



MICHIGAN LANGUAGE ASSESSMENT

Volume 1006

ECPE

Sample Test

Prove your English. Achieve your goals.
Own your future.

CEFR Level: **C2**

Part of



Writing Answer Document Instructions

Look only at your own test. Test takers giving or receiving answers or using notes or other aids will be disqualified, and they will fail. Examination fees will not be refunded.

Look at the TOP LEFT of PAGE ONE of your writing answer document. Fill in the following information on the lines:

- **FULL NAME:** Print your full name in this order: first name, then middle initial, then family name. Use all capital letters.
- **TODAY'S DATE:** Print the month, day, and year.

Look at the MIDDLE LEFT of PAGE ONE of your writing answer document. Fill in the blocks according to the following:

- **CENTER:** Print the 3-digit test center number (the examiner will tell you the number).
- **TEST TAKER ID:** Print your 9-digit test taker ID. Include all zeros, including those at the beginning of the number.
- **FORM:** Print the form letter that is on the front of your test booklet.

Look at the columns of CIRCLES BELOW THE BLOCKS:

- Find the number or letter that is the same as the number or letter you have printed in the block above.
- Darken the circle completely so that you cannot see the number or letter inside.
- Do this for your center number, test taker ID, and form letter.
- Darken only one circle in each of the columns.
- Leave the section that says "Task" blank for now.

Look at the TOP RIGHT of PAGE THREE of your writing answer document. Find where it says "Test Taker ID."

- Print your 9-digit test taker ID.
- Include all zeros, including those at the beginning of the number.

The example below shows the correct way for Maria Soledad Garcia to fill out the information section of the writing answer document.

ECPE
WRITING ANSWER DOCUMENT

MARIA S. GARCIA 05/31/18
Full Name (PRINT) Today's Date (mm/dd/yy)

CENTER	TEST TAKER ID	FORM
1 2 3	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 2 5	A

TASK

ARTICLE/PROPOSAL
 ESSAY

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA



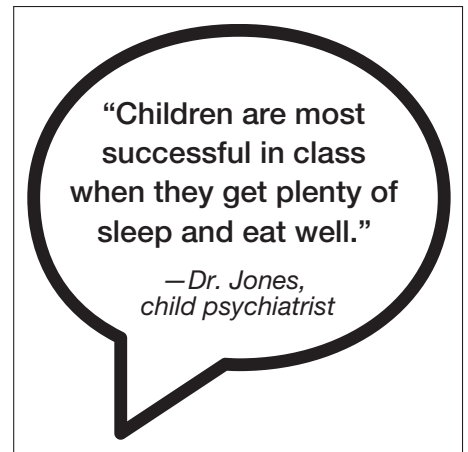
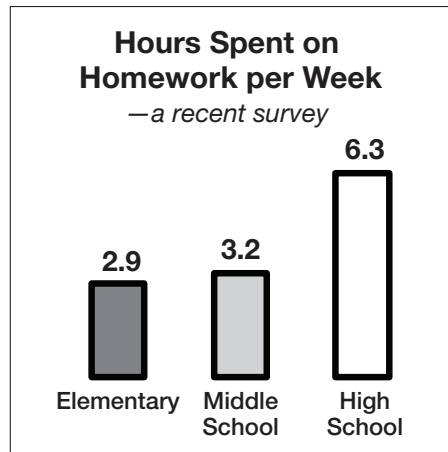
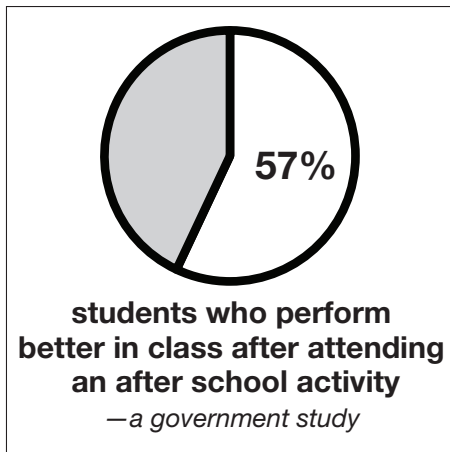
Do not turn the page until instructed to do so.

WRITING

Writing Instructions

- Choose either Task 1 (Article/Proposal) or Task 2 (Essay). Write on only ONE of these tasks.
- Once you have chosen your task, darken the circle for “Article/Proposal” or “Essay” on your writing answer document.
- You will have 45 minutes to write your answer.
- Use a #2 (soft) pencil only.
- Use only the lines provided on the writing answer document to complete this section. You should write about two pages.
- Do not write your answer in this booklet.
- You will not be graded on the appearance of your paper, but your handwriting must be readable.
- You may use the planning area provided in this booklet, but it will not count toward your score.

