

ETS-ENG Survey 1

G1 In this survey you are invited to read 31 passages and give your opinion on a comprehension question at the end of each passage. On each page of the questionnaire, you'll first find a brief description of the passage, which includes information about the source of the passage and, where possible, the name of the author. You are then asked to read the passage carefully and consider a comprehension question at the end. Both the descriptions and the questions will appear in italic, so that they are distinguished from the passage. The question is about a highlighted sentence in the passage. To make your choice, click on the answer you think is the most appropriate one, so that it is highlighted in red. To undo your choice, click the answer you have chosen again so that it is not highlighted in red. Once you have made your choice for a passage, click the '>>' button to continue to the next page. There are no right or wrong answers. While we would like you to select the most appropriate answer, if you are undecided between the choices, you can click more than one answer. If you don't think that any of the choices are appropriate, please specify what you think is the most appropriate answer in the box under the 'Other, please specify' choice. Please remember to give your opinion on the highlighted sentence in the context of the passage. Thank you very much for your time and participation!

F1 Rose is a middle-class, retired lady whose son Mark is a high-flying lawyer in London. The following conversation took place between Rose and her retired middle-class friend Jean. Jean: Did you have a nice weekend with your son? Rose: Yes, and Mark is flying first class to Malta today, as one does. Which of the following statements best describes Rose's reply?

- Rose does not usually travel in first class. (1)
- Someone like Rose does not usually travel in first class. (2)
- The average worker does not usually travel in first class. (3)
- Jean does not usually travel in first class. (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

F2 The following comment is made by Laura on Facebook regarding a restaurant called 'Cookout'. One wouldn't think a fast food restaurant could possibly have such good barbecue, especially at such a great price... but Cookout always delivers. Who

is of the opinion that a fast food restaurant is not able to offer a great barbecue at an affordable price?

- Laura (1)
- Anyone like Laura (2)
- The general public (3)
- A friend of Laura's who wants to try Cookout (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

F3 The following passage is an excerpt from an interview with members of the musical band Years & Years. Interviewer: It's fantastic exposure for you at this point in your career, but it also adds a bit more pressure to be a success. Emre: "Yeah, I think we'd be lying if we said that it doesn't make you feel pressure, but then you're always going to have pressure to a certain extent." Olly: "It can be a good thing." Which of the following statements best describes Emre's answer?

- Years and Years are not too bothered by the pressure that comes with success. (1)
- A band like Years and Years are not too bothered by the pressure that comes with success. (2)
- In general, a band are not too bothered by the pressure that comes with success. (3)
- The interviewer is not too bothered by the pressure that comes with success. (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q1 The following passage is an excerpt from a critical review of the movie Days and Nights in the Hollywood Reporter, written by film critic Stephen Farber. Now actor-director Christian Camargo has decided to rethink Anton Chekhov's masterpiece, The Seagull. Days and Nights, which had its world premiere in Palm Springs, brings the playwright's dysfunctional family to a Connecticut estate in the 1980s... The film fails to do justice to Chekhov's larger themes. The play incorporates several stories of unrequited love. But most of these romantic subplots are lost in the current version, robbing the story of much of its poignancy. The arbitrariness of fame, another theme of The Seagull, is treated superficially here... Only a few of the excellent actors have roles they can play to the hilt... The film looks lovely, thanks to Steve Cosens' fine cinematography, and the score by Claire von Kampen also adds some texture and pathos. One can certainly give this movie A for effort, but the achievement falls far short of the lofty

intentions. Which of the following statements best describes the verdict of the movie given in the last sentence?

- Stephen Farber does not think that the movie has achieved much. (1)
- A critical viewer like Stephen Farber does not think that the movie has achieved much. (2)
- The average viewer does not think that the movie has achieved much. (3)
- Anton Chekhov does not think that the movie has achieved much. (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q2 The following dialogue is adapted from a forum discussion on US state sales tax for non-US residents. Sam: Why does a non-US resident have to pay US state sales tax? At present Ancestry.com states that for US purchases they must charge state sales tax based on location. Could someone clarify this for me? Joan: One wouldn't think so. Is it a charge by your credit card for changing funds to USD? The sales tax in Utah is nowhere near 20%. Maybe you could try calling the UK numbers and they could help you. Who is of the opinion that Sam is exempted from paying the US state sales tax?

