



**UNICUS
OLYMPIADS**

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Sample Paper



Class 9

Unicus Global English Olympiad (UGEO)

Time: 60 minutes

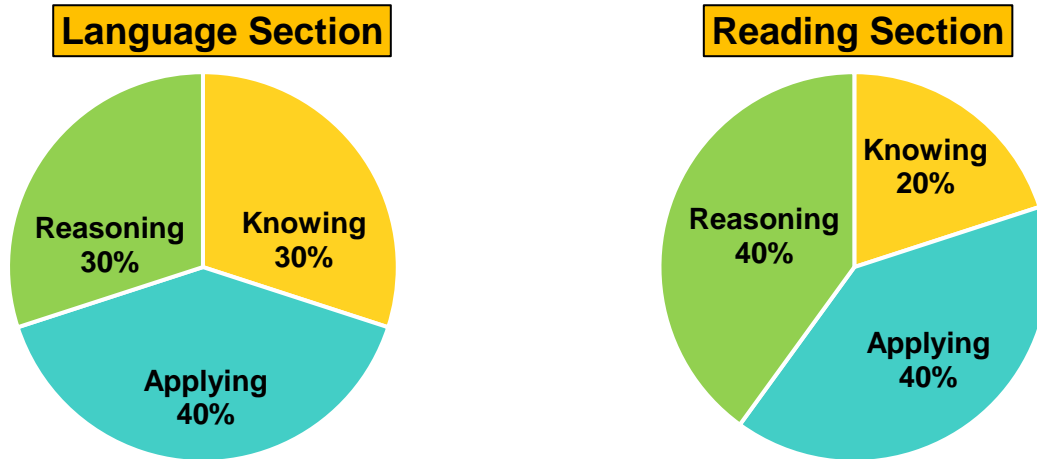
Pattern and Marking Scheme			
Section	Total Questions	Marks per Question	Total Marks
Classic Section	30	1	30
Scholar Section	15	2	30
Grand Total	45		60

Unicus Global English Olympiad (UGE0)

The **Unicus Global Olympiad** is organised around two dimensions:

1. Content dimension, specifying the subject matter domains to be assessed
2. Cognitive dimension, specifying the thinking processes to be assessed

Target percentages of the question paper devoted to cognitive domains



For more details, visit <https://www.unicusolympiads.com/ugeo>.

Language Section (Each Question is 1 Mark)

Cognitive Domain: Knowing

Content Domain: Nouns

1. Identify the complete noun phrase in the following sentence:

The committee's unanimous endorsement of the controversial policy surprised the public.

- a. The committee's unanimous endorsement
- b. of the controversial policy
- c. The committee's unanimous endorsement of the controversial policy
- d. surprised the public

Cognitive Domain: Knowing

Content Domain: Verbs

2. Which part of the sentence is the verb phrase?

The engineer had been designing an innovative solution before the project was cancelled.

- a. had been designing
- b. designing an innovative solution
- c. had designing
- d. been designing

Cognitive Domain: Knowing

Content Domain: Pronouns

3. Identify the relative pronoun in the following sentence:

The manuscript, which had been meticulously preserved, contained invaluable historical insights.

- a. which
- b. that
- c. it
- d. the

Cognitive Domain: Knowing

Content Domain: Adjectives

4. Choose the most appropriate order of adjectives to complete the sentence.

The collector displayed an ____ tapestry in the medieval exhibit.

- a. opulent embroidered Persian silk
- b. embroidered Persian opulent silk
- c. Persian opulent embroidered silk
- d. opulent Persian embroidered silk

Cognitive Domain: Knowing

Content Domain: Adverbs

5. Identify the sentence in which the bold word functions as an adjective rather than an adverb.
- a. The speaker delivered his speech in an **unusually** eloquent manner.
 - b. The novelist crafted an **intricate** narrative that captivated readers.
 - c. She performed **exceptionally** well in the final round of the debate.
 - d. His voice echoed **resonantly** through the grand hall.

