

Level 5

GCC Noncredit ESL Verbal Assessment

These are examples of questions you are going to have on your verbal assessment at the end of the semester. Please answer each question in a complete sentence, using the targeted grammar structure.

Warm-up Questions

How long have you been studying at GCC?

What did you find interesting, easy, or difficult about this class?

1. Adjective Clauses

- a. Using an adjective clause with “which,” tell me about a favorite place you’ve visited.
- b. Using an adjective clause with “where,” tell me about a famous place in your native country.
- c. Using an adjective clause with “whose,” tell me about someone’s house.
- d. Using an adjective clause with “whose,” tell me about one of your friend’s personal characteristics.
- e. Using an adjective clause with “when,” tell me about a happy day you will never forget.
- f. Using an adjective clause with “during which,” tell me about a vacation during which you learned something new.
- g. Using an adjective clause with “whom,” tell me about an historical figure you admire.
- h. Using an adjective clause with “where,” tell me about your favorite restaurant.
- i. Using an adjective clause with “who,” tell me about a favorite teacher you had in the past.

2. Phrasal Verbs

Answer with the phrasal verb you hear

- a. What things drew you and your spouse/friend together?
- b. What are you having trouble getting across to one of you family members?
- c. What do you promise to stick with doing for the next few years?
- d. What new responsibility have you taken on recently?
- e. What have you been trying to talk one of your relatives/friends into doing recently?
- f. Why do students sometimes drop out of a class?

3. Gerunds and Infinitives

Answer with the verb you hear plus a gerund or infinitive.

- a. What did you mind giving up most when you left your native country?
- b. What do you miss doing back in your native country?
- c. What household chore do you detest doing?
- d. What do you yearn to do back in your native country?
- e. What are you trying to convince your friend to do?
- f. What would you warn a newly arrived immigrant not to do?
- g. What new thing are you hesitant to try?

- h. What have your teachers encouraged you to do?
- i. What do you usually volunteer to do for others?
- j. What do you resent doing?
- k. What are you struggling to do these days?

4. Adverb Clauses

Answer the following questions using the adverb clause you hear.

- a. What will you do when you finish this class?
- b. How long had you studied English before coming to the United States?
- c. What are you not able to do unless you get a driver's license?
- d. Tell me what you do when you come home from school or work, even though you are tired.
- e. Why you are studying English? (use "so that")

5. Unreal Conditionals

Answer in a complete sentence beginning with "If."

(Present)

- a. If you could change one thing in the world, what would it be?
- b. If you could fly somewhere today, where would you go?
- c. What would you be doing right now if you weren't here?
- d. What would you do if you were a millionaire?
- e. If you had the opportunity to meet a famous person, who would that be?
- f. What would you do if you had more time?
- g. What could people do if they spent less time watching T.V.?

(Past)

- h. If you had been sick yesterday, what would you have done?
- i. If you hadn't enrolled in this class, what other class would you have chosen?
- j. If you had been wiser in the past, what would you have done?
- k. Where would you have gone if you couldn't have moved to Southern California?

6. Mixed Time Conditionals

Answer in a complete sentence beginning with "If."

- a. If you had not moved to the United States, where would you be now and what would you be doing?
- b. What could you have done yesterday if you weren't always so busy?
- c. How would your life be different now if you had been raised in a wealthier family?

7. Verbs Following "Wish"

- a. What skill do you wish you were better at?
- b. What do you wish were different about the city where you live?
- c. What do you wish you could do more of?
- d. Where do you wish you were right now?
- e. What other languages do you wish you could speak?
- f. What do you wish you could have done last summer?
- g. What is it that you didn't do when you were younger but wish you had?
- h. What is it that you didn't know but wish you had?

8. Reported Speech

- a. What did you ask your parents when you were a child?
- b. What did your friend say the last time you saw him/her?
- c. What did your teachers tell you to do when you were in grade school?

9. Connectives

- a. Using “because of” in a sentence, tell me why you are studying English.
- b. Using “therefore,” tell me why you like living in California.
- c. Using “so . . . that” in a sentence, tell me why you moved to the United States.
- d. Using “such . . . that” in a sentence, describe your past weekend.
- e. Using “so . . . that” in a sentence, describe your favorite object.
- f. Using “but . . . anyway” in a sentence, tell me something you didn’t want to but did anyway.
- g. Using “yet . . . still” in a sentence, talk about a challenge you have had to face since you moved to the United States but indicate how you have not given up.
- h. Using “nevertheless,” tell me about something you are willing to do despite the fact that you don’t have the time to do it.
- i. Using “despite the fact that,” tell me something about your country.
- j. Using “in spite of the fact that,” talk about a historical or political event.
- k. Using “while,” compare being a student in the United States to being a student in your country.
- l. Using “whereas,” compare the weather in California to the weather in your country.
- m. Using “however,” compare the transportation system in your home city to the one in Los Angeles County.
- n. Using “on the other hand,” compare people’s eating habits in your country to the eating habits of people in the United States.

10. Noun Clauses

Answer the following questions with a complete sentence starting with “I don’t know...”

- a. Where is he from?
- b. Did he smoke last night?
- c. How much does the ticket cost?
- d. Who invented the radio?
- e. Does she eat meat?

Finish these sentences using a subjunctive in a noun clause.

- f. My teacher recommended that ...
- g. It is critical that...
- h. I’d like to recommend that...