- Joan (1)
- Anyone like Joan (2)
- Anyone who lives outside the U.S. (3)
- Sam (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q3 The following passage is an excerpt from a review on the dating app Tinder, written by Jenny Bahn. I hadn't been on Tinder for more than a few days at this point, and I had yet to adjust the settings to be a little, um, less conspicuous. As if one really needed a reminder that you are a sad victim of the New York dating scene and Tinder your rueful task, a flaming icon pops up on your phone whenever someone messages or contacts you. This is great when you're sitting alone and bored in your apartment, and not so great when you're sitting next to a boy you are trying desperately not to like. Who is annoyed by Tinder?

- Jenny Bahn (1)
- Anyone who goes on a date like Jenny Bahn did (2)
- The average user of Tinder (3)
- The reader of the review (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q4 The following remark is posted by country music singer Keith Urban on his Facebook page. I've come to realize how crazy it is to just be nominated for a

Grammy - out of the thousands of albums that are released every year. And to me it's mind blowing to come from this little town in Queensland (Caboolture) with a dream in your heart and wind up with a Grammy in your hand! Which of the following statements best describes Urban's remark?

- It is mind-blowing for Keith Urban to be nominated for a Grammy award and subsequently win it. (1)
- It is mind-blowing for anyone like Keith Urban who comes from a small town and dreams big to be nominated for a Grammy award and subsequently win it. (2)
- It is mind-blowing for the average country singer to be nominated for a Grammy award and subsequently win it. (3)
- It is mind-blowing for a follower of Keith Urban on Facebook to be nominated for a Grammy award and subsequently win it. (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q5 The following comment is taken from a personal assessment form. I worry about receiving feedback that is likely to be negative because it hurts to be criticized. Who gets hurt by criticism?

- The author of the comment (1)
- Anyone like the author (2)
- The average worker (3)
- The assessor of the form (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q6 The following passage is adapted from a BBC sports commentary, written by Phil McNulty. Now [Manchester United] go into a tournament that would not have registered on the radar of anyone at Old Trafford until the final whistle blew in St Jakob Park. Defender Patrice Evra pulled no punches as he said: "It's embarrassing to play in the Europa League." Which of the following statements best describes Evra's remark?

- Evra thinks that it is embarrassing for his club to play in the Europa League. (1)
- Evra thinks that it is embarrassing for a football club like his to play in the Europa League. (2)
- Evra thinks that it is embarrassing for the average football club to play in the Europa League. (3)
- Evra thinks that it is embarrassing for Phil McNulty's favourite football club to play in the Europa League. (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q7 The following passage is excerpted from a blog entry on Carnevale (i.e. the Carnival in Italy). The Viareggio tradition started in 1873 and has gotten quite extravagant as you can see from the photo. Note the enormous size of these things. It makes the Macy's parade pale by comparison. The figures range from fantasy to entertainment figures to political caricatures. I'd love to see this in person one of these days. As if one really needs an excuse to visit Italy. Which of the following statements best describes the remark made in the last sentence?

- The blogger does not need Carnevale as an excuse to visit Italy. (1)
- An Italophile like the blogger does not need Carnevale as an excuse to visit Italy. (2)
- The average person does not need Carnevale as an excuse to visit Italy. (3)
- The reader does not need Carnevale as an excuse to visit Italy. (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q8 The following passage is a comment on a hotel from Trip Advisor, written by a traveler called Brenda. "One wouldn't need to leave the room!" 5 of 5 stars Reviewed 17 August 2014 Can't say I was completely bowled over when we arrived first. Don't quite know what I was expecting. However when we were shown to our room I was completely blown away. Standard room but such luxury. I could live in the bathroom!! Lovely touch with nightlights and matches in the bathroom to enjoy the luxurious double bath. Also piped 'spa' music is a brilliant and relaxing feature. ... Will definitely go back. Brenda Who would not need to leave the hotel room?

