



# EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR THE ENGLISH SECTION

# **English Section Overview By**

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## The Basics

There are 28 questions and you have 28 minutes to complete this section. 🕙

There will be questions on Conventions of Standard English, Parts of Speech, Knowledge of Language, and Vocabulary Acquisition.

**TEAS Tip:** The English section has fewer questions, thus each question is "worth" more. Getting a handful of questions incorrect can really negatively impact your overall score.

## How To Study for the English Section of the TEAS

We get this question all of the time. You're not the first person to ask and you're not the first person to struggle with this section of the TEAS.

**Step 1:** If you're \*just starting\* or taking the TEAS for another attempt, the first thing to do is take a **free timed practice test.** 

By taking this **practice test.** you have access to a full-length timed TEAS English practice test which will then give you a breakdown of how you did on all the topics outlined in the table of contents below. You'll also get a "feel" for how quickly the time passes so you can be prepared for the actual test.



**Step 2:** Evaluate your diagnostic report from the English section of the practice test. Notate exactly what topics within English you did well on and the areas you need more practice on.

Adjectives and Adverbs	0%
Capitalization	0%
Conjunctions and Prepositions	0%
Context Clues and Multiple Meaning Words	40%
Formal and Informal Language	33.33%
Nouns	0%
Pronouns	0%
Punctuation	0%
Root Words Prefixes and Suffixes	20%
Spelling	100%
Subject and Verb Agreement	0%
Types of Clauses	33.33%
Types of Sentences	0%
Verbs and Verb Tenses	0%

## Step 3: Make a study schedule or a study plan.

Begin by making a list of subjects within the English section that you are scoring 70% or better, 40-69%, and 0-39%.

## **TEAS TIP**

Don't study topics that you scored high in. Start by studying the topics you scored the lowest in because you will have to revisit those topics several times and apply practice before seeing improvements in those categories.

Study the topics you scored low in and begin to plan when you will study these topics.

For example, for two weeks straight, you might dedicate 5 hours a week to reviewing two categories within the English section: verbs, verb tenses, adjectives, and adverbs.



Watch this video on how to make a TEAS study schedule with a free template here.

## Step 4: Get Good TEAS Resources Based On Your Learning Style

If you like to study within a group, you might like our <u>free group tutoring sessions</u> and <u>Facebook study group.</u>

If you like to study by listening or watching videos, you'll love the 100+ videos in our 50+ in-color lessons inside of our <u>TEAS Online Course.</u>

If you like to take practice tests and study from the answer explanations, you'll love our 1,300+ practice questions and 8 timed practice tests in the **TEAS Online Course**.

<u>Watch this video</u> that goes over the top 10 TEAS Resources including best practice tests, books/study guides, & more.

## Step 5: Retake a practice test.

At the end of those two weeks, you should be able to retake the practice test and see progression in 4 of the categories you've been studying.

We recommend taking a practice test every 10-14 days to track your improvement. Students say studying for 6-10 weeks gives them the ability to take 4-6 practice tests and plenty of time to tackle their weak areas within each section.

# Part 1: TEAS English Review

#### Conventions of Standard English Spelling, Capitalization, & Punctuation

#### 6 Important Things To Know for Spelling

- Vowels include the letters A, E, I, O, U and sometimes Y and have both short and long sounds.
- Consonants are the other twenty-one letters and have weak sounds. They are often doubled to make stronger sounds.
- Suffixes are word parts added to the root of a word and change the meaning and spelling.
- To make a word plural, add -es, -ies, -ves, or -s to the end of a word.
- Homophones are words that have the same sound, but not the same meaning or spelling.
- Homographs are words that have the same spelling, but not the same meaning or sound.

#### **Example Practice Test Questions for Spelling**



#### Which of the following spellings is correct?

O Prununciation	
O Pronuncietion	
O Pronunciation	
O Pronounciation	

#### 6 Things To Know For Questions On Capitalization

- Only capitalize directional words like north, south, east, and, west when they describe a definite region, people, and their political and cultural activities, or when it is part of the official name.
- Historical periods and events are capitalized to represent their importance and specificity.
- Every word except short prepositions, conjunctions, and articles in the names of national organizations are capitalized.
- The titles of publications follow the same rules as organizations.
- The names of individual people need to be capitalized.
- Professional titles are capitalized if they precede a name or are used as a direct address.

