

## EST I – Literacy Test I

**Student's Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**National ID** \_\_\_\_\_

**Test Center:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Duration:** 35 minutes

44 Multiple Choice Questions

**Instructions:**

- Place your answer on the answer sheet. Mark only one answer for each of the multiple choice questions.
- Avoid guessing. Your answers should reflect your overall understanding of the subject matter.

**Directions:** Read each passage and answer the questions. First skim through the passage to gain the general idea of topic, style, tone, and structure. Then, re-read the passage a second time, closely, and answer the questions found next to the passage as you read. Some questions ask you how the passage might be changed to improve the expression of ideas. Other questions ask you how the passage might be altered to correct errors in grammar, usage, and punctuation. One or more graphics accompany some passages. You will be required to consider these graphics as you answer questions about editing the passages.

There are three types of questions. In the first type, a part of the passage is underlined. The second type is based on a certain part of the passage. The third type is based on the entire passage.

Read each passage. Then, choose the answer so that it is consistent with the conventions of standard written English. One of the answer choices for many questions is “NO CHANGE.” Choosing this answer means that you believe the best answer is to make no change in the passage.

**Questions 1-11** are based on the following passage and supplementary material.

Banking is not a profession dedicated [1] indisputably to entering an endless series of figures in ledgers and processing or analysing balance sheets. Primarily, banking is a profession that deals with people and their problems. [2] Instead, [3] banking is a profession not only for those who have a flair for people but also for those with a flair for figures.

1.A. NO CHANGE

B. both

C. solely

D. mutually

2.A. NO CHANGE

B. Therefore,

C. However,

D. Although

3.A. NO CHANGE

B. banking is a profession not only for those who have a flair for people, but also for those with a flair for figures.

C. banking is a profession not only for those who have a flair for people, but it is also for those with a flair for figures.

D. banking is not only a profession for those who have a flair for people but for those with a flair for figures.

Banking provides a broad spectrum of work to allow [4] a primitive banker to switch careers without changing a industries. The employment options in banking are abundant and various. The major areas of work are the servicing of internal customers, domestic customer banking, and special functions such as administration, [5] personality and computers. All of them need employees with sufficient educational background, intelligence, clear thinking, human understanding, and nerve.

[6] A bank manager who is responsible for a branch of business usually begins his career as a loan officer and acquires skills and experience while progressing through several jobs. Bank loan officers make initial contacts with new customers, [7] accepting their loan applications, and assist them on how to fill out loan requests.

[8] (1) An analyst's duties are to assess each loan applicant's financial position and advise the bank's management on the loan prospects. (2) A loan workout specialist is an experienced and skilled specialist who is supposed to investigate each problem loan, inquire into the causes of bad loans, and find solutions to recovering the bank's funds. (3) A credit analyst and a loan workout specialist are professionals determining the business of lending. (4) Both a credit analyst and a loan workout specialist must have a solid background in accounting, financial statement analysis, law, and economics.

4.A. NO CHANGE

- B. an adult
- C. an incipient
- D. an original

5.A. NO CHANGE

- B. personnel
- C. personal
- D. persons

6.A. NO CHANGE

- B. A bank manager who is responsible for a branch of business, and usually
- C. A bank manager, who is responsible for a branch of business and usually
- D. A bank manager who is responsible for a branch of business and usually

7.A. NO CHANGE

- B. accepts their loan
- C. to accept their loan
- D. accept their loan

8. Which sentence serves as a topic sentence for this paragraph?

- A. Sentence 1 because it describes the duty of an analyst in detail.
- B. Sentence 2 because it describes the duty of a loan workout specialist and the paragraph mostly deals with bank loans.
- C. Sentence 3 because it includes both jobs to which the surrounding sentences refer.
- D. Sentence 4 because it includes necessary skills for both banking jobs.

