

PRACTICE EXAM 17: EQAO GRADE 3 SIMULATION (60 QUESTIONS)

LANGUAGE COMPONENT — SESSION 1: READING

Read the following story, then answer questions 1 through 5.

The Birthday Surprise

by R. Ohanian

Tomas had been planning his grandmother's birthday for three weeks. Her birthday was on the eighteenth of October. She was turning seventy-five. Tomas wanted to give her something special. He did not have much money in his piggy bank — only nine dollars and forty cents — so he had to make her gift himself.

He had thought about it carefully. His grandmother loved pictures. She had small photo frames all around her apartment. She had a wooden box of old photographs on her coffee table. Tomas decided he would make her a photo album. He would fill it with pictures of the whole family.

He asked his mother to help him gather the photographs. His mother gave him a stack of about thirty old pictures from a cardboard box at the back of her closet. There was a picture of his grandmother as a young woman in Portugal. There was a picture of his grandfather, who had died before Tomas was born. There were photographs of Tomas's own mother as a baby, as a child, and as a teenager.

Tomas bought a small empty album at the dollar store. It cost three dollars. He bought a sheet of pretty paper for the cover. He bought a pack of small stickers shaped like flowers. He still had four dollars and fifty cents left over.

For two weeks, every night after his homework, Tomas worked on the album. He sorted the pictures from oldest to newest. He pasted each picture carefully. He wrote a small note beside each one — what year the photograph had been taken, who was in it, what they were doing. On the last page, he wrote, Made with love by Tomas, October 2024.

The night before his grandmother's birthday, Tomas wrapped the album in pretty paper. His hands shook a little. He was worried she might not like it.

On the morning of October eighteenth, the whole family came to his grandmother's apartment. There was cake. There were balloons. His grandmother opened gifts from all his cousins first. Then Tomas handed her his package.

She opened it slowly.

When she saw the album, she put one hand over her mouth. She turned the pages, one by one. Tomas watched her face. When she came to a picture of his grandfather, her eyes filled with tears. But she was smiling at the same time.

When she finished the last page, she set the album down. She got up from her chair. She walked over to Tomas and gave him the longest hug he had ever had.

"Thank you," she said into his hair. "This is the best gift I have ever been given."

Tomas knew, right then, that the small hands and small money had not mattered. What had mattered was the time. He had given her three weeks of his time, and she had felt it on every page.

1. When was Tomas's grandmother's birthday?

- A. The eighteenth of September
- B. The fifteenth of October
- C. The eighteenth of October
- D. The twenty-fifth of October

2. How much money did Tomas have in his piggy bank?

- A. Nine dollars and forty cents
- B. Thirteen dollars and fifty cents
- C. Twenty dollars even
- D. Four dollars and fifty cents

3. What did Tomas decide to make for his grandmother?

- A. A small wooden box for photographs
- B. A new picture frame for her wall
- C. A painted sign with her name on it
- D. A photo album of family pictures

4. What did Tomas write on the last page of the album?

- A. A list of every person in the photographs
- B. Made with love by Tomas, October 2024
- C. The date and place of each photograph
- D. Happy Seventy-Fifth Birthday, Grandma

5. What is the MAIN message of this story?

- A. The time you spend on a gift can matter more than the money
- B. Grandmothers always cry when they open old photo albums
- C. Birthday parties are a chance to give expensive gifts
- D. Younger family members should make their own birthday cakes

Read the following poem, then answer questions 6 through 10.

Stars at Night

by W. Soto

I climb the small back porch
When the sun goes down to sleep.
The air is cool. The grass is wet.
The sky begins to deepen.

At first there is just one —
A single bright white dot.
Above the dark roof of my house,
It is the very first I have caught.

Then there are seven, all at once,
Like a handful of bright crumbs.
Then twenty. Then a hundred.
Then more than I can name.

I lie down on the cold wood.
The boards press into my back.
I look up at the sea of stars
Painted on the great black.

My mother says that some of these
Are stars that have gone out.

Their light is travelling toward us still
From thousands of years about.

I do not understand it all.
But I know that I am small.
The sky is big. The world is wide.
The stars belong to all.

6. Where does the speaker go to look at the stars?

- A. To the front yard of the house
- B. To a hill at the edge of town
- C. To a window in the bedroom
- D. To the small back porch

7. What time of day does the speaker climb out to see the stars?

- A. Early in the morning
- B. When the sun goes down to sleep
- C. At noon on a cloudy day
- D. After midnight, late in the night

8. How many stars does the speaker first see in the sky?

- A. None at first
- B. About seven stars
- C. Just one star
- D. More than a hundred

9. What does the speaker's mother say about some of the stars?

- A. They are very far away from our planet
- B. They are the brightest stars in the sky
- C. They send their light during the daytime too
- D. They are stars that have already gone out

10. Read these lines from the poem: The sky is big. The world is wide. / The stars belong to all. What do these lines MEAN?