Writing Prompt



Task 1: Proposal

Your school wants to require all students to join an after school activity, such as a sport or club that meets after school has ended for the day. There has been discussion in your school about whether this is a good idea or not. Write a **proposal** to your principal evaluating the different opinions on this issue and what you think about it. Include at least one piece of information given above to support your response.

Task 2: Essay

Some people think students are given too much work to do outside of the classroom. What positive and negative effects does homework have on students? Write an **essay** addressing this topic and explain what you think about it. Include at least one piece of information given above to support your response.

Remember

Once you have chosen your task, darken the circle for “Article/Proposal” or “Essay” on your writing answer document.

Planning Area ONLY

DO NOT write your answer in this space.



Do not turn the page until instructed to do so.

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LISTENING

Listening Section Instructions

This section of the test has three parts. Mark all your answers on the separate answer sheet. Do not make any stray marks on the answer sheet. If you change your mind about an answer, erase your first answer completely. If you do not know the answer, you may guess. Try to answer as many questions as possible.

Part 1

In this part, you will hear 20 short conversations. After each conversation, you will hear a question about it. You will hear each conversation and question once. The answer choices are printed in the test booklet. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet, not in the test booklet. You should mark A, B, C, or D.

Do you have any questions?

1. What does the man think about the assignment?
 - A. It's not appropriate for business professionals.
 - B. It's not relevant for the conference.
 - C. It's an innovative method of collecting data.
 - D. It's an effective way to teach.
2. Why does the woman ask the man if he's joking?
 - A. because she couldn't believe what he said
 - B. because he made her laugh
 - C. because she doesn't understand what is funny
 - D. because he is acting strangely
3. What does the man think about his research topic?
 - A. It's controversial.
 - B. It's unique.
 - C. It's important.
 - D. It's difficult.
4. Why does the man mention a meeting?
 - A. to find out who will be attending
 - B. to request that a file be sent to him
 - C. to reschedule his break for afterwards
 - D. to imply that he needs his computer
5. How does the woman feel about the man?
 - A. He should hurry up.
 - B. She is surprised to see him.
 - C. He is being rude.
 - D. She wants to meet him later.
6. What are the speakers mainly discussing?
 - A. a plan for an event
 - B. an illness the woman had
 - C. a book of poetry
 - D. a trip the woman will take
7. Where is the woman going?
 - A. to a fundraiser
 - B. on a fishing trip
 - C. to a gym
 - D. to a race
8. What does the man say about music?
 - A. The women are good performers.
 - B. He likes listening to it.
 - C. It's the best part of an opera.
 - D. He is studying it.

LISTENING

9. How does the man feel about the woman's explanation?
A. confused
B. thankful
C. sad
D. frustrated
10. What does the woman imply that the boy should do?
A. choose a topic discussed in class
B. read the novel more carefully
C. narrow his topic
D. read some sample essays
11. What are the speakers mainly discussing?
A. when the man will pick the woman up
B. how they get to work
C. changes to the woman's plans
D. problems with the woman's car
12. Why does the woman ask the man about the sweater?
A. to compare its price to another item
B. to find one for another customer
C. to determine its price
D. to put it back where it belongs
13. What does the woman suggest about the building?
A. It is in demand.
B. It is well-made.
C. It is outside the city.
D. It is in need of updates.
14. What does the man want to do next?
A. look for a better view
B. go to a waterfall
C. take a rest
D. find some animals
15. What does the woman think about the man's idea?
A. She thinks he did his project too quickly.
B. She doesn't think it is relevant.
C. She doesn't think it is possible.
D. She thinks he will get a good grade.
16. What are the speakers mainly discussing?
A. the man's financial situation
B. the man's home
C. the man's career
D. the man's physical health
17. What does the man suggest the woman do?
A. bring her own cup
B. get a receipt
C. use a different coupon
D. order a larger size
18. How does the man feel about the upcoming weekend?
A. He is not sure his family will come.
B. He is nervous about planning the celebration.
C. He is worried he will need some help.
D. He is not looking forward to the celebration.
19. What are the speakers mainly discussing?
A. the next budget
B. the color brochures
C. an important meeting
D. new office equipment
20. What will the woman probably do?
A. work at a radio station
B. begin a podcast on her own
C. take a class in the music department
D. find a new university club to join

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LISTENING

Part 2

In this part, you will hear three short talks. After each talk, you will hear six questions about it. Before each talk begins, you will have time to preview the questions that are printed in the test booklet.

