AFS entrance exams 2026-2027

Part A: Grammar 20% (2 points each)

Choose the correct answer (A, B, C, or D).

1. ___ you require any assistance, please contact the reception desk.
   A. Unless
   B. Although
   C. Despite
   D. In case

2. The doctor suggested that she___ more healthily.
   A. eat
   B. eats
   C. ate
   D. will eat

3. Seldom ___ my father so angry.
   A. I saw
   B. have I seen
   C. did I see
   D. I have seen

4. I wish I ___ harder for the exams last week.
   A. studied
   B. study
   C. had studied
   D. will study

5. My sister denied ___ that man before.
   A. seeing
   B. having seen
   C. saw
   D. to have seen

6. By the time I go home tonight, my daughter ___ her homework.
   A. will finish
   B. has finished

C. will have finished
D. had finished

7. Granny would rather I ___ the children with me next time I visit her.
   A. would bring
   B. brought
   C. will bring
   D. have brought

8. They ___ about the noise ever since they moved into this flat.
   A. complain
   B. complained
   C. are complaining
   D. have been complaining

9. Nothing I do will help you decide, ___?
   A. will it
   B. does it
   C. won't it
   D. doesn't it

10. I didn't have a watch, so I asked him ___.
    A. what time was it
    B. what time it was
    C. what the time was it
    D. what was the time

Vocabulary 20% (2 points each)

Choose the correct answer (A, B, C, or D).

1. Scientists are trying to ___ the emergence of new virus variants before they spread widely.
   A. assume
   B. anticipate
   C. foretell
   D. estimate

2. Until very ___, the policy remained unchanged despite mounting criticism.
   A. lately
   B. newly
   C. freshly
   D. recently

3. The minister was forced to ___ from office following the scandal.
   A. resign
   B. retreat
   C. withdraw
   D. abdicate
4. The conference has been ___ for early September, pending final approval.
   A. allocated
   B. designated
   C. scheduled
   D. appointed

5. Prolonged sleep ___ can have serious cognitive consequences.
   A. deficiency
   B. shortage
   C. deprivation
   D. absence

6. The island is a popular tourist ___ known for its pristine beaches.
   A. getaway
   B. retreat
   C. shelter
   D. resort

7. Children should be taught to ___ their teeth properly from an early age.
   A. brush
   B. scrub
   C. cleanse
   D. polish

8. You should rely on your common ___ when making such decisions.
   A. reason
   B. intellect

C. sense
D. awareness

9. The farm specializes in ___ livestock for export.
   A. raising
   B. breeding
   C. cultivating
   D. producing

10. Citrus fruits are an excellent ___ of vitamin C.
   A. source
   B. origin
   C. resource
   D. supply

Part B: Reading 1: "The Role of Wetlands in Climate Resilience"

(3 points each- 24 points)

Read the following text and decide whether the statements are **True (T), False (F) or Not Mentioned (NM)**

In recent years, scientists have increasingly emphasized the pivotal role of wetlands in mitigating the effects of climate-change-driven extreme weather. Wetlands — from marshes and swamps to peatlands and floodplain meadows — act as natural shock absorbers, reducing flood peaks, storing carbon and providing refuges for biodiversity.

Yet despite their environmental value, wetlands are under increasing threat. Land conversion for agriculture and urban expansion, drainage for infrastructure, and neglect in management have contributed to a global loss of wetland area at a rate estimated to exceed 1% per year. Compounding the problem, policy frameworks and economic planning often treat wetlands as wasted land or convert them into short-term profit uses, failing to recognize their long-term ecosystem services.

Some governments are now trying to reverse this course: by mapping wetland distribution, quantifying the value of the services they provide, and integrating wetland-preservation into climate policy and infrastructure planning. However, the transition is not without obstacles. One major challenge is aligning diverse stakeholders — landowners, agricultural interests, municipal authorities, conservationists — whose priorities often conflict. Another is securing stable

funding: whereas built infrastructure may attract large capital investment, restoring and maintaining ecosystems is frequently underfunded and harder to quantify in economic terms.