- A. The night sky is something shared by every person on Earth
- B. Children should never look at the night sky alone
- C. The speaker hopes to own a star one day
- D. Only families with back porches can see the stars

LANGUAGE COMPONENT — SESSION 2: READING

Read the following article, then answer questions 11 through 16.

Sled Dogs

In northern Canada, where the winters are long and the snow is deep, sled dogs have been pulling sleds for thousands of years. Long before there were cars or snowmobiles, Indigenous peoples in the Arctic depended on these strong, hardy dogs for travel and for carrying heavy loads.

Built for the Cold

Sled dogs are bred to live in very cold places. They have thick double coats of fur that keep them warm in temperatures as low as minus fifty degrees Celsius. Their feet have tough pads that grip the snow and ice. Their thick bushy tails curl over their noses when they sleep, helping to warm the air they breathe.

The most common sled-dog breeds are the Siberian Husky, the Alaskan Malamute, and the Canadian Eskimo Dog. The Canadian Eskimo Dog is one of the oldest and rarest breeds of sled dog in the world. It is one of the few dogs that has lived in Canada for many thousands of years.

Working as a Team

Sled dogs work in teams. A team usually has between four and twelve dogs. The dogs are tied to long lines that connect them to the sled. The dog in front is the lead dog. The lead dog must be smart, brave, and good at listening. The driver of the sled — called a musher — gives commands to the lead dog. "Gee" means turn right. "Haw" means turn left. "Whoa" means stop.

Famous Races

Today, sled-dog racing is a popular winter sport. The most famous race is the Iditarod, which takes place in Alaska every year. The Iditarod is about 1,600 kilometres long. It takes most teams between eight and fifteen days to finish. Some Canadian races, like the Yukon Quest, are even longer.

Sled dogs are not just pets. They are working partners. They love to run, and a good team can move across snow at over thirty kilometres per hour. For thousands of years, in the coldest parts of Canada, sled dogs have been part of life. They still are.

11. Why have sled dogs been important to people in northern Canada?

- A. They are gentle pets for younger children to play with
- B. They protect the home from larger wild animals
- C. They have colourful coats that make them easy to see in snow
- D. They have pulled sleds for travel and for carrying heavy loads

12. What helps sled dogs stay warm at very low temperatures?

- A. Special padded boots they wear on cold days
- B. The light brown colour of their fur in winter
- C. Their thick double coats of fur
- D. Their high body weight compared to other dogs

13. Which breed of sled dog is one of the oldest and rarest in the world?

- A. The Siberian Husky
- B. The Canadian Eskimo Dog
- C. The Alaskan Malamute
- D. The Yukon Sled Hound

14. What does the musher's command "Gee" mean?

- A. Turn right
- B. Turn left
- C. Stop
- D. Go faster

15. How long is the Iditarod race?

- A. About 600 kilometres
- B. About 1,000 kilometres
- C. About 1,600 kilometres
- D. About 2,500 kilometres

16. Which sentence BEST describes the main idea of the article?

- A. The Iditarod is the most famous sled-dog race in the world
- B. Sled dogs are strong, special animals with a long history in Canada
- C. The Canadian Eskimo Dog is one of the rarest dog breeds
- D. Mushers use special commands to guide their lead dog

Read the following two short passages. Then answer questions 17 through 20.

Passage 1: Going to the Museum

When I was eight years old, my class went on a field trip to the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto. The museum is a huge building with many floors. From the front, it looks like a giant white-and-grey crystal that has crashed into the sidewalk. My grandmother had told me about her own visit to the museum when she was a girl.

Inside, the museum was quiet and cool. A guide led our class through different rooms. We saw real Egyptian mummies in tall glass cases. We saw dinosaur bones bigger than my whole body. We saw a totem pole from British Columbia that reached almost to the high ceiling.

My favourite room was the room of small drawers full of fossils and minerals. Visitors were allowed to pull the drawers open. Inside each drawer, there were old rocks and small bones from millions of years ago. Some of the fossils were leaves. Some were tiny fish. Some were footprints pressed into stone. I could not stop thinking about how old they were. I wished I could spend the whole day there.

Passage 2: How Museums Care for Old Objects

A museum is more than a building full of old things. A museum is also a place where these old objects are cared for, sometimes for hundreds of years. The people who do this work are called curators.