Managers of the accounting and operations division control and direct one of the leading business areas concerned with financial planning through the interpretation and use of financial data for one thing. They are in charge of processing checks and clearing on behalf of their customers. The lowest link of the division, a teller, is a bank employee who accepts deposits, cashes checks, and performs other banking services for the public. [9] Their duties also include sorting and filing deposit receipts and withdrawal slips. [10]

Auditing and control personnel in a bank's accounting and audit department are well trained specialists. Their proficiency and expertise are unquestionable. As professional accountants they have a legal right of access to records and accounts. Candidates for such senior posts have to acquire a variety of managerial experience, and those who show outstanding potential are likely to reach senior executive level before they are 40. [11]

9.A. NO CHANGE

- B. There
- C. Theirs
- D. They're

10. Which sentence best concludes this paragraph?

- A. A teller's primary duty is to find out and state the true financial position of the bank by examining books and records.
- B. Financial data is handled by managers of the accounting and operations division of which tellers are the lowest rung on the ladder
- C. The accounting and operations division has roles of various levels to progress to such as becoming a bank teller.
- D. Tellers produce a forecast of future performance and provide ways and methods of improving bank efficiency.

11. Which sentence best concludes this paragraph?

- A. A career progression does not reflect age but rather depends on individual ability and previous experience.
- B. Trust department specialists, investment specialists, foreign exchange traders, and personnel managers exist as part of a senior executive team.
- C. Once the basic training has been completed, career development becomes more challenging for the individual.
- D. Candidates for senior posts must be above 40 and show outstanding potential, desire, and strong character.

**Questions 12-22 are based on the following passage.**

### **Why People Troll**

“Fail at life. Tough luck for you!” Comments like this one, found in an article about how women perceive themselves, are prevalent today across the internet, whether [12] their on social media or a news website. Such behavior can range from profanity and name-calling [13] or personal attacks, or hate speech. A recent Pew Internet survey [14] found that four out of 10 people online have been harassed online, with far more having witnessed such behavior. Trolling has become so [15] general that several websites have even resorted to completely removing comments.

[16] People who like to troll are likely to show signs of sadism. One reason for this is that the internet has a tendency to make people anonymous which motivates trolls to treat people online as less than human.

**12.A. NO CHANGE**

- B. there**
- C. they’re**
- D. theirs**

**13.A. NO CHANGE**

- B. to**
- C. and**
- D. both**

**14.A. NO CHANGE**

- B. finds**
- C. founded**
- D. finding**

**15. Which word best expresses the intended meaning?**

- A. NO CHANGE**
- B. scattered**
- C. spread**
- D. rampant**

**16. At this point, the writer is considering adding the following sentence.**

“Trolls are generally perceived as vociferous sociopathic individuals.”

Should the writer make this addition here?

- A. Yes, because the sentence that follows support it.**
- B. Yes, because it is giving reasons why the internet causes trolling behavior.**
- C. No, because it is a repetition of the same idea in the following sentence.**
- D. No, because it is a general statement about trolling.**

Some studies even showed that trolls have predisposing personal and biological traits, such as sadism and [17] a propensity for seek excessive stimulation. [18] However, one study found that people with no biological predisposition can be influenced to troll under the right circumstances in an online community. By analyzing 16 million comments made on a news website and conducting an online controlled experiment, [19] two key factors that can lead ordinary people to troll were identified.

Six hundred sixty-seven participants were recruited through an online crowdsourcing platform and asked to first take a quiz, then read an article and engage in discussion. Every participant saw the same article, but some were given a discussion that had started with comments by trolls, whereas others saw neutral comments instead. Here, trolling was defined using standard community categories—for example, name-calling, profanity, racism, or harassment.

The first factor that seems to influence trolling is a person's mood. In the experiment, people [20] had been put into negative moods were much more likely to start trolling. It was also discovered that trolling ebbs and flows with the time of day and day of the week, in sync with natural human mood patterns. [21]

17.A. NO CHANGE

- B. a proclivity for seeking
- C. a liking to seek
- D. an inclination in seeking

18.A. NO CHANGE

- B. Moreover,
- C. Similarly,
- D. Consequently,

19.A. NO CHANGE

- B. two key factors, that can lead ordinary people to troll, were identified.
- C. two key factors that can lead ordinary people to troll were identified.
- D. two key factors that can lead ordinary people to troll, were identified..