- Brenda (1)
- Anyone staying in the hotel room as Brenda did (2)
- Anyone who considers staying at the hotel (3)
- Brenda's co-traveler (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q9 The following passage is an excerpt from an interview with Namrata Rao, a renowned film editor in Bollywood. Interviewer: What are the skills needed to be a good film editor? Namrata Rao: I think one needs to be a very good observer and appreciator of life. Take 'ras' in all kinds of situations and enjoy story telling. This helps one to understand and vary rhythms and add nuances to performances. There

are no rules or particular ways of editing. It's very close to life like that. Which of the following statements best reflects Rao's reply?

- Rao recognises the importance of showing great appreciation of life in her job as a film editor. (1)
- Anyone should recognise the importance of showing great appreciation of life, if he/she wants to be a good film editor like Rao. (2)
- The average film editor should recognise the importance of showing great appreciation of life in his/her job. (3)
- The interviewer should recognise the importance of showing great appreciation of life, if he/she wants to be a good film editor (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q10 The following passage is taken from a posting for a business event organised ad hoc. Just when you thought this week's New York event was cancelled... Rocket-fuel Frank saves the day. It's been quite a few days in the world of New York outsourcing events... first-off, the Global Sourcing Forum cancelled over the weekend when the organizer had some sort of to-do with the Marriott hotel venue. Then, the most unlikely of heroes, realizing everyone had already bought non-refundable flights, stepped in to save the day. Yes, Frank Casale, the rocket-fuel behind the Outsourcing Institute, has pulled together a last-minute event this Wednesday (tomorrow). Which of the following statements best describes the author's remark in the first sentence?

- Before the announcement of the last-minute event, the author had believed that the week-long event was cancelled. (1)
- Before the announcement of the last-minute event, those who had booked flights for the week-long event as the author did had believed that it was cancelled. (2)
- Before the announcement of the last-minute event, the average businessperson working in outsourcing had believed that the week-long event was cancelled. (3)
- Before the announcement of the last-minute event, the organizer of the Global Sourcing Forum had believed that the week-long event was cancelled. (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q11 The following passage is a comment on a roadside hotel on Trip Advisor. This hotel is right on one of the main roads. You would think it would be noisy. We had a

room that was facing the road and it was very quiet. Who would expect the hotel to be noisy?

- The author (1)
- Anyone like the author who is aware of the hotel's location (2)
- Anyone who considers booking the hotel (3)
- The author's co-traveler (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q12 The following passage is an excerpt from a commentary on the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Independence Day speech, written by Seetha. It's heartening to hear a prime minister prioritize the difficulties facing ordinary Indian women. When someone who claims to have stopped visiting Gujarat because Narendra Modi was chief minister says on Facebook she has been moved by his Independence Day speech, you know this is something significant. So what moved this lady, and many others, as evident from social media feeds this morning? It was the focus on women. A focus shorn of the patronising and patriarchal attitude that marks public discourse on women in India. A focus that ensured that he said things that are not spoken about in polite society, let alone the ramparts of the Red Fort from where the Independence Day speech is traditionally delivered. Speaking about the rising incidents of rapes in the country, Modi said something no public figure—and certainly no male public figure—has said publicly: control your sons, not just your daughters. Which of the following statements best describes the first sentence in the commentary?

- Seetha felt heartened by the Prime Minister's speech. (1)
- Like Seetha, anyone who is concerned with women's situation in India would feel heartened by the Prime Minister's speech. (2)
- The average Indian would feel heartened by the Prime Minister's speech. (3)
- Those who have said on Facebook that they were moved by the Prime Minister's speech felt heartened by it. (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q13 The following passage is an excerpt from an interview with Zoe Sugg on her debut novel <Girl Online>. Interviewer: In Girl Online, Penny is the victim of cyber bullying and suffers from anxiety, why did you decide to raise these issues in the story? Zoe Sugg: I really wanted to share my personal experience with anxiety through Penny because I felt it could help others to speak out about it. When I was younger and suffering with anxiety I didn't know what was happening or have anyone

to talk to about it. It helps to have these conversations, to feel less alone and to share advice. Who would benefit from talking about anxiety?

