



TSIA2 ELAR Practice Test 2

Total Questions: 30

About This Test

This printable version does not include all the features and functionality of the online version and may offer fewer questions. For a complete experience, take the online version.

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Use the following to answer question 1.

- 1 It was a good job and Max Alben knew whom he had to thank for it—his great-grandfather.
- 2 “Good old Giovanni Albeni,” he muttered as he hurried into the laboratory slightly ahead of the escorting technicians, all of them, despite the excitement of the moment, remembering to bob their heads deferentially at the half-dozen men lolling on the couches set up around the time machine.
- 3 He shrugged rapidly out of his rags, as he had been instructed, and stepped into the housing of the enormous mechanism. This was the first time he had seen it since he had been taught how to operate it on a dummy model, and now he stared at the great transparent coils and the susurrating energy bubble with much respect.
- 4 This machine, the pride and the hope of 2089, was something almost outside his powers of comprehension. But Max Alben knew how to run it, and he knew, roughly, what it was supposed to accomplish. He knew also that this was the first backward journey of any great duration and, being scientifically unpredictable, might well be the death of him.
- 5 If his great-grandfather had not volunteered for the earliest time-travel experiments way back in the 1970s, back even before the Blight, it would never have been discovered that he and his seed possessed a great deal of immunity to extra-temporal blackout.
- 6 And if that had not been discovered, the ruling powers of Earth, more than a century later, would never have plucked Max Alben out of an obscure civil-service job to his present heroic and remunerative eminence.
- 7 No, if his great-grandfather had not demonstrated long ago his unique capacity for remaining conscious during time travel, Max Alben would not now be shifting from foot to foot facing the black-market kings of the world and awaiting their final instructions.
- 8 Men like O’Hara, who controlled mushrooms, Levney, the blackberry tycoon, Sorgasso, the packaged-worm monopolist—would black marketeers of their tremendous stature so much as waste a glance on someone like Alben ordinarily, let alone confer a lifetime pension on his wife and five children of a full spoonful each of non-synthetic sugar a day?
- 9 Even if he didn’t come back, his family was provided for like almost no other family on Earth. This was a good job and he was lucky.

1. Which detail would be the most important to incorporate into a summary of the text?
- A. Alben has a family.
 - B. O'Hara is in charge of mushrooms.
 - C. The machine has coils and an energy bubble.
 - D. Preparations are in progress for a trip through time.

Use the following to answer question 2.

- 1 It was a good job and Max Alben knew whom he had to thank for it—his great-grandfather.
- 2 “Good old Giovanni Albeni,” he muttered as he hurried into the laboratory slightly ahead of the escorting technicians, all of them, despite the excitement of the moment, remembering to bob their heads deferentially at the half-dozen men lolling on the couches set up around the time machine.
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- 8 Men like O'Hara, who controlled mushrooms, Levney, the blackberry tycoon, Sorgasso, the packaged-worm monopolist—would black marketeers of their tremendous stature so much as waste a glance on someone like Alben ordinarily, let alone confer a lifetime pension on his wife and five children of a full spoonful each of non-synthetic sugar a day?
- 9 Even if he didn't come back, his family was provided for like almost no other family on Earth. This was a good job and he was lucky.
2. In the eighth paragraph, the author has made very specific choices regarding the introduction of the characters O'Hara, Levey, and Sorgasso, as well as specific choices regarding the way to describe Alben's payment in sugar. What is the most likely reason the author has made these choices?
- A. To mockingly identify items that will be of value in the future
 - B. To alarmingly express the formality of communication in the future
 - C. To cautiously warn about safety of food sources in the future
 - D. To disapprovingly show behavior that could destroy time travel in the future

Use the following to answer question 3.

- 1 It was a good job and Max Alben knew whom he had to thank for it—his great-grandfather.
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3. The word "housing" appears in the first sentence of the third paragraph. Which word from this sentence best guides the reader in understanding the meaning of *housing*?
- A. Rags
 - B. Instructed
 - C. Enormous
 - D. Mechanism

Use the following to answer question 4.

- 1 It was a good job and Max Alben knew whom he had to thank for it—his great-grandfather.
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4. What is Levney's job?