20.A. NO CHANGE

- B. were put
- C. have been put
- D. put

21. The author is thinking of adding a sentence at this point for additional support. Which sentence works best?

A. NO CHANGE

B. Trolling is most frequent late at night, and least frequent in the morning.

C. Trolling also can differ in severity, from swearing to targeted bullying, which necessitates different responses.

D. Trolling can end up becoming the norm in communities if left unchecked.

Moreover, a negative mood appeared to persist beyond the events that brought about those feelings. Suppose that a person participates in a discussion where other people wrote troll comments. If that person goes on to participate in an unrelated discussion, he or she is more likely to troll in that discussion too.

The second factor is the context of a discussion. If a discussion begins with a troll comment, then it is twice as likely to be trolled by other participants later on, [22] compared to a discussion that does not start with a troll comment. In fact, these troll comments can add up. The more troll comments in a discussion, the more likely that future participants will also troll the discussion. Altogether, these results show how the initial comments in a discussion set a strong, lasting precedent for later trolling.

**22.A.** NO CHANGE

- B.** compared to a troll comment.
- C.** compared to the context of the discussion.
- D.** compared to a discussion that starts with a troll comment.

**Questions 23-33** are based on the following passage.

### **Invasive Species**

In order to develop predictive theories, invasion biologists have made several attempts to explain why certain species have been successful in **[23]** establishing locations. **[24]** After critically reviewing these theories, scientists found only a few of them to contain any predictive value. They identified three levels of characteristics: species-level characteristics, e.g. body size, reproductive rate, geographic range, and **[25]** habitat breadth, location-level characteristics, e.g. climate, structure and composition of the native habitat, and latitude; event-level characteristics, e.g. number of individuals released, and date of introduction.

Event-level characteristics are much more important than **[26]** species and location. By far the most important characteristic appears to be the number of introductions of a species and the number of individuals released. This single factor explains much of the variation in the presence of non-native species.

**23.A.** NO CHANGE

- B.** established
- C.** establishment
- D.** establish

**24.A.** NO CHANGE

- B.** Scientists found only a few theories after critically reviewing them for predictive value.
- C.** Finding a small number of them to be of any predictive value, scientists critically reviewed a diverse number of these theories.
- D.** Scientists have critically reviewed these theories and found only a few to have predictive value.

**25.A.** NO CHANGE

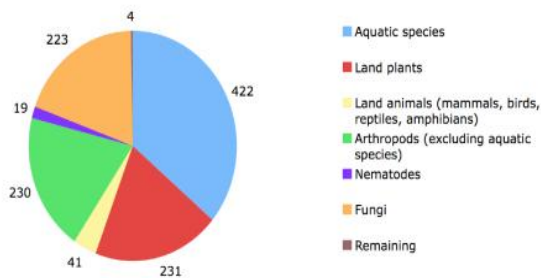
- B.** habitat breadth location-level characteristics, e.g. climate, structure and composition of the native habitat, and latitude;
- C.** habitat breadth; location-level characteristics, e.g. climate, structure and composition of the native habitat, and latitude;
- D.** habitat breadth: location-level characteristics, e.g. climate, structure and composition of the native habitat, and latitude;

**26.A.** NO CHANGE

- B.** species and location-level characteristics.
- C.** species and location of characteristic.
- D.** species-level and location-level.



One of the few species-level characteristics that appears to have explanatory power is the climate and habitat [27] breadth of the species. Another relevant characteristic is behavioral flexibility: the ability of the species to adapt to new food resources or ecological conditions. Generalist, widespread species have a better chance of being introduced and [28] become established.



Number of non-native species per species group in the Netherlands found in literature.

27.A. NO CHANGE

- B. breathe
- C. breathing
- D. breath

28.A. NO CHANGE

- B. be
- C. became
- D. becoming

29. Which statement best interprets the graph?

- A. Of the 1170 species which are non-native to the Netherlands, land animals, land plants, arthropods and fungi represent the largest groups, while only small numbers of nematodes and aquatic plants are non-native.
- B. Aquatic species, land plants, arthropods and fungi represent the largest groups, while only small numbers of nematodes and land animals are non-native.
- C. Aquatic species represent the largest group, while only small numbers of fungi and land animals are non-native.
- D. Aquatic species, land plants, arthropods and fungi represent the largest groups.