Cognitive Domain: Knowing

Content Domain: Articles

6. Choose the sentence with the correct article usage.
- a. A ambitious entrepreneur must take calculated risks to succeed in volatile markets.
 - b. The orchestra performed in an historic concert hall known for its exquisite acoustics.
 - c. She was awarded a honorary degree for her groundbreaking research in astrophysics.
 - d. An enigmatic silence filled the room as the judge prepared to announce the verdict.

Cognitive Domain: Knowing

Content Domain: Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases

7. Select the correct prepositional phrase to complete the sentence.

The lost civilization remains a mystery _____, untouched by modern explorers.

- a. over the course of millennia
- b. before the discovery of the New World
- c. within the depths of an uncharted valley
- d. along the shifting sands of history

Cognitive Domain: Knowing

Content Domain: Tenses

8. Fill in the blank with the most appropriate verb form to complete each sentence correctly. Choose the best option from the given choices.

The scientist, along with her team, _____ groundbreaking research on climate adaptation for over a decade.

- a. conducts
- b. had been conducting
- c. has been conducting
- d. will be conducting

Cognitive Domain: Knowing

Content Domain: Conjunctions

9. Select the sentence that correctly uses a correlative conjunction.

- a. She visited the museum although she had little interest in art.
- b. Either you apologize now, or you lose your friend forever.
- c. He wanted to leave early, but he stayed till the end.
- d. The book was so interesting that I finished it in one sitting.

Cognitive Domain: Applying

Content Domain: Analogies

10. Complete the analogy with the most appropriate word:

harbinger : omen :: conundrum : ?

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| a. solution | b. riddle |
| c. consequence | d. conclusion |

Cognitive Domain: Applying

Content Domain: Active-passive Voice

11. Complete the dialogue by filling in the blanks with the most appropriate passive voice verbs.

A: The most advanced medical equipment _____ (deliver) to the research center yesterday.
 B: That's a relief! I hope the necessary safety protocols _____ (enforce) before clinical trials begin.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| a. was delivered, will enforce | b. have delivered, are enforcing |
| c. was delivered, will be enforced | d. delivered, is enforced |

Cognitive Domain: Applying

Content Domain: Subject-verb Agreement

12. Which option correctly maintains subject-verb agreement in the sentence below?

The rise in cybercrimes, along with increasing incidents of online fraud, ____ authorities to strengthen digital security measures, but neither strict laws nor enhanced surveillance ____ to fully eliminate the risks, which still ____ a major concern.

- | | |
|--|--|
| a. have compelled, is proving, remains | b. has compelled, are proving, remains |
| c. has compelled, is proving, remain | d. have compelled, are proving, remain |

Cognitive Domain: Applying

Content Domain: Direct-indirect Speech

13. The scientist explained that if researchers accelerated the experiment, the reaction would intensify unpredictably.

What did the scientist say?

- "If researchers accelerate the experiment, the reaction will intensify unpredictably."
- "If researchers had accelerated the experiment, the reaction would have intensified unpredictably."
- "If researchers accelerate the experiment, the reaction would intensify unpredictably."
- "If researchers accelerated the experiment, the reaction will intensify unpredictably."

Cognitive Domain: Applying

Content Domain: Idioms, Proverb and Phrasal verbs

14. Which proverb best describes Ava's growth?

After struggling through a tough time, Ava became stronger and more confident. Her grandfather smiled and said, "_____."

- a. A smooth sea never made a skilled sailor.
- b. The pen is mightier than the sword.
- c. Don't count your chickens before they hatch.
- d. The apple doesn't fall far from the tree.

Cognitive Domain: Applying

Content Domain: Concord

15. Identify the grammatically correct sentence:

- a. Neither of the accomplished scholars have submitted their final research papers.
- b. Neither of the accomplished scholars has submitted his final research paper.
- c. Neither of the accomplished scholars has submitted their final research papers.
- d. Neither of the accomplished scholars have submitted his final research paper.

