

## 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. Phrasal Verbs**

*Answer with the phrasal verb you hear*

- a. What is a topic that you don't like people to bring up in conversation?
- b. What is something that gets to your friend, but doesn't get to you?
- c. What do you promise to stick with doing for the next few years?
- d. What is something that turned out differently than you expected?
- 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?
- g. What do you often make up excuses about?
- h. What is something that you ended up with that you didn't want?

### **2. Gerunds and Infinitives**

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

- a. What is something that needs to be done this weekend?
- b. Who would you be excited about being introduced to?
- c. Where would you like to be given a free home?
- d. What kind of person do you want to be known as?
- e. If you met a genie, what wish would you yearn to be granted?
- f. What is something you remember having been told by your parents when you were a child?
- g. What would you encourage a soon-to-be immigrant to have done before coming here?
- h. What do you resent having been scolded for when you were in school?
- i. What magical power wouldn't you mind being given?
- j. What do you like to be given on your birthday?

### **3. 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")
- f. What had you done by the time you arrived for your verbal test?
- g. What do you like to do now that you have moved to the United States?

- h. What is something new that you have started doing since you moved to the United States?
- i. After finishing this class, what will you do next to continue improving and using English?
- j. Using “despite the fact that,” tell me something about your country.
- k. Using “in spite of the fact that”, talk about a historical or political event.
- l. Using “while,” compare being a student in the United States to being a student in your country.
- m. Using “whereas” compare the weather in California to the weather in your country.

#### **4. 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 “otherwise” in a sentence, explain something students should do to improve their study habits.
- d. Using “so” tell me why you like or dislike fast food.
- e. Using “but when” tell me about something that surprised you.
- f. Using “but” in a sentence, tell me something you didn’t want to do but did anyway.
- g. Using “yet” to explain something that is difficult for you, but you do it anyway.
- 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 “however,” compare the transportation system in your home city to the one in Los Angeles County.
- j. Using “on the other hand,” compare people’s eating habits in your country to the eating habits of people in the United States.

#### **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. If you could speak with the president of the United States, what would you tell him/her?
- 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?

#### ***Mixed Time Conditionals***

*Answer in a complete sentence beginning with “If.”*

- l. If you had not moved to the United States, where would you be now and what would you be doing?
- m. If you had not woken up on time this morning, what how would you feel now?

- n. How would your life be different now if you had not started learning English at Glendale Community College?

### **6. 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.

### **7. Verbs Following “Wish” and “Hope”**

*Use the word “wish” or “hope” in your answer.*

- 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 activity do you wish you could do more often?
- d. What do you hope that you can do next weekend?
- e. When do you hope that you will see your friend again?
- f. What do you hope that someone will give you for your birthday?

### **8. Reported Speech**

*Use reported speech in your answer.*

- a. What did someone ask you on the phone before?
- b. What did your friend say the last time you saw him/her?
- c. What did a teacher explain last week?
- d. What did someone tell you about Glendale Community College before you came here?

### **9. Embedded Questions**

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

- a. How often does the train come?
- b. Did he smoke last night?
- c. How much does the ticket cost?
- d. Who invented the radio?
- e. What is that?

*Ask the question in a more polite way:*

- f. Why isn’t there better parking at Glendale Community College?

- g. When can I get my essay back?
- h. How can I pay for this ticket?
- i. How can I get my money back for this?
- j. Can you give me a special price for this?
- k. When will you fix this problem in my apartment?
- l. Why didn't you come to my party last week?

### **10. Advising Politely**

*Answer the question with polite advice.*

- a. What is it essential that every new immigrant know before arriving in the United States?
- b. What would you like to urge that future level 5 not do?
- c. What fun activities do you recommend that teachers try in class?
- d. What do you suggest that Glendale Community College do to improve the program here?
- e. What do you want to advise that the president do?
- f. What do you think it is necessary that Americans know about immigrants to the United States?