The Netherlands has always had excellent water connections to the European hinterland: mainly the rivers Rhine and Meuse. These rivers create a permanent [30] acceptance of water species, occasionally including non-native species. Another important pathway for non-native species is aquaculture. Lots of water plants and animals are imported for use in Dutch aquaria and ponds. In addition, fish species are introduced for angling.

The number of non-native freshwater species [31] have increased strongly over the past decades. Many macroinvertebrates, fish and water plants have been introduced by human activity, mainly the trade of plants and fish for use in ponds, the release of fish species for angling purposes, the construction of the Main-Donau canal, and the discharge of ballast water.

After the opening of the Rhine-Main Danube waterway, the southern corridor became the principal corridor for the spread of non-native macroinvertebrates to the River Rhine.

30. Which wording is most consistent with the paragraph as a whole?

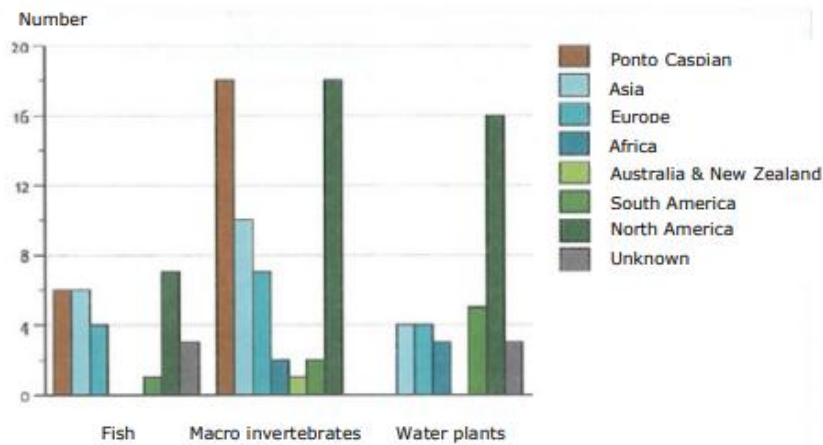
- A. NO CHANGE
- B. entrance
- C. influx
- D. arrival

31.A. NO CHANGE

- B. has increased
- C. is increasing
- D. had increased

32. Which statement best interprets the graph?

- A. For macroinvertebrates the main donor areas are North America and the Ponto-Caspian area.
- B. Important donor areas for fish are North America, the Ponto-Caspian area, and Asia.
- C. Most water plants have their origin in North and South America.
- D. Most water plants have their origin in Asia and Europe.



**Figure 3.3** Number of non-native freshwater fish (n=27), macro invertebrates (n=58) and water plants (n=35), divided by area of origin (Source: Puijenbroek *et al.* 2009).

Up to now, the dispersal of only a few non-native species was related to the Southwestern and Mediterranean corridors. Another important pathway for macroinvertebrates is the import from North America.

Some non-native species of fish have been present in the Netherlands for a long time. [33] Macroinvertebrates and water plants are much less than non-native fish species which make up 30%. After 1990, again a fair amount of non-native fish species was introduced, mainly as a result of trade in pond fish.

As for water plants, the main pathway (75% of which are non-native species) is escape from gardens, ponds or aquaria. Although most non-native water plants do not cause any problems, some species proliferate.

33. The author wants to replace the underlined sentence with one of the following.

Which sentence works best?

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. The majority of species originate from temperate areas, and this is well documented.
- C. The construction of the Main-Donau canal has caused a major increase in the number of non-native macroinvertebrate and fish species.
- D. These species are still intentionally being released for amateur fishing.