- A. He controls mushrooms.
- B. He is a blackberry tycoon.
- C. He is a packaged-work monopolist.
- D. He runs a time machine.

5.

Many office professionals today have an interest in replacing the keyboard most people currently use, known as the QWERTY keyboard, with a keyboard that can keep up with technological changes and make offices more efficient. The best choice is the Dvorak keyboard. Studies have shown that people using the Dvorak keyboard can type 20–30% faster and cut their error rate in half. Dvorak puts vowels and other frequently used letters right under the fingers (on the home row), where typists make 70% of their keystrokes.

The paragraph best supports the statement that the Dvorak keyboard

- A. is more efficient than the QWERTY
- B. has more keys right under the typists' fingers than the QWERTY
- C. is favored by more typists than the QWERTY
- D. is on average 70% faster than the QWERTY

6.

Many lives are lost to drowning every year, and the majority of drowning victims could have been saved if they or someone nearby had known the simple rules of water safety. The first and most important rule is to remain calm. Panic is the swimmer's worst enemy. When swimmers allow fear to overwhelm them, they stop making rational decisions and begin to *flounder*. That is the first step toward drowning. When fear strikes, the swimmer should choose to remain calm and focused, thinking deliberately about how to escape the situation and breathing as deeply as possible.

The word "flounder," as used in this passage, most nearly means

- A. a fish
- B. building foundation
- C. splash about helplessly
- D. float

7.

Whether or not you can accomplish a specific goal or meet a specific deadline depends first on how much time you need to get the job done. What should you do when the demands of the job exceed the time you have available? The best approach is to divide the project into smaller pieces. Different goals will have to be divided in different ways, but one seemingly unrealistic goal can often be accomplished by working on several smaller, more reasonable goals.

The main idea of the passage is that

- A. jobs often remain only partially completed because of lack of time
- B. the best way to complete projects is to make sure your goals are achievable
- C. the best way to tackle a large project is to separate it into smaller parts
- D. the best approach to a demanding job is to delegate responsibility

8.

Crop growth has long been a foundation of the economy and well-being of California. In 1901, it gave rise to a major marvel: the Hoover Dam. People in California had many elements needed to grow crops but gazed at the Colorado River longingly. They knew it could provide the element they lacked: water. In 1902, President Roosevelt signed the Reclamation Act, and the Hoover Dam was born. Hoover was serving as president when work finally commenced on the dam. Boulder City was created to provide homes for workers constructing the dam, which was finished in 1935, when Roosevelt was president. While the work spanned many administrations, the effort was worthwhile—the Hoover Dam succeeded in providing irrigation, giving rise to crops essential to California.

What is the overall organizational pattern of this selection?

- A. Spatial
- B. Chronological
- C. Compare and contrast
- D. Most important to least important

9.

The cicada cycle of reproduction, which results in a new horde of cicadas every 17 years (or 13 years in some locations), has been examined by mathematicians and scientists to consider a possible link to prime numbers. The consistency of the reproductive cycle can seem baffling, as it is the same for species in many regions. Between invasions, cicadas live underground. They come up, grow to adulthood in a few weeks, deposit their eggs, and die. As it turns out, predators of cicadas live through life cycles that range from two to five years. Cicadas, through their cycles, manage to mostly avoid living through a time that coincides with their major predators. This is only one theory, but scientists and mathematicians continue to study it.

In the second sentence, why does the author choose the word “baffling” rather than the phrase “hard to understand”?

- A. The word *baffling* is more specific to the topic of mathematics.
- B. Use of the phrase *hard to understand* would confuse the reader.
- C. The phrase *hard to understand* would fail to reflect a similar meaning.
- D. The word *baffling* places greater emphasis on the mystery of the issue.

10.

Elizabeth Blackwell was turned down 16 times from medical schools during the 1800s. But lucky 17! Most of the teachers at Geneva Medical College wanted to turn down Blackwell; however, after discussion, the medical students were also permitted to cast votes. While some students thought it was a joke that a woman might even be considered for medical school, the vote turned into an acceptance for Blackwell. Blackwell was successful and respected while in school, but the decision did not sit well with everyone across the nation. In fact, some went to great lengths to ensure Dr. Blackwell's feat would not be repeated; they did their utmost to block female attendance at medical schools. They were diametrically opposed to women being granted opportunities to become physicians.

