

Chinese
with Listening

SAT Subject Tests™

Answer Explanations to Practice Questions
from Getting Ready for the SAT Subject Tests

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with Listening**.

SAT® Subject Test in Chinese with Listening

In this document, you will find detailed answer explanations to all of the Chinese practice questions from *Getting Ready for the SAT Subject Tests*. By reviewing these answer explanations, you can familiarize yourself with the types of questions on the test and learn your strengths and weaknesses. The estimated difficulty level is based on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 the easiest and 5 the most difficult.

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1. Difficulty: 2

Choice (C) is correct. This question tests the ability to understand a brief exchange on a typical everyday topic: the weather. Of the three answer choices, the only appropriate response to the man's question, "What will the weather be like today?" is (C) "It could be quite cold." The other answer choices — (A) "I'm fine, thank you" and (B) "Not on Sunday" — do not respond to the man's question.

2. Difficulty: 2

Choice (A) is correct. This question tests the ability to recognize an appropriately polite reaction to the man's statement, "I'm about to graduate." The correct answer choice is (A) "Congratulations!" Neither of the other answer choices — (B) "[You're] too polite" or (C) "[It's] also good looking" — is an appropriate response.

3. Difficulty: 1

Choice (B) is correct. The man poses a question "Is this book expensive?" to which the woman replies "It's not expensive, but it's not cheap either," followed by three possibilities for the man's follow-up question. Of the three answer choices — (A) "How long?" [i.e., how much time?], (B) "How much money [does it cost]?", (C) "Is there a lot?" [or "Are there many?"] — all of which use the word *duo* to pose a question about number or quantity, only (B) is appropriate to the context.

4. Difficulty: 3

Choice (C) is correct. This brief conversation concerns different kinds of writing implements, each designated by a two-character expression where the second character is *bi*: *qianbi* (pencil), *gangbi* (pen) and *maobi* (Chinese calligraphy brush, which occurs in one of the incorrect answer choices). The woman asks, "Are we supposed to use pencil or pen today?" to which the man replies, "Pencil; did you bring one?" The correct answer choice is (C), "I brought both kinds of *bi*." Neither of the other answer choices — (A) "Pens are more expensive than pencils" or (B) "This calligraphy brush works very well" — is an appropriate response.

5. Difficulty: 3

Choice (D) is correct. This question tests comprehension of a brief dialogue about travel and summer plans. The four answer choices name four different locations, all of which are mentioned in the dialogue. The task is to understand which of these places is mentioned in the context that the question refers to: where the woman will spend the summer next year. In the last line of the dialogue, the woman states that she cannot travel next summer because she has to remain in the United States to go to summer school. So the correct answer choice is (D).

6. Difficulty: 4

Choice (B) is correct. The same line in the dialogue that provides the answer to the preceding question also contains information indicating that the correct answer choice for this question is (B), "Go to school."

7. Difficulty: 3

Choice (B) is correct. This question tests comprehension of an announcement by a tour guide to a group of tourists. The guide informs the tourists that they have just arrived at the Friendship Store and that in one hour they will be departing to go to an art museum. This information supports the inference that the next thing the tourists will most likely do is go shopping (B).

8. Difficulty: 1

Choice (D) is correct. This question tests the use of sentence-final particles. Of the four answer choices, only (D) "*ne*" following the second-person singular pronoun "*Ni*" conveys the intended meaning "How about you?" as a question appended to the preceding statement, "I really like this movie."

9. Difficulty: 2

Choice (B) is correct. This question tests the use of particles or suffixes attached to verbs. Here, the aspect suffix "*guo*" is used following a verb to indicate that an event has been (or in this case, has not been) experienced with respect to some reference time: "I have never (before now) eaten such delicious food."

10. Difficulty: 3

Choice (A) is correct. This question tests the use of paired connectives to link logically related clauses. In this case, the two clauses — “My brother is five years older than me” and “I am much taller than my brother” — are seemingly contradictory. Of the four answer choices, only (A) “Suiran ... keshi” (Although ... however) accurately expresses this relationship.

11. Difficulty: 4

Choice (D) is correct. This question tests word order: The same set of words is presented in four different sequences, one of which is idiomatically correct and logically completes the sentence, “Sunday I will be at home resting, _____.” In the correct answer choice, the question word “nar” (where) is used as an indefinite pronoun meaning “wherever” and combined with the adverb “dou” (all) into the expression “nar dou,” meaning “everywhere” or, in a negative construction (as in this instance), “anywhere.” Only (D) contains “nar dou” in the correct order and properly preceding the negated verb “bu qu” (not go), resulting in an idiomatic clause (“nar dou bu qu”) that logically completes the sentence with the meaning “I won’t go anywhere.”

12. Difficulty: 4

Choice (C) is correct. The note, a message from Chen to Wang, states that Li is asking Wang to teach his class, as indicated by the expression “*daike*” (to take over a class for an absent teacher). This information supports the inference that both Wang and Li are teachers.

13. Difficulty: 3

Choice (D) is correct. The note states that Li has just called to say that he is sick and won’t be able to come to class today.

14. Difficulty: 5

Choice (D) is correct. The passage is an advertisement by an airline, announcing that it plans to increase the number of its flights to cities in the United States to meet increased demand during the upcoming summer travel season. Therefore, the correct answer choice is additional flights (D).

15. Difficulty: 4

Choice (B) is correct. The advertisement states that from June 15 through August 20, the airline will offer an increased number of round-trip flights between New York and Hong Kong, five days a week. Therefore, the correct answer choice is June 15 (B).