Light, water, and dust can all damage old objects. So museums keep most rooms cool and dim. They control the air to keep it dry. They use special glass cases that filter out harmful light from the sun and from lamps. Many objects are only put on display for a few months at a time. Then they are returned to a quiet, dark storage room to rest.

Curators also do careful work to clean and repair old objects. They use small brushes, soft cloths, and special chemicals. They never use ordinary soap and water. Even a small mistake — like leaving a fingerprint on a painting — can do permanent damage.

Because of this work, an object that was made hundreds or even thousands of years ago can still be seen and learned from today. Without curators, much of human history would be lost.

17. What is one topic both passages discuss?

- A. Field trips for Canadian school classes
- B. The Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto
- C. Dinosaur bones from millions of years ago
- D. Museums or museum objects

18. What is the main purpose of Passage 1?

- A. To share a personal memory of a field trip to a museum
- B. To explain how museums protect old historical objects
- C. To list the most famous museums in Canadian cities
- D. To convince readers to visit the Royal Ontario Museum

19. According to Passage 2, what are curators?

- A. Special chemicals used to clean old artifacts
- B. The people who care for the objects in a museum
- C. Small brushes for cleaning ancient paintings
- D. The classes of school children who visit museums

20. Which idea is found in Passage 1 but NOT in Passage 2?

- A. Light and water can damage old objects in a museum
- B. Curators clean objects with small brushes and soft cloths
- C. A personal memory of pulling open drawers full of fossils
- D. Museums keep many rooms cool and dim to protect objects

LANGUAGE COMPONENT — SESSION 3: WRITING

For questions 21 through 30, read each item carefully and choose the best answer.

21. Which group of words is a COMPLETE SENTENCE?

- A. The puppy chased the ball across the yard.
- B. Because the snow was falling all afternoon long
- C. Playing soccer in the school field at recess
- D. Two girls from the apartment across the wide hall

22. Which sentence uses CAPITAL LETTERS correctly?

- A. last february, we travelled to ottawa for the winter festival
- B. Last February, we travelled to Ottawa for the winter festival.
- C. last February, We Travelled to Ottawa for the Winter Festival
- D. Last february, we Travelled to ottawa for the winter festival

23. Choose the sentence that is punctuated correctly.

- A. Will you bring me a glass of water
- B. What a tall building that is,
- C. Be careful with the heavy box,
- D. The shop opens at seven o'clock each morning.

24. Read this sentence: The hungry bear searched the empty cabin for food. Which word is a VERB?

- A. Hungry

- B. Empty
- C. Searched
- D. Cabin

25. Which sentence shows correct SUBJECT-VERB agreement?

- A. The five frogs jump from leaf to leaf in the pond.
- B. The five frogs jumps from leaf to leaf in the pond.
- C. The five frog jump from leaf to leaf in the pond.
- D. The five frogs jumping from leaf to leaf in the pond.

26. Read this sentence: Tomorrow morning, we ____ to the museum with our class. Which word BEST fills in the blank?

- A. Went
- B. Are going
- C. Go
- D. Will go

27. Which word means about the SAME as fast?

- A. Slow
- B. Quiet
- C. Quick
- D. Wide

28. Which sentence correctly shows that ONE girl owns the book?

- A. The girls book is on the desk.

- B. The girl's book is on the desk.
- C. The girls' book is on the desk.
- D. The girl' book is on the desk.

29. Which sentence uses a COMMA correctly?

- A. Before the storm started, we ran inside the house.
- B. Before the storm started we ran inside the house
- C. We packed sandwiches juice and apples for the long picnic
- D. The boy, walked to school, and waved, at his friends

30. Which of the following sentences is in the PAST tense?

- A. We walk along the lake every Saturday morning.
- B. We will walk along the lake next Saturday morning.
- C. We are walking along the lake right now this morning.
- D. We walked along the lake last Saturday morning.

LANGUAGE COMPONENT — SESSION 4: WRITING

For questions 31 through 40, choose the best answer.

31. Read the topic sentence: Reading aloud to younger brothers and sisters can be a kind activity. Which sentence would be the BEST supporting reason?

- A. Many older students have busy after-school schedules.
- B. Reading aloud helps younger children learn new words and feel loved.
- C. Picture books often have illustrations on every page.
- D. Some libraries offer special storytime hours for families.

32. Which sentence would BEST begin a personal narrative about playing in a first hockey game?

- A. Hockey is a popular sport across Canada in winter.
- B. Children often start playing hockey at a young age.
- C. The night I played my first hockey game, my hands shook inside my gloves.
- D. Many cities in Canada have outdoor hockey rinks in winter.