You will hear each talk and the questions once. If you want to, you may take notes in your booklet as you listen. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet, not in the test booklet. You should mark A, B, C, or D.

Do you have any questions?

Now you will hear the first talk. Look at the questions.

Notes

Listen to a professor of child development.

21. What information about young children is the course going to cover next?
 - A. how they benefit from preschool programs
 - B. how they interact with the natural world
 - C. how their bodies change, develop, and grow
 - D. how they think, feel, and relate to others

22. What does the speaker imply about introductory courses?
 - A. They aren't easy to understand.
 - B. They aren't popular with students.
 - C. They don't allow thorough study of a topic.
 - D. They don't present students with many challenges.

23. According to the speaker, what is true about research on families?
 - A. Sibling relationships aren't often explored.
 - B. Young children aren't easy to research.
 - C. Parent relationships usually interest students.
 - D. Family research requires a wealth of funding.


24. Why does the speaker mention birth order?
 - A. to highlight her particular area of interest
 - B. to describe an issue with healthy child development
 - C. to mention an influence on her own personality
 - D. to show the complexity of sibling research

25. What is the talk mainly about?
 - A. what material the course will cover
 - B. a summary of early childhood education
 - C. a set of requirements to pass the course
 - D. what the next assignments will be

26. What does the speaker invite students to do?
 - A. make a guess
 - B. work together
 - C. ask questions
 - D. have a discussion

Now you will hear the second talk. Look at the questions.

Listen to a hotel manager talking to his staff.

27. What does the speaker imply about kids?
- A. Some staff members have complained about them.
 - B. Some guests are bothered by them.
 - C. They should have special programs designed for them.
 - D. They need a special menu at the restaurant.
28. How does the speaker feel about the pool?
- A. He thinks it will look great when it's finished.
 - B. He thinks it should remain as it is.
 - C. He feels that it's too small.
 - D. He is concerned about how little it's used.
29. What does the speaker imply about the kitchen?
- A. It has a greater capacity than it needs.
 - B. The chef designed it himself.
 - C. It does not meet safety standards.
 - D. The kitchen staff doesn't like it.
30. What does the speaker say about the manager of the nearby French restaurant?
- A. She is having trouble getting business.
 - B. She had good advice regarding the hotel's menu.
 - C. She may come work for the hotel.
 - D. She agreed to give hotel guests a discount.
31. What is the purpose of the talk?
- A. to discuss guest complaints about the hotel
 - B. to notify hotel staff about upcoming projects
 - C. to explain a change in the hotel's ownership
 - D. to identify hotel maintenance issues to be fixed
32. What does the speaker mean when he says: 
- A. The work being done isn't necessary.
 - B. The work probably won't be done on time.
 - C. The workers should start with a different project.
 - D. The workers don't really know what they're doing.

Notes

LISTENING

Now you will hear the third talk. Look at the questions.

Listen to a camp counselor talking to campers.

33. Why does the speaker mention a turtle's hard shell?
- A. to list a way turtles defend themselves
 - B. to list a feature of turtles people recognize
 - C. to illustrate why turtles need protecting
 - D. to illustrate how turtles are unique
34. What does the speaker say about turtle nests?
- A. Campers will build them.
 - B. Campers will need to avoid them.
 - C. They are difficult to identify.
 - D. They are likely to be near the water.
35. What does the speaker imply about free time?
- A. It is listed on the camp schedule.
 - B. It is important to the camp counselors.
 - C. Campers probably won't have any.
 - D. Campers cannot use it however they like.
36. What does the speaker say about a tree that fell?
- A. Campers will have to move it.
 - B. Turtles will benefit from it.
 - C. It is preventing turtles from laying eggs.
 - D. It is a risk to the campers.
37. What will the campers probably do next?
- A. eat a meal together
 - B. build a campfire
 - C. go to their cabins
 - D. visit the beach
38. What is the purpose of the talk?
- A. to give an overview of camp events
 - B. to explain the history of the camp
 - C. to describe the features of the campsite
 - D. to introduce some information about turtles

Notes

Part 3

In this part, you will hear two segments from a radio program. After each segment, you will hear six questions about it. Before each segment begins, you will have time to preview the questions that are printed in the test booklet.