The word “diametrically,” as used in the last sentence, means which of the following?

- A. In a total way
- B. In a timid way
- C. In a centered way
- D. In a thoughtful way

11.

The account of the second journey of the Polos may be read in the wonderful book that Marco afterwards wrote to describe the wonders of the world. They went from Lajazzo through Turcomania, past Mount Ararat, where Marco heard tell that Noah's Ark rested, and where he first heard also of the oil wells of Baku and the great inland sea of Caspian. Past Mosul and Bagdad they went, through Persia, where brocades are woven and merchants bring caravan after caravan of treasures, to Hormuz, on the Persian Gulf, into which port put the ships from India, laden with spices, drugs, scented woods, and jewels, gold tissues and elephants' teeth.

The passage best supports the statement that Marco Polo

- A. took a trip through Turcomania that enriched his book
- B. discovered the oil wells of Baku
- C. was the first person to find Noah's Ark
- D. made up many of the stories in the book he wrote

12.

When considering creatures that roam the seas, spiders might not be the first that come to mind. However, pycnogonida, also known as sea spiders, swim the depths of oceans. Pycnogonida sport four pairs of walking legs. They have additional legs to serve other purposes, such as a set of claws on the head used as a tool to capture prey and, in males, a pair of ovigers to carry eggs laid by females. Camouflage is important to pycnogonida. Depending on specific environment, a pycnogonida might be light yellow, white, or exceedingly colorful. While camouflage can serve the pycnogonida well for protection purposes, it can frustrate scientists and others who wish to observe the creature, as the camouflage provides a skillful way of hiding from view.

What was the author's main purpose in writing this selection?

- A. To inform readers about a creature that lives in the sea
- B. To persuade readers to save a creature that lives in the sea
- C. To show to readers that the sea is filled with many interesting creatures
- D. To entertain readers with a story about sea creatures looking for a home

13.

Our daily lives are filled with machines. We drive cars, operate computers, and use myriad machines without even thinking about it. Did you know that all of these are based on six simple machines? What's more, all simple machines fall into one of two categories: the lever or the wedge. The lever is a simple machine that allows a person to lift a heavy weight using less energy than would be required to lift it directly. A wedge is a simple machine that separates two or more objects. Each of the six basic machines uses either lever action or wedge action. The screw, for example, uses wedge action to separate the wood that it's being screwed into. The wheel and axle uses lever action to force the wheel to turn using less energy than would be required by manually spinning it.

Which of the following statements is best supported by this passage?

- A. Screwdrivers are complex machines.
- B. Computers are simple machines.
- C. A car uses many simple machines to run.
- D. Gravity was discovered by Isaac Newton.

Use the following to answer question 14.

On May 18, 1980, part of Mount St. Helens gave way, and an avalanche rocketed toward the ground below. Burning rock and ash exploded from the volcano. The blast, fires, and mudflows that followed the eruption resulted in tremendous devastation to the area. After the devastation, though, the lava and rich volcanic ash meant a new cycle of life could begin. Roots deep below Earth's surface had not been destroyed. They finally made their way up toward the surface and poked out. Plant life in the area began again. It would be many years before life would fully restore, but there was promise of a future for the area. Evacuation is important when a volcanic eruption is imminent. People should carefully heed warnings that are given. After an eruption, though, while life might not ever be exactly the same, there are riches to be seen as nature experiences a rebirth.

The dangers of motor vehicle fires are too often overlooked. In the United States, one out of five fires involves motor vehicles, resulting each year in 600 deaths, 2,600 civilian injuries, and 1,200 injuries to firefighters. The reason for so many injuries and fatalities is that a vehicle can generate

heat of up to 1,500 degrees Fahrenheit. Parts of the vehicle may burst, causing debris to shoot great distances and turning bumpers, tire rims, drive shafts, axles, and even engine parts into lethal shrapnel. Gas tanks may rupture and spray highly flammable fuel. In addition, hazardous materials such as battery acid can cause serious injury. Vehicle fires can also produce toxic gases. Carbon monoxide, which is produced during a fire, is an odorless and colorless gas that is deadly in high concentrations. Firefighters must wear self-contained breathing devices and full protective fire-resistant gear when attempting to extinguish a vehicle fire.