33. Which sentence uses STRONGER, more specific verbs?

- A. The horse galloped across the field and leapt over the wooden fence.
- B. The horse went across the field and was at the fence quickly.
- C. The horse moved across the field and got over the fence fast.
- D. The horse did things in the field and was over the fence in no time.

34. Read the sentence: Yuna wanted to play outside, ___ the rain had not stopped. Which word BEST fills in the blank?

- A. So
- B. But
- C. And
- D. Or

35. Which would be the BEST closing for an opinion paragraph arguing that all students should have art class every week?

- A. Some art teachers use different materials in their lessons.
- B. Many schools have art rooms with bright lights and supplies.
- C. For all these reasons, every student should have art class each week.

D. Different art lessons teach different kinds of skills.

36. Which sentence uses dialogue punctuation correctly?

A. "I see the parade." called Maria.

B. "I see the parade" called Maria.

C. I see the parade, called Maria.

D. "I see the parade!" called Maria.

37. Which word is spelled CORRECTLY?

A. Because

B. Becaus

C. Becuase

D. Becos

38. Read the paragraph:

Layla loves writing short stories in her notebook. She has been writing them since she was seven years old. ___ Layla hopes to share one of her stories at the school reading event this spring.

Which sentence BEST fills in the blank?

A. Many writers begin their books with a strong opening line.

B. Her younger sister prefers drawing pictures instead.

C. She has filled four small notebooks with her stories.

D. Writing well takes hours of practice and patience.

39. Which sentence is the BEST example of DIALOGUE?

- A. Mateo asked his neighbour for help with his bike chain.
- B. "Could you help me with my bike chain?" Mateo asked his neighbour.
- C. Mateo wanted his neighbour to help him with his bike chain.
- D. The bike chain was fixed by Mateo's neighbour with help.

40. Read this sentence: The smell of fresh-cut grass mixed with the buzz of the lawn mower and the warmth of the afternoon sun on my arms. What is this sentence MAINLY doing?

- A. Listing the items needed to mow a lawn safely
- B. Telling the reader where the lawn is being mowed
- C. Explaining how to mow a lawn on a hot day
- D. Using sensory details to bring a summer scene to life

MATHEMATICS COMPONENT — STAGE 1: NUMBER

41. Which number is the same as five hundred forty-seven?

- A. 547
- B. 5,047
- C. 457
- D. 754

42. Round 423 to the nearest HUNDRED.

- A. 500
- B. 430
- C. 400

D. 420

43. What is the value of the digit 9 in the number 593?

A. 9

B. 90

C. 900

D. 9,000

44. What is $254 + 389$?

A. 533

B. 553

C. 543

D. 643

45. A toy store had 720 dolls in their warehouse. By the end of the month, 285 dolls had been shipped to other stores. How many dolls are LEFT in the warehouse?

A. 435

B. 1,005

C. 565

D. 445

46. Which list shows these numbers ordered from LEAST to GREATEST?

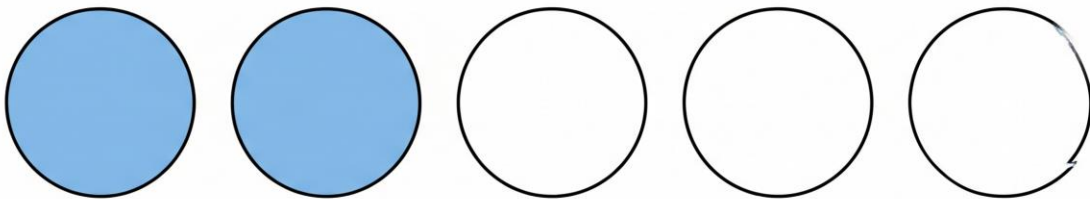
A. 829, 547, 318, 102

B. 102, 547, 318, 829

C. 102, 318, 547, 829

D. 102, 829, 318, 547

47. Look at the figure below.



What fraction of the circles is shaded?

A. $\frac{5}{2}$

B. $\frac{3}{5}$

C. $\frac{2}{3}$

D. $\frac{2}{5}$

48. Which fraction is GREATER than $\frac{1}{4}$?

A. $\frac{1}{8}$

B. $\frac{3}{4}$

C. $\frac{1}{6}$

D. $\frac{1}{5}$

49. What is the missing number in this pattern? 14, 21, 28, ____, 42, 49

- A. 35
- B. 34
- C. 36
- D. 38

50. Which number is EVEN?

- A. 357
- B. 285
- C. 614
- D. 471

MATHEMATICS COMPONENT — STAGE 2: ALGEBRA, DATA, AND SPATIAL SENSE

51. What is 7×6 ?

- A. 36
- B. 49
- C. 56
- D. 42

52. A baker has 63 cookies. They are shared equally among 9 plates. How many cookies are on each plate?

- A. 6
- B. 7
- C. 54

D. 8

53. What is the missing number? $\square + 28 = 55$

A. 27

B. 83

C. 37

D. 33

54. A pattern follows the rule add 7. If the first term is 3, what is the FIFTH term in the pattern?

A. 24

B. 28

C. 31

D. 35

55. A character starts at position (4, 1) on a grid. The instructions are:

1. Move 3 spaces up.
2. Move 2 spaces left.
3. Move 1 space up.

Where does the character end up?