You will hear each segment twice. Then you will hear the questions once. If you want to, you may take notes in your booklet as you listen. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet, not in the test booklet. You should mark A, B, or C.

Do you have any questions?

LISTENING

Look at the questions. Then listen to the first segment.

39. What does the introduction of the report focus on?
- A. the number of women studying science
 - B. different areas of scientific study
 - C. the importance of science
40. Why is Barbara McClintock the subject of this particular talk?
- A. She provides a good example for hopeful young scientists.
 - B. The reporter wants to discuss some problems with her research.
 - C. Her work is especially relevant today.
41. Why was Dr. Gladstone probably invited to discuss Barbara McClintock's work?
- A. She studied with Dr. McClintock.
 - B. She is an expert in the same field.
 - C. She wrote an article criticizing it.
42. What does Dr. Gladstone imply about the early part of Barbara McClintock's academic career?
- A. It did not involve formal academic training.
 - B. There were obstacles to overcome.
 - C. She received many awards.
43. What type of work was Barbara McClintock known for?
- A. increasing the amount of corn that farmers could produce
 - B. linking a plant's DNA to its physical appearance
 - C. connecting plant DNA research to human DNA research
44. Why does Dr. Gladstone mention President Nixon?
- A. to explain why McClintock's research was important
 - B. to show how McClintock funded her research
 - C. to describe the recognition that McClintock received

Notes

LISTENING

Look at the questions. Then listen to the second segment.

45. How does the reporter feel about people's lifestyles today?
- A. He thinks people don't move enough.
 - B. He thinks people are too busy.
 - C. He thinks people are stressed at work.
46. What does the professor say about the use of sit-stand desks over time?
- A. People often gave up using the desks.
 - B. People stood more the longer they had them.
 - C. It stayed about the same.
47. What does the professor say about work performance?
- A. It remained the same with sit-stand desks.
 - B. It was not investigated in the UK study.
 - C. The goal of the study was to improve it.
48. Why does the reporter ask the professor about self-reported findings?
- A. to ask her to describe them
 - B. to question whether they can be trusted
 - C. to share his own experience
49. Why does the professor mention blood pressure and weight loss?
- A. to suggest further research considerations
 - B. to describe what the Australian study looked at
 - C. to explain significant results that were found
50. What is the purpose of the report?
- A. to argue against a recommendation
 - B. to summarize some research
 - C. to explain a new product

Notes



End of the listening test

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Reading Section Instructions

Do not begin this section until the examiner has read these instructions to you. Do not turn the page until the examiner has told you to do so.

This section of the examination contains 70 questions. Each question has only one correct answer.

Here are examples of each kind of question. In each example, the correct answer is underlined. If you do not understand how to do the questions, raise your hand and a proctor will explain the examples to you. None of the actual test questions can be explained.

Grammar

Choose the word or phrase that best completes the conversation or sentence.

Natalia _____ the ocean every morning when she lived on the coast.

- A. use for swimming at
- B. used swimming for
- C. used to swim in**
- D. use it to swim

Cloze

Read the passage, then select the word or phrase that fills the blank in both meaning and grammar.

The way we react to challenges is _____ 1. A. Therefore C. As a result
 significantly affected by praise. **(1)** B. However D. In sum
 merely the presence or absence of praise that
 matters. Research has shown that different
 kinds of praise have different effects.

Vocabulary

Choose the word or phrase that most appropriately completes the sentence.

The first things we study as children in school are very _____ so students are not overwhelmed.

- A. perpetual
- B. questionable
- C. corrective
- D. elementary**

Reading

Read the passage, then answer the questions following it according to the information given in the passage.

Few would disagree that vending machines are a great convenience. They are always on, ready to dispense a soda or snack at any time. Unfortunately, this also entails using a lot of power to keep the machines running, even when no one is around to buy anything. Vending machines typically cool less volume than a home refrigerator while using up to five times as much energy.

According to the passage, how does a standard vending machine compare to a home refrigerator?

- A. Home refrigerators use infrared detectors.
- B. Home refrigerators keep sodas cooler.
- C. Vending machines use more energy to cool less space.**
- D. Vending machines require constant maintenance.

Mark all your answers on the separate answer sheet. Do not make any stray marks on the answer sheet. If you change your mind about an answer, erase your first answer completely. If you do not know the answer, you may guess. Try to answer as many questions as possible.

You have **55 minutes** to answer all 70 questions. If you finish before the time is over, you may check your answers within the reading section only. Do not go back to the listening section of the exam. Do not leave the room before the end of the time period. Remain silent and in your seat until the group is dismissed.