14. Which best explains how the two passages differ?

- A. While one provides detailed information about firefighters, the other touches only briefly on the work of firefighters.
- B. While one focuses on the dangers of fire, the other discusses something positive that can come out of fire.
- C. While one focuses on specific events in fires caused by natural means, the other focuses on the impact of fires started intentionally.
- D. While one addresses the complexities of fighting fires, the other addresses the point that fighting fires is a relatively simple matter.

Use the following to answer question 15.

On May 18, 1980, part of Mount St. Helens gave way, and an avalanche rocketed toward the ground below. Burning rock and ash exploded from the volcano. The blast, fires, and mudflows that followed the eruption resulted in tremendous devastation to the area. After the devastation, though, the lava and rich volcanic ash meant a new cycle of life could begin. Roots deep below Earth's surface had not been destroyed. They finally made their way up toward the surface and poked out. Plant life in the area began again. It would be many years before life would fully restore, but there was promise of a future for the area. Evacuation is important when a volcanic eruption is imminent. People should carefully heed warnings that are given. After an eruption, though, while life might not ever be exactly the same, there are riches to be seen as nature experiences a rebirth.

The dangers of motor vehicle fires are too often overlooked. In the United States, one out of five fires involves motor vehicles, resulting each year in 600 deaths, 2,600 civilian injuries, and 1,200 injuries to firefighters. The reason for so many injuries and fatalities is that a vehicle can generate heat of up to 1,500 degrees Fahrenheit. Parts of the vehicle may burst, causing debris to shoot great distances and turning bumpers, tire rims, drive shafts, axles, and even engine parts into lethal shrapnel. Gas tanks may rupture and spray highly flammable fuel. In addition, hazardous materials such as battery acid can cause serious injury. Vehicle fires can also produce toxic gases. Carbon monoxide, which is produced during a fire, is an odorless and colorless gas that is deadly in high concentrations. Firefighters must wear self-contained breathing devices and full protective fire-resistant gear when attempting to extinguish a vehicle fire.

15. Which of the following statements would both of the authors of the passages agree with?
- A. People must be better informed about the dangers posed by fires.
 - B. Fires are a natural phenomenon that can't be avoided.
 - C. Fires can be highly destructive.
 - D. Different types of fires require different types of fire responders.

Use the following to answer question 16.

The following passage is the first draft of an essay, which needs to be revised. Read the essay, and then answer the questions.

(1) Did you ever wish to travel to another country? (2) Why not go one better—work in another country for a few months? (3) It can be difficult to gain a visa to stay long term in another country. (4) Many countries offer short-term work permits that are easy for students or young people to procure.

(5) Where you end up working and what you end up doing can be guided by your own interests, but there are a few types of jobs that are popular among people who work abroad: working as an English-language teacher or tutor, working in a hotel or restaurant, and working on a farm or at another agriculture-related job. (6) In each case, you'll have an opportunity to make friends with local people as a peer, not just as a tourist. (7) You'll need to find a place to live—perhaps with roommates or in an

apartment building, which can open up even more opportunities to connect with people and see how life is lived in the area. **(8)** Learning details about daily life, such as what time of day people eat dinner, how much people spend on household bills (utilities, rent, groceries), and how people interact to families, will shed light on the local culture and open your eyes to different priorities and ways of thinking than Americans’.

(9) Before you take a vacation abroad, you need to have enough money saved up to cover not only the transportation costs to get to your destination but also all of your daily expenses once you get there, such as hotel and food. **(10)** If you want to stay in another country for a month or more, that could add up to many thousands of dollars. **(11)** When you work abroad, you will be making money throughout your visit to cover your housing, food, and other expenses. **(12)** If you’re lucky, you might even make a profit! **(13)** Even if you don’t earn a lot of money, your life could be richer for it.