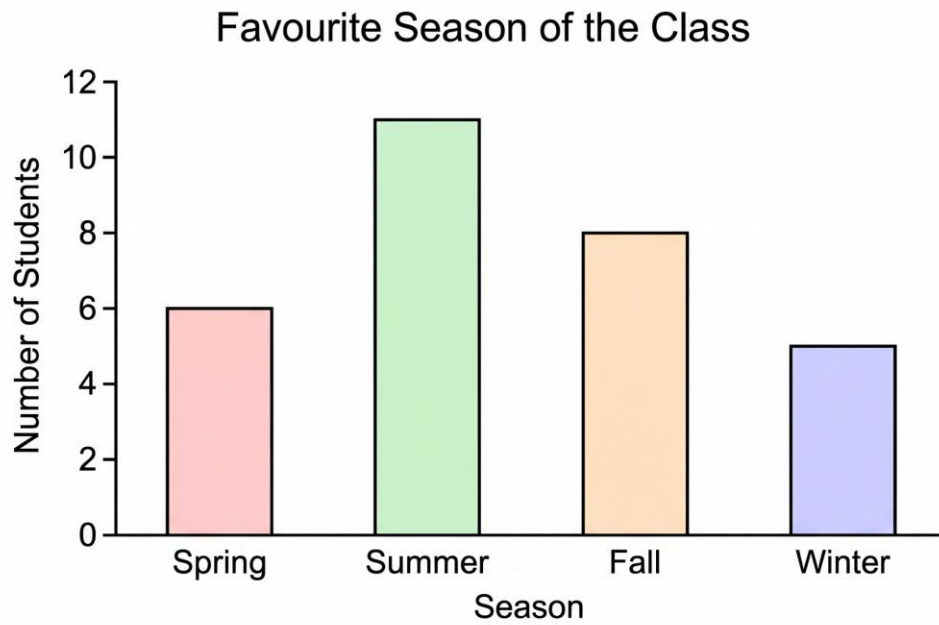
A. (4, 5)

B. (3, 5)

C. (2, 4)

D. (2, 5)

56. Look at the bar graph below.

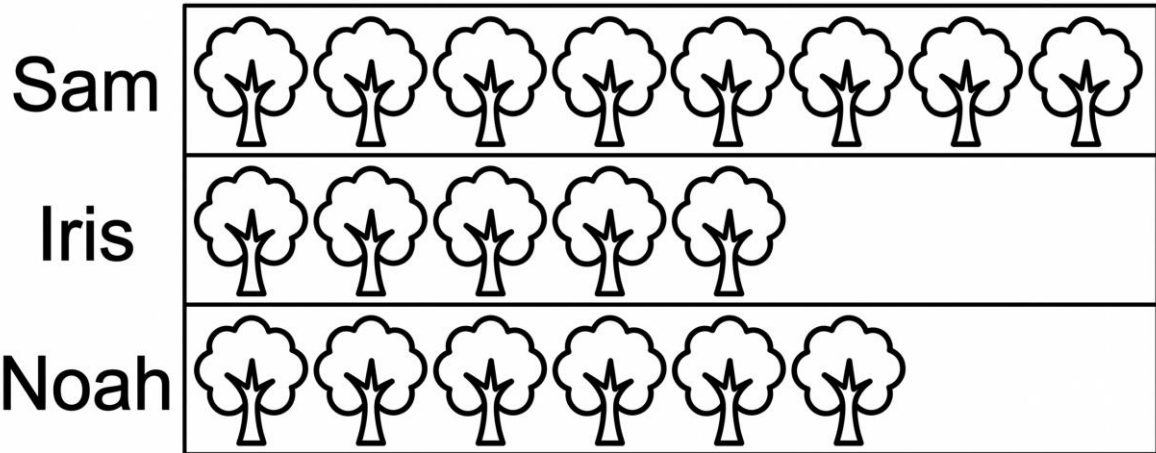


Which season was chosen by the SECOND-most students?

- A. Spring
- B. Fall
- C. Summer
- D. Winter

57. Look at the pictograph below.

Trees Planted in the Park.



