



西大和学園高等学校  
Nishiyamato Gakuen

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

2018 SCHOOL YEAR

KANTO

## GRAMMAR AND READING SECTION

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Number: \_\_\_\_\_



## CONTENTS

This booklet contains the following sections:

Section 1	Error identification	15 Questions	40 minutes
Section 2	Choosing the appropriate words	15 Questions	
Section 3	Choosing the best response to the prompt	10 Questions	
Reading Comprehension	Reading A	5 Questions	
	Reading B	5 Questions	

If anything is missing, please inform the examiner *immediately*.

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## Section 1: Error identification

### INSTRUCTIONS

Find the mistakes in the following sentences.

If there is no mistake, choose option d) (no mistake).

Only ONE answer will be accepted.

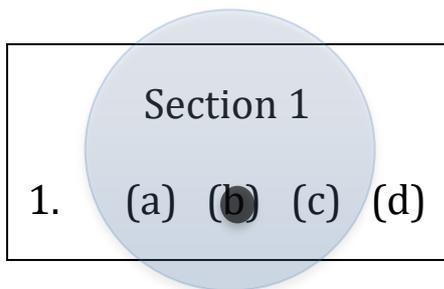
If two or more answers are chosen for a question, ZERO points will be given for that question.

e.g. 'Everyone knows that Osaka is more smaller than Tokyo.'

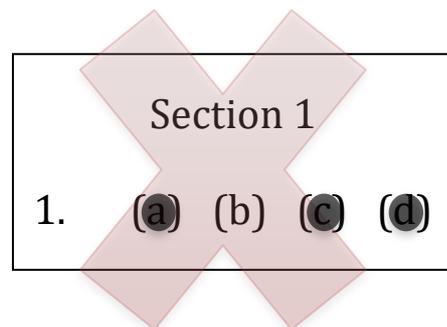
- a) Everyone knows
- b) more smaller
- c) than Tokyo
- d) no mistake

The answer is b (more smaller).

Mark your answer on the sheet provided as indicated below (on the left).



THE CORRECT WAY  
FULL points



THE INCORRECT WAY  
ZERO points

If you have a problem, please ask for help.

1) My sister married with an American man last summer.

- a) My sister
- b) with
- c) last summer
- d) no mistake

2) Everyone in my family like very much ice cream in the summer time.

- a) Everyone in
- b) like very much
- c) in the summer time
- d) no mistake

3) In the last two years, Mr. Smith had had three accidents.

- a) In
- b) last
- c) had had
- d) no mistake

4) To be honest, I'm not really sure what the answer to the question is.

- a) To be honest
- b) not really sure
- c) to the question is
- d) no mistake

5) The high school baseball team is going to have to play a lot better than they did today.

- a) going to have to
- b) a lot
- c) better than
- d) no mistake

## Section 1: Error identification

6) Why do you not wanting to go to Korea this year?

- a) not
- b) wanting to
- c) this year
- d) no mistake

7) The cat is trying to catch a bird, so its walking softly across the lawn.

- a) trying to
- b) its
- c) softly
- d) no mistake

8) We are really excited about the trip. It is the first time for us to go to abroad.

- a) We are really excited
- b) It is the first time
- c) go to abroad
- d) no mistake

9) We take a trip to the Snake River, where we rode in a whitewater kayak.

- a) take
- b) where
- c) rode
- d) no mistake

10) However I have been to Spain, I haven't ever been to Barcelona.

- a) However
- b) have been
- c) haven't ever been
- d) no mistake

11) It is generally considered impolite to blow your nose in public in Japan.

- a) It is generally considered
- b) blow your nose
- c) in public
- d) no mistake

12) However cold it getting in Tokyo in winter, it will never get as cold as in Iceland.

- a) However
- b) it getting
- c) will never
- d) no mistake

13) When the teacher called in sick, the students were happy to hear that the class was cancel.

- a) called in
- b) to hear
- c) was cancel
- d) no mistake

14) The best chance the team has for getting over their losing streak is to be practiced all weekend.

- a) best chance
- b) for getting
- c) to be practiced
- d) no mistake

15) Everyone considered the result preposterous since the winner clearly cheated in the final event.

- a) Everyone considered
- b) result preposterous since
- c) cheated in the final event
- d) no mistake

## Section 2: Choosing the appropriate words

### INSTRUCTIONS

Choose the appropriate word(s) to fill in the blanks in the following sentences.

Only ONE answer will be accepted.