In sum, healthy wetlands represent one of the few scalable, cost-effective tools available today for coping with climate extremes, preserving biodiversity and sequestering carbon — but only if society is willing to invest in them proactively.

Oxford University Press

Statements

1. Wetlands help reduce the impact of floods during extreme weather events.
2. Wetlands play a role in storing carbon.
3. The global area of wetlands is decreasing each year.
4. Governments around the world fully protect wetlands.
5. Different groups agree about how wetlands should be managed.
6. Wetlands are sometimes viewed as useless land in economic planning.
7. Wetlands are the main source of drinking water for most countries.
8. Climate change is the only cause of wetland loss worldwide.

Reading 2 - *"Q&A with Professor Christos Vasilikiotis"*
(3 points each-21 points)

Read the following text and choose the correct answer a, b, c, d.

Dr. Christos Vasilikiotis, assistant professor of Environmental Systems Management at Perrotis College, earned his PhD from the University of California, Berkeley, and has teaching experience at institutions as varied as Berkeley, Stanford University, the Mediterranean Agricultural Institute in Chania, and the Technological Educational Institute of Thessaloniki. After spending a short time with Dr. Vasilikiotis, it becomes clear that he acts on his belief that the educational process is an exchange between faculty and students and that what unfolds should be a process of mutual discovery.

At last spring's Food, Taste and Society Conference organized by Perrotis College, you presented a study which drew considerable attention. Could you please tell us a little bit about this work?

In Sustainable Agriculture, the main objective is the efficient re-use of natural resources. One of the most valuable soil enhancers we have at our disposal, is manure. Unfortunately, it can also be toxic, and traditional processing techniques contribute to pollution. One of the ways this is dealt with is via alternative composting techniques, one of which is vermicomposting. We use earthworms to decompose waste as their refuse yields very high quality fertilizer, containing high ratios of soil enhancing elements. But this is not novel. Our innovation has been to add

olive paste to the animal manure in the vermicompost. Olive paste, a by-product of olive oil production, is highly toxic for plants if it remains untreated – a process which can be costly and time consuming. In a country like Greece where olive processing occurs in high volume, the repercussions for soil and plant quality cannot be overlooked. Vermicomposting presents a simple and low-cost alternative to olive-oil presses for a viable system of waste reduction. Many students took part in this project and various aspects of the research featured in these students' senior dissertations.

What are your research plans for the coming year?
One of my main areas of focus this year will be to take the vermicomposting project to the next level by testing the effectiveness of the fertilizer containing olive paste against other vermicompost. As hands-on research is a cornerstone of the academic experience at Perrotis, this will be another great opportunity to involve students in the process, and for them to build on the work their peers helped complete in the previous year.

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1. What subject does Dr. Christos Vasilikiotis teach at Perrotis College?

A. Environmental Engineering

B. Environmental Systems Management

C. Agricultural Economics

D. Earth Sciences

2. Which of the following best describes Dr. Vasilikiotis' view of education?

A. Students should follow instructions without questioning.

B. Education is mainly about delivering information.

C. Education is an exchange and a process of mutual discovery.

D. Students learn best through memorization.

3. What is the main objective of Sustainable Agriculture mentioned in the passage?

A. Reducing manpower in farming

B. Efficient re-use of natural resources

C. Increasing food production at any cost

D. Eliminating traditional farming methods

4. Why can manure be problematic in agriculture?

A. It is too expensive to use

B. It can be toxic and polluting

C. It is not effective as fertilizer

D. It is not available in large quantities

5. What technique does the professor use to process manure in his study?

A. Chemical treatment

B. High-heat decomposition

C. Vermicomposting with earthworms

D. Mechanical filtration

6. What is innovative about the professor's vermicomposting research?

A. Using a new species of earthworm

B. Mixing olive paste with manure

C. Composting without oxygen

D. Using chemical additives

7. What does Dr. Vasilikiotis plan to do next year in his research?

A. Replace vermicomposting with a new technique

B. Stop involving students in research

C. Test the fertilizer with olive paste against other vermicompost

D. Focus solely on classroom teaching

Part C: Cloze: Reading the following passage and choose the correct answer (%).