Each tree = 10 trees planted.

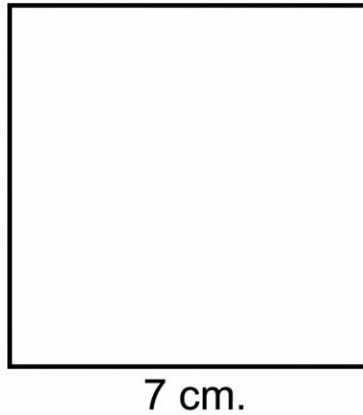
How many trees did Sam plant in the park?

- A. 80
- B. 8
- C. 18
- D. 50

58. Which 3D solid has 0 corners and 0 edges?

- A. Cube
- B. Sphere
- C. Cylinder
- D. Cone

59. Look at the square below.



What is the PERIMETER of this square?

- A. 14 cm
- B. 49 cm
- C. 21 cm
- D. 28 cm

60. A pen costs \$4 and an eraser costs \$1. Adriana has \$30 and buys 3 pens and 6 erasers. How much money does she have LEFT?

- A. \$24
- B. \$18
- C. \$12
- D. \$6

Practice Exam 17: Answer Key and Explanations

- 1. C** — The eighteenth of October. The story states this directly: *"Her birthday was on the eighteenth of October. She was turning seventy-five."* The fixed date is part of why Tomas had to plan ahead.
- 2. A** — Nine dollars and forty cents. The story states this directly: *"only nine dollars and forty cents — so he had to make her gift himself."* The small amount of money is what pushed Tomas toward a homemade present.
- 3. D** — A photo album of family pictures. The story states this directly: *"Tomas decided he would make her a photo album. He would fill it with pictures of the whole family."* His grandmother's love of photos shaped the gift idea.
- 4. B** — *Made with love by Tomas, October 2024.* The story states this directly: *"On the last page, he wrote, 'Made with love by Tomas, October 2024.'"* The closing inscription tied the album to a specific moment in his grandmother's life.
- 5. A** — The time you spend on a gift can matter more than the money. The closing line — *"What had mattered was the time. He had given her three weeks of his time, and she had felt it on every page"* — names this directly. Themes in EQAO reading questions are usually broader life lessons, not specific plot events.
- 6. D** — To the small back porch. The poem opens with this exact line: *"I climb the small back porch / When the sun goes down to sleep."* The back porch is the speaker's nightly star-watching spot.
- 7. B** — When the sun goes down to sleep. The poem states this directly: *"When the sun goes down to sleep."* The fading sun is what lets the stars become visible.
- 8. C** — Just one star. The poem states this directly: *"At first there is just one — / A single bright white dot."* The lone first star comes before the seven, the twenty, and the hundred.
- 9. D** — They are stars that have already gone out. The poem states this directly: *"My mother says that some of these / Are stars that have gone out."* The light is still travelling toward Earth from thousands of years ago.
- 10. A** — The night sky is something shared by every person on Earth. The phrase *"the stars belong to all"* names the sky as a shared possession, and the wider lines about the sky being big and the world being wide support that meaning. This kind of question asks readers to interpret a closing image, not take it literally.
- 11. D** — They have pulled sleds for travel and for carrying heavy loads. The article opens with this directly: *"Indigenous peoples in the Arctic depended on these strong, hardy dogs for travel and for carrying heavy loads."* This is the core reason sled dogs became part of life in the North.