**Questions 34-44 are based on the following passage.**

**Can Artificial Intelligence Make Art without Artists?**

The question of whether machines can make art provokes very different answers from pioneers in the field. Harold Cohen refuses to ascribe creativity to his art-making robot [34] AARON, while Leonel Moura argues that since his “Artbots” generate pictures from emergent properties that could not have been predicted by their creator, “they have at least some degree of creativity.” Although the question of whether machines can be artists seems to fall squarely on our definition of the latter, a solution to this philosophical [35] tenet may ironically lie in redirecting the question away from the artist and toward the viewer.

[36] For 50 years, Harold Cohen collaborated with a computer program he dubbed AARON. Gradually, he refined its code to produce drawings. Later, he created paintings which grabbed his interest and that of a large public.

34.A. NO CHANGE

B. AARON. While Leonel Moura argues that since his “Artbots” generate pictures from emergent properties,

C. AARON; while Leonel Moura argues that since his “Artbots” generate pictures from emergent properties,

D. AARON: while Leonel Moura argues that since his “Artbots” generate pictures from emergent properties

35.A. NO CHANGE

B. elucidation

C. impasse

D. headway

36.A. NO CHANGE

B. Harold Cohen collaborated with a computer program dubbed AARON for 50 years and with a refined code to produce drawings and paintings which interested him and a large public.

C. During his 50-year collaboration with a computer program he dubbed AARON, Harold Cohen gradually refined its code to produce drawings, and later paintings, of increasing interest to Cohen and to a large public.

D. For 50 years, and with the help of a computer program dubbed AARON, Harold Cohen produced drawings and paintings which he produced using refined programming code that interested him and a large public.

Over the years, Cohen also redefined [37] its own role, which shifted from a programmer, who sets rules for AARON, to follow to a co-producer, who serves as colorist for AARON's designs. Along with his own experience as an artist, five decades of working with a computational machine to produce art made Cohen especially qualified [38] to judge, whether an artificial intelligence can be considered an artist in its own right. Despite admitting the critical role AARON has played in his life as an artist, Cohen seemed [39] reluctant to grant his robotic partner the status of an artist to the extent that he disqualifies a number of [40] procedure aspect of artistry that can be modeled in computer code. Instead of talking about AARON as an individual artist, Cohen speaks about this collaboration in terms that highlight the personal nature of this human-machine relationship; Cohen characterizes the artistic potential of machines not in their intrinsic artistry but in their special collaborations with humans, as in his own relationship with AARON. [41] He considers the attempt to model human creativity on a computer a vain effort and throws a wet blanket on the possibility of machine made art.

37.A. NO CHANGE

- B. his
- C. their
- D. our

38.A. NO CHANGE

- B. to judge. Whether
- C. to judge; whether
- D. to judge whether

39.A. NO CHANGE

- B. willing to grant
- C. impassioned about granting
- D. exuberant about granting

40.A. NO CHANGE

- B. procedures aspect
- C. procedural aspects
- D. procedural aspect

41. The author would like to express that Cohen does not believe that computers have free will and the ability to be creative.

Which choice best conveys this?

A. NO CHANGE

B. The time will come when machines could make art independent of human agency and computers will be able to model human creativity.

C. There is a possibility that art will be born of an autonomous machine and their creative ability is inevitable.

D. He dislikes the word "creative" and considers robots' attempts to model human creativity acts of aesthetic free will.

Artist Leonel Moura, by comparison, is a newer recruit to the machine-human boundary. Moura began experimenting with artificial intelligence and robotic art in the late 1990s, and since the 2000s [42] produced mobile robots that make drawings based on color density. These robots' dynamic is collective rather than individual. Moura releases a [43] collection of them onto a plastic canvas, each armed with ink of a different color and a color sensor that helps its on-board software decide when to mark the PVC surface. The result is a multicolored drawing emerging from hundreds of such individual [44] strokes for Moura. Whether his art is made with or without machines is unimportant, so long as it is accepted by the art world's gatekeepers.

42.A. NO CHANGE

B. produces

C. is producing

D. has produced

43. The author wants to show that Moura's artwork is a result of a group of robots. Which word is most effective?

A. NO CHANGE

B. swarm

C. company

D. gathering

44.A. NO CHANGE

B. strokes, for Moura, whether

C. strokes: for Moura, whether

D. strokes. For Moura, whether