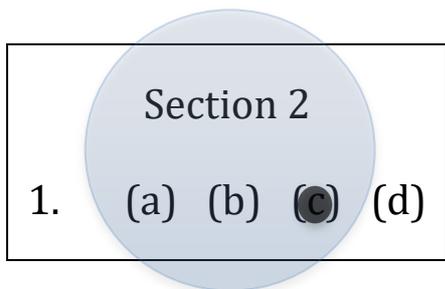
If two or more answers are chosen for a question, ZERO points will be given for that question.

e.g. 'Everyone knows that Osaka is \_\_\_\_\_ Tokyo.'

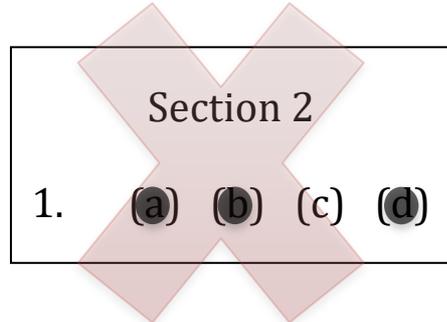
- a) not bigger as
- b) not same
- c) smaller than
- d) more small than

The answer is c (smaller than).

Mark your answer on the sheet provided as indicated below (on the left).



THE CORRECT WAY  
FULL points



THE INCORRECT WAY  
ZERO points

If you have a problem, please ask for help.

1) There are \_\_\_\_\_ ways to improve your English speaking ability.

- a) much
- b) many
- c) lots
- d) rather

2) Mr. Jackson took an umbrella with him, \_\_\_\_\_ it started to rain.

- a) although
- b) even though
- c) whether
- d) in case

3) The best BBQ restaurant is \_\_\_\_\_ a small town in North Carolina.

- a) served in
- b) cooked in
- c) serving at
- d) located in

4) Next September, Thomas is going to \_\_\_\_\_ and will visit many countries in Europe.

- a) travel overseas to
- b) traveling overseas
- c) travel overseas
- d) travel in overseas

5) Although the library \_\_\_\_\_ on Main Street, many people still look for it there.

- a) can no longer be found
- b) is no longer being
- c) can no longer go
- d) is thought to be not

## Section 2: Choosing the appropriate words

6) \_\_\_\_\_ he finished his dinner, Tom is still hungry.

- a) In case
- b) Because
- c) As long as
- d) Even though

7) The biggest elephant in the world \_\_\_\_\_ April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

- a) was lived in Kenya in
- b) was born in Kenya in
- c) was discovered in Kenya on
- d) was lived in Kenya on

8) The cake I had at the Sacher Hotel \_\_\_\_\_ cake I have ever eaten.

- a) was the most best
- b) was the most delicious
- c) was the tastiest ever
- d) was never the delicious

9) Neuschwanstein Castle in Bavaria \_\_\_\_\_ the most eccentric castle in the world.

- a) has been thought of
- b) is thought to ever be
- c) has never regarded as
- d) has long been considered

10) *Huckleberry Finn* \_\_\_\_\_ the author Mark Twain.

- a) is probably the most well-known novel by
- b) was a famous novel written
- c) is the famous novel about a boy written
- d) is the famousest novel by

11) The new signs have been made, but they won't \_\_\_\_\_ until next month.

- a) be elected
- b) be selected
- c) be erected
- d) be made

12) Jack \_\_\_\_\_, because his sister is traveling to the USA.

- a) was never interested in Utah
- b) is worried about the floods in Utah
- c) is not bothered by the weather in Utah
- d) is happy with his exam results

13) The Japanese government is concerned that their ambassador \_\_\_\_\_ Syria.

- a) is going to stay too long on
- b) will have to remain in the
- c) is not going to be able to visit the refugees in
- d) will not be able to stay

14) Prime Minister Abe has been the Prime Minister of Japan for a long time. He is the \_\_\_\_\_ Prime Minister since the Second World War.

- a) second-longest running
- b) third-longest serving
- c) most longest in office
- d) fourth-most lengthiest

15) The Nobel Prize is a set of annual international awards \_\_\_\_\_ cultural and scientific advances.

- a) bestowed in recognition of
- b) given in lieu of
- c) for people haven't
- d) voted on by a committee to

## Section 3: Choosing the best response to the prompt

### INSTRUCTIONS

Choose the best response to the prompt.

Only ONE answer will be accepted.