Do you have any questions?

READING: GRAMMAR

51. The company's director introduced a more flexible work schedule, _____ by most employees.
- A. which was welcomed
 - B. having welcomed
 - C. that it is welcomed
 - D. that was welcome
52. _____ a month to go in the animal shelter's fundraising campaign, donations already exceed the target.
- A. Even before
 - B. As long as
 - C. For well over
 - D. With more than
53. Professor Nelson wanted _____ of her students' conference presentations, but she had to miss a few because of scheduling conflicts.
- A. all to have attended
 - B. to attend all
 - C. the attention of every
 - D. attending every
54. Rebecca Crittenden wrote several successful novels, _____ her beautifully illustrated children's books that she is most famous for.
- A. yet they are
 - B. and is it
 - C. so these are
 - D. but it is
55. This assignment requires students _____ essays and discuss any mistakes they find.
- A. read one another's
 - B. reading themselves
 - C. to be reading their
 - D. to read each other's
56. Johnny had a fever, so his mother made him _____ an aspirin every four hours.
- A. to take
 - B. take
 - C. taken
 - D. took
57. When Lucy studied in Madrid, she loved _____ Spanish and tried to use as little English as possible.
- A. to practice the
 - B. practicing her
 - C. her practice
 - D. she practiced
58. The managers paid _____ dollar for a highly recommended consultant.
- A. most
 - B. top
 - C. best
 - D. high

READING: GRAMMAR

59. Uncle Ted, _____ almost as old as Grandpa, also remembers watching television in black and white.
- A. being
 - B. that he is
 - C. is
 - D. he was
60. If the government's restoration plan is successful, _____ a healthy population of tigers living in the country's forests once again.
- A. it would be
 - B. there will be
 - C. that they were
 - D. there had been
61. "Do you think they'll finish painting today?"
"I don't think they'll finish one room, _____ the whole house."
- A. nevertheless
 - B. let alone
 - C. moreover
 - D. in addition
62. "Did you know Marian left her job in business to run a nonprofit organization?"
"She made the change _____ and to pursue a more meaningful career."
- A. to her true self
 - B. over being truthful to herself
 - C. to be true to herself
 - D. herself to be true
63. The majority of our laboratories _____ to accommodate two classes at the same time.
- A. is quite large
 - B. are very large so
 - C. is so large
 - D. are large enough
64. "Are the elections in early March?"
"Yes, but some voters have requested that the date _____ pushed back."
- A. will be
 - B. has been
 - C. be
 - D. is
65. _____ results that differed from previous experiments, the researchers were shocked at the most recent data.
- A. Since the expectation of
 - B. While they expected
 - C. Although the expected
 - D. Though they expect
66. It took a long time, but the company finally _____ a reputation as the best in the business.
- A. carved up
 - B. carved out
 - C. carves off
 - D. carving from

READING: CLOZE

This passage is about a type of craft.

Hand knitting, or making fabric from a piece of yarn or other material using long needles, is a hobby enjoyed by people around the world. Knitting has existed in various (67) for thousands of years. One of the (68) pieces of fabric that resembled knitting is a pair of socks (69) back to the fourth or fifth century BCE in Egypt.

There has been some debate among historians about the origins of (70) is considered modern knitting. One popular theory (71) that contemporary methods of knitting were invented around 1000 CE in the Middle East. From there, it was (72) to distant lands by Arab merchants. Initially, the practice of knitting followed trade routes around the Mediterranean Sea, (73) stretching all the way to Western Europe. (74) was in that new environment that knitting (75) from a hobby into an occupation, and many people knitted to earn (76). Nowadays, hand knitting has become a favorite pastime of many people around the world, attracting more and more interest each year.

67. A. forms C. symbols
B. samples D. designs
68. A. previous C. primary
B. earliest D. genuine
69. A. recording C. taking
B. dating D. passing
70. A. which C. what
B. that D. those
71. A. informs C. presents
B. states D. interprets
72. A. extended C. widened
B. transmitted D. spread
73. A. eventually C. directly
B. successively D. thoroughly
74. A. It C. As
B. There D. Thus
75. A. improved C. transformed
B. altered D. increased
76. A. credits C. income
B. costs D. fees

READING: CLOZE

This passage is about people who look alike.