Cognitive Domain: Applying

Content Domain: Omission, Editing

16. Identify the error in the sentence, write the correct word, and provide the word before and after it.

Had I knew about the meeting, I would have rescheduled my plans.

- a. Error: rescheduled | Correct word: rearranged | Words before and after: have, my
- b. Error: about | Correct word: of | Words before and after: knew, the
- c. Error: knew | Correct word: known | Words before and after: Had, about
- d. Error: plans | Correct word: schedule | Words before and after, my

Cognitive Domain: Applying

Content Domain: Modals

17. Which of the following sentences contains an incorrect use of a modal?

- a. She must have forgotten about the appointment.
 - b. They could not believe their luck when they won the lottery.
 - c. The manager insisted that we shall arrive early for the meeting.
 - d. You may sit wherever you find a vacant seat.
-

Cognitive Domain: Applying

Content Domain: Collocations

18. Identify the correct collocation:

Despite the unfavorable conditions, the scientists managed to _____ a breakthrough in their research.

- a. achieve
- b. do
- c. take
- d. reach

Cognitive Domain: Applying

Content Domain: One Word Substitution

19. Read the short incident carefully. Identify the word that best replaces the long description.

Rohit keeps interfering in everyone's personal matters. He asks unnecessary questions about people's lives and gives unwanted advice.

- a. meddler
- b. inquisitive
- c. nosy
- d. manipulative

Cognitive Domain: Applying

Content Domain: Jumbled Words

20. Arrange the following words into a meaningful sentence:

perilous / voyage / endured / the / relentless / sailors / a / across / waters

- a. The perilous voyage endured relentless sailors across waters.
- b. The relentless sailors endured a perilous voyage across waters.
- c. A perilous voyage endured across the relentless sailors' waters.
- d. Across the perilous waters, endured relentless sailors a voyage.

Cognitive Domain: Applying

Content Domain: Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases

21. Choose the best prepositional phrase to complete the sentence.

The philosopher's theories were often dismissed _____, despite their profound implications on modern thought.

- a. against the tide of progressive thinking
- b. beneath the weight of intellectual scrutiny
- c. within the rigid boundaries of conventional wisdom
- d. beyond the reach of contemporary understanding

Cognitive Domain: Reasoning

Content Domain: Punctuation

22. Which of the following sentences uses the correct punctuation?

- a. The storm raged on the entire night however, by morning, the sky was clear.
- b. The storm raged on, the entire night however by morning, the sky was clear.
- c. The storm raged on: the entire night however, by morning, the sky was clear.
- d. The storm raged on the entire night; however, by morning, the sky was clear.

Cognitive Domain: Reasoning

Content Domain: Run on Sentences and Conditionals

23. Which of the following sentences contains a comma splice?

- a. The lecture was fascinating, the audience remained engaged throughout.
- b. The journalist wrote an investigative piece it exposed corruption at high levels.
- c. The physician explained the diagnosis, and the patient asked clarifying questions.
- d. The entrepreneur launched a startup, which quickly gained traction in the market.

Cognitive Domain: Reasoning

Content Domain: Nouns

24. Which bold portion functions entirely as a noun phrase?

- a. **The realization** that he had lost the only existing copy of the manuscript filled him with regret.
- b. The scientist explained that the process of **nuclear fusion** generates immense energy.
- c. **Historians** believe that the artifacts unearthed at the site might rewrite history.
- d. **The unexpected cancellation of the much-anticipated event** disappointed many attendees.

Cognitive Domain: Reasoning

Content Domain: Verbs

25. Which of the following sentences correctly uses a verb phrase in the passive voice?

- a. The documents are being reviewed by the legal team.
- b. The committee discussed about the proposal.
- c. The musician must plays at the concert tonight.
- d. The artist creates beautifully on demand.

Cognitive Domain: Reasoning

Content Domain: Pronouns

26. In which sentence is the intensive pronoun used correctly?

- a. The report contained itself a plethora of discrepancies.
- b. He himself orchestrated the entire negotiation process.
- c. She returned the manuscript to the author hisself.
- d. The judges deliberated among themselves before reaching a verdict.

