

# Markhor Junior Contest 2024

## ASPIRANT LEVEL (Class IX, X & O/A Level's) ENGLISH LANGUAGE

**There are 25 questions, each question carry 2 marks.**

**Time allowed: 60 minutes**

**Maximum Marks: 50**

**Read the paragraph below and answer the following questions (1-5).**

Animal signals, such as the intricate vocalizations of avian species, often exact a toll. When a bird engages in song, it may relinquish precious time that could otherwise be allocated to essential activities such as foraging or rest. Furthermore, singing might inadvertently divulge an individual's presence to competitors or predators, potentially impeding their capacity to detect approaching threats. While discussions on the cost of singing predominantly revolve around energy expenditure, other considerations warrant attention. Notably, while Eberhard observed heightened energy utilization during singing bouts among Carolina wrens, Chappell's research revealed no discernible impact of crowing on energy consumption in roosters.

In pursuit of empirical evidence regarding the energetic expenses associated with singing, Thomas investigated the nexus between song frequency and nocturnal fluctuations in male nightingales' body mass. Avian species accrue energy reserves in subcutaneous fat deposits or "body reserves," with fluctuations in these reserves accurately reflected in alterations in body mass. If singing imposes substantial energy demands, nightingales should experience pronounced reductions in body

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mass on nights characterized by elevated song frequencies. Thomas discovered that nightingales attained notably higher body mass at dusk and experienced augmented mass loss overnight on occasions marked by heightened song frequencies.

These findings suggest that nocturnal singing may incur multiple costs vis-à-vis body reserves. The heightened metabolic outlay associated with maintaining an augmented body mass contributes to escalated overnight mass depletion. Moreover, judiciously managing evening body reserves likely entails supplementary costs, necessitating nightingales to devote additional time to foraging to replenish their reserves. The metabolic toll of singing itself may also contribute to heightened reserve depletion. This metabolic expenditure may stem from the musculoskeletal and neural activity intrinsic to singing or from ancillary behaviors. For instance, birds may expend a greater proportion of their reserves on thermoregulation if they spend the night exposed to the elements while perched atop a singing post, compared to seeking refuge in a sheltered roost site. Thus, Thomas's research indicates that while the act of singing per se may not invariably entail substantial metabolic costs, the metabolic outlays associated with singing can exert a palpable impact on a bird's diurnal energy budget, particularly in species with elevated song frequencies such as nightingales.

**1. What is the primary concern regarding animal signals, as highlighted in the passage?**

- a) The potential impact on other essential behaviors
- b) The risk of revealing an individual's location to rivals
- c) The metabolic costs associated with singing
- d) The variation in energy expenditure across different bird species

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**2. According to the passage, what is a significant challenge in discussions about the cost of singing?**

- a) Assessing the impact of singing on a bird's daily energy budget
- b) Determining the role of energy reserves in regulating singing behavior
- c) Balancing the advantages and disadvantages of singing for avian species
- d) Accounting for factors beyond energy expenditure, such as exposure to predators

**3. How did Thomas measure the energy costs of singing in nightingales?**

- a) By monitoring changes in their vocalizations during the day and night
- b) By analyzing the nutritional content of their food sources
- c) By examining the correlation between song frequency and changes in body mass
- d) By observing their behavior in different environmental conditions

**4. What did Thomas find regarding the relationship between song rate and overnight changes in body mass in nightingales?**

- a) Nightingales lost more body mass on nights with lower song rates.
- b) Nightingales exhibited higher body mass on nights with elevated song rates.
- c) Nightingales maintained a consistent body mass regardless of their song rate.
- d) Nightingales showed no significant changes in body mass related to their song rate.

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5. **Based on the passage, what are some potential reasons for the increased energy costs associated with singing at night?**
- a) Greater metabolic demands for thermoregulation and neural activity
  - b) Reduced foraging opportunities and increased exposure to predators
  - c) Enhanced muscle fatigue and heightened vocalization intensity
  - d) Limited access to energy reserves and variations in environmental conditions
6. **What is the correct unreal past tense form of the verb "to be" in the sentence: "If I \_\_\_\_ rich, I would travel the world."**
- a) Was
  - b) Were
  - c) Am
  - d) Be
7. **Which sentence uses the unreal past tense correctly?**
- a) If she had time, she would have gone to the party.
  - b) If I would have studied harder, I passed the exam.
  - c) If they were here, they will help us with the project.
  - d) If he was a doctor, he can treat his own illness.
8. **Choose the sentence that does not use the unreal past tense correctly:**
- a) If he were president, he would make significant changes.
  - b) If she had known, she would have helped you.
  - c) If they were taller, they could reach the top shelf.
  - d) If I won the lottery, I will buy a new car.