Farm Revitalization Initiative: The Beekeeping Center

On June 21, the American Farm School celebrated the 1)…….. of its new Beekeeping Center in the presence of AFS Trustees and donors Attiki Bee Culturing Company introduced the Center, including honey harvesting by some Trustees. The Center's objective 2) …… training in bees, from their biological cycle to their role in the sustainability of life and their high value products. AFS students of all ages as well as visitors will become acquainted with aspects of beekeeping, both on a theoretical and on a practical level. The Beekeeping Center currently 3)…….. 15 beehives and is surrounded by a bee-friendly garden within a radius of several meters, which includes specimens from bee-attracting flora found in Greek rural areas (trees, bushes and other plants).

"The Beekeping Center has the capacity to train up to 25 people each time and it includes main and auxiliary facilities. The main facilities, 4)…….. a 30-meter-long hangar which hosts about 15 beehives, a 15-meter-long hangar with workbenches for the trainees as well as a 5-meter-long hangar with information on all aspects of beekeeping. Next to the hangar, there will be a storage room to keep all training material and equipment. The remaining space will accommodate well-known bee-friendly plants from all around Greece, arranged in a way that provides information on each plant.

The establishment of the AFS Beekeeping Center will expand the potential of applied research in the field of entomology but it 5) …… also …… new training opportunities for students, attracting new talents in the field of agricultural research.

1. A. building B. inauguration C. teaching D. production
2. A. is to provide B. will be provided C. provided D. has been provided
3. A. hosting B. is hosted C. hosts D. is host
4. A had included. B. Include C. is including D. was included
5. A. will …..be created b) has…. been created C. is …creating D. will …..create

Part D: Writing awareness.(30%) Read the following article and find the missing sentences. There is ONE extra sentence.

A Digital Shield for Olive Trees through a Pioneering School Project

By combining artificial intelligence with drone technology, the American Farm School's Innovation HUB is advancing olive tree protection through the OPTIMA research project (Olive Protection via Thermal Imaging). The project focuses on the early detection of verticillium wilt, a destructive soil-borne disease that threatens olive productivity and growers' livelihoods across many Mediterranean regions.

OPTIMA uses drones equipped with visible-spectrum, multispectral, and thermal cameras to monitor olive groves with high precision and efficiency. (1) _____They capture visible signs of damage, assess vegetation vigor through spectral analysis, and detect subtle temperature variations that may indicate plant stress or infection even before symptoms become visible to the human eye.

(2) _____

The collected data are compiled into high-resolution geospatial maps and analyzed using a machine-learning model based on the YOLO (You Only Look Once) algorithm. This advanced approach enables accurate, real-time identification of infected trees, significantly reducing the time and effort required for manual field inspections. (3)_____

The result is a user-friendly digital application designed with farmers in mind. Through an intuitive interface, growers receive detailed maps, visual indicators, and clear alerts that pinpoint affected trees and areas of concern. This allows for targeted intervention—such as localized treatment or removal—rather than widespread, resource-intensive measures. (4) _____

Beyond its immediate benefits the platform can also be expanded to detect additional diseases in olives and other crops. The same technological framework can be used to detect other diseases in olive trees or even applied to different crops, making it a useful tool for modern agriculture.

(5)_____ The project not only supports sustainable olive cultivation but also demonstrates how digital tools can empower farmers, bridge the gap between research and practice, and accelerate the transition toward smarter, more resilient agricultural systems.

Published for friends of the American Farm School The sower Issue 191 Winter 2025

A) At a time when agriculture faces increasing pressure from climate change, resource limitations, and plant diseases, initiatives like OPTIMA highlight how innovation can offer practical, scalable solutions for farmers.
B) As a result, farmers can act preventively, reducing costs, preserving healthy trees, and minimizing environmental impact.
C) By automating the detection process, OPTIMA not only increases diagnostic accuracy but also makes monitoring large olive groves more feasible and cost-effective.
D) This early insight is crucial, as verticillium wilt often spreads silently before causing irreversible harm.
E) Through OPTIMA, the American Farm School reinforces its leadership in agri-food innovation and education.
F) These sensors work together to provide a comprehensive picture of crop health.

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Good luck!