

CRE Use of English

Original printable practice - 8 questions

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Choose one answer (A-D) for each question. Try the questions before reading the separate answers.

Suggested practice time: 12 minutes. This short practice is not a full mock exam and cannot predict a CRE result or level.

Reading Comprehension

The staff library will close for a move from 12 to 18 October and reopen at its new location on 19 October. During the closure, the online catalogue will remain available, but physical books cannot be collected or returned. Loans normally due from 12 to 18 October have been extended to 26 October. Books can be returned to the new library from 19 October. Staff who need a book before the closure should collect it by 5 p.m. on 11 October.

1. Which service will remain available throughout the closure?

- A. Collecting reserved physical books
- B. Using the online catalogue
- C. Returning books at the old library
- D. Visiting the new library

Answer: _____

2. A staff member's loan was originally due on 17 October. What is the new due date?

- A. 11 October
- B. 18 October
- C. 19 October
- D. 26 October

Answer: _____

Paragraph Improvement

(1) The community centre will run an evening digital-skills course in November. (2) Participants will learn how to complete online forms safely and protect their personal data. (3) Each class is limited to twelve participants so that the trainer can offer individual help. (4) Applicants should submit the registration form by Friday, 23 October.

3. Which revision combines sentences (1) and (2) clearly without changing their meaning?

- A. The centre's November evening course will teach participants to complete online forms safely and protect their personal data.
- B. The centre will run a November course because every participant already knows how to protect personal data.
- C. The course will protect all personal data submitted to the centre in November.
- D. Participants must complete online forms before the centre can decide whether to offer a course.

Answer: _____

4. Which sentence would best fit between (3) and (4)?

- A. Several parks are located near the centre.
- B. The course covers the history of computers in the twentieth century.
- C. Places will be allocated in the order that completed applications are received.
- D. All participants will receive a new computer free of charge.

Answer: _____

Error Identification

Each option is a labelled part of the sentence. Select the part containing a grammatical error.

5. Neither the manager nor the assistants was available to answer the call.

- A. Neither
- B. the manager
- C. nor the assistants
- D. was available to answer the call

Answer: _____

6. The team has agreed to postpone the launch until next weeks.

- A. The team
- B. has agreed
- C. to postpone the launch
- D. until next weeks

Answer: _____

Sentence Completion

7. The instructions are clear enough for new users _____ the form without assistance.

- A. complete
- B. completing
- C. to complete
- D. completed

Answer: _____

8. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered, _____ how strong the candidates' qualifications are.

- A. apart from
- B. regardless of
- C. in spite
- D. according to

Answer: _____

Answers and explanations

Check only after attempting the questions.

1. B

The notice explicitly says that the online catalogue will remain available. Physical collection and return are suspended, and the new library opens on 19 October.

2. D

17 October falls within the 12-18 October period. Every loan due in that period is extended to 26 October; reopening on 19 October does not change the extended due date.

3. A

A preserves the time, format and two learning aims. B assumes existing skills, C makes a new promise about data protection, and D adds a condition absent from the draft.

4. C

C links the limited places in (3) to the application deadline in (4). The other choices introduce unrelated information or unsupported promises.

5. D

With 'neither ... nor', the verb here agrees with the nearer subject, 'the assistants'. Replace 'was' with 'were'.

6. D

The time expression is 'next week', with singular 'week'. Replace 'next weeks' with 'next week'.

7. C

The structure is 'adjective + enough + for someone + to-infinitive': clear enough for new users to complete the form.

8. B

'Regardless of how ...' means that the strength of the qualifications will not change the deadline rule. 'In spite' would require 'of', and the other phrases do not express the intended meaning.

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