Cognitive Domain: Reasoning

Content Domain: Figures of Speech
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27. Which sentence is an example of a chiasmus?

- a. Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country.
 - b. The waves whispered secrets to the shore.
 - c. She ran swiftly, smoothly, and silently through the shadows.
 - d. Time is a thief that steals our moments of joy.
-

Cognitive Domain: Reasoning

Content Domain: Figures of Speech
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28. Which sentence demonstrates an example of anadiplosis?

- a. She was lost in thought. Thought led to worry, and worry led to fear.
 - b. The thunder growled angrily, shaking the night sky.
 - c. His love was as vast as the ocean, endless and deep.
 - d. The warrior fought bravely; his bravery knew no bounds.
-

Cognitive Domain: Reasoning

Content Domain: Subject-verb Agreement

29. Identify the sentence with impeccable subject-verb agreement:

- a. The confluence of economic instability and political unrest have exacerbated the crisis.
 - b. Each of the competing theories presents a distinct interpretation of the phenomenon.
 - c. The committee, despite their individual differences, disputes the validity of the report.
 - d. A series of breakthroughs in quantum mechanics have challenged conventional scientific paradigms.
-

Cognitive Domain: Reasoning

Content Domain: Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases

30. Which of the following sentences uses a correct prepositional phrase?

- a. The poet wrote his verses beneath a great admiration of nature.
 - b. The castle stood within the silence of the abandoned valley.
 - c. The scientist conducted the experiment beyond a careful precision.
 - d. The travellers arrived under the influence of an exhausted journey.
-

Reading Section (Each Question is 2 Marks)

Direction for questions (31-33): Read the editorial and answer the following question:

Dear Readers,

Animal abuse remains a distressing reality, fuelled by negligence and cruelty. From factory farming to illegal poaching, countless creatures endure unimaginable suffering at human hands. Stray animals face starvation and violence, while domestic pets are often abandoned or mistreated. Despite existing laws, enforcement remains weak, allowing perpetrators to escape accountability.

Beyond moral responsibility, animal mistreatment disrupts ecosystems and fosters a culture of insensitivity. Studies show a direct link between animal cruelty and violent human behaviour, making this a societal concern. Stricter penalties, robust enforcement, and widespread awareness are crucial in addressing this issue.

Compassion must go beyond words. Adopting stray animals, reporting abuse, and supporting ethical treatment practices can create a more humane world. True progress is not measured by our dominance over weaker beings but by the kindness we extend to them. Protecting animals is not just a duty—it is a reflection of our humanity.

Warm regards,
Edward Whitmore
(Editor)

Cognitive Domain: Knowing	Content Domain: Information Retrieval
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31. Identify the correct meaning of the word "perpetrators" in the context of the passage.

- | | |
|---|---|
| a. lawmakers who support animal rights | b. people who commit cruel acts against animals |
| c. volunteers working for animal shelters | d. stray animals that harm humans |

Cognitive Domain: Applying	Content Domain: Information Retrieval
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32. Which grammatical correction is needed in the sentence: "Studies show a direct link between animal cruelty and violent human behaviour, making this a societal concern."

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| a. Replace "violent" with "violently". | b. Change "making" to "which makes". |
| c. Replace "between" with "among". | d. No correction needed |

Cognitive Domain: Reasoning	Content Domain: Information Retrieval
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33. Which of the following words could best replace "fosters" in "The mistreatment of animals disrupts ecosystems and fosters a culture of insensitivity." without changing the meaning?

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| a. constrains | b. encourages |
| c. neglects | d. eliminates |

Direction for questions (34-36): Read the classified advertisement and answer the following question:

Prestigious Matrimonial Alliance

Esteemed and cultured family seeks a distinguished, accomplished, and graceful alliance for their exceptional daughter, 29, tall, refined, and intellectually astute, embodying a harmonious blend of sophistication and deep-rooted values. She holds an MBA from an eminent European institution and thrives as a strategic finance specialist at a prestigious multinational firm in Paris. Poised, eloquent, and well-travelled, she is fluent in multiple languages and cherishes art, literature, and global culture.