- 12. C** — Their thick double coats of fur. The article states this directly: *"They have thick double coats of fur that keep them warm in temperatures as low as minus fifty degrees Celsius."* The double coat is the main cold-weather adaptation.
- 13. B** — The Canadian Eskimo Dog. The article states this directly: *"The Canadian Eskimo Dog is one of the oldest and rarest breeds of sled dog in the world."* It has lived in Canada for many thousands of years.
- 14. A** — Turn right. The article states this directly: *"'Gee' means turn right. 'Haw' means turn left. 'Whoa' means stop."* These short commands let the musher steer the team.
- 15. C** — About 1,600 kilometres. The article states this directly: *"The Iditarod is about 1,600 kilometres long. It takes most teams between eight and fifteen days to finish."* The Iditarod's distance is part of why it is the most famous race.
- 16. B** — Sled dogs are strong, special animals with a long history in Canada. The article covers their cold-weather adaptations, breeds, team work, mushers, and racing — all centred on what makes sled dogs special. The other options describe smaller parts of the article rather than the central idea.
- 17. D** — Museums or museum objects. Passage 1 describes a Grade 3 field trip to the Royal Ontario Museum; Passage 2 explains how museum curators care for old objects. Two-text comparison questions require finding the shared topic at the broadest level.
- 18. A** — To share a personal memory of a field trip to a museum. Passage 1 uses first-person language (*"my class went on a field trip to the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto"*) and tells one specific story. This is the defining feature of personal narrative writing.
- 19. B** — The people who care for the objects in a museum. Passage 2 states this directly: *"The people who do this work are called curators."* Curators clean, repair, and protect old objects so they can last for many years.
- 20. C** — A personal memory of pulling open drawers full of fossils. The drawers of fossils and minerals appear only in Passage 1, as part of the narrator's favourite room. Passage 2 contains only general information about how museums care for objects.
- 21. A** — The puppy chased the ball across the yard. A complete sentence has a subject (puppy), a verb (chased), and a complete thought. The other options are fragments — either missing a main verb, beginning with a subordinator that leaves the thought hanging, or lacking a main clause.
- 22. B** — Last February, we travelled to Ottawa for the winter festival. Capitals are required on the first word, months (February), and proper place names (Ottawa). *Winter festival* stays lowercase because it is not the specific name of a particular festival; the other options either miss a required capital or add extra ones.
- 23. D** — The shop opens at seven o'clock each morning. Statements (declarative sentences) end with a period. The other options pair questions, exclamations, or commands with the wrong punctuation marks.

- 24. C** — Searched. *Searched* describes the action the bear performed — this is the role of a verb. *Hungry* and *empty* are adjectives, and *cabin* is the noun being acted on.
- 25. A** — The five frogs jump from leaf to leaf in the pond. A plural subject (*five frogs*) takes a plural verb without -s (*jump*). Option B mismatches; option C uses a singular noun with a plural verb; option D is a fragment because *jumping* alone is not a main verb.
- 26. D** — Will go. The word *tomorrow* signals future tense, formed with *will* + base verb. Past and present-continuous forms conflict with the future time word in the sentence.
- 27. C** — Quick. *Quick* and *fast* are synonyms — both describe high speed. The other options describe opposite or unrelated qualities like slowness, quietness, or width.
- 28. B** — The girl's book is on the desk. The apostrophe + s shows singular possession (the book belongs to one girl). Option A omits the apostrophe; option C places it after the s (which shows plural possession); option D omits the s.
- 29. A** — Before the storm started, we ran inside the house. A comma is required after an introductory dependent clause (*Before the storm started*). Option B omits the comma; option C is missing commas in a list; option D places commas where they break the sentence's flow.
- 30. D** — We walked along the lake last Saturday morning. Past tense uses the -ed ending on *walk*, and *last Saturday* signals an action that has already happened. The other options describe habitual present, future, or present-continuous actions.
- 31. B** — Reading aloud helps younger children learn new words and feel loved. A strong supporting reason explains *why* the topic sentence is true with a specific benefit. The other options describe unrelated facts about older students, picture books, or library hours.
- 32. C** — The night I played my first hockey game, my hands shook inside my gloves. Strong narrative openings place the reader inside a specific moment with concrete details (the night, the shaking hands, the gloves). The other options state general facts about hockey rather than entering a story.
- 33. A** — The horse galloped across the field and leapt over the wooden fence. Strong verbs like *galloped* and *leapt* are specific and create vivid images. Verbs like *went*, *moved*, *was*, and *did* are weak because they could describe almost any action.
- 34. B** — But. *But* expresses contrast — Yuna wanted to play outside, but the rain stopped her. Words like *so*, *and*, and *or* would express result, addition, or alternative, none of which fits a contradiction.
- 35. C** — For all these reasons, every student should have art class each week. An opinion-piece closing should restate the position with confidence and connect to the supporting reasons that came before. The other options drift to unrelated facts about art teachers, art rooms, or lesson skills.
- 36. D** — "*I see the parade!*" called Maria. Correct dialogue punctuation keeps the speaker's words inside quotation marks, with the exclamation mark inside the closing quotation mark for a strong feeling. Option

A uses a period instead of a comma or exclamation; option B omits all end punctuation; option C omits the quotation marks.

37. A — Because. The word is spelled b-e-c-a-u-s-e. The other options are common misspellings produced by sounding the word out without checking standard form.

38. C — She has filled four small notebooks with her stories. A supporting sentence in a paragraph about Layla's stories should add a related detail about her writing. The other options drift to unrelated topics like opening lines in general, her sister, or how long writing takes to learn.

39. B — "*Could you help me with my bike chain?*" Mateo asked his neighbour. True dialogue uses quotation marks around the speaker's exact words. The other options describe what was said without quoting it directly — that is indirect speech, not dialogue.