- Zoe Sugg (1)
- Anyone who suffers from anxiety as Zoe Sugg once did (2)
- The average reader of the novel (3)
- The interviewer (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q14 The following passage is an excerpt from a news article published in the Time, written by Lev Grossman. Imagine how Americans would feel if the Gorgon stared at them. It's not a hypothetical. In June 2011 a county sheriff in North Dakota was trying to track down three men, possibly carrying guns, in connection with some missing cows. He had a lot of ground to cover, so — as one does — he called in a Predator drone from a local Air Force base. It not only spotted the men but could see that they were in fact unarmed. It was the first time a Predator had been involved in the arrest of U.S. citizens. Which of the following statements best reflects the comment in the highlighted sentence?

- It is unusual for Lev Grossman to call in a Predator drone to track down cattle rustlers. (1)
- It is unusual for anyone like Lev Grossman to call in a Predator drone to track down cattle rustlers. (2)
- It is unusual for the average county sheriff to call in a Predator drone to track down cattle rustlers. (3)
- It is unusual for the county sheriff mentioned in the article to call in a Predator drone to track down cattle rustlers. (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q15 The following passage is an excerpt from an article in the Huffington Post, written by Sam Koppelman, a 17-year-old high school student in New York City. One would think that the defining athlete of a generation confessing to cheating in his sport and lying to the public would come as a shock to society. One would think that the millions of children who wore his clothing, looked up to him as a hero and studied his ability to persevere would be crushed at his admission of guilt. And one would think that this story would permeate the hallways of school and the minds of America's youth. But one would be mistaken. My generation has been programmed to expect the worst from our heroes. Tiger, Weiner, A-Rod, Spitzer, Favre and Edwards all taught us that underneath that amazing golf swing, or that seemingly flawless head of hair, is the capacity to disappoint. And time and time again, we have

been right to be suspicious. According to the author, who is/are mistaken in thinking that children and teenagers crushed by the scandals of sports personalities?

- Sam Koppelman (1)
- People from the same generation as the 17-year-old Sam Koppelman (2)
- People from previous generations (3)
- The publicists of sports personalities (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q16 The following passage is an excerpt from an interview with Mark Turrell, author of the book <Scaling: Small Smart Moves for Outsized Results>. Interviewer: Predictions are often wrong. What is a sensible way to say things about the future? How to navigate between confidence and uncertainty? Mark Turrell: Certain things are predictable to a certain type of confidence and a high degree of accuracy. Our level of confidence about scenarios of the future is lower as things get more complex. Events in one system tend to affect other systems as well. In the last decade we have had several "once in a generation" events that have taken place one after another, such as the revolutions in the Middle East. There are, though, things that futurists can talk about with a high degree of confidence. For instance, one can be confident that in 50 years we will still have money, as it is difficult to replace across multiple systems. At the same time there is an important role for futurists to talk about big events with a low probability that could disrupt systems. Talking about the weak signals and the wildcards is important to help people start to think through those events that may change entire systems. Which of the following statements best describes the highlighted sentence?

- Mark Turrell can be confident that money will still be around in 50 years. (1)
- Anyone like Mark Turrell can be confident that money will still be around in 50 years. (2)
- The average futurist can be confident that money will still be around in 50 years. (3)
- The interviewer can be confident that money will still be around in 50 years. (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q17 The following quote from the UK Prime Minister is taken from a BBC news article. Prime Minister David Cameron told the BBC: "We've made serious savings in the welfare budget - something like £80bn overall is the amount of money we've saved because we capped housing benefit. "We've put a cap on the amount of welfare an individual family can receive so you're always better off in work than on

welfare." According to David Cameron, who is better off working than claiming benefit?

