PRACTICE EXAM 9: 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. reading fluency
C. book handling
D. oral vocabulary

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

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

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. dialogue conventions
D. text features

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

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

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 always a single word.
B. A topic appears only in nonfiction.
C. A theme is a message about a topic.
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. a thesaurus
C. an encyclopedia
D. an index

13. Which sentence is written in active voice?

A. The proposal was approved by the committee.
B. The proposal had been being approved.
C. The committee approved the proposal.
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. Many schools have gardens.
B. Gardens contain plants and soil.
C. School gardens improve learning and health.
D. This essay is about gardens.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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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25. A reader uses headings, captions, and a labeled diagram to locate information. The reader is using This version asks you to apply the same idea in a new classroom context.

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

26. Which strategy best helps students monitor comprehension while reading? This version asks you to apply the same idea in a new classroom context.

A. Reading every passage aloud twice
B. Stopping to summarize after each section
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48. Which principle limits one branch of government by giving other branches specific powers?

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

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

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

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

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

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

54. Government authority derived from the people is called

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

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

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

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

A. announce separation from Great Britain
B. create the U.S. Constitution
C. end slavery nationwide
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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. a soldier's letter written during the war

D. an encyclopedia entry

58. A map scale is most useful for determining

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

59. Comparing accounts of an event to identify bias is

A. memorizing chronology
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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. 9
B. 6

C. 8
D. 12

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. 7.5
B. 5.5
C. 6.5
D. 8.5

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

A. 26 centimeters
B. 40 square 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. $6x + 18$
B. $6x + 3$
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. 7
B. 6
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. $15
B. $45
C. $35
D. $75

88. What is the value of 3/4 + 1/8? This version asks you to apply the same idea in a new classroom context.

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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

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

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

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. digestive system
B. skeletal system
C. integumentary system

D. circulatory system

119. Water vapor changes into liquid water during

A. condensation
B. evaporation
C. melting
D. sublimation

120. Which force pulls objects toward Earth’s center?

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

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. a gas forms when substances are mixed
C. paper is cut into pieces
D. water freezes in a tray

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

A. guarantee a hypothesis is true
B. avoid collecting measurements
C. choose the popular result
D. identify the effect of that variable

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142. In visual art, the arrangement of elements within a work is called

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

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

145. A balanced meal is most likely to include

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

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

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

147. Which practice supports safe physical activity?

A. Ignoring discomfort
B. Using equipment without directions
C. Skipping water breaks in heat

D. Teaching proper warm-up and equipment use

148. Colors opposite on the color wheel are

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

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 9: Answer Key and Explanations

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