40. D — Using sensory details to bring a summer scene to life. The sentence engages the sense of smell (*fresh-cut grass*), sound (*buzz of the lawn mower*), and touch (*warmth of the afternoon sun*). Sensory details create atmosphere — one of the techniques the EQAO writing rubric specifically rewards.

41. A — 547. *Five hundred forty-seven* breaks down as $500 + 40 + 7$, with five hundreds, four tens, and seven ones. Reading number-word questions carefully matters — 5,047, 457, and 754 all use similar digits but have very different values.

42. C — 400. To round 423 to the nearest hundred, look at the tens digit (2). Since 2 is less than 5, round down: 423 sits closer to 400 than to 500 on a number line.

43. B — 90. The digit 9 sits in the tens place in 593, so its value is $9 \times 10 = 90$. Place value determines what each digit is worth, regardless of the digit itself.

44. D — 643. Column addition: $4 + 9 = 13$ (write 3, carry 1); $5 + 8 + 1 = 14$ (write 4, carry 1); $2 + 3 + 1 = 6$. The total is 643.

45. A — 435. Column subtraction: $720 - 285$ requires regrouping across the zero. The ones borrow through the tens (which has only 2) from the hundreds, giving $10 - 5 = 5$ in the ones, $11 - 8 = 3$ in the tens, and $6 - 2 = 4$ in the hundreds — for a total of 435.

46. C — 102, 318, 547, 829. Ordering from least to greatest compares hundreds digits first: $1 < 3 < 5 < 8$. Only option C arranges all four numbers in true ascending order.

47. D — $2/5$. The figure shows 5 circles in total (the denominator), and 2 of them are shaded (the numerator). The fraction is shaded parts over total parts, giving $2/5$.

48. B — $3/4$. When two fractions have the same numerator, the one with the smaller denominator is greater. $3/4$ has both a larger numerator (3 vs 1) and a smaller denominator than the others, making it greater than $1/4$.

- 49. A** — 35. The pattern adds 7 each step: 14, 21, 28, ____, 42, 49. The missing term is $28 + 7 = 35$, which then continues to 42 by adding 7 again. Checking both directions confirms the rule.
- 50. C** — 614. An even number ends in 0, 2, 4, 6, or 8. Only 614 ends in an even digit (4); the others end in 7, 5, and 1 — all odd.
- 51. D** — 42. The multiplication fact $7 \times 6 = 42$ is a core Grade 3 times-table fact. A useful check: 6×7 gives the same product through the commutative property — both equal 42.
- 52. B** — 7. Equal sharing: $63 \text{ cookies} \div 9 \text{ plates} = 7 \text{ cookies each}$. Division undoes multiplication — $7 \times 9 = 63$ confirms the answer through the fact family.
- 53. A** — 27. To find the missing addend, use the inverse operation: $55 - 28 = 27$. Checking: $27 + 28 = 55$. The inverse-operation strategy is the most reliable approach for missing-addend questions.
- 54. C** — 31. Starting at 3 and adding 7 each step: 3 (1st), 10 (2nd), 17 (3rd), 24 (4th), 31 (5th). Writing each term as you go prevents the drift errors that come from holding many numbers in your head.
- 55. D** — (2, 5). Starting at (4, 1): up 3 \rightarrow (4, 4); left 2 \rightarrow (2, 4); up 1 \rightarrow (2, 5). Tracking the position after each instruction on scrap paper is the most reliable approach for coding-grid questions.
- 56. B** — Fall. The Summer bar is tallest at 11 students (most); the Fall bar comes next at 8 students (second-most). The Spring and Winter bars are lower at 6 and 5.
- 57. A** — 80. Sam's row shows 8 tree symbols, and the key states each tree equals 10 trees planted. The total is $8 \times 10 = 80$. Always multiply the picture count by the key value rather than counting pictures alone.
- 58. B** — Sphere. A sphere is a perfectly smooth, round shape — it has no corners (vertices) and no edges, only one curved surface. Cubes have 8 corners and 12 edges; cylinders have 2 curved edges and no corners; cones have 1 vertex at the point and 1 curved edge.
- 59. D** — 28 cm. The perimeter of a square equals $4 \times \text{side length}$: $4 \times 7 = 28 \text{ cm}$. All four sides of a square are equal, so adding them is the same as multiplying one side by 4.
- 60. C** — \$12. This is a multi-step problem: $3 \text{ pens} \times \$4 = \12 ; $6 \text{ erasers} \times \$1 = \$6$; total cost = $\$12 + \$6 = \$18$. Money left: $\$30 - \$18 = \$12$. Multi-step money problems require identifying every operation in the right order.