16. Reading in context, choose the best way to revise and combine Sentences 3 and 4 (duplicated below).

It can be difficult to gain a visa to stay long term in another country. Many countries offer short-term work permits that are easy for students or young people to procure.

- A. Despite the fact that many countries offer short-term work permits for students and young people, it can be difficult to gain a visa to stay long term in another country.
- B. It can be difficult to gain a visa to stay long term in another country; in addition, many countries offer short-term work permits that are easy for students or young people to procure.
- C. The same countries that make gaining long-term visas difficult have decided to make it easy for students and young people to procure short-term work permits.
- D. While it can be difficult to gain a visa to stay long term in another country, many countries offer short-term work permits that are easy for students or young people to procure.

Use the following to answer question 17.

The following passage is the first draft of an essay, which needs to be revised. Read the essay, and then answer the questions.

(1) Did you ever wish to travel to another country? (2) Why not go one better—work in another country for a few months? (3) It can be difficult to gain a visa to stay long term in another country. (4) Many countries offer short-term work permits that are easy for students or young people to procure.

(5) Where you end up working and what you end up doing can be guided by your own interests, but there are a few types of jobs that are popular among people who work abroad: working as an English-language teacher or tutor, working in a hotel or restaurant, and working on a farm or at another agriculture-related job. (6) In each case, you'll have an opportunity to make friends with local people as a peer, not just as a tourist. (7) You'll need to find a place to live—perhaps with roommates or in an apartment building, which can open up even more opportunities to connect with people and see how life is lived in the area. (8) Learning details about daily life, such as what time of day people eat dinner, how much people spend on household bills (utilities, rent, groceries), and how people interact to families, will shed light on the local culture and open your eyes to different priorities and ways of thinking than Americans'.

(9) Before you take a vacation abroad, you need to have enough money saved up to cover not only the transportation costs to get to your destination but also all of your daily expenses once you get there, such as hotel and food. (10) If you want to stay in another country for a month or more, that could add up to many thousands of dollars. (11) When you work abroad, you will be making money throughout your visit to cover your housing, food, and other expenses. (12) If you're lucky, you might even make a profit! (13) Even if you don't earn a lot of money, your life could be richer for it.

17. Reading in context, choose the best location to insert the following sentence:

Working abroad may also enable you to stay in a different country for a longer period of time than you normally could because you'll have an active income stream during your stay.

- A. After Sentence 7
- B. After Sentence 8
- C. After Sentence 10
- D. After Sentence 13

Use the following to answer question 18.

The following passage is the first draft of an essay, which needs to be revised. Read the essay, and then answer the questions.

(1) Did you ever wish to travel to another country? **(2)** Why not go one better—work in another country for a few months? **(3)** It can be difficult to gain a visa to stay long term in another country. **(4)** Many countries offer short-term work permits that are easy for students or young people to procure.

(5) Where you end up working and what you end up doing can be guided by your own interests, but there are a few types of jobs that are popular among people who work abroad: working as an English-language teacher or tutor, working in a hotel or restaurant, and working on a farm or at another agriculture-related job. **(6)** In each case, you'll have an opportunity to make friends with local people as a peer, not just as a tourist. **(7)** You'll need to find a place to live—perhaps with roommates or in an apartment building, which can open up even more opportunities to connect with people and see how life is lived in the area. **(8)** Learning details about daily life, such as what time of day people eat dinner, how much people spend on household bills (utilities, rent, groceries), and how people interact to families, will shed light on the local culture and open your eyes to different priorities and ways of thinking than Americans'.

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18. Reading in context, choose the best way to revise Sentence 8 (duplicated below).

Learning details about daily life, such as what time of day people eat dinner, how much people spend on household bills (utilities, rent, groceries), and how people interact to families, will shed light on the local culture and open your eyes to different priorities and ways of thinking than Americans’.

- A. Change “will shed” to “they will shed”
- B. Change “interact to” to “interact with their”
- C. Change “the local culture” to “their local culture”
- D. Change “Americans” to “people”

Use the following to answer question 19.