## **Example Practice Test Questions On Capitalization**

Which word(s) in the following sentence should be capitalized?

on wednesdays every other month, the exterminator comes to service the building.

- O on and wednesdays
- on, wednesdays, and month
- on, month, and exterminator
- O wednesdays, month, and exterminator

Choose the correct sentence.

- O The house of representatives has 435 members.
- O The House of representatives has 435 members.
- The House Of Representatives has 435 members.
- O The House of Representatives has 435 members.

#### The 9 Punctuation Marks To Know !?;

- **Periods (.)** signify the end of a sentence or are used in abbreviations.
- **Question Marks (?)** are also used at the end of a sentence and distinguish the sentence as a question.
- **Exclamation Points (!)** indicate strong feelings, shouting, or emphasis and are usually at the end of the sentence.
- **Commas (,)** are small breaks within a sentence that separate clauses, ideas, or words. They are used to set off introductory phrases, the words yes and no, question tags, indicate direct address, and separate items in a series.
- **Semicolons (;)** connect two similar sentences without a coordinating conjunction such as and or but.
- Colons (:) are used to introduce a list or emphasize a word or phrase.
- Apostrophes (') indicate possession or a contraction of two words.
- Hyphens (-) are used to create compound words.
- **Quotation Marks (")** are used when directly quoting someone else's words and to indicate the title of poems, chapters, and articles.

#### **Example Practice Test Questions On Punctuation**

Which of the following sentences is correct?

- Ashley cant ride a bike.
- Ashleys parents never taught her.
- Its an impossible task for her.
- Ashley's determined to learn.

#### Which of the following sentences is correct?

- O I asked Scott, How was your day?
- Scott said, it was awesome.
- O He claimed, "My history presentation was great!"
- O I said, That's wonderful!

# Part 2: TEAS English Review

Parts of Speech - Nouns, Pronouns, Adjectives, Adverbs, Conjunctions, Proposition, Verbs, & Verb Tenses.

#### **The Basics About Nouns**

- A noun is a person, place, thing, or idea.
- A noun's function in a sentence is as subject or object.
- Common nouns are general words, while proper nouns are specific names.
- Nouns can be concrete or abstract.

The chart below goes over the rule for making a singular noun plural:

Singular noun	Plural noun	Rule for making plural
star	stars	for most words, add -s
box	boxes	for words that end in - <i>j</i> , - <i>s</i> , - <i>x</i> , - <i>z</i> , - <i>ch</i> or - <i>sh</i> , add - <i>es</i>
baby	babies	for words that end in $-y$ , change $-y$ to $-i$ and add $-es$
woman	women	irregular
foot	feet	irregular

The chart below provides examples of common and proper nouns:

Common noun	Proper noun
ocean	Baltic Sea
dentist	Dr. Marx
company	Honda
park	Yosemite National Park

## **Example Practice Test Questions On Capitalization**

Which of the following words is an abstract noun?

○ Ca	r		
о Те	nt		
○ Ru	ler		
O He	alth		

#### How many nouns in the following sentence have incorrect capitalization?

The Patel Family moved to the United States, and now they live in the Boston Area.

0 0	
01	
0 2	
03	

#### **Must Know About Pronouns**

- A pronoun takes the place of or refers to a noun.
- The role of pronouns in sentences is as subject, object, or possessive.
- A pronoun must agree in number and gender with the noun it refers to.
- A pronoun in a sentence refers to a specific noun, and this noun called the antecedent.

Below is a chart with examples of various subject, object, and possessive pronouns:

Subject Pronouns	Object Pronouns	Possessive Pronouns
1	me	my, mine
you	you	your, yours
he	him	his
she	her	her, hers
it	it	its
we	us	ours
they	them	their, theirs

## **Example Practice Test Questions On Pronouns**

Which word is a subject pronoun?

O He				
O Us				
O Him				
O Our				
What is the role of the	pronoun she in a	a sentence?		

# Object Subject Possessive Any of these

#### **Know This About Adjectives and Adverbs**

- An adjective describes, modifies, or tells us more about a noun or a pronoun.
- An adverb describes, modifies, or tells us more about a verb, an adjective, or another adverb.

Not sure whether a word is an adjective or an adverb? Look at these examples.

