

Advanced Grammar Review – Test 1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ Score: / 30



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Choose the one correct option for each question.

Part 1: Advanced structures in context

Choose the option that best completes each sentence.

- Not until the final results were published _____ how close the vote had been.
A did we realise B we realised C realised we D we had realised
- The committee insisted that every applicant _____ proof of address.
A submit B submits C will submit D to submit
- If she hadn't turned down that job in Lisbon, she _____ in Portugal now.
A would be living B would have lived C will be living D had lived
- _____ the storm, the ferry would have arrived on schedule.
A Had it not been for B If it hadn't been
C Hadn't it been for D Unless it had been for
- _____ was the demand for tickets that the organisers added a second performance.
A Such B So C Such a D That
- It's high time the council _____ something about the potholes on this road.
A did B does C will do D has done
- I'd rather you _____ mention this to anyone until it's official.
A didn't B don't C not D wouldn't
- She can't _____ the email yet — I only sent it five minutes ago and she's in a meeting.
A have read B be read C had read D having read
- You _____ have booked a taxi — Amir had already offered to drive us, but thanks anyway.
A needn't B mustn't C ought D daren't
- Try _____ she might, she couldn't get the lid off the jar.
A as B even C however D although

Part 2: Accuracy and error spotting

Choose the correct sentence, the correct response, or the part of the sentence that contains an error.

- Which sentence is correct?
A What I need is a long holiday. B What I need it is a long holiday.
C That I need is a long holiday. D What do I need is a long holiday.
- Which part contains the error? 'Scarcely we had left the house when it started to pour.'
A Scarcely B we had left C when D it started to pour

13. Which sentence is correct?
A Having finished the report, the printer was switched off by Lena.
B Having finished the report, Lena switched off the printer.
C Finished the report, Lena switched off the printer.
D Having been finished the report, Lena switched off the printer.
14. Which part contains the error? 'The number of students who has applied this year is higher than ever.'
A The number of **B** who has applied **C** is higher **D** than ever
15. Nobody phoned while I was out, _____?
A did they **B** didn't they **C** did he **D** didn't anyone
16. 'Where did you buy your coat?' she asked me. → She asked me _____.
A where I had bought my coat **B** where had I bought my coat
C where did I buy my coat **D** that where I had bought my coat
17. Which sentence is correct?
A He suggested us to take the earlier train.
B He suggested that we take the earlier train.
C He suggested to take the earlier train.
D He suggested that we to take the earlier train.
18. 'Will the results be ready by Friday?' 'I'm afraid _____.'
A not **B** no **C** don't **D** not so
19. I wish my neighbours _____ their music so loud every night — it's driving me mad.
A wouldn't play **B** won't play **C** don't play **D** hadn't played
20. Which part contains the error? 'Should you require any further information, do not hesitate contacting us.'
A Should you require **B** any further information
C do not hesitate **D** contacting us

Part 3: Grammar in a text

Read the text and choose the best option for each numbered gap.

The Case for Slow Travel

For most of the twentieth century, travel was measured by how far one could go and how quickly. (1) ___ had affordable air fares become widespread than a weekend in a distant city became something many people took for granted. Yet a growing number of travellers are now questioning whether speed is really the point.

Proponents of slow travel argue that it is not the destination (2) ___ matters, but the experience of getting there. Rather than cramming five cities into a week, they recommend (3) ___ a single region in depth. Only by staying in one place for a while, they claim, (4) ___ to understand its rhythms.

Critics, (5) ___, point out that not everyone has the luxury of time. A nurse with ten days' annual leave can hardly be expected to spend three of them on a train. (6) ___ appealing the idea may be, it remains, for many, out of reach.

Even so, the movement has had a measurable effect. Several rail operators have reintroduced night services that (7) ___ decades ago, and booking figures suggest that demand is steadily rising. Had these routes not been revived, many travellers today (8) ___ no realistic alternative to flying.

Perhaps the most valuable lesson of slow travel is not about transport at all. It is a reminder that (9) ___ we hurry, the less we notice. Whether or not we ever board a sleeper train, it is worth asking ourselves how much we (10) ___ by always rushing to the next thing.