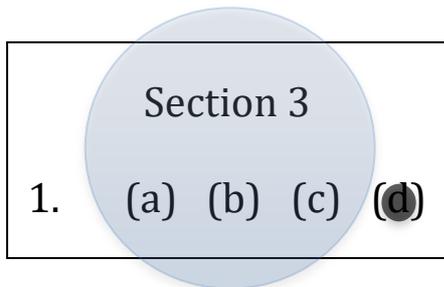
If two or more answers are chosen for a question, ZERO points will be given for that question.

e.g. 'Which city is bigger, Osaka or Tokyo?'

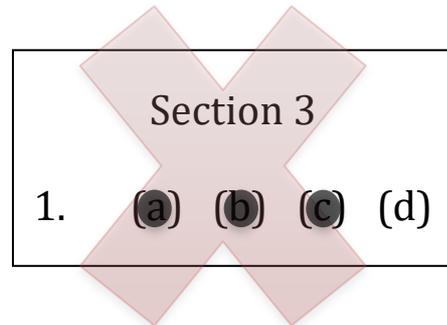
- a) Osaka is not as big as New York.
- b) The city is bigger.
- c) Osaka and Tokyo are bigger than Nagoya.
- d) Tokyo is bigger than Osaka.

The answer is d (Tokyo is bigger than Osaka).

Mark your answer on the sheet provided as indicated below (on the left).



THE CORRECT WAY  
FULL points



THE INCORRECT WAY  
ZERO points

If you have a problem, please ask for help.

1) Do you have any plans for the weekend?

- a) Yes, I have some weekends.
- b) Yes, not much.
- c) Yes, there will be plans.
- d) Yes, I will be busy.

2) Do you know what  $2+2$  is?

- a) It isn't 4, isn't it?
- b) It is 4, isn't it?
- c) Isn't it 4, is it?
- d) Is it 4, is it?

3) Our homeroom teacher said that we are supposed to go to class right after the bell rings.

- a) The teacher is supposed to ring the bell after we get to our homeroom.
- b) Our home has no room for the teacher to ring the bell.
- c) I think the bell rings right after we are supposed to go to class.
- d) We ought to get ready to leave now because the bell will ring soon.

4) When will Mr. Johnson retire from his job at the tire company?

- a) He'll get new tires February.
- b) He has already retired, but he can't stop working.
- c) The tires on Mr. Thompson's car will be replaced in February.
- d) Mr. Johnson has been tired for a long time.

5) I think that more money should be allocated to the study of 'hard sciences' over 'soft sciences'.

- a) Hard sciences, like physics, chemistry and biology, have more money.
- b) Science is a very hard subject.
- c) Examples of 'soft sciences' are studying things like sociology and psychology.
- d) Studying 'soft sciences' has merit, but 'hard sciences' often require a lot more money to study.

6) Nishiyamato Gakuen is a high school that has sent many students to Kyoto University.

- a) The students aren't eligible to enroll at Kyoto University after attending Nishiyamato Gakuen.
- b) Many Kyoto University students also go to Nishiyamato Gakuen at the same time.
- c) Kyoto University doesn't have many students who used to be students at Nishiyamato Gakuen.
- d) They send more students there than many other schools in Japan.

7) Food banks are places that distribute food for free to people who have none. The food can be donated by supermarkets, farmers or even individuals.

- a) It's a nice place where we can waste food.
- b) The issue is that the needy will have too much food.
- c) It's a way to avoid wasting excess food.
- d) We can buy some nice food there at good prices.

8) Women are still experiencing difficulties in the workplace, even though about 43% of full time workers are female. For example, they are often paid less than men for the same work.

- a) This means they have enough money to live.
- b) So, more than half of full-time workers earn less than the others.
- c) So this means a large part of the workforce gets underpaid just because of their gender.
- d) Men usually work harder, so it stands to reason that they earn more.

9) Walking while texting is becoming a big safety issue. A town in America has even banned it, with a fine of \$85 if you're caught by the police.

- a) It's just another way for governments to get money.
- b) People shouldn't have to take responsibility for themselves.
- c) Staying in touch constantly is a necessary way of life now.
- d) It's an unfortunate, but necessary, use of police officers' time to catch these people.

10) The rising age of the Japanese population will have serious implications for the Japanese economy. One area of concern is the future of the pension system in Japan.

- a) People fear that the pension system will go bankrupt because of the changes in age demographics.
- b) The Japanese economy will improve because so many experienced people will be in the workforce.
- c) The number of old people will decrease in the coming years so the pension system will be over-funded.
- d) The pension system won't have enough money because there will be too many young people.