We welcome proposals from erudite, professionally eminent gentlemen from distinguished, progressive families, preferably settled in Europe or North America, who uphold intellectual parity, cultural refinement, and shared aspirations.

Genuine inquiries are invited. Contact: The Laurent Family, Paris, France
+33 1 23 45 67 89
laurentfamily@parismatch.com

Cognitive Domain: Reasoning

Content Domain: Information Retrieval

34. The phrase "harmonious blend of sophistication and deep-rooted values" best reflects which literary device?

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| a. antithesis | b. oxymoron |
| c. parallelism | d. metaphor |

Cognitive Domain: Applying

Content Domain: Information Retrieval

35. The phrase "intellectual parity, cultural refinement, and shared aspirations" is an example of:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| a. faulty comparison | b. tautology |
| c. parallel structure | d. ellipsis |

Cognitive Domain: Knowing

Content Domain: Information Retrieval

36. In the phrase "Genuine inquiries are invited," which grammatical structure is used?

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| a. active voice | b. passive voice |
| c. imperative sentence | d. subjunctive mood |

Direction for questions (37-39): Read the inspirational message and answer the following question:

My Dear Child,

I know this setback feels disheartening, but let me remind you—true greatness is not measured by an unbroken string of victories, but by the courage to rise after every fall. Some of the world's most extraordinary minds have stumbled before they triumphed. This moment does not diminish your worth; rather, it fortifies your resilience, deepens your wisdom, and strengthens your resolve. Failure is not a wall but a stepping stone, urging you to refine your approach, sharpen your skills, and emerge stronger. Do not let this fleeting disappointment eclipse the brilliance within you.

Summon your strength, recalibrate your course, and move forward with unshakable determination. The path to success is rarely smooth, but it is those who persist—who refuse to surrender to discouragement—who ultimately prevail. You are capable of far more than you realize, and this temporary defeat is merely a prelude to your future triumph. Trust in yourself, embrace the lessons this challenge offers, and press onward with unwavering confidence. Your moment of victory is on the horizon.

With steadfast belief in you,
Grandfather

Cognitive Domain: Applying

Content Domain: Information Retrieval

37. Identify the correct meaning of the phrase "merely a prelude to your future triumph."

- a. a small setback before greater success
- b. a complete failure with no hope
- c. a final attempt at success
- d. a warning to stop trying

Cognitive Domain: Reasoning

Content Domain: Information Retrieval

38. Which sentence contains an error in subject-verb agreement?

- a. The most brilliant minds have stumbled before they triumphed.
- b. Every challenge you face are shaping you into a wiser individual.
- c. Success is not about never failing; it is about rising each time you do.
- d. This moment does not diminish your worth; rather, it fortifies your resilience.

Cognitive Domain: Applying

Content Domain: Information Retrieval

39. Which part of speech is the word "unshakable" in the sentence: "Move forward with unshakable determination"?

- a. verb
- b. noun
- c. adjective
- d. adverb

Direction for questions (40-42): Read the given essay and answer the following question:

Online Shopping: A Paradigm Shift in Retail

Online shopping has revolutionized modern commerce, offering unparalleled convenience and an extensive selection of products at the consumer's fingertips. With just a few clicks, shoppers can explore a global marketplace, compare prices, and read insightful reviews, ensuring well-informed purchasing decisions. E-commerce platforms provide seamless payment options, from digital wallets to encrypted transactions, ensuring security and ease of use. The luxury of doorstep delivery, coupled with hassle-free return policies, has made online shopping an indispensable part of contemporary life, reshaping consumer behavior and redefining the traditional retail experience.

