PRACTICE EXAM 10: NES ELEMENTARY EDUCATION (150 QUESTIONS)

This full-length practice exam contains 150 multiple-choice questions spanning both NES Elementary Education subtests. The official assessment is administered as two separate 75-question subtests. Allow approximately 90 minutes for Subtest I and 105 minutes for Subtest II. A passing scaled score is 220 on each subtest.

1. A beginning reader says /m/ /a/ /p/ and then blends the sounds into map. Which foundational skill is demonstrated?

A. alphabetical ordering
B. contextual guessing
C. phonemic blending
D. syllable division

2. Which activity directly develops phonemic awareness before students read print?

A. Segmenting the spoken word ship into /sh/ /i/ /p/
B. Copying the word ship three times
C. Looking up ship in a dictionary
D. Sorting words by font size

3. A teacher asks students to identify the base word and suffix in helpful. This supports knowledge of

A. morphology
B. syntax
C. pragmatics
D. semantics

4. A student reads slowly but accurately, pausing at nearly every word. Which skill needs focused instruction?

A. letter naming
B. book handling
C. oral vocabulary
D. reading fluency

5. Before reading a text about migration, a teacher previews relocate, seasonal, and habitat. The main purpose is to build

A. handwriting endurance
B. background vocabulary for comprehension
C. phoneme segmentation
D. alphabetical filing skill

6. Which question best prompts students to make an inference?

A. What color was the character’s coat?
B. On what page does the story begin?
C. What can you conclude about why the character hid the letter?
D. Which word appears in the title?

7. A reader uses headings, captions, and a labeled diagram to locate information. The reader is using

A. figurative language
B. phonological awareness
C. text features
D. dialogue conventions

8. Which strategy best helps students monitor comprehension while reading?

A. Reading every passage aloud twice
B. Copying each sentence into a notebook
C. Memorizing the first paragraph
D. Stopping to summarize after each section

9. In “The icy wind whispered through the trees,” whispered is an example of

A. alliteration
B. personification
C. hyperbole
D. onomatopoeia

10. Which statement best distinguishes a theme from a topic?

A. A theme is a message about a topic.
B. A theme is always a single word.
C. A topic appears only in nonfiction.
D. A topic is stated only in a title.

11. An author writes, “The river was a silver ribbon.” This comparison is a

A. simile
B. idiom
C. pun
D. metaphor

12. A student needs synonyms for delighted while revising. Which reference is most useful?

A. a glossary

B. an encyclopedia
C. a thesaurus
D. an index

13. Which sentence is written in active voice?

A. The committee approved the proposal.
B. The proposal was approved by the committee.
C. The proposal had been being approved.
D. The approval was made by the proposal.

14. Which sentence uses a comma correctly?

A. After, lunch the class began science.
B. After lunch, the class began science.
C. After lunch the class, began science.
D. After lunch the class began, science.

15. Which is the clearest thesis statement for an opinion essay?

A. School gardens improve learning and health.
B. Many schools have gardens.
C. Gardens contain plants and soil.
D. This essay is about gardens.

16. Which organizational structure best explains how a bill becomes a law?

A. compare and contrast
B. problem and solution
C. sequence
D. description

17. A teacher models thinking aloud while revising for audience and purpose. The teacher is modeling

A. phonics instruction
B. the writing process
C. dramatic play
D. silent sustained reading

18. Which word is an adjective in “The curious puppy explored the garden”?

A. puppy
B. explored
C. garden
D. curious

19. A beginning reader says /m/ /a/ /p/ and then blends the sounds into map. Which foundational skill is demonstrated? This version asks you to apply the same idea in a new classroom context.

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A. personification
B. alliteration
C. hyperbole
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48. Which principle limits one branch of government by giving other branches specific powers?

A. checks and balances
B. popular sovereignty
C. free enterprise
D. judicial review

49. The main purpose of the Bill of Rights is to

A. create state legislatures
B. set tax rates
C. protect individual liberties
D. establish political parties

50. A city council meeting is an example of citizens participating in

A. international trade
B. judicial review
C. private enterprise
D. local government

51. When demand increases while supply stays the same, the market price generally

A. falls
B. becomes zero
C. rises
D. stays legally fixed

52. Comparing sales revenue with production costs determines

A. profit or loss
B. a geographic region
C. a civic duty
D. a natural resource

53. Which action is a responsibility of a U.S. citizen?

A. owning a business
B. serving on a jury when summoned
C. running for federal office
D. joining a political party

54. Government authority derived from the people is called

A. separation of powers
B. federalism
C. due process
D. popular sovereignty

55. Which development most directly led to European exploration across the Atlantic?

A. a search for new trade routes to Asia
B. the invention of television
C. the end of the Cold War
D. the construction of railroads

56. The primary goal of the Declaration of Independence was to

A. create the U.S. Constitution
B. announce separation from Great Britain
C. end slavery nationwide
D. establish a political party