The German word doppelgänger—translated as “double-goer”—refers to a look-alike of another person. (77) a twin stranger has been used in literature and film, its (78) of occurring in reality was largely unexplored until a study by Teghan Lucas of the University of Adelaide. (79) a database of nearly 4,000 photographs, Lucas sought people that shared the same eight facial features. Her results (80) matches and, through calculations, she found that the odds of finding two faces with identical measurements are fewer than one in a trillion. Lucas’ findings have practical (81) in that they support the use of facial features as a unique identifier of an individual, (82) fingerprints.

Precise (83), having a doppelgänger is quite likely if the term is defined more broadly as someone you could (84) another. Research has shown that people mainly analyze superficial (85) like hairstyle or the shape of the eyes, mouth, and nose to determine recognition. Based just on these criteria, doppelgängers are (86). This is particularly true for people with features such as brown eyes that are more common in a population.

77. A. If the facts indicate
B. Since it’s known that
C. Unless people see that
D. Though this idea of that
78. A. presumption
B. suspicion
C. likelihood
D. distinction
79. A. Dwelling on
B. Peeking at
C. Poring over
D. Staring down
80. A. yielded no
B. indicated several
C. were all
D. resembled other
81. A. application
B. purpose
C. operation
D. function
82. A. including some
B. with the exception of
C. as opposed to
D. much like
83. A. measurements aside
B. measured apart
C. measuring away
D. to measure alone
84. A. match with
B. mistake for
C. contrast with
D. compare to
85. A. manners
B. customs
C. habits
D. traits
86. A. doubtful to be real
B. bound to exist
C. looking for each other
D. all over the place

READING: VOCABULARY

87. The notification that the journal had accepted Diane's research paper came so _____ that she couldn't believe it.
- A. radically
 - B. proudly
 - C. unexpectedly
 - D. universally
88. To become _____ at playing a musical instrument, you must practice every day.
- A. automatic
 - B. qualified
 - C. proficient
 - D. coherent
89. Her arms were _____ to catch the ball.
- A. outstretched
 - B. expanded
 - C. gripped
 - D. lengthened
90. When Robert started working at the company, he asked a senior employee to explain the _____ of the business.
- A. ins and outs
 - B. bells and whistles
 - C. out and about
 - D. through and through
91. There has been quite a bit of disagreement and _____ within the government.
- A. dissension
 - B. extraction
 - C. manifestation
 - D. resolution
92. During hibernation, some animals do not sleep through the entire winter continuously; rather, they _____ every few weeks and move about.
- A. revive
 - B. awaken
 - C. stimulate
 - D. activate
93. The staff at the Bluewater Hotel is especially well trained, so you can always be sure that you're _____.
- A. up to speed
 - B. off the shelf
 - C. on the spot
 - D. in good hands
94. Tom finally decided that reorganizing his filing cabinet would be a hopeless _____.
- A. endeavor
 - B. merger
 - C. impulse
 - D. incident

READING: VOCABULARY

95. Dr. Livingston is a good professor with a lot of important knowledge to _____, but not falling asleep in his 8 a.m. class is difficult.
- A. engross
 - B. deplete
 - C. curtail
 - D. impart
96. Anne's first book received good reviews, but she didn't gain a major _____ until her second book came out.
- A. gathering
 - B. ovation
 - C. admiration
 - D. following
97. I'll try to _____ the speakers on their way to the main conference hall to let them know plans have changed.
- A. meet up
 - B. cut back
 - C. head off
 - D. keep out
98. The professor asked the student researchers to _____ their two main ideas into one thesis.
- A. synthesize
 - B. import
 - C. allocate
 - D. deposit
99. James was one of several _____ for the director position but didn't end up getting hired.
- A. affiliates
 - B. adversaries
 - C. contenders
 - D. associates
100. Many _____ scholars will be presenting at the upcoming theoretical physics conference.
- A. auspicious
 - B. eminent
 - C. elicited
 - D. foremost
101. The employee was disappointed to be _____ for the promotion, but she knew that there would be other opportunities.
- A. sold out
 - B. passed over
 - C. stuck out
 - D. put away
102. After the thunderstorm, the construction workers _____ repaired the damaged bridge and traffic flow returned to normal.
- A. loosely
 - B. swiftly
 - C. utterly
 - D. ideally

This passage is about bees.

Bees live in groupings referred to as colonies. Recently, beekeepers around the United States have been seeing their colonies rapidly decrease in number. Colony-collapse disorder, as it has become known, was first reported in 2006, but it now appears the problem started several years earlier. Apiarists in twenty-four states have experienced losses of between 30 percent and 90 percent of their bees—a trend damaging not only to the honey industry, but also to the crops that require bees for pollination. For example, the almond business, worth \$2 billion per year, is particularly dependent on honeybees to maintain healthy production.

