

**To the Student:**

After your registration is complete and your proctor has been approved, you may take the Credit by Examination for English 6B.

**WHAT TO BRING**

- Notebook paper

**ABOUT THE EXAM**

The examination is based on the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for this subject. The full list of TEKS is available online at the Texas Education Agency website, <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/>. The TEKS outline specific topics covered in the exam, as well as more general areas of knowledge and levels of critical thinking. Use the TEKS to focus your study in preparation for the exam.

Since questions are not taken from any one source, you can prepare by reviewing any of the state-adopted textbooks that are used at your school. The textbooks used with our English 6B course are *McGraw-Hill English*, by Sulzby, Klein, Teale, and Hoffman (McGraw-Hill, 1990), and *Spelling and Vocabulary*, by Templeton (Houghton Mifflin, 1998).

The CBE consists of 100 multiple-choice questions and a written composition from a prompt covering one of the following types of writing taught in English 6B: “how to,” compare/contrast, and narrative (story). The multiple-choice portion of the test will be worth 75% of your final grade. The other 25% will be the grade you receive from the holistically scored composition. The composition will be scored according to five categories: (1) how well the writer addressed the prompt, (2) elaboration, (3) organization, (4) control of language, and (5) grammar and mechanics (punctuation, capitalization, and sentence structure).

The practice exam on the following pages should give you some idea of the types of questions that you will see on the exam. An answer key is provided at the end of the practice exam.

For more information about CBE policies, visit <http://www.help.k12.ttu.edu/> or see your course Policies & Forms Guide.

Good luck on your examination!

## Practice Exam

Read the passage and decide which type of error, if any, appears in each underlined section. Circle the letter for your answer.

Steven was losing the chess game. He had tried every move he could think of but (1.)  
his defense was breaking down. If he didn't come up with a plan quickly, his opponent (1.)  
would defete him. Steven studied the board carefully to determine his next move, and (2.) (3.)  
then he saw an opening. "it's so obvious!" he said to himself. "Why didn't I see it (4.) (5.)  
before." Steven knew he had a good chance now. (5.)

1. A. spelling  
B. capitalization  
C. punctuation  
D. (no error)
2. A. spelling  
B. capitalization  
C. punctuation  
D. (no error)
3. A. spelling  
B. capitalization  
C. punctuation  
D. (no error)
4. A. spelling  
B. capitalization  
C. punctuation  
D. (no error)
5. A. spelling  
B. capitalization  
C. punctuation  
D. (no error)

**Identify the figure of speech in the following sentence. Circle the letter of the correct answer.**

6. The puppies were tangled up like a ball of tumbleweed.
- A. metaphor
  - B. personification
  - C. simile
  - D. alliteration
  - E. onomatopoeia

**Use the context clues in the sentence to decide the meaning suggested by the italicized word.**

7. Linda *hesitated*, waiting for the right moment to speak.
- A. breathed
  - B. trembled
  - C. paused
  - D. wrote

**Choose the correct pronoun to replace the italicized words.**

8. *The library and post office* were closed for the day.
- A. It
  - B. They
  - C. Them
  - D. Their

**Choose the sentence that has correct capitalization.**

9. A. Our science teacher, Mr. Williamson, formed a conservation Club at school.  
B. Our Science teacher, Mr. Williamson, formed a Conservation club at school.  
C. Our science teacher, Mr. Williamson, formed a conservation club at school.  
D. Our Science teacher, mr. Williamson, formed a conservation club at School.

**Choose the correct noun to complete the sentence.**

10. In the autumn, the \_\_\_\_\_ turn orange and gold.
- A. leafs
  - B. leafes
  - C. leave's
  - D. leaves

**Choose the item that is written correctly.**

- 11. A. Wed., Oct. 9, 2000
- B. Wed, Oct. 9, 2000
- C. Wed., Oct 9, 2000
- D. Wed, Oct 9, 2000

**Choose the correct possessive pronoun for the sentence.**

- 12. The Wright brothers made \_\_\_\_\_ first flight in 1903.
- A. theirs
- B. their
- C. there's
- D. its

