

Ενδεικτικά Θέματα Εισαγωγικών Εξετάσεων για την Α' Λυκείου στο μάθημα ΑΓΓΛΙΚΑ

Part 1: READING COMPREHENSION

TASK 1: Read part of the article ***“There are 80 “youth prisons” in U.S. Here are 5 things to know about them”*** by ***Eli Hager*** and ***answer the multiple-choice questions that follow.***

Over the past 15 years, the number of incarcerated juveniles in the U.S. has plummeted from about 76,000 to fewer than 36,000. Youths who were once sent away to reformatories, training schools, and other large, prisonlike facilities are increasingly being offered alternatives closer to home, such as electronic monitoring, probation and counseling. Still, about 80 of those big, aging institutions remain open for business, according to a report released Thursday by Youth First, an organization that advocates less punitive treatment for juveniles. Youth First and other advocates want the facilities shut down entirely. But not everyone agrees that's realistic, or even desirable.

How is a “youth prison” different from other facilities?

Operated by states rather than counties, many of the institutions have more than 100 beds. They are typically prisonlike, with locked doors and razor wire fences, a remote, rural location, solitary confinement, inmates with sentences measured in years instead of months and staff whose job it is to provide security, not education or therapy. Often, the facilities are very old — the Youth First report includes dozens that have been in existence for more than a century. Juvenile detention centers and residential treatment programs, meanwhile, are smaller, county- or locally run facilities that hold minors for shorter periods of time, like adult jails.

Are some states already shutting them down?

States including California, Texas and Missouri, as well as New York City, have moved away from this type of prison, opting instead to place more youth in smaller, local facilities and programs. At least four other states (Virginia, Illinois, Connecticut and Wisconsin) are considering closing down their own largest institutions. According to the Sentencing Project, America's largest juvenile prisons (those with a capacity of more than 200) are decreasing in population faster than any other type of juvenile facility.

Multiple-Choice Questions

1. What is the primary focus of the article excerpt?

- A)** State governments plan to rebuild large youth prisons near major urban areas.
- B)** Declining juvenile detention rates have sparked debate over closing remaining facilities.
- C)** Local programs have completely failed to manage young offenders across the country.
- D)** Federal laws now require all youth prisons to become therapeutic vocational schools.

2. What is the main objective of the advocacy group Youth First?

- A)** To convert security staff into certified classroom teachers and guidance counselors.
- B)** To enforce stricter electronic monitoring rules for minor juvenile offenses.
- C)** To increase state funding for rural high-security solitary confinement units.
- D)** To promote non-punitive measures and fully close large youth institutions.

3. What does the text imply about staff priorities in traditional state youth prisons?

- A)** Staff prioritize security and custody rather than education or psychological support.
- B)** Staff focus mainly on preparing youth for immediate return to public schools.
- C)** Staff manage short-term stays using open campus rules without locked doors.
- D)** Staff operate under local county oversight rather than state government rules.

4. Based on recent trends, what can be concluded about juvenile facility populations?

- A)** County detention centers have experienced a far sharper decline than state prisons.
- B)** Overall juvenile detainee numbers have doubled over the past fifteen years.
- C)** Facilities housing over 200 youths are shrinking faster than smaller facilities.
- D)** Average sentences in state facilities have shortened from years to a few days.

5. How do state-operated youth prisons differ from local juvenile detention centers?

- A)** State prisons handle brief pretrial holds, whereas local centers manage long sentences.

- B)** State prisons are large, remote facilities for long stays, unlike smaller local centers.
- C)** State prisons rely on local funding, whereas county centers receive direct federal money.
- D)** State prisons house under 100 beds, whereas local centers hold thousands of inmates.

TASK 2: Read part of the short story *The Parsley Garden* by William Saroyan and answer the questions that follow.

ONE day in August Al Condraj was wandering through Woolworth's without a penny to spend when he saw a small hammer that was not a toy but a real hammer and he was possessed with a longing to have it. [...] Now, with the ten-cent hammer he believed he could make something out of box wood and the nails, although he had no idea what. Some sort of a table perhaps, or a small bench.

At any rate he took the hammer and slipped it into the pocket of his overalls, but just as he did so a man took him firmly by the arm without a word and pushed him to the back of the store into a small office. Another man, an older one, was seated behind a desk in the office, working with papers. The younger man, the one who had captured him, was excited and his forehead was covered with sweat.

"Well," he said, "here's one more of them."

The man behind the desk got to his feet and looked Al Condraj up and down.

"What's he swiped?"

"A hammer." The young man looked at Al with hatred. "Hand it over," he said.

The boy brought the hammer out of his pocket and handed it to the young man, who said, "I ought to hit you over the head with it, that's what I ought to do."

He turned to the older man, the boss, the manager of the store, and he said, "What do you want me to do with him?"

"Leave him with me," the older man said.

The younger man stepped out of the office, and the older man sat down and went back to work. Al Condraj stood in the office fifteen minutes before the older man looked at him again.

"Well," he said.

Al didn't know what to say. The man wasn't looking at him, he was looking at the door.

Finally Al said, "I didn't mean to steal it. I just need it and I haven't got any money."