57. Which is a primary source for studying World War II soldiers' experiences?

A. a modern textbook chapter
B. a documentary made decades later
C. an encyclopedia entry

D. a soldier’s letter written during the war

58. A map scale is most useful for determining

A. the age of a city
B. the number of people
C. actual distance between places
D. the language spoken

59. Comparing accounts of an event to identify bias is

A. evaluating sources
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76. What is the value of 3/4 + 1/8?

A. 1
B. 7/8
C. 5/8
D. 3/8

77. A class has 24 students. If 3/8 wear glasses, how many wear glasses?

A. 6
B. 8

C. 12
D. 9

78. Which number is prime?

A. 21
B. 27
C. 29
D. 33

79. A recipe uses 2.5 cups of flour per batch. How many cups are needed for 3 batches?

A. 5.5
B. 7.5
C. 6.5
D. 8.5

80. A rectangle is 8 cm long and 5 cm wide. What is its area?

A. 40 square centimeters
B. 26 centimeters
C. 13 square centimeters
D. 80 square centimeters

81. What is the perimeter of a square with side length 7 meters?

A. 49 square meters
B. 14 meters
C. 28 meters
D. 21 meters

82. A number pattern begins 4, 9, 14, 19. What is the next number?

A. 23
B. 25
C. 28
D. 24

83. Which expression is equivalent to $6(x + 3)$?

A. $6x + 3$
B. $6x + 18$
C. $x + 18$
D. $18x$

84. A bag contains 3 red, 2 blue, and 5 green tiles. What is the probability of blue?

A. 1/2
B. 2/5
C. 1/5
D. 3/5

85. The data set is 4, 6, 6, 8, 11. What is the median?

A. 6
B. 7
C. 8
D. 11

86. What is the mean of 12, 15, 13, and 10?

A. 11.5
B. 13.5
C. 50
D. 12.5

87. A store marks a $60 backpack 25% off. What is the sale price?

A. $45
B. $15
C. $35
D. $75

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95. Which expression is equivalent to 6(x + 3)? This version asks you to apply the same idea in a new classroom context.

A. 6x + 3
B. x + 18
C. 6x + 18
D. 18x

96. A bag contains 3 red, 2 blue, and 5 green tiles. What is the probability of blue? This version asks you to apply the same idea in a new classroom context.

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114. Which structure controls most activities within a plant or animal cell?

A. the cell wall
B. the chloroplast
C. the nucleus
D. the vacuole

115. Plants use sunlight to make food through

A. respiration
B. erosion
C. photosynthesis
D. condensation

116. Which adaptation helps a cactus survive in a dry environment?

A. broad leaves that release more water
B. thin skin that absorbs all rainfall
C. feathers that trap warm air
D. a waxy coating that reduces water loss

117. In a food chain, organisms that make their own food are

A. consumers
B. producers
C. decomposers
D. predators

118. Which body system transports oxygen and nutrients through the body?

A. circulatory system
B. digestive system
C. skeletal system

D. integumentary system

119. Water vapor changes into liquid water during

A. evaporation
B. melting
C. sublimation
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120. Which force pulls objects toward Earth’s center?

A. gravity
B. magnetism
C. friction
D. electricity

121. Which material is the best conductor of electricity?

A. rubber band
B. copper wire
C. wooden stick
D. plastic cup

122. A student mixes sand and water. Which method best separates the sand?

A. freezing
B. magnetism
C. filtration
D. evaporation of the sand

123. The Moon appears to change shape because

A. we see different portions of its sunlit half
B. Earth’s shadow covers it each night
C. it makes changing amounts of light
D. clouds alter its surface

124. Which observation is evidence of a chemical change?

A. ice melts in a warm room
B. paper is cut into pieces
C. water freezes in a tray
D. a gas forms when substances are mixed

125. A fair test changes one variable at a time so investigators can

A. guarantee a hypothesis is true
B. avoid collecting measurements
C. identify the effect of that variable
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142. In visual art, the arrangement of elements within a work is called

A. tempo
B. texture
C. timbre
D. composition

143. In music, tempo refers to the

A. loudness of sound
B. speed of the beat
C. highness of pitch
D. pattern of instruments

144. Which activity best develops cardiovascular endurance?

A. brisk walking or jogging over time
B. holding a pencil correctly
C. stretching once before sitting
D. sorting foods by color

145. A balanced meal is most likely to include

A. only foods high in sugar
B. one type of vegetable
C. foods from several food groups
D. no protein or grains

146. In drama, facial expression and movement to show feelings develops

A. linear perspective
B. decimal fluency
C. map reading
D. nonverbal expression

147. Which practice supports safe physical activity?

A. Teaching proper warm-up and equipment use
B. Ignoring discomfort
C. Using equipment without directions

D. Skipping water breaks in heat

148. Colors opposite on the color wheel are

A. monochromatic
B. neutral
C. analogous
D. complementary

149. Patterns of long and short sounds create

A. melody
B. rhythm
C. harmony
D. form

150. Which is a healthful strategy for managing stress?

A. avoiding sleep to study
B. keeping worries secret
C. relaxing and talking with a trusted adult
D. replacing meals with sugary drinks

Practice Exam 10: Answer Key and Explanations

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142. D — D is correct because the question assesses a core arts, health, and fitness concept. The selected response accurately applies the relevant definition, relationship, or instructional principle. Each remaining option names a related idea but does not fit the evidence or task described. Strong elementary teaching connects this concept to clear examples, student reasoning, and accurate academic language.

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145. C — C is correct because the question assesses a core arts, health, and fitness concept. The selected response accurately applies the relevant definition, relationship, or instructional principle. Each remaining option names a related idea but does not fit the evidence or task described. Strong elementary teaching connects this concept to clear examples, student reasoning, and accurate academic language.

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