**Circle the letter of the correct answer.**

- 13. Which of these would be a good topic for a research report?
  - A. why leaves change color in autumn
  - B. why autumn is my favorite season
  - C. how I preserved autumn leaves
  - D. how I earned money by raking leaves
- 14. In which part of a book should you look to find the name of the book?
  - A. index
  - B. title page
  - C. table of contents
  - D. introduction
- 15. Which reference should you use to find recent magazine articles on ancient Egypt?
  - A. almanac
  - B. encyclopedia
  - C. atlas
  - D. *Readers' Guide*

**Choose the correct way to write the bibliography entry for this book.**

16. A. "Pharaohs." World Book Encyclopedia, Vol. 19. 1988 ed. pp. 435- 439.  
B. "Pharaohs." *World Book Encyclopedia*, Vol. 19, 1988 ed., pp. 435- 439.  
C. *Pharaohs*. "World Book Encyclopedia," Vol. 19, 1988 ed., pp. 435- 439.  
D. Pharaohs. World Book Encyclopedia, Vol. 19, 1988 ed., pp. 435- 439.

**Read the question. Choose the letter of the correct adjective to complete the sentence.**

17. Her hair is even \_\_\_\_\_ than her mother's.
- A. black  
B. blackest  
C. blacker  
D. more black

**Choose the predicate adjective.**

18. Modern dance is an interesting art form.
- A. Modern  
B. interesting  
C. art  
D. (no predicate adjective)
19. "Everyone in the class is grateful to Mrs. Kaminsky for her help with the bake fair."  
Which noun is modified by the prepositional phrase *in the class*?
- A. Everyone  
B. grateful  
C. class  
D. help

**Choose the synonym of the italicized word that best completes the sentence.**

20. Here is a *picture* of my baby brother.
- A. vista  
B. panorama  
C. mural  
D. photograph

**Choose the word modified by the italicized adverb.**

21. The cup on the table is *extremely* full.
- A. The
  - B. cup
  - C. table
  - D. full

**Choose the word modified by the italicized adverb phrase**

22. In all that time, only three families lived *in the house*.
- A. time
  - B. three
  - C. families
  - D. lived

**Circle the letter of the correct answer.**

23. The *plot* is the \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. events that happen in the story
  - B. way the problem is solved
  - C. time and place of the events
  - D. difficulties the characters face

**Find the correctly spelled word to complete the phrase.**

24. young \_\_\_\_\_
- A. nese
  - B. nees
  - C. nece
  - D. niece

**Choose the correct spelling.**

25. A. criative
- B. createve
  - C. creativ
  - D. creative

**Essay:** You will choose one of several prompts (topics) to write a complete composition. The essay should include all of the critical attributes for that type of writing. Be prepared to fulfill the purpose, elaborate, develop your ideas in an organized way, vary your sentence pattern, choose vivid words, and apply the conventions of written language such as correct capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure, and penmanship. You should plan and organize your essay on a separate sheet of paper before you begin writing.

These are examples of the kinds of prompts you might see on the exam:

- A. Many people believe that families are watching too much TV. Other people say there are good points about watching TV. Think about the advantages and disadvantages of watching TV. Write an essay in which you explain both the advantages and the disadvantages of watching TV.
- B. Your next-door neighbor loses his cat. Write an essay in which you tell your neighbor what he can do first to find his cat. Then tell him other steps he can take to find his cat.
- C. As Jon hikes through the woods, he sees a dark cave ahead and decides to investigate. It is cool inside the cave, so he decides to sit on a rock and rest. When he sits down on the rock, it moves! Complete the story.

Write your essay on your own paper. Make the essay long enough to fulfill the basic requirements of a complete, well-written essay. Support each of your ideas and elaborate on all of the important details.

**Answers to practice questions:**

- |      |       |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. C | 8. B  | 14. B | 20. D |
| 2. A | 9. C  | 15. D | 21. D |
| 3. D | 10. D | 16. B | 22. D |
| 4. B | 11. A | 17. C | 23. A |
| 5. C | 12. B | 18. B | 24. D |
| 6. C | 13. A | 19. A | 25. D |
| 7. C |       |       |       |