21. Gap (1)

A No sooner

B Hardly

C As soon as

D Not only

22. Gap (2)

A that

B what

C where

D it

23. Gap (3)

A exploring

B to explore

C explore

D to exploring

24. Gap (4)

A is it possible

B it is possible

C possible it is

D is possible

25. Gap (5)

A however

B although

C despite

D whereas

26. Gap (6)

A However

B Much as

C Although

D Even

27. Gap (7)

A had been withdrawn

C were withdrawing

B have been withdrawn

D had withdrawn

28. Gap (8)

A would have

B would have had

C had had

D will have

29. Gap (9)

A the more

B more

C the most

D the much

30. Gap (10)

A miss out on

B miss out of

C miss on

D missing out

Answer key – Advanced Grammar Review – Test 1

1 A	2 A	3 A	4 A	5 A	6 A	7 A	8 A	9 A	10 A
11 A	12 B	13 B	14 B	15 A	16 A	17 B	18 A	19 A	20 D
21 A	22 A	23 A	24 A	25 A	26 A	27 A	28 A	29 A	30 A

Explanations

- A** – After the negative adverbial 'Not until...' at the start of a sentence, the main clause needs auxiliary-subject inversion.
- A** – Mandative verbs such as 'insist' take the base-form subjunctive in the that-clause.
- A** – This mixed conditional combines a past condition with a present result ('now'), so it needs 'would' + present (continuous) form.
- A** – 'Had it not been for' is the inverted form of 'If it hadn't been for'; contracted negatives cannot be used in this inversion.
- A** – Fronted 'Such' + be + noun phrase + that-clause expresses degree; 'So' would need an adjective, as in 'So great was the demand'.
- A** – 'It's high time' is followed by the past simple with present meaning to show that something should already be happening.
- A** – 'Would rather' + a different subject takes the past simple to refer to the present or future.
- A** – 'Can't have' + past participle expresses a logical negative deduction about the past.
- A** – 'Needn't have' + past participle means something was done although it was unnecessary.
- A** – The fixed concessive pattern is 'verb + as + subject + might', meaning 'however hard she tried'.
- A** – A wh-cleft uses 'What + subject + verb' without question word order or an extra pronoun.
- B** – After initial 'Scarcely' the auxiliary must come before the subject: 'Scarcely had we left'.
- B** – The subject of the participle clause must be the subject of the main clause; only Lena finished the report.
- B** – The relative pronoun 'who' refers to 'students' (plural), so it needs 'have applied'; 'is' correctly agrees with 'the number'.
- A** – 'Nobody' is negative, so the tag is positive, and it uses 'they' as the pronoun.
- A** – Reported questions use statement word order with no auxiliary 'do' and no 'that'.
- B** – 'Suggest' is not followed by an infinitive; a that-clause with the subjunctive is correct.
- A** – 'Not' substitutes for a negative clause after verbs like 'be afraid', 'hope' and 'suppose'.
- A** – 'Wish + would' expresses irritation at someone else's repeated behaviour.
- D** – 'Hesitate' is followed by a to-infinitive: 'do not hesitate to contact us'.
- A** – 'No sooner' pairs with 'than' and triggers inversion; 'Hardly' would need 'when'.
- A** – An it-cleft ('it is not X that...') uses 'that' to introduce the rest of the clause.
- A** – 'Recommend' is followed by a gerund when no object is mentioned.
- A** – 'Only by...' at the start of a sentence requires inversion in the main clause.
- A** – 'However' is a linking adverb that can be inserted between commas; the others are conjunctions or prepositions.
- A** – 'However + adjective + subject + may be' forms a concessive clause; 'Although' cannot be followed directly by an adjective.
- A** – The services were withdrawn by someone before their reintroduction, so a past perfect passive is needed; the present perfect cannot be used with 'ago'.
- A** – This mixed conditional has a past condition and a present result ('today'), so 'would have' + noun is correct.
- A** – The double comparative pattern is 'the more..., the less...'.
- A** – The phrasal verb is 'miss out on something', and the present simple fits after 'we'.

Notes for teachers: Use this test as a diagnostic or as a review before a C2 exam. It targets persistent advanced-level errors: missing auxiliary inversion after negative adverbials, indicative forms after mandative verbs, dangling participles, 'suggest + object + infinitive' and subject-verb agreement with 'the number of'. For follow-up, ask students to rewrite the incorrect options so they become correct, or to transform the reading passage into a more or less formal register.