



Read the text about English language.

English is a mystery to all of us. From its **bizarre** spelling rules to its free-for-all grammar, it's a daily **struggle** just trying to form sentences that make sense. No wonder people are turning to **emoji** to express their thoughts. Thanks to the rise of American power and influence, English has spread like wildfire across the globe through movies, music, and literature. That doesn't mean it's **any walk in the park**. Look at the following examples.

- English adjectives have to be in this order: opinion-size-age-shape-colour-origin-material-purpose noun. So you can have a lovely little old rectangular green French silver whittling knife. But if you mess with that order **in the slightest** you will sound like a maniac.
- If "womb" is pronounced like "woom" and "tomb" is pronounced like 'toom', shouldn't bomb be pronounced like "boom"?
- "I never said she stole my money." This sentence has 7 different meanings depending on the stressed word.
- Word "queue". Write 5 different letters. Pronounce like one.
- "Tear" and "tier" are pronounced the same but "tear" and "tear" [6] are pronounced differently.
- If GH can stand for P as in "hiccough", if OUGH can stand for O as in "dough", if PHTH can stand for T as in "phthisis", if EIGH can stand for A as in "neighbour", if TTE can stand for T as in "gazette", and if EAU can stand for O as in "plateau", then the correct way of to spell POTATO should be ... GHOUGHPTHTEIGHTTEEAU.

Adapted from 10+Hilarious Jokes Why the English Language Is the Worst, www.boredpanda.com

1 Choose the sentence which is true:

- A English doesn't seem to be difficult to learn in comparison with other languages.
- B English pronunciation is relatively easy.
- C Stress can change the meaning of the whole sentence.
- D The word that means standing in a line is hard to pronounce properly.
- E The author suggests people should learn foreign languages for fun.

2 Select the row that contains all equivalents of the highlighted words in task 1 text.

- A weird-basic-fight-picture-shortest-cry
- B weird-combat- put into emoticons-cakewalk-the least bit-rip
- C strange-strife-idealize-a piece of cake-not at all-row
- D ordinary-combat-idealize-shortest-cry
- E common-fight-idealize-a piece of cake-the least bit-stick

3 Which of the sentences would you choose for a hypothesis?

- A If he was a bird, he would be a vulture.
- B Unless we have time, we won't go birdwatching.
- C Shall we go birdwatching together?
- D So do I.
- E Nor do I.

4 Which of the sentences would you choose to confirm something?

- A Take it easy! Pull yourself together!
- B She's the greatest girl you've ever met.
- C You aren't French, are you?
- D Stop fidgeting!
- E Cheer up!

5 Which of the phrases would you choose to agree with somebody?

- A You're dead right.
- B I don't care.
- C I can't be bothered.
- D Opinions are divided.
- E I'm of a different opinion.

6 Choose suitable "false friend" words to complete the sentence.

Laura and Peter each other every day. Love is in the air.

- A complement
- B compliment
- C accomplishment
- D complete
- E comply

7 Fill in the gaps with the appropriate phrase.

Sorry for the mess. I'll collect all the and we'll be ready.

- A aches and pains B bits and bobs C cats and dogs D for and against E bright and early

8 Choose the expression which means the same as the collocations.

"to be on the same wavelength"

- A understand and agree with each other C to look identical E to fall out
B listen to the same radio station D to be passionate about

9 Choose the phrase which means the same as:

"look down on someone"

- A to look with contempt C to moan E to make up for someone
B to look with admiration D to come to terms with

10 Finish the collocation to make it mean the same as to try hard.

"to do one's ..."

- A heart B passion C best D overdue E go

11 Look at the list of expressions connected with MONEY. Which of them means not having it?

- A to live on a shoestring C to spill beans E to use a hole-in-the-wall
B to roll in money D to be well-off

12 Look at the list of ADJECTIVES. Which of them has a positive meaning?

- A underestimated B dull C mediocre D overrated E impressive

13 Look at the list of devices. Which of them might be used for HOUSEHOLD JOBS?

- A braces B harvester C breathalyzer D vacuum E peripherals

14 Which of the expressions are connected with TELEVISION?

- A tabloids and broadsheets C from cover to cover E to be in the spotlight to fall out
B page turner D hit the headlines

15 Which category do the words belong to?

SPRUCE-FIR-WILLOW-BIRCH-BEECH

- A coniferous B herbivores C deciduous D carnivores E trees

16 Choose the form of the given word to complete the quote by Woody Allen.

"I don't want to achieve (IMMORTAL) through my work. I want to achieve it through not dying."

- A immortality B immortalism C immortal D mort E maurice

17 Choose the correct verb form to complete the sentence.

He for two days before he decided to invite his girlfriend.

- A has been tidying up B had tidied up C had been tidying up D was tidying up E tidies up

18 Choose the a, b, c or d to complete the sentence.

Not only to report the accident, but also later denied that he had been driving a car.

- A he failed B he was failed C was he failed D shall he fail E did he fail

19 Complete the lyrics of Kanye West's song with a suitable phrasal verb that means to "disappoint."

- A put me down C bite me down E blow me down
B shoot me down D let me down

"When it comes to being true, at least true to me
One thing I've found, one thing I found
Oh no, you'll never"

20 Choose the a, b, c or d to complete the sentence.

The teacher is not at school today. I wonder what

- A may happen B may happened C might have happened D may not happened E may be have happened