	Adjective	Adverb	Explanation
fast	You're a fast driver.	You drove fast.	The adjective <i>fast</i> describes <i>driver</i> (noun); the adverb <i>fast</i> describes <i>drove</i> (verb).
early	l don't like <i>early</i> mornings!	Try to arrive <i>early</i> .	The adjective <i>early</i> describes <i>mornings</i> (noun) the adverb <i>early</i> describes <i>arrive</i> (verb).
good/well	They did good work together.	They worked <i>well</i> together.	The adjective good describes work (noun); the adverb well describes worked (verb).
bad/badly	The dog is <i>bad</i> .	The dog behaves <i>badly</i> .	The adjective <i>bad</i> describes <i>dog</i> (noun); the adverb <i>badly</i> describes <i>behaves</i> (verb).

## **Example Practice Test Questions On Adjectives and Adverbs**

#### Which word in the following sentence is an adjective?

After they signed the mortgage on their first house, they went out to celebrate.

O the	, ,
⊖ sig	ed
○ mo	tgage
<ul> <li>first</li> </ul>	

Select the part of speech of the underlined words in the following sentence.

Thousands of young people showed up to meet the teen idol.

O Adverb	
O Adjective	
O Noun	
O Pronoun	

#### **Remember This About Conjunctions and Prepositions**

- A conjunction connects words, phrases, or clauses. And, so, and or are conjunctions.
- A preposition shows the relationship between two nearby words. To, for, and with are prepositions.
- A prepositional phrase includes a preposition plus the object of the preposition.

#### See the chart below for examples of conjunctions:

Example	Conjunction	What it is connecting
Verdi, Mozart, and Wagner are famous opera composers.	and	three nouns
Would you like angel food cake, chocolate lava cake, <b>or</b> banana cream pie for dessert?	or	three noun phrases
I took the bus to work, but I walked home.	but	two independent clauses
It was noisy at home, <b>so</b> we went to the library.	so	two independent clauses
They have to clean the house <b>before</b> the realtor shows it.	before	a main clause and a dependent clause
Use either hers or mine.	either/or	two pronouns

See the chart below for examples of prepositions:

Example	Preposition	What it tells us
The desk is in the classroom.	in	location
We'll meet you at 6:00.	at	time
We'll meet you at the museum.	at	place
The book is on top of the desk.	on top of	location

## **Example Practice Test Questions On Conjunctions and Prepositions**

Fill in the blank with the correct coordinating conjunction.

My daughter is in the school play, \_\_\_\_ I want to go to every performance.



Identify the prepositional phrase in the following sentence.

The show got great reviews, so we plan to see it on Saturday.

C	got great reviews
С	so we plan
C	see it
С	on Saturday

#### What part of speech are the underlined words in the following sentence?

Twelve students passed the exam, but seven did not, so the teacher is letting them retake it.

<ul> <li>Adjective</li> </ul>	
O Preposition	
<ul> <li>Conjunction</li> </ul>	
O Adverb	

#### What To Know About Verbs and Verb Tenses

- A verb describes an action or state of being.
- Each verb has three primary forms: base form, past form, and participle form.
- Verbs have different tenses, which are used to show time.
- Helping verbs are used in questions, negative sentences, and to form progressive and perfect tenses.

Examples of verbs in their various forms:

Past Form ended jumped	Participle Form ended jumped
jumped	iumped
	Jampoo
explained	explained
ate	eaten
took	taken
	ate took

## **Example Practice Test Questions On Verbs and Verb Tenses**

#### How many verbs are in the following sentence?

#### Emile and Olga traveled up the coast from San Diego to San Francisco.

0 0			
0 1			
03			

#### Which exclamation contains a verb?

O Oh no!			
O Not me!			
O So true!			
O That is great!			

# Part 3: TEAS English Review

#### Knowledge of Language - Subject/Verb Agreement, Types of Sentences, Types of Clauses, & Formal/Informal Language.

#### What's Important To Know About Subject and Verb Agreement

- Every sentence has a subject and a verb.
- The predicate is the part of the sentence that contains the verb.
- The subject and verb must agree in number and person.
- The third person singular subject takes a different verb form

Subject-verb agreement can be tricky. Be careful of these situations:

- Sentences with more than one subject: If two subjects are connected by and, the subject is plural. When two singular subjects are connected by *neither/nor*, the subject is singular.
   Sandra and Luiz shop. (plural)
   Neither Sandra nor Luiz has money. (singular)
- Collective nouns: Sometimes a noun stands for a group of people or things. If the subject is one group, it is considered singular.
   Those students are still on chapter three. (plural)
   That class is still on chapter three. (singular)
- There is and there are: With pronouns such as there, what, and where, the verb agrees with the noun or pronoun that follows it.
   There's a rabbit! (singular)
   Where are my shoes? (plural)
- Indefinite pronouns: Subjects such as everybody, someone, and nobody are singular. Subjects such as all, none, and any can be either singular or plural. *Everyone* in the band <u>plays</u> well. (singular) *All* of the students <u>are</u> there. (plural)

#### **Example Practice Test Questions On Subject Verb Agreement**

Select the correct verbs to complete the following sentence.

We \_\_\_\_ she will fall in love with the puppy the first time she \_\_\_ him.

○ know, see	
o know, sees	
O knows, see	
O knows, sees	

Select the correct verb to complete the following sentence.

The news I got \_\_\_\_ not the news I was expecting.

○ are	
○ was	
O were	
O being	

#### **Don't Forget The Types of Sentences**

- A simple sentence consists of a clause, which has a single subject and a predicate.
- A compound sentence is made up of two independent clauses connected by a coordinating conjunction.
- A complex sentence is made up of a subordinating conjunction, an independent clause and one or more dependent clauses connected to it.
- Parallel structure is the repetition of a grammatical form within a sentence to make the sentence sound more harmonious.

#### **Example Practice Test Questions On Types of Sentences**

Which of the following is an example of a simple sentence?

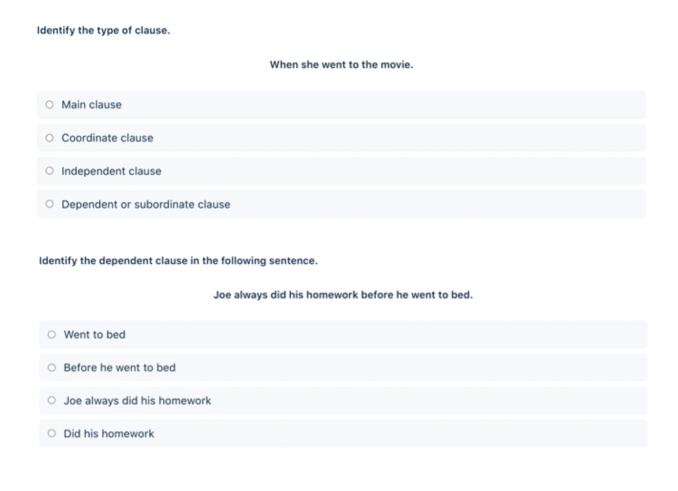
- Tamara's sporting goods store.
- $\, \odot \,$  Tamara has a sporting good store in town.
- Tamara has a sporting goods store it is in town.
- O Tamara's sporting goods store is in town, and she is the owner.

- O Monte cannot run in the race tomorrow, he injured his ankle.
- Monte injured his ankle and cannot run in the race tomorrow.
- O Monte injured his ankle, so he cannot run in the race tomorrow.
- Monte cannot run in the race tomorrow since he injured his ankle.

#### Also Know The Types of Clauses

- An independent clause is a simple sentence that has a noun, a verb, and a complete thought. Two independent clauses can be connected by a semicolon.
- A dependent or subordinate clause depends on the main clause to complete a thought. A dependent or subordinate clause can go before or after the independent clause and there are indicator words that signify the beginning of the dependent or subordinate clause.
- A coordinate clause connects two verbs, nouns, adjectives, phrases, or independent clauses using a coordinating conjunction (and, but, for, nor, or, so, yet).

#### **Example Practice Test Questions On Types of Clauses**



#### Know The Difference Between Formal and Informal Language

- Formal language is used in professional and academic writing and talks. It does not have contractions, uses complete sentences, uses polite and formal vocabulary, not slang, and is not personal and does not use the pronouns "I" and "We" as the subject of a sentence.
- Informal language is used in daily life when communicating with friends and family through conversations, text messages, emails, letters, and postcards. It uses contractions, can be sentence fragments, uses less formal vocabulary and slang, and is personal and uses pronouns such as "I" and "We" as the subject of a sentence.

Formal language does not use contractions.

• Example: He's been offered a new job ➡ He has been offered a new job.