"Just because you haven't got any money doesn't mean you've got a right to steal things," the man said. "Now, does it?"

"No, sir."

"Well, what am I going to do with you? Turn you over to the police?"

Al didn't say anything, but he certainly didn't want to be turned over to the police. He hated the man, but at the same time he realized somebody else could be a lot tougher than he was being.

"If I let you go, will you promise never to steal from this store again?"

"Yes; sir?"

"All right," the man said. "Go out this way and don't come back to this store until you've got some money to spend."

He opened a door to the hall that led to the alley, and Al Condraj hurried down the hall and out into the alley.

1. What is the setting of the short story? Explain why this setting is important in understanding Al Condraj's situation and motivation.
2. Identify TWO distinct actions or attitudes of the younger store clerk toward Al Condraj upon capturing him. Bring evidence from the text to support your answer.
3. Compare and contrast the reactions of the younger store clerk and the older manager toward Al Condraj.
4. Evaluate the store manager's decision to release Al Condraj with a warning rather than calling the police.

5. Writing Task: Draw Connections

Consider what might have happened to Al's self-respect, moral growth, and future if he had been turned over to the police and placed in a strict, high-security youth facility instead of being released into the alley. **Based on the story, the article and your own perspective, write a well-developed response to support your opinion.**

PART 2: GRAMMAR

Exercise A: Choose the correct answer: A, B, C, or D

1. By the time the guests arrived, we _____ dinner.
A. finished
B. have finished

C. had finished

D. were finishing

2. This time next week, I _____ my entrance exams.

A. will complete

B. will be completing

C. complete

D. will have completed

3. She _____ in Athens since she was six years old, and she is now 90.

A. lives

B. lived

C. has lived

D. had lived

4. While the teacher _____ the instructions, several students _____ notes.

A. explained/took

B. was explaining/were taking

C. has explained/have taken

D. had explained/had taken

5. I think artificial intelligence _____ education significantly in the future.

A. transforms

B. will transform

C. will have transformed

D. has transformed

6. The new sports center _____ next year.

A. completes

B. will complete

C. will be completed

D. is completed

7. Hundreds of books _____ to the school library last month.

A. donated

B. were donated

C. have been donated

D. had been donated

8. By the end of the project, all the reports _____.

A. will have been submitted

B. will submit

C. have been submitted

D. were submitted

9. _____ that the school will introduce a new digital learning program next year.

A. It is said

B. It says

C. It had been said

D. It was being said

10. The missing manuscript is believed _____ in a private collection for more than a century.

A. to keep

B. to have kept

C. to have been kept

D. being kept

11. If I _____ enough time yesterday, I would have helped you.

- A. have
- B. had had
- C. had
- D. would have

12. If students study consistently, they _____ better results. It's a matter of habit.

- A. achieve
- B. will achieve
- C. would achieve
- D. had achieved

13. If he _____ harder for the exams last week, he _____ so disappointed now.

- A. studied/wouldn't be feeling
- B. had studied/wouldn't have felt
- C. had studied/wouldn't be feeling
- D. studied/wouldn't have felt

14. Unless you _____ your application today, you may miss the deadline.

- A. submit
- B. don't submit
- C. will submit
- D. would submit

15. If she had listened to the instructions, she _____ the mistake.

- A. wouldn't make
- B. wouldn't have made
- C. hadn't made

D. wouldn't be making

16. "I am working on a new project," Helen said.

Helen said that she _____ on a new project.

A. is working

B. was working

C. had been working

D. works

17. The coach advised us against _____ up late before the tournament tomorrow.

A. stay

B. staying

C. to stay

D. having stayed

18. Despite being exhausted, Emma couldn't resist _____ one more chapter before going to bed.

A. reading

B. read

C. to read

D. having read

19. The witness claimed _____ the suspect earlier that evening but denied _____ him leave the building.

A. to have seen / seeing

B. having seen / to see

C. to see / having seen

D. seeing / to have seen

20. The manager warned the employees _____ confidential information and urged them _____ the new security procedures carefully.

- A. not to disclose / to follow
- B. not disclosing / following
- C. to not disclosing / to following
- D. not to disclose / following

Exercise B: Complete the text with ONE suitable word or the correct form of the word in brackets.

Last year, our school decided to organize a charity event to support a local children's center. Although the project seemed simple at first, it soon became clear that a great deal of work _____ (1) _____ (need) before the event could take place. By the time the planning committee held its first meeting, several important decisions _____ (2) _____ already _____ (make). The students suggested _____ (3) _____ (invite) local businesses to participate, and many agreed immediately. If the weather _____ (4) _____ (be) better on the day of the event, even more people would have attended. One volunteer later said that she _____ (5) _____ (never imagine) such a large turnout. During the event, hundreds of books and toys _____ (6) _____ (donate) by members of the community. The principal reminded everyone _____ (7) _____ respect the centre's rules and procedures. Had the organizers not worked so hard, the event _____ (8) _____ (not be) such a success. At the end of the day, the committee members looked forward to _____ (9) _____ (plan) similar projects in the future. In fact, by next summer, they hope _____ (10) _____ (raise) enough money to support several additional community initiatives.