

English I B

Semester 2 Exam Review

The semester one exam will test your abilities and skills that you have developed throughout the semester.

**DON'T BE SURPRISED TO FIND EXCERPTS FROM THINGS WE HAVE NOT READ IN THE COURSE!**

The exam is designed to test your ability to read and analyze unfamiliar text using the literary analysis skills you have been practicing for the past 83 days (give or take a few).

I will provide the excerpts for you to read before you take the test.

The exam begins with 3 multiple choice questions about proper sentence structure, with emphasis on **parallel structure, commas and semicolons**.

Question #4 is a multiple choice question about **diction**.

Question #5 is a multiple choice question using **context clues**.

Question #6 is a multiple choice question about **synonym**.

After question #6, you are given the following excerpt from a speech made by JFK in 1962. Please read it carefully (maybe more than once) BEFORE you see it on the exam.

Excerpt of **President John Kennedy's Rice Stadium Moon Speech** September 12, 1962:

*William Bradford, speaking in 1630 of the founding of the Plymouth Bay Colony, said that all great and honorable actions are accompanied with great difficulties, and both must be enterprised and overcome with answerable courage.*

*If this capsule history of our progress teaches us anything, it is that man, in his quest for knowledge and progress, is determined and cannot be deterred. The exploration of space will go ahead, whether we join in it or not, and it is one of the great adventures of all time, and no nation which expects to be the leader of other nations can expect to stay behind in the race for space.*

*Yet the vows of this Nation can only be fulfilled if we in this Nation are first, and, therefore, we intend to be first. In short, our leadership in science and in industry, our hopes for peace and security, our obligations to ourselves as well as others, all require us to make this effort, to solve these mysteries, to solve them for the good of all men, and to become the world's leading space-faring nation.*

*We set sail on this new sea because there is new knowledge to be gained, and new rights to be won, and they must be won and used for the progress of all people. For space science, like nuclear science and all technology, has no conscience of its own. Whether it will become a force for good or ill depends on man, and only if the United States occupies a position of pre-eminence can we help decide whether this new ocean will be a sea of peace or a new terrifying theater of war. I do not say that we should or will go unprotected against the hostile misuse of space any more than we go unprotected against the hostile use of land or sea, but I do say that space can be explored and mastered without feeding the fires of war, without repeating the mistakes that man has made in extending his writ around this globe of ours.*

*To be sure, all this costs us all a good deal of money. This year's space budget is three times what it was in January 1961, and it is greater than the space budget of the previous eight years combined. That budget now stands at \$5.4 billion a year—a staggering sum, though somewhat less than we pay for cigarettes and cigars every year. Space expenditures will soon rise some more, from 40 cents per person per week to more than 50 cents a week for every man, woman and child in the United States, for we have given this program a high national priority—even though I realize that this is in some measure an act of faith and vision, for we do not now know what benefits await us.*

*But if I were to say, my fellow citizens, that we shall send to the moon, 240,000 miles away from the control station in Houston, a giant rocket more than 300 feet tall, the length of this football field, made of new metal alloys, some of which have not yet been invented, capable of standing heat and stresses several times more than have ever been experienced, fitted together with a precision better than the finest watch, carrying all the equipment needed for propulsion, guidance, control, communications, food and survival, on an untried mission, to an unknown celestial body, and then return it safely to earth, re-entering the atmosphere at speeds of over 25,000 miles per hour, causing heat about half that of the temperature of the sun, then we must be bold.*

*However, I think we're going to do it, and I think that we must pay what needs to be paid. I don't think we ought to waste any money, but I think we ought to do the job. And this will be done in the decade of the sixties. It may be done while some of you are still here at school at this college and university. It will be done during the term of office of some of the people who sit here on this platform. But it will be done. And it will be done before the end of this decade.*

*Many years ago the great British explorer George Mallory, who was to die on Mount Everest, was asked why did he want to climb it. He said, "Because it is there."*

*Well, space is there, and we're going to climb it, and the moon and the planets are there, and new hopes for knowledge and peace are there. And, therefore, as we set sail we ask God's blessing on the most hazardous and dangerous and greatest adventure on which man has ever embarked.*

Questions #7-13 are all multiple choice questions that are based off of this excerpt and involve the following skills/knowledge:

**Synonym**

**Summarize**

**Paraphrase**

**Main idea**

**Supporting details**

**Author's point-of-view**

Question #14-15 are multiple choice questions about developing an **argument claim**.

Question #16 is an essay question:

Consider the following claim and counterclaim.

**Claim:** Students should spend a year doing volunteer service before starting college or a career.

**Counterclaim:** College and job training are expensive enough without adding a year of unpaid service.

Use the claim and counterclaim to create a thesis statement for a strong argument paper. *(4 points)*

Question #17 is a multiple choice question about **tone** of a sentence.

That's it!!

Good Luck!!