

FREE PRACTICE PACK · EDITION 1

Class 10 English Olympiad practice

16 original questions + explained answers

For students preparing for SOF IEO.

Inside this pack

Eight topic-practice questions and an eight-question, 25-minute mini-mock.

Topics selected for practice

- Nuanced vocabulary
- Grammar and syntax
- Transformation and voice
- Idioms and collocations
- Reading

How to use it

Try the practice first. Complete the mini-mock in one sitting. Check the explanations, mark mistakes, and retry them the next day.

This pack covers selected topics. It is original BodhiScore material, independent of SOF, and is not an official paper or a full-length exam. Check the official syllabus for the complete scope.

Topic practice

Work through these eight questions without a timer. Explain your choice before checking the solutions.

1. Vocabulary

In 'The evidence is tenuous', tenuous means ____.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| A. Widely available | B. Completely irrelevant |
| C. Weak or poorly supported | D. Highly detailed |
-

2. Vocabulary

Choose the closest meaning of 'mitigate'.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| A. Delay without reason | B. Lessen the severity of |
| C. Make impossible to see | D. Prove beyond doubt |
-

3. Agreement

Neither the revised figures nor the explanation ____ sufficient on its own.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| A. are | B. were |
| C. have been | D. is |
-

Topic practice (continued)

4. Tenses

The researcher ____ the archive for months before finding the letter.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| A. has searched tomorrow | B. had been searching |
| C. will search | D. searches |
-

5. Conditionals

If the source ____ more carefully, the error would not have appeared in print.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| A. had been checked | B. was checked tomorrow |
| C. would check | D. has checking |
-

6. Prepositions

The conclusion is predicated ____ several unverified assumptions.

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| A. with | B. by |
| C. among | D. on |
-

7. Phrasal verbs

The spokesperson refused to 'back down' from the claim. This means the spokesperson refused to ____.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| A. speak more softly | B. add supporting details |
| C. delay the meeting | D. withdraw or yield |
-

Topic practice (continued)

8. Voice

Choose the passive form: 'They expect the new policy to reduce delays.'

- A.** The new policy is expected to reduce delays.
 - B.** They are expected by the new policy to reduce delays.
 - C.** Delays expect the new policy to reduce them.
 - D.** The new policy expects that they reduce delays.
-

Timed mini-mock

Set a 25-minute timer for these eight questions. Score 1 point per correct answer; there is no penalty for an incorrect answer. This is BodhiScore's practice scoring.

9. Reading

The review examined 18 studies, but only four met its criteria for comparison. The authors therefore describe the pattern as suggestive rather than conclusive.

How many studies were compared?

- A. Four
- B. Eighteen
- C. Fourteen
- D. Twenty-two

10. Reading

The review examined 18 studies, but only four met its criteria for comparison. The authors therefore describe the pattern as suggestive rather than conclusive.

Why do the authors avoid calling the pattern conclusive?

- A. The review did not examine any studies.
 - B. The authors did not have criteria.
 - C. Only four studies qualified for comparison.
 - D. All eighteen studies found opposite results.
-

Timed mini-mock (continued)

11. Reported speech

The editor asked, 'Why has the citation been removed?' Choose the correct report.

- A.** The editor asked why the citation had been removed.
 - B.** The editor asked why had the citation been removed.
 - C.** The editor asked why has the citation removed.
 - D.** The editor asked that why the citation was removed?
-

12. Parallelism

Choose the sentence with parallel structure.

- A.** The role requires records, answering queries, and to prepare summaries.
 - B.** The role requires checking records, queries are answered, and summaries.
 - C.** The role requires checking records, answering queries, and preparing summaries.
 - D.** The role requires checking records, to answer queries, and summaries.
-

Timed mini-mock (continued)

13. Punctuation

Choose the sentence with correct punctuation for a restrictive clause.

A. Students; who submit the form may attend.

C. Students, who submit the form, may attend.

B. Students who submit the form may attend.

D. Students who submit, the form may attend.

14. Word choice

Choose the correct word: The new rule may ____ how visitors enter the building.

A. affects to

C. effect

B. affect

D. effects

Timed mini-mock (continued)

15. Reading

The two groups were measured in different seasons and with different instruments. Although both showed improvement, the report says the results cannot establish which programme caused the change.

What limitation of the comparison is identified?

- A.** Neither group showed improvement.
 - B.** The instruments were never used.
 - C.** Both programmes were identical.
 - D.** Season and instrument differences prevent a clear causal comparison.
-

16. Functional English

You are challenging a claim in a discussion. Which phrasing is evidence-focused and courteous?

- A.** Only an uninformed person would say that.
 - B.** I will ignore the evidence and disagree.
 - C.** Could we examine the source for that figure before drawing a conclusion?
 - D.** That figure is obviously ridiculous.
-

Answers and explanations

Check why the answer works, then retry any question you missed.

1. C - Weak or poorly supported

Tenuous describes a connection or support that is weak.

2. B - Lessen the severity of

Mitigate means to make something less severe or harmful.

3. D - is

The nearer subject, explanation, is singular, so the verb is singular.

4. B - had been searching

Past perfect continuous describes an ongoing search before the later past discovery.

5. A - had been checked

The unreal past condition takes past perfect passive: had been checked.

6. D - on

Predicated on means based on or dependent on.

7. D - withdraw or yield

Back down means to withdraw a position or yield.

8. A - The new policy is expected to reduce delays.

The policy becomes the subject of the passive reporting construction.

Answers and explanations (continued)

9. A - Four

Only four studies met the criteria for comparison.

10. C - Only four studies qualified for comparison.

The limited number of comparable studies supports caution, not a firm conclusion.

11. A - The editor asked why the citation had been removed.

Reported questions use statement word order and the present perfect shifts to past perfect.

12. C - The role requires checking records, answering queries, and preparing summaries.

All three duties use parallel -ing forms.

13. B - Students who submit the form may attend.

The clause identifies which students may attend and is not set off by commas.

14. B - affect

Affect is the verb meaning to influence; effect is usually a noun.

15. D - Season and instrument differences prevent a clear causal comparison.

Different timing and instruments limit a direct comparison and causal claim.

16. C - Could we examine the source for that figure before drawing a conclusion?

This questions the support for the claim without attacking the speaker.

Keep practising

Topic scope checked against SOF syllabus: [SOF IEO Class 10 syllabus](#)