However, despite its myriad advantages, online shopping is not without its pitfalls. Cybersecurity threats, including data breaches and fraudulent merchants, pose significant risks to unsuspecting buyers. The inability to physically inspect products can lead to mismatched expectations, while delivery delays and concealed costs often cause frustration. Nevertheless, with continuous advancements in artificial intelligence, enhanced fraud prevention mechanisms, and improved logistics, online shopping continues to flourish, transforming the global retail landscape and shaping the future of commerce.

Cognitive Domain: Reasoning

Content Domain: Information Retrieval

40. Which of the following words from the essay serves as the best antonym for "stagnate"?

- a. thrive
- b. reinforce
- c. decline
- d. weaken

Cognitive Domain: Knowing

Content Domain: Information Retrieval

41. In the phrase "a double-edged sword" used in the essay, what does the figurative meaning imply?

- a. Technology itself is the biggest challenge for online shopping.
- b. Consumers must use swords to protect their data.
- c. The advantages of online shopping are greater than its disadvantages.
- d. Online shopping provides benefits but also has drawbacks.

Cognitive Domain: Applying

Content Domain: Information Retrieval

42. Which of the following best conveys the meaning of "astute" in the sentence: "Astute consumers compare prices before making a purchase"?

- a. careless
- b. shrewd
- c. indecisive
- d. gullible

Direction for questions (43-45): Read the given instruction manual and answer the following question:

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

Model Name: UltraFlow 5000 Version: 3.1 Manufacturer: MechTech Industries

We appreciate your selection of the UltraFlow 5000, an innovative, high-precision machine engineered for unparalleled efficiency, durability, and peak performance. To ensure seamless functionality, position the unit on a stable, well-ventilated surface, away from excessive heat, moisture, or volatile substances. Establish a secure connection to a consistent 240V power source using the certified cable provided. Prior to initial operation, meticulously inspect all components, including the advanced filtration system and ergonomic control panel, ensuring they are firmly affixed. Power on the machine by activating the master switch, then utilize the intuitive touchscreen interface to configure optimal settings. Upon completion of use, deactivate the unit and disconnect it to safeguard against electrical fluctuations. Maintain superior performance by cleansing surfaces with a microfiber cloth, avoiding corrosive agents, and routinely assessing for misalignments or wear. Lubricating critical components at prescribed intervals will enhance longevity and operational fluency.

Should the machine exhibit anomalies, verify power integrity and recalibrate settings. If irregularities persist, consult the troubleshooting guide or contact our dedicated support team at support@mechtech.com. For comprehensive resources, visit www.mechtech.com. This manual ensures an effortless and secure user experience.

Cognitive Domain: Applying

Content Domain: Information Retrieval

43. Identify the grammatically incorrect sentence:

- a. Ensuring the machine is calibrated properly reduces inefficiencies.
- b. The technician, along with the operators, were present for the demonstration.
- c. Noisy operations may indicate a need for recalibration.
- d. The manual is designed to provide comprehensive guidance.

Cognitive Domain: Reasoning

Content Domain: Information Retrieval

44. Which word best replaces "anomalies" in the sentence: "Should the machine exhibit anomalies, verify power integrity"?

- a. deviations
- b. imperfections
- c. malfunctions
- d. adjustments

Cognitive Domain: Reasoning

Content Domain: Information Retrieval

45. Which sentence contains a misused preposition?

- a. The machine must be positioned on a stable surface.
- b. He connected the cable into the power socket securely.
- c. Routine maintenance is required for longevity.
- d. The system was shut down after operation.

Answer Key

1.	c	2.	a	3.	a	4.	a	5.	b	6.	d	7.	c
8.	c	9.	b	10.	b	11.	c	12.	c	13.	a	14.	a
15.	b	16.	c	17.	c	18.	a	19.	c	20.	b	21.	c
22.	d	23.	a	24.	d	25.	a	26.	b	27.	a	28.	a
29.	b	30.	b	31.	b	32.	d	33.	b	34.	a	35.	c
36.	b	37.	a	38.	b	39.	c	40.	a	41.	d	42.	b
43.	b	44.	c	45.	b								