

Name: _____

ACT English Test Practice: Week 7

DIRECTIONS: In the following passage, certain words and phrases are underlined and numbered. In the right-hand column, you will find alternatives for the underlined part. In most cases, you are to choose the one that best expresses the idea, makes the statement appropriate for standard written English, or is worded most consistently with the style and tone of the passage as a whole. If you think the original version is best, choose "NO CHANGE." In some cases, you will find in the right-hand column a question about the underlined part. You are to choose the best answer to the question.

You will also find questions about a section of the passage, or about the passage as a whole. These questions do not refer to an underlined portion of the passage, but rather are identified by a number or numbers in a box.

For each question, choose the alternative you consider best and fill in the corresponding oval on your answer document. Read each passage through once before you begin to answer the questions that accompany it. For many of the questions, you must read several sentences beyond the question to determine the answer. Be sure that you have read far enough ahead each time you choose an alternative.

PASSAGE II

How Old Am I?

Many people might be surprised to learn that the American way of computing a person's age differs from the traditional Korean way. In Korean tradition, a person is considered to be already one year old at the time of his or her birth.

As a child growing up in two cultures, I found this contest a bit confusing. When I was in the fifth ¹⁶ grade, was I ten or eleven years old? To add to the confusion, every New Year's Day a person ¹⁷ according to this Korean counting system, becomes a year

16. F. NO CHANGE
G. change
H. dispute
J. difference
17. A. NO CHANGE
B. person,
C. person;
D. person who,

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older, regardless of his or her actual birthday.

Birthdays are important throughout the world. A person who is sixteen years old on his or her birthday in March would become seventeen years old on the following New Year's Day, even though he or she isn't expected to turn seventeen (in "American" years) until that next birthday in March. Perhaps the celebration of New Year's Day in Korean culture is heightened because it is thought of as

everyone's birthday party. 20

Today, after many birthdays and New Year's Days, I now find meaningful the difference I once found confusing. Otherwise, this difference points

to significant underlying cultural values. The practice of

advancing a person's age seems to me to reflect the value a

society places on life experience and longevity. Their idea

was demonstrated often when my elderly relatives, who took pride in reminding younger folk of their "Korean

age." With great enthusiasm, they added on a year every

- 18. F. NO CHANGE
- G. Most cultures celebrate birthdays.
- H. Birthdays focus attention on a culture's youth.
- J. DELETE the underlined portion.

- 19. A. NO CHANGE
- B. raised
- C. lifted
- D. lighted

- 20. Upon reviewing this paragraph, the writer considers deleting the preceding sentence. If the writer were to delete the sentence, the paragraph would primarily lose:
 - F. a comment on the added significance of the Korean New Year celebration.
 - G. a repetitive reminder of what happens every birthday.
 - H. a defense of the case for celebrating every birthday.
 - J. an illustration of the Korean counting system.

- 21. A. NO CHANGE
- B. Though,
- C. In fact,
- D. Then,

- 22. F. NO CHANGE
- G. on
- H. at
- J. DELETE the underlined portion.

- 23. A. NO CHANGE
- B. persons' age
- C. persons age
- D. person's age,

- 24. F. NO CHANGE
- G. One's
- H. Its
- J. This

- 25. A. NO CHANGE
- B. by
- C. while
- D. as if

- 26. Which choice would most clearly communicate the elderly relatives' positive attitude toward this practice?
 - F. NO CHANGE
 - G. Duplicating an accepted practice,
 - H. Living with two birthdays themselves,
 - J. Obliging;

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New Year's Day. By contrast American society has often
been described as one that values the vibrant energy of

youth over the wisdom and experience gained with age. 28
After a certain age, many Americans I know would

balk, refuse, and hesitate at the idea of adding a year or
two to what they regard as their actual age.

Even something as visibly simple or natural as
computing a person's age can prove to be not so clear-cut.
Traditions like celebrating birthdays reveal how deeply we
are affected by the culture we live in.

27. A. NO CHANGE
B. whose
C. this
D. whom

28. If the writer were to delete the phrases "the vibrant energy of" and "the wisdom and experience gained with" from the preceding sentence, the sentence would primarily lose:
F. its personal and reflective tone.
G. an element of humor.
H. details that illustrate the contrast.
J. the preference expressed by the writer.

29. A. NO CHANGE
B. balk and hesitate
C. refuse and balk
D. balk

30. F. NO CHANGE
G. apparently
H. entirely
J. fully

TLC Stamp