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- 9. Which option demonstrates the unreal past tense?**
- a) If she listens to her parents, she would have avoided trouble.
  - b) If I have known earlier, I could have helped.
  - c) If they had left earlier, they would have caught the train.
  - d) If he went to bed early, he will feel better tomorrow.
- 10. Choose the correct direct speech sentence, "He asked if she could help him with the assignment."**
- a) "Can you help me with the assignment?" he asked.
  - b) "Could you help me with the assignment?" he asked.
  - c) "Can you help me with the assignment?" he asks.
  - d) "Could you help me with the assignment?" he asks.
- 11. Choose the correct direct speech sentence, "They told me they would come later."**
- a) "We would come later," they told me.
  - b) "We will come later," they told me.
  - c) "We will come later," they tell me.
  - d) "We would come later," they tell me.
- 12. Choose the correct indirect Speech, "We will meet you at the restaurant," they said.**
- a) They say that they will meet us at the restaurant.
  - b) They said that they will meet us at the restaurant.
  - c) They say they will meet us at the restaurant.
  - d) They said they will meet us at the restaurant.
- 13. When he finally caught the bus, he realized he \_\_\_\_\_ for the bus for over an hour, and the sun \_\_\_\_\_ intensely.**
- a) Had been waiting / had been shining
  - b) Had waited / had shone
  - c) Waited / had shone

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- d) Had been waiting / had shone
- 14. When we finally arrived at the museum, the tour guide \_\_\_\_\_ the group through the exhibits, while many visitors \_\_\_\_\_ already \_\_\_\_\_.**
- a) Had been leading / have / left
  - b) had led / had / leave
  - c) was leading / had / left
  - d) Had been leading / had / left
- 15. When we arrived, they \_\_\_\_\_ dinner for an hour.**
- a) Had cooked
  - b) Had been cooking
  - c) Have cooked
  - d) Cooked
- 16. When I got home, she \_\_\_\_\_ the house for the party.**
- a) Had been decorating
  - b) Had decorated
  - c) Has been decorating
  - d) Was decorating
- 17. Before he left for his trip, he \_\_\_\_\_ his suitcase, and his friends \_\_\_\_\_ him goodbye.**
- a) Had been packing / had wished
  - b) Had packed / had wished
  - c) Packed / had wished
  - d) Had been packing / wished
- 18. By the time the movie ended, I \_\_\_\_\_ for three hours.**
- a) Have been watching
  - b) Had watched
  - c) Had been watching

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- d) Watched
- 19. Dominant interests often reap the greatest benefits from the \_\_\_\_\_ of governmental intervention in business, as they are capable of self-management when left alone.**
- a) intensification
  - b) authorization
  - c) centralization
  - d) elimination
- 20. A probe that is \_\_\_\_\_ might occasionally yield new facts, even significant ones, but usually, the emergence of such facts stems from a focused inquiry in a specific direction.**
- a) timely
  - b) unguided
  - c) consistent
  - d) uncomplicated
- 21. Similar to Bela Bartok, Ruth Crawford not only applied a composer's expertise to the transcription of folk music, but also exhibited a distinct \_\_\_\_\_ to the task. This was evident in her deliberation over the extent to which she should endeavor to capture the intricate nuances of a performance in written form, and this \_\_\_\_\_ renders her work a pivotal point in ethnomusicology.**
- a) reverence for/ iconoclasm
  - b) detachment from/ didacticism
  - c) reverence for/ fastidiousness
  - d) curiosity about/ iconoclasm

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22. Her \_\_\_\_\_ should not be confused with miserliness; as long as I have known her, she has always been willing to assist those who are in need.
- a) stinginess
  - b) diffidence
  - c) illiberality
  - d) thrift
23. The government's implementation of a new code of ethics seemed aimed at bolstering the ruling party's reputation with an increasingly \_\_\_\_\_ electorate amid allegations of exchanging favors for campaign funds.
- a) vociferous
  - b) placid
  - c) restive
  - d) skittish
24. Described as overlarge, uneven, and ultimately disappointing, the retrospective exhibition appears too much like special pleading for a forgotten painter of real but \_\_\_\_\_ talents.
- a) limited
  - b) partial
  - c) undiscovered
  - d) circumscribed
25. Newspapers report that the former executive has been attempting to maintain a low profile following his \_\_\_\_\_ departure from the company.
- a) celebrated
  - b) mysterious
  - c) long-awaited
  - d) indecorous