- David Cameron (1)
- Anyone like David Cameron (2)
- A British citizen (3)
- The reporter addressed by David Cameron (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q18 The following passage is an excerpt from a news article published in <The Street>, a digital publication in New York that specialises in investing, finance and business. Just When You Thought Starbucks Was Everywhere, Here's a New Twist. Starbucks (SBUX) founder and CEO Howard Schultz has an answer for many Americans who think the country has enough retail coffee stores: add even more, just under a slightly different name. The new store, called Starbucks Reserve Roastery and Tasting Room, is meant to be an upscale version of your neighborhood Starbucks. It's part of Starbucks' larger plan to open upscale cafes, excluding a roastery, called Reserve in over 100 locations globally in the next five years. Who thinks that Starbucks are everywhere in America?

- The author of the article (1)
- Anyone like the author of the article (2)
- The general public in America (3)
- The reader of the article (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q19 The following passage is an excerpt from an expert's tip on purchasing a security system. I'm Justin Smith, managing editor of web development for Building Operating Management magazine. Today's tip: security risks. It wouldn't make sense to go to the grocery store without knowing what you need, and the same is true with security systems. Organizations must understand the risks they are trying to mitigate when purchasing these systems, otherwise their efforts may miss a critical aspect of

security coverage. Which of the following statements best describes the highlighted sentence?

- It is irrational for Justin Smith to do grocery shopping without knowing what he/she needs. (1)
- It is irrational for anyone like Justin Smith to do grocery shopping without knowing what he/she needs. (2)
- It is irrational for the average person to do grocery shopping without knowing what he/she needs. (3)
- It is irrational for the reader of the tip to do grocery shopping without knowing what he/she needs. (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q20 The following passage is an excerpt from a news article published in the Chicago Tribune, written by Virginia Postrel. It helps to have a hospital room with a view. ... Roger S. Ulrich, now an architecture professor at the Center for Healthcare Building Research at Chalmers University of Technology in Sweden after many years at Texas A&M University, compared two groups of patients recovering from gallbladder surgery in the same hospital, matching patients for characteristics such as age and obesity that might affect their recovery. One group looked out on some trees while the other faced a brick wall; their rooms were otherwise almost the same. Patients with a view of the trees required significantly less high-powered pain medication and left the hospital earlier, after 7.96 days versus 8.70. Thirty years of follow-up research later, and it's still news when someone designs a hospital room with a view. ... Who would benefit from having a hospital room with a view?

- Virginia Postrel (1)
- Anyone like Virginia Postrel (2)
- The average patient (3)
- The patients who participated in the research (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q21 The following sentence is taken from a story about Dizzy Dolly. Dizzy Dolly tried to cover up the catshit on the toilet floor by laying down the handle of the toilet

brush across it, as you do. Which of the following statements best describe the above remark?

- The author would not cover up catshit the way Dizzy Dolly did. (1)
- Anyone like the author would not cover up catshit the way Dizzy Dolly did. (2)
- The average person would not cover up catshit the way Dizzy Dolly did. (3)
- The reader would not cover up catshit the way Dizzy Dolly did. (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q22 The following passage is an excerpt from a comment on the Orchard Hotel on Trip Advisor. When you enter the lobby to the Orchard, you will see trophies honoring the hotel for 'Being one of the best places to work in S.F.' It must be true, because the staff, without fail, were happy to help, cooperate, and work through any problems, needs, etc. They acted as if one really did enjoy his or her job. Who appeared to enjoy his/her job?

- The author (1)
- Anyone like the author (2)
- Anyone who works for an organisation that is named 'one of the best places to work in S.F.' (3)
- The staff at the Orchard Hotel (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q23 The following passage is an excerpt from the instructions of a logical task. Lucy took the opportunity one Saturday early in December to do her Christmas shopping. She purchased five gifts each at a different store, none of which she visited at the same time (as if one really could...lol). From the information provided, determine the order in which she made her purchases and the gift she bought at each store. Which of the following statements best describes the comment in the parentheses?