Researchers have been struggling to explain the phenomenon. Initially it was suspected that stress could have been leading to depressed immune systems in the bees. For economic reasons, bee colonies are frequently moved around the country, and some believed that these relocations, especially long-distance ones, could have been causing the stress that contributed to the bee losses. This theory was questioned when colony-collapse disorder was recorded in a number of colonies that had not been moved. Researchers were also able to discount a range of other theories, including those related to the bees' food source and chemicals used in hives to prevent disease.

The most likely theory appears to lie with a combination of a newly introduced virus and a preexisting parasite. A team of researchers analyzed samples from thriving and collapsed colonies and identified the presence of a certain virus as unique to the abandoned hives. The virus was first found in the Middle East in 2004 and has somehow made its way into the United States. In the United States, it is thought to have proven so deadly because of the additional presence of certain mites that weaken the immune systems of bees. The introduction of the new virus to the susceptible bees is now seen as the most likely cause of colony collapse.

103. What is the purpose of this passage?
 - A. to establish the most likely cause for the surge in deaths of honeybees
 - B. to explain the damage done to beekeepers from the loss of their bees
 - C. to compare two remedies for hives affected by colony-collapse disorder
 - D. to question the risks posed by certain mites to bee colonies in the United States
104. Why does the author mention almonds?
 - A. to explain the significance of the almond industry to a nation's economy
 - B. to illustrate the importance of competition in agriculture
 - C. to provide an example of a crop that is affected by honeybee losses
 - D. to compare the almond industry to the honey industry
105. Why was the theory of stress rejected as a cause of colony-collapse disorder?
 - A. Colonies that were not moved also experienced collapse.
 - B. Only colonies that experienced long-distance moves collapsed.
 - C. The affected colonies had not been mishandled.
 - D. The bees' immune systems were found to be unharmed.
106. How did researchers determine the likely cause of colony-collapse disorder?
 - A. They visited the Middle East to investigate beehives there.
 - B. They introduced a virus to hives to study its effect.
 - C. They analyzed samples of mites in American and Middle Eastern hives.
 - D. They studied both healthy and affected hives.
107. What role did mites play in the collapse of bee colonies?
 - A. They carried a virus into the United States from other countries.
 - B. They made the bees more likely to be affected by a virus.
 - C. They delayed a virus from infecting bees in the United States.
 - D. They combined with a foreign virus to produce a new disease.
108. What action could prevent future cases of colony-collapse disorder?
 - A. relocating hives in danger of collapse
 - B. introducing hives free from the presence of mites
 - C. finding a new food source for the bees affected by the virus
 - D. introducing bees from the Middle East to strengthen colonies in the United States

This passage is about charities.

The purpose of a charity is to provide aid to the needy. However, according to an investigative report published in a Florida newspaper in 2013, several charities fail miserably at this task. The report ranked 50 of America's most ineffective charities. It found that among them, less than four percent of donations were used to provide financial assistance to people in need. Instead, the majority of the funds were spent on hiring for-profit companies such as telephone marketing firms to solicit donations from the public. In fact, the investigation found that in the previous decade, this group of charities had raised more than \$1.3 billion but spent nearly \$1 billion on services provided by for-profit companies.

Most legitimate organizations do not hire costly firms for telephone marketing. Nevertheless, reports such as these do little to comfort the public, who are becoming increasingly concerned about the effectiveness of charities. Particularly, when selecting charities, would-be donors are focusing more on how many cents per donated dollar go towards the cause the charity claims to support. A survey done by World Vision found that 32 percent of people believed that 100 percent of donations should be dedicated to the charity's cause and none to organizational operating costs.

Charity activist Dan Pallotta contends that such expectations are detrimental to the industry. Pallotta points out a contradiction: Although the public accepts that for-profit companies have expenses such as rent and wages, people expect non-profit organizations to miraculously operate cost-free. This pressure causes non-profit groups to undervalue their own operational costs, leading to a financial starvation that prevents them from reaching a size that can effectively realize their aims. Pallotta explains that from 1970 to 2009, only 144 non-profits reached \$50 million in revenue. The figure for for-profit groups in the same period is 46,136. Further inhibiting growth is a talent shortage, as young professionals prefer the high salaries offered in the private sector to working for a third of the money at a charity.

