

**Mock Tests – LEC: Pragmatics, Discourse Analysis, Syntax,
Morphology and Lexicology**

Graduation Exam – July 2026

Read the text below and answer the questions:

Fireside Chat: On the “Arsenal of Democracy”

Speaker: Franklin D. Roosevelt

Date: 29 December 1940

Full transcript (American Presidency Project):

[December 29, 1940: Fireside Chat 16: On the “Arsenal of Democracy” | Miller Center](#)

So I appeal to the owners of plants -- to the managers -- to the workers -- to our own Government employees -- to put every ounce of effort into producing these munitions swiftly and without stint. (And) With this appeal I give you the pledge that all of us who are officers of your Government will devote ourselves to the same whole-hearted extent to the great task that (which) lies ahead.

As planes and ships and guns and shells are produced, your Government, with its defense experts, can then determine how best to use them to defend this hemisphere. The decision as to how much shall be sent abroad and how much shall remain at home must be made on the basis of our overall military necessities.

We must be the great arsenal of democracy. For us this is an emergency as serious as war itself. We must apply ourselves to our task with the same resolution, the same sense of urgency, the same spirit of patriotism and sacrifice as we would show were we at war.

We have furnished the British great material support and we will furnish far more in the future. There will be no “bottlenecks” in our determination to aid Great Britain. No dictator, no combination of dictators, will weaken that determination by threats of how they will construe that determination.

The British have received invaluable military support from the heroic Greek army and from the forces of all the governments in exile. Their strength is growing. It is the strength of men and women who value their freedom more highly than they value their lives.

I believe that the Axis powers are not going to win this war. I base that belief on the latest and best of information.

We have no excuse for defeatism. We have every good reason for hope -- hope for peace, yes, and hope for the defense of our civilization and for the building of a better civilization in the future.

I have the profound conviction that the American people are now determined to put forth a mightier effort than they have ever yet made to increase our production of all the implements of defense, to meet the threat to our democratic faith.

As President of the United States I call for that national effort. I call for it in the name of this nation which we love and honor and which we are privileged and proud to serve. I call upon our people with absolute confidence that our common cause will greatly succeed.

QUESTIONS

1. Give examples of **6 abstract nouns formed by derivation** and mention the roots they have been obtained from, as well as the suffixes in their structure:
2. Identify the words formed by means of **conversion (functional shift)**. Mention the lexical class of the word which is the basis of conversion and the lexical class of the resulting word
3. Which words in the text have been created by compounding? Specify the lexical classes they belong to?
4. Read the following verb phrases (VPs) and match them with the descriptions provided in the table below. Some of the descriptions match more than one sentence, for others no sentence is a match.
 - A. [We] must be the great arsenal of democracy.
 - B. [We] have furnished the British great material support.
 - C. [It] is the strength of men and women who value their freedom more highly than they value their lives.
 - D. I believe that the Axis powers are not going to win this war.
 - E. [We] have every good reason for hope.

Descriptions	Answer(s)
a. The head of this VP is a ditransitive verb.	
b. This VP includes a direct object expressed through a finite clause	
c. In this VP the subject complement is expressed through a noun phrase	
d. This VP contains a linking verb	

e. This VP includes a modal auxiliary.	
f. The head of this VP is a monotransitive verb.	
g. In this VP the head is preceded by a perfective auxiliary	
h. This VP includes a passive auxiliary.	

5. Identify the constituents of the following noun phrases and write your answers in the table below.

- a. this great nation which we love and honor
- b. our production of all the implements of defense
- c. the forces of all the governments in exile
- d. every good reason for hope

	Determiner	Premodifier	Head	Complement	Postmodifier
a					
b					
c					
d					

- 6. Identify 6 six adverbial clauses in the text and comment on their form (finite, non-finite, verbless) and semantic function (adverbial clause of reason, time, condition, comparison, etc.)
- 7. Using Halliday and Hasan’s (1976) framework, identify and classify at least four cohesive devices in the excerpt. For each device, indicate the type of cohesion it establishes (reference, substitution, ellipsis, conjunction, or lexical cohesion).
- 8. Analyse the use of deictic expressions in the excerpt. Identify examples of personal, social, and discourse deixis, and discuss how Roosevelt’s deictic choices construct the relationship between speaker and audience.
- 9. Comment in approximately 100 words on the following passage, using appropriate discourse-analytical and pragmatic metalanguage:
“We must be the great arsenal of democracy. For us this is an emergency as serious as war itself. We must apply ourselves to our task with the same resolution, the same sense of urgency, the same spirit of patriotism and sacrifice as we would show were we at war.”
 Your commentary can address the following, but can also include any other relevant aspects: modal force and deontic obligation, rhetorical parallelism as a discourse strategy, presupposition and common ground, or the relationship between syntactic form and illocutionary force.

10. Identify the illocutionary act performed in the utterance *“So I appeal to the owners of plants [...] to put every ounce of effort into producing these munitions swiftly and without stint.”*
11. Analyse the utterance *“We have no excuse for defeatism”* as an indirect speech act. Identify the literal illocutionary force and the intended illocutionary force.
12. Examine the presuppositions triggered in the following two utterances: (a) *“The British have received invaluable military support from the heroic Greek army”* and (b) *“I have the profound conviction that the American people are now determined to put forth a mightier effort than they have ever yet made.”* For each utterance, identify the type of presupposition.

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