

CONTESTANT ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

GRADE LEVEL : \_\_\_\_\_

*Place Contestant ID label here BEFORE  
Contest Begins*



# Dictionary Skills

## State Contest

### Grades 4/5 & 6-8



Grader #1 Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Grader #2 Score: \_\_\_\_\_

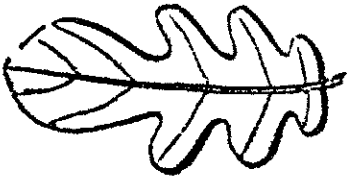
Grader #3 Score: \_\_\_\_\_

FINAL SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_

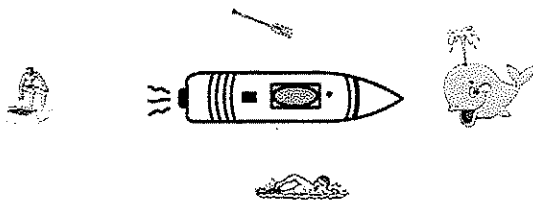
## 2022

**(Please do not open test until the signal is given to begin.)**

## PSIA – Dictionary Skills – State Test – 2022

- The term *faux pas* literally translates from French to English as ...  
 A. blunder                      B. trip and fall  
 C. false step                    D. fake pass
- What genre of movies is often referred to as oaters?  
 A. horrors                      B. westerns  
 C. comedies                    D. superhero
- How much closer to the sun is the planet whose symbol is ♃ than the planet whose symbol is ♆?  
 A. 3.87 astronomical units  
 B. 4.34 astronomical units  
 C. 5.20 astronomical units  
 D. 6.23 astronomical units
- What language family does the Shoshone language originate from?  
 A. Tonkawan                    B. Coahuiltecan  
 C. Wappo                        D. Uto-Aztecan
- Which diacritical mark is used in the word **chateau**?  
 A. acute accent over the first a  
 B. acute accent over the e  
 C. circumflex over the first a  
 D. circumflex over the e
- Which type of leaf is shown?  
  
 A. trifoliolate                    B. lyrate  
 C. cuneate                        D. deltoid
- Which of the following classes does a radio frequency of 10 GHz belong to?  
 A. superhigh frequency  
 B. ultrahigh frequency  
 C. very high frequency  
 D. high frequency
- What letter comes immediately before psi in the Greek alphabet?  
 A. sigma                        B. phi  
 C. omega                        D. chi
- Which professional would be most likely to use prestidigitation?  
 A. magician                      B. accountant  
 C. railroad conductor        D. journalist
- The Morse code letters shown below can be rearranged to form the last name of a famous astronomer. What year was this person born?  
 • – •                      • • • •                    • – • •  
 A. 1609                        B. 1868  
 C. 1822                        D. 1755
- What does the combining form *rhizo-* mean?  
 A. four                        B. red  
 C. horned                      D. root
- The number 5 on the Beaufort scale corresponds to winds of what speeds?  
 A. 19 to 24 kph                B. 20 to 29 kph  
 C. 30 to 39 kph                D. 25 to 31 kph
- The word *coffee* passed from Arabic to what language, then to Italian, before becoming an English word?  
 A. Slavic                        B. Russian  
 C. French                        D. Turkish
- What is the plural of the word *fovea*?  
 A. foveal                        B. foveas  
 C. foveae                        D. fovea
- What is the capital of Madeira, a group of autonomous islands in the Northern Atlantic Ocean?  
 A. Funchal                      B. Madrid  
 C. Lisbon                        D. Beni

16. Which of the following words can be associated with the words **brown, howl,** and **compartment**?
- A. sorrel                      B. bay  
C. dog                          D. cavity
17. What would one do with a slumgullion?
- A. clean it                      B. wear it  
C. spend it                      D. eat it
18. Which word’s pronunciation, when written using the International Phonetic Alphabet, contains the sound whose symbol is  $\int$  ?
- A. razor                          B. quantum  
C. parasite                      D. oceanic
19. What is the scientific name of the northern spotted owl?
- A. *Thuja occidentalis*  
B. *Icterus galbula*  
C. *Strix occidentalis caurina*  
D. *Diabrotica barberi*
20. How many chemical element symbols contain the letter “k”?
- A. three                          B. two  
C. one                              D. four
21. Approximately how old was James Buchanan when he became president of the United States?
- A. 70 years old                  B. 66 years old  
C. 76 years old                  D. 72 years old
22. If a sailor on this boat is looking starboard, what is she looking at?



- A. the surfer                      B. the swimmer  
C. the whale                      D. the paddle

23. Which personifies the zodiac sign of a person born on June 30?
- A. the lion                      B. the balance  
C. the crab                      D. the scorpion
24. An apostrophe symbol on a meteorological map indicates what type of weather?
- A. sleet                          B. clear skies  
C. fog                              D. drizzle
25. Ariel is the name of a prankish spirit in a Shakespearan play. What does the name of this play refer to?
- A. a violent storm  
B. forbidden love  
C. a religious structure  
D. a knight

**MATCHING SYNONYMS AND ASSOCIATIONS:**

26. mordant                      A. enact  
27. neighborhood              B. estimate  
28. ostracize                      C. nonplussed  
29. promulgate                  D. pariah  
30. quizzical                      E. stinging



# Dictionary Skills

State Contest – 2022

Contestant Answer Sheet

GRADERS: Write scores and initial.

Score 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Score 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Score 2: \_\_\_\_\_

FINAL: \_\_\_\_\_

Contestant ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

INSTRUCTIONS: Place the PRINTED CAPITAL letter of each answer choice (A, B, C, or D) in the blank corresponding to the test item number. SCORING: +5 for each correct answer; –2 for each incorrect answer; no deduction for skipped or unanswered items. Visible erasures and mark-outs constitute a 2-point deduction ONLY if a correct answer is not written in the answer space.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

16. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

17. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

18. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

19. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

20. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

21. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

22. \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_

23. \_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_

24. \_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_

25. \_\_\_\_\_

11. \_\_\_\_\_

26. \_\_\_\_\_

12. \_\_\_\_\_

27. \_\_\_\_\_

13. \_\_\_\_\_

28. \_\_\_\_\_

14. \_\_\_\_\_

29. \_\_\_\_\_

15. \_\_\_\_\_

30. \_\_\_\_\_



**Dictionary Skills**  
**State Contest – 2022**

***ANSWER KEY***

REMINDERS: PRINTED CAPITAL letters only. SCORING: +5 for each correct answer; –2 for each incorrect answer; no deduction for skipped or unanswered items. Visible erasures and mark-outs constitute a 2-point deduction ONLY if a correct answer is not written in the answer space. Reference page numbers are provided in parentheses for the Merriam-Webster Collegiate Dictionary, 11th ed.

- |                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. C (457)        | 16. B (104)      |
| 2. B (854)        | 17. D (1175)     |
| 3. B (947)        | 18. D (858, 37a) |
| 4. D (1152)       | 19. C (847)      |
| 5. C (209, 344)   | 20. A (403)      |
| 6. B (707)        | 21. B (1472)     |
| 7. A (1026)       | 22. B (1217)     |
| 8. D (36)         | 23. C (1457)     |
| 9. A (983)        | 24. D (1603)     |
| 10. B (808, 1484) | 25. A (66, 1286) |
| 11. D (1069)      | 26. E            |
| 12. C (107)       | 27. B            |
| 13. D (240)       | 28. D            |
| 14. C (495)       | 29. A            |
| 15. A (1558)      | 30. C            |