

1. In psychology and development, neuroticism is defined as a broad ---- representing the degree to which a person experiences the world as distressing, threatening, and unsafe.

- A) instrument B) surface
C) attribute D) collection
E) stance

2. Amethyst is a very widely distributed mineral, but fine and clear specimens fit for cutting as ornamental stones are ---- to comparatively few localities.

- A) entitled B) confined
C) vulnerable D) familiar
E) dedicated

3. Many animal and plant species have become extinct because of hunting and overharvesting, the ---- of wetlands and forests to croplands and urban areas, pollution, and other forms of human-caused destruction of their natural habitats.

- A) inferiority B) commitment
C) invasion D) conversion
E) allocation

4. Hong Kong, one of the most ---- populated cities in the world with 6,650 people per square kilometer, has the world's highest life expectancy with 87 years for females and 82 for males.

- A) densely B) exceedingly
C) broadly D) immensely
E) predominantly

5. Neuroplasticity, the ability of the brain to form and reorganize synaptic connections, especially in response to life experiences or following injury, ---- the capacity for learning and memory, and it enables mental and behavioral flexibility.

- A) extracts B) underlies
C) refrains D) conceives
E) obscures

6. To prevent cardiovascular disease, doctors often advise patients to ---- meat and encourage a diet high in vegetables and low in animal foods.

- A) come down with B) put up with
C) get on with D) make up for
E) cut back on

7. While plant breeding and animal breeding are known ---- for many millennia, the ability to create a genetically modified organism (GMO) depends on sophisticated DNA technologies that ---- only in the second half of the 20th century.

- A) to have been practiced / were created
- B) to have practiced / had been created
- C) to be practiced / have been created
- D) to practice / are created
- E) having been practiced / would be created

8. Scientists warn that as smaller societies ---- into national and global cultures, half of all human languages ---- by the end of the century, thus leading to a heavy blow to cultural studies and cognitive science alike.

- A) were assimilated / will be disappearing
- B) have been assimilated / have disappeared
- C) are assimilated / will have disappeared
- D) are being assimilated / disappear
- E) will be assimilated / will disappear

9. Rather than ---- a ladder where every organism steadily climbs its way to the top, evolution is more like a cacophony of random mutations where natural selection favors the ones that ---- to their local environment.

- A) resemble / have to adapt
- B) having resembled / must have adapted
- C) to resemble / should adapt
- D) resembling / are able to adapt
- E) to be resembling / would have adapted

10. The field of science has developed ---- many centuries as a way of studying and understanding the world, beginning with the primitive stage of simply noting important regularities in nature and continuing ---- the rise of modern science.

- A) during / throughout
- B) for / in
- C) over / through
- D) onwards / into
- E) from / on

11. Plants use carbon dioxide from the air and water from the soil to make sugar and oxygen ---- photosynthesis, the process ---- which they use energy from the sun to make food.

- A) on / among
- B) during / by
- C) of / with
- D) off / through
- E) up / amid

12. ---- all the amazing advances in artificial intelligence, there is no computer today that understands whether something is a computer or has thoughts and feelings – they only focus on specific sets of data to solve specific problems.

- A) Despite
- B) In case of
- C) Unlike
- D) Thanks to
- E) Given

13. ---- there are still risks inherent in space flight, humanity is obviously better off continuing to live on Earth instead of considering colonizing other planets.

- A) Unless
B) Although
C) Given that
D) In order that
E) As if

15. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where medical officials are alarmed after the first new Ebola cases have recently been detected in months, the country's health surveillance teams are investigating alerts, which can be reports of ---- those with Ebola symptoms ---- deaths in areas that are considered high risk.

- A) whether / or
B) so / that
C) either / or
D) such / that
E) barely / when

14. From dawn to dusk and into the night, ---- you rest or remain active in some way, the amount of energy used by the brain will remain much the same.

- A) unless
B) whether
C) whereas
D) because
E) once

16. Thanks to recent work revealing the genetic underpinnings of reindeer's unusual characteristics, their superpowers ---- their ability to produce ample amounts of vitamin D even in limited sunlight could one day be ours.

- A) in terms of
B) as opposed to
C) as for
D) such as
E) similar to

17-21: For these questions, choose the best word or expression to fill the spaces in the passage.

It is sometimes argued that being in a relationship can offer health benefits. The research **(17)** ---- in support of this assumption says that those who are married are, on average, healthier than those who are not. **(18)** ----, the situation is likely to be much more complex than this. It is not clear if being in a relationship offers health benefits or if there are other explanations for this **(19)** ----. What's more, while being in a relationship is often linked to certain health advantages, it could bring health hazards, too. Research suggests that married people are more prone **(20)** ---- becoming overweight than those who are not. Finally, one size does not fit all. **(21)** ---- the advantages of being in a happy relationship for certain groups, being in a dysfunctional one is unlikely to do so.

17.

- A) to be cited B) cited
C) having cited D) to cite
E) citing

18.

- A) In contrast B) For instance
C) However D) Therefore
E) That is

19.

- A) detriment B) association
C) conflict D) treatment
E) occurrence

20.

- A) of
B) by
C) over
D) to
E) through

21.

- A) But for B) In spite of
C) Because of D) In case of
E) In order for

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1.C	2.B	3.D	4.A	5.B	6.E	7.A	8.C	9.D	10.C
11.B	12.A	13.C	14.B	15.C	16.D	17.B	18.C	19.B	20.D
21.B									