Undeniably, analyzing the productivity of donated dollars can be helpful in identifying fraudulent organizations or poor financial management. Yet, Pallotta also makes several valid points, including his conclusion that without allowing charities to invest more into marketing and fundraising efforts, they will never be able to raise the level of funds needed to significantly address society's most serious health, social, or environmental problems.

109. What is the main topic of the passage?
 - A. the financial differences between non-profit and for-profit groups
 - B. the best strategies for efficiently operating a charity
 - C. the cost challenges of non-profit organizations
 - D. the most ineffective charity organizations in the United States
110. In the third sentence of paragraph 2, which word could replace **would-be**?
 - A. wealthy
 - B. experienced
 - C. potential
 - D. committed
111. According to Pallotta, why do many charities fail?
 - A. They are too concerned with cutting costs.
 - B. They operate in uncompetitive industries.
 - C. They refuse to collaborate with each other.
 - D. They spend excessive amounts on salaries.
112. Why does Pallotta mention the number of private companies that earn over \$50 million?
 - A. to highlight the financial struggles of non-profit groups
 - B. to illustrate that charities are similar to private companies
 - C. to suggest that earnings for charities are underestimated
 - D. to show that the figure for non-profit groups will grow
113. What do the author and a growing number of donors nowadays believe?
 - A. Many charities with high operating costs are effective.
 - B. Finding an effective charity is increasingly difficult.
 - C. Researching a charity's spending practices has value.
 - D. Charity groups should spend less on fundraising
114. Which charity would the author most likely donate to?
 - A. one that has no organizational costs
 - B. one that spends 20 percent on marketing
 - C. one that is listed in the 2013 Florida report
 - D. one that operates for profit

This passage is about telescopes.

In 1998 the National Aeronautic and Space Administration (NASA) started keeping track of comets and asteroids larger than one kilometer in diameter that come within 45 million kilometers of Earth. Having identified approximately 80 percent of these Near-Earth Objects (NEOs), NASA set itself a new task. NASA now aims to find smaller NEOs, as small as 140 meters in diameter, and has a goal of locating 90 percent of these within a decade. There are three teams assisting NASA with this project, but it is the Catalina Sky Survey, based at the University of Arizona, which is gaining all the accolades. Last year the survey team broke their own world record by making 565 NEO discoveries.

The Catalina Sky Survey uses three traditional telescopes—two in Arizona and one in Australia. It is this combination of northern and southern hemisphere viewpoints, along with massive data-processing capacity—each telescope takes in about twenty gigabytes of data per night—that has allowed so many NEOs to be identified. One NEO spotted by the Catalina Sky Survey, an asteroid named TU24, came particularly close to Earth recently and with sufficient advance warning for astronomers to get an unusually good look.

This observation was led by NASA, employing one of their radar telescopes. Though not commonly used for observing asteroids, it allowed astronomers to collect particularly detailed data. Radar astronomy works by directing a powerful beam of radio energy at the NEO, which reflects back a portion of the energy to Earth. This is collected and then analyzed in order to learn about the size, shape, rotation, and path of the object. Such precise analysis is impossible with a conventional telescope. The images recorded of TU24 are allowing scientists to produce the most detailed map of an NEO ever.

115. Why is NASA attempting to find relatively small NEOs?
 - A. These NEOs generally come closest to Earth.
 - B. It succeeded in identifying most larger NEOs.
 - C. These NEOs are the easiest ones to observe.
 - D. It was given this task by the Catalina Sky Survey.
116. What can be inferred about the Catalina Sky Survey's history of identifying NEOs?
 - A. They held the record for annual identifications before last year.
 - B. They observed more than 565 NEOs the year before last.
 - C. They invented unique telescopes to be able to increase their identifications.
 - D. They identified so many NEOs because of NASA's long-term help.
117. Why does the author mention Australia?
 - A. to explain where telescopes will be located soon
 - B. to describe an advantage of the Catalina Sky Survey
 - C. to indicate the best site for observing asteroids
 - D. to show where the Catalina Sky Survey processes data
118. According to the text, what allowed the close observation of asteroid TU24?
 - A. sufficient data processing capacity
 - B. time to prepare for the observation
 - C. the power of the telescope in Arizona
 - D. the astronomers' experience with NEOs
119. What is the main purpose of the third paragraph?
 - A. to show how astronomers typically work
 - B. to explain how conventional telescopes function
 - C. to describe features of radar astronomy
 - D. to outline why TU24 was observed
120. In the fourth sentence of paragraph 3, what does **this** refer to?
 - A. some energy
 - B. the Earth
 - C. radar astronomy
 - D. an NEO



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