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# Reading Comprehension

## INSTRUCTIONS

Read the passages carefully and answer the questions on the following page.

Only ONE answer will be accepted.

If two or more answers are chosen for a question, ZERO points will be given for that question.

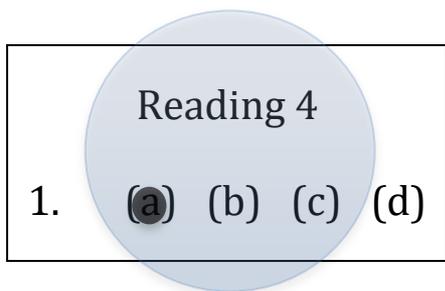
1 Osaka is a large city about 500 kilometers from Tokyo. It is bigger than other cities in the region but it still is much smaller than Tokyo.

e.g. 'Which sentence best summarizes the content of the passage?'

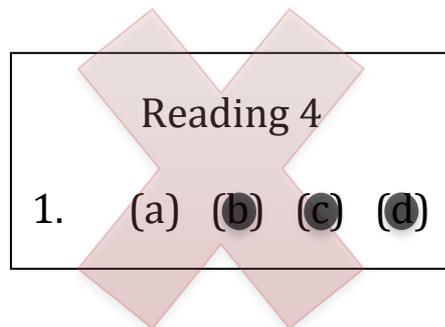
- a) Osaka is a large city in Japan, but it is smaller than Tokyo.
- b) Cities in Japan are large.
- c) Tokyo is a wonderful city.
- d) Osaka isn't particularly far from Tokyo.

The answer is a (Osaka is a large city in Japan, but it is smaller than Tokyo).

Mark your answer on the sheet provided as indicated below (on the left).



THE CORRECT WAY  
FULL points



THE INCORRECT WAY  
ZERO points

If you have a problem, please ask for help.

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## Reading A

### The Mona Lisa

*Each paragraph below is numbered for your convenience.*

1. The Mona Lisa, a famous portrait by the Italian Renaissance artist Leonardo Da Vinci, has been described as "the best known, the most visited, the most written about, the most sung about, [and] the most parodied work of art in the world." This 77x53 cm painting is thought to have been painted between 1503 and 1506, and it currently hangs in the Louvre museum in Paris, France.
2. The woman with the enigmatic smile is commonly thought to be Lisa Gherardini, the wife of a cloth merchant in Florence named Francesco del Giocondo, and so the painting is also known by an alternative title: La Gioconda. Very little detail is known about the history of this portrait, but some experts think it was commissioned to commemorate the birth of a second son to the Giocondo family. Also, it is not clear how the painting, which was created in Florence, finally ended up in France. Such questions enhance the sense of mystery that the sitter's subtle, knowing smile already generates.
3. In recent history, the Mona Lisa has not only been sought after by art aficionados wishing to admire its beauty and artistic refinement, but also by those who wish to do the painting harm. In 1911, for example, the painting was stolen from the Louvre Museum. It wasn't until two years later that the culprit - a Louvre employee and Italian patriot who believed the masterpiece ought to be displayed in Italy rather than France - was found. His name was Vincenzo Peruggia. Peruggia at first kept the painting in his apartment. He was caught when he tried to sell the work to the Uffizi gallery in Florence. Though he was imprisoned, many Italians thought his theft was an act of great patriotism. Interestingly, the theft of the Mona Lisa brought the painting's merits to the attention of the general public. Before that, it had generally only attracted the interest of art critics. The Mona Lisa has also been spray painted and had objects thrown at it, but on both occasions it was protected by a sheet of bulletproof glass.
4. Before being brought on an American tour in the 1960s, the Mona Lisa was valued at 100 million US dollars for insurance purposes. Insurance was not purchased at that time. Instead, extra attempts were made to enhance security. In today's money, that valuation would exceed 700 million US dollars. However, due to French heritage laws, the Mona Lisa cannot be sold because it is considered a public cultural treasure. Besides, putting a price on a work of art that has had such a profound impact on critics and museum-goers over the centuries would be difficult.

## Questions

1. Which sentence best summarizes the overall content of the passage?

- a) The Mona Lisa is not as amazing as everybody thinks it is.
- b) The Mona Lisa is a valuable and interesting piece of art.
- c) The Mona Lisa might be a fake.
- d) The Mona Lisa will be sold soon.