- The author could not visit the stores at the same time. (1)
- Anyone like the author could not visit the stores at the same time. (2)
- No one could visit the stores at the same time. (3)
- Lucy could not visit the stores at the same time. (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q24 The following passage consists of an excerpt from a news report and a reader's comment on the news story. A viral video of alleged police brutality by a Mesa police officer doesn't show the entire encounter between the officer and a teenage girl. The video, which has been shared on Facebook more than 120,000 times at the time of this post, appears to show the officer throwing a blow at the girl before taking her to the ground. According to Mesa Police Detective Esteban Flores, the girl kicked the

officer and punched her in the face first, which wasn't captured on the video. "Two other independent witnesses gave statements that corroborated the officer's account," Flores tells New Times. "The teen also admitted to striking the officer first by kicking her then punching her in the face." ... Angelino Wood from Facebook Dec 10, 2014 It's common sense that you shouldn't kick a cop, but also if you can't handle a 15 year old girl without punching her in the face, it may be time to rethink your career. Which of the following statements best describes Angelino Wood's comment?

- Wood thinks that the police officer who threw a blow at the teenage girl should rethink her career. (1)
- Wood thinks that a police officer who would throw a blow at an aggressive teenage girl should rethink his/her career. (2)
- Wood thinks that a police officer who cannot handle a teenager calmly should rethink his/her career. (3)
- Wood thinks that some police officers in Mesa should rethink their careers. (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q25 The following passage is an excerpt from an article published in the Guardian, <Where I work: milliner Stephen Jones>, written by Stephen Jones. There are usually eight people at the table, leaning over their poupées and working. Backache is an occupational hazard as a milliner. You shake a bit, do a bit of yoga or have a large gin – whatever helps. At the moment, all the people in the workroom are girls and it's a bit like St Trinian's, with lots of laughs and capers. I absolutely like a jolly workroom. If you are in a good mood, you will make a happy-looking hat. If you are in a miserable mood, it will look miserable and tortured. Who will make a happy-looking hat by being in a good mood?

- Stephen Jones (1)
- A milliner like Stephen Jones (2)
- The average milliner (3)
- A milliner in Stephen Jones's workroom (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q26 The following passage contains a remark made by a Labour MP. Yvette Cooper MP, Labour's Shadow Home Secretary, responding to a survey on crime for ITV1's This Morning, said: "This survey shows how crazy it is to cut 15,000 police officers. "Most people feel less safe than they used to. Fear of crime is still far too high, yet the Tory-led Government are cutting 15,000 police, making it harder to use

CCTV or DNA evidence, as well as scrapping ASBOs. That's no way to fight crime." Which of the following statements best describes Cooper's remark?

- In view of the survey, it is crazy for the shadow cabinet to support the cut of 15000 police officers. (1)
- In view of the survey, it is crazy for any political party like the shadow cabinet to support the cut of 15000 police officers. (2)
- In view of the survey, it is crazy for any government to cut 15000 police officers. (3)
- In view of the survey, it is crazy for the Tory-led government to cut 15000 police officers. (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q27 The following passage is an excerpt from a news article published on the BBC's sport website. Carragher tipped Owen to make a "huge impact" at Newcastle, and said he was surprised the striker had not been able to hold down a regular place at Real Madrid. "You don't want to criticise a club like Real Madrid, but it's unbelievable not to play him when you look at his goal ratio," said Carragher. Which of the following statements best describes Carragher's comment?

- According to Carragher, it is unbelievable that the football club he plays in did not make Owen a key player. (1)
- According to Carragher, it is unbelievable that a football club like the one he plays in did not make Owen a key player. (2)
- According to Carragher, it is unbelievable that a football club in a major league did not make Owen a key player. (3)
- According to Carragher, it is unbelievable that Real Madrid did not make Owen a key player. (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____

Q28 The following passage is an excerpt from a news story on a British newsreader Ruth England, published in the Daily Mail. Glamorous, blonde and quintessentially English, she was destined for a glittering career, but possibly one that would always involve antiques shows. Then she fell in love with an American special forces

veteran, as you do. Which of the following statements best describes the last sentence?

- The author of the article does not normally fall in love with an American veteran. (1)
- Anyone like the author of the article does not normally fall in love with an American veteran. (2)
- A female newsreader in British television does not normally fall in love with an American veteran. (3)
- The reader of the article does not normally fall in love with an American veteran. (4)
- Other, please specify (5) _____