Formal language also uses complete sentences.

• Example: So much to tell you  $\Rightarrow$  I have so much to tell you.

Formal language includes more formal and polite vocabulary.

• Example: The class starts at two ➡ The class commences at two.

Formal language is not personal and normally does not use the pronouns "I" and "We" as the subject of a sentence.

• Example: I argue that the sky is blue ➡ This essay argues that the sky is blue.

## Example Practice Test Questions On Formal and Informal Language

Which of the following sentences uses the MOST formal language?

- O Congrats!
- O Congratulations!
- Congratulations on your recent success.
- O Congrats to you.

#### Which of the following sentences uses the MOST informal language?

- You need to bandage that wound.
- O I won't do it.
- O Traveling for leisure is the best way to travel.
- The young girl had an illness.

# Part 4: TEAS English Review

#### Vocabulary Acquisition - Root Words, Prefixes, Suffixes, Context Clues, and Multiple Meaning Words

#### **Root Words, Prefixes, and Suffixes**

A root word is the most basic part of a word. You can create new words by: adding a prefix, a group of letters placed before the root word; or a suffix, a group of letters placed at the end of a root word.

- A root word is the most basic part of a word.
- A prefix is the letters added to beginning of a root word to change the word and its meaning.
- A suffix is the letters added to the end of a root word to change the word and its meaning.
- You can figure out a word's meaning by looking closely at its different word parts (root, prefixes, and suffixes).

Root Word	Meaning	Example
ami, amic	love	amicable
anni	year	anniversary
aud	to hear	auditory
bene	good	beneficiary
biblio	book	bibliography
сар	take, seize	capture
cent	one hundred	century
chrom	color	chromatic
chron	time	chronological

Here are some common root words in the English language:

Here are some of the most common prefixes, their meanings, and some examples:

Prefix	Meaning	Example
auto	self	autography
con	with	conclude
hydro	water	hydrate
im, in, non, un	not	unimportant
inter	between	international
mis	incorrect, badly	mislead
over	too much	over-stimulate

Here are some of the most common suffixes, their meanings, and some examples:

Suffix	Meaning	Example
able, ible	can be done	agreeable
an, ean, ian	belonging or relating to	European
ed	happened in the past	jogged
en	made of	wooden
er	comparative (more than)	stricter
est	comparative (most)	largest

#### Example Practice Test Questions On Root Words, Prefixes, and Suffixes

Select the meaning of the italicized word in the sentence.

The man studies extraterrestrial beings.

Ones that are not of this earth
Ones that are similar to humans
Ones that live in tropical habitats
Ones that live high in the mountains

The use of the prefix omni- in the word omnivore indicates what about an animal?

<ul> <li>It eats only meat</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>It eats only plants</li> </ul>	
$ \odot $ It eats both meat and plants	
O It eats neither meat nor plants	

Which of the following prefixes means beneath?

○ inter-	
<ul> <li>trans-</li> </ul>	
○ port-	
○ infra-	

#### **Context Clues and Multiple Meaning Words**

- Know how to determine unfamiliar words by reading context clues and multiple meaning words.
- Know how to use multiple meaning words properly in context.

Here are some other examples of words with multiple meanings:

Multiple Meaning	Word Definition #1	Definition #2	Definition #3
Buckle	noun: a metal or plastic device that connects one end of a belt to another	verb: to fasten or attach	verb: to bend or collapse from pressure or heat
Cabinet	noun: a piece of furniture used for storing things	noun: a group of people who give advice to a government leader	-
Channel	noun: a radio or television station	noun: a system used for sending something	noun: a long, narrow place where water flows
Doctor	noun: a person skilled in the science of medicine, dentistry, or one holding a PhD	verb: to change something in a way to trick or deceive	verb: to give medical treatment

#### Practice Test Questions on Context Clues and Multiple Meaning Words

Select the context clue from the following sentence that helps you define the word insatiable.

The teenager has such an insatiable appetite that he eats frequently.

o "teenager"	
<ul> <li>"appetite"</li> </ul>	
○ "eats "	
o "frequently"	

Select the context clue from the following sentence that helps you define the word dubious.

The witness gave a dubious account of the event, and the judge felt he wasn't a credible source for the case.

0	"account of the event"
0	"judge felt"
0	"wasn't a credible"
0	"the case"



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