2. Which sentence from the first paragraph is true?

- a) The Mona Lisa used to hang at the Louvre Museum.
- b) The Mona Lisa is an extremely large painting.
- c) The Mona Lisa is a world famous work of art.
- d) Leonardo da Vinci once described the Mona Lisa.

3. According to the second paragraph, which sentence about the Mona Lisa is false?

- a) A great deal is known about the creation of the painting.
- b) The real Mona Lisa was probably the wife of a merchant.
- c) The painting was created in Florence.
- d) The Mona Lisa has a mysterious smile.

4. Which sentence best summarizes the third paragraph?

- a) French authorities should put the Mona Lisa behind bulletproof glass.
- b) Many European people dislike the Mona Lisa.
- c) The French government spends too much money protecting the Mona Lisa.
- d) The Mona Lisa has been in danger on several occasions.

5. Based on the fourth paragraph, which of the following is true?

- a) The painting might be sold at anytime.
- b) Museum authorities have an idea of the value of the Mona Lisa.
- c) The painting is heavily insured.
- d) The Mona Lisa generates a lot of profit for the museum.

# Reading B

## How to Build Your Vocabulary

*Each paragraph below is numbered for your convenience.*

1. There are more than one million words in the English language. For the student of English as a foreign language, that may sound like a daunting number. Fortunately, most native speakers only use about 20,000 words. In order to speak English fluently, students must learn the meanings of many different words. "Learning," however, involves much more than simply understanding the dictionary definition. Students must also know how to pronounce these words and use them in sentences. The following essay will explain 5 steps a student should take on the path to understanding new English vocabulary.

2. First of all, students should read the dictionary definition of a word. The Oxford English Dictionary is perhaps the most respected resource, but there are many other publications available. Knowing the dictionary definition, however, is not enough. For example, the dictionary definition of "meticulous" might be "careful," but you cannot say "people should be very meticulous when they are walking in unknown neighborhoods at night." This is incorrect usage.

3. Next, students should learn how to use a word in context and how to make connections. Words do not exist in isolation. Like a shark, which cannot be fully understood apart from its surroundings in the ocean, words cannot be fully understood unless they are read in sentences. This is how we understand a word's context. It is also important to make connections between new words and your life. If you learn the word "amazing," for example, think of an amazing place you have been to in your own life. Make a note of this beside the word in your vocabulary notebook.

4. Do you understand the word "etymology"? This means the history or explanation of a word's meaning. For example, the word "donnybrook" means "fight." This comes from the name of a town in the suburbs of Ireland, also named Donnybrook, where men would often get drunk after a town fair and get into fights. Learning Greek and Latin prefixes and suffixes also helps with our understanding. If we know that "arachno-" and "phobia" are Greek for "spider" and "fear" respectively, we can surmise that "arachnophobia" means "fear of spiders." Knowing a word's etymology is a powerful tool in vocabulary acquisition.

5. Finally, students of vocabulary should use a technique known as "syntactic chunking." Perhaps in school you were given long lists of random vocabulary and told to memorize them. Have you ever noticed how much easier it is to remember word meanings if they are grouped (or "chunked") according to their general meanings? These days, more and more English teachers recommend that students group new vocabulary into categories in their study notebooks.

6. If you use these five techniques - definition, context, connection, etymology, and chunking - you will surely find that the process of accumulating vocabulary is not as challenging as you might previously have thought.

## Questions

1. What is the general purpose of this essay?

- a) To describe how difficult learning vocabulary can be.
- b) To show how English vocabulary can be more easily acquired.
- c) To suggest new ways of learning English grammar.
- d) none of the above

2. According to the first paragraph, which of the following is true?

- a) The English language has around 20,000 words.
- b) Pronunciation is not important.
- c) Students find that studying vocabulary is easy.
- d) Learning a new word is not as simple as reading it in the dictionary.

3. According to the third paragraph, why are new words like sharks?

- a) They are sometimes scary.
- b) Their surrounding "environment" should be taken into account.
- c) They are fascinating objects of study.
- d) The third paragraph didn't make a connection between new words and sharks.

4. In paragraphs 4-5, which of the following is NOT mentioned?

- a) "Donnybrook" is a Latin word.
- b) "Chunking" involves sorting new words into groups.
- c) Some prefixes or suffixes may be Greek or Latin in origin.
- d) Etymology helps us to understand the meaning of a word.

5. What is the purpose of the final paragraph?

- a) To explain five ways of learning new vocabulary.
- b) To reassure the reader that studying vocabulary need not be difficult.
- c) To explain the need for hard work.
- d) none of the above

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