - his being dedicated

- The children, who were tired of traveling, kept asking, "When _____ we get to the hotel?"
 - have
 - will
 - did
 - are
- Galileo is most famous _____ that Earth revolves around the Sun, rather than the other way around.
 - for having discovered
 - for discovery
 - his discovery
 - in discovering
- Men and women sometimes have difficulty understanding each other because they _____ differently.
 - communicate
 - communicated
 - have communicated
 - communicates
- _____ you can speak more than one language, you have the opportunity to make more new friends.
 - So
 - Before
 - When
 - Though
- Light _____ faster than sound, which is why you see lightning before you hear the thunder.
 - traveling
 - travels
 - having traveled
 - will travel

Directions for questions 11–15

Read the two sentences below and choose the best way of combining them.

- Lisa plays the piano. Her sister Kelly plays the piano, too.
 - Lisa and her sister Kelly plays the piano.
 - Both Lisa and her sister Kelly play the piano.
 - Lisa plays the piano and Kelly plays the piano.
 - Lisa and Kelly too play the piano.
- Kazuko took her dog for a walk. They went to the park.
 - Kazuko, going to the park, took her dog for a walk.
 - Kazuko took her dog for a walk to the park.
 - Kazuko took her dog for a walk because they went to the park.
 - Kazuko and her dog went to the park, where she and the dog walked.

13. We knew it might get chilly at the football game. We brought along some extra blankets.
- A. We knew it might get chilly at the football game when we brought along some extra blankets.
 - B. Bringing along some extra blankets, we knew it might get chilly at the football game.
 - C. We brought along some extra blankets because we knew it might get chilly at the football game.
 - D. It got chilly at the football game and we brought along some extra blankets.
14. Juan loves to play baseball. His friend Miguel enjoys baseball, too.
- A. Both Juan and his friend Miguel enjoy playing baseball.
 - B. Juan and his friend Miguel enjoys playing baseball.
 - C. Juan enjoys playing baseball and his friend Miguel, too.
 - D. Juan loves baseball and Miguel too enjoys baseball.
15. Wolves are pack animals. They are rarely spotted alone.
- A. Wolves are rarely spotted alone if they are pack animals.
 - B. Being pack animals, wolves are rarely spotted alone.
 - C. After being pack animals, wolves are rarely spotted alone.
 - D. Wolves are rarely spotted alone, although they are pack animals.