The following passage is the first draft of an essay, which needs to be revised. Read the essay, and then answer the questions.

(1) Did you ever wish to travel to another country? (2) Why not go one better—work in another country for a few months? (3) It can be difficult to gain a visa to stay long term in another country. (4) Many countries offer short-term work permits that are easy for students or young people to procure.

(5) Where you end up working and what you end up doing can be guided by your own interests, but there are a few types of jobs that are popular among people who work abroad: working as an English-language teacher or tutor, working in a hotel or restaurant, and working on a farm or at another agriculture-related job. (6) In each case, you’ll have an opportunity to make friends with local people as a peer, not just as a tourist. (7) You’ll need to find a place to live—perhaps with roommates or in an apartment building, which can open up even more opportunities to connect with people and see how life is lived in the area. (8) Learning details about daily life, such as what time of day people eat dinner, how much people spend on household bills (utilities, rent, groceries), and how people interact to families, will shed light on the local culture and open your eyes to different priorities and ways of thinking than Americans’.

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19. Reading in context, choose the best word or phrase to add to the beginning of Sentence 11 (duplicated below):

When you work abroad, you will be making money throughout your visit to cover your housing, food, and other expenses.

- A. Similarly,
- B. In fact,
- C. For example,
- D. In contrast,

-
20. Even though it had been a draining campaign, Sharon still seems to have plenty of energy on election night.

- A. seems to have
 - B. seems to be having
 - C. seemed to have
 - D. will have
-

21. It's clear that talent—not to mention charm and good looks—runs in the family.

- A. runs
 - B. run
 - C. which run
 - D. that run
-

22. Maria is always doing something active outdoors; she likes to surf, skiing, and running marathons.

- A. skiing, and running marathons.
 - B. ski, and run marathons.
 - C. ski, and running marathons.
 - D. skiing, and run marathons.
-

23. Yogurt has been eaten for more than 8,000 years, but, it wasn't until the early 1900s that scientists discovered the special bacteria that turns fresh milk into the creamy, tangy snack.

- A. years, but, it
 - B. years but it
 - C. years but, it
 - D. years, but it
-

24. Companies that offer flexible work schedules and which are popular among job applicants who have children.
- A. that offer flexible work schedules and which are
 - B. that offer flexible work schedules and they are
 - C. that offer flexible work schedules are
 - D. offer flexible work schedules and being
-
25. If you're ever caught in a rip current—a powerful ocean current that can pull swimmers straight out to sea—don't waste your energy trying to fight it; according to the U.S. Lifesaving Association, one should first swim to the left or right of the current to break free from it and then swim back to shore.
- A. one
 - B. oneself
 - C. they
 - D. you
-

26.

If students had better access to tutoring services and professors who had time to help, challenging courses such as advanced physics might be taken more often.

Rewrite the sentence, beginning with

If they had better access to tutoring services and professors who had time to help, ...

The next words will be

- A. this might increase
- B. challenging courses such as advanced physics might become
- C. students might be more likely to
- D. professors might help

27.

Observing the patients' quick recovery, the researchers realized that the experimental medicine was working.

Rewrite the sentence, beginning with

The patients recovered quickly, . . .

The next words will be

- A. observed by the researchers who
- B. the experimental medicine was working
- C. which indicated to the researchers
- D. which made them realize

28.

The architect decided against designing one large building, instead coming up with a plan for several small buildings connected by walkways.

Rewrite the sentence, beginning with

Rather than design one large building, . . .

The next words will be

- A. connected by walkways
- B. several small buildings
- C. a plan
- D. the architect

29.

Although Maria was injured, she still wanted to compete in the race.

Rewrite the sentence, beginning with

Mary was injured, . . .

The next words will be

- A. however,
- B. but
- C. therefore,
- D. so

30.

Seeing a sharp decline in spending among older shoppers, the CEO was compelled to create an ad campaign that targeted customers in their 50s and 60s.

Rewrite the sentence, beginning with

Spending among older shoppers declined sharply. . . .

The next words will be

- A. the CEO was compelled
 - B. this compelled the CEO
 - C. compelling the CEO
 - D. a new ad campaign targeted
-

Answer Key

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