

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, ---- 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 | |

27-36: For these questions, choose the best option to complete the given sentence.

27. As better hygiene and sanitation have vastly reduced the incidence of infectious diseases and helped to contain the spread of antibiotic-resistant strains, ----.

- A) antibiotic-resistant bacteria are growing into a serious health issue worldwide
- B) it takes more than a decade for a new antibiotic to be developed and tested
- C) drug companies are making concerted efforts to develop new classes of antibiotics
- D) things will never get as bad as they were before the invention of antibiotics
- E) health officials are warning against the risks of self-medication with antibiotics

28. Although the increase in paid employment for women has contributed to various changes in attitudes towards their traditional roles, ----.

- A) a significant majority of women with high-paying jobs can now afford to pay for help from babysitters and cleaners
- B) women who work outside the home usually end up playing the leading role in managing the care of the house and family
- C) the commonly-held view that women should stay home and take care of the children is increasingly being challenged
- D) the role of women in the workplace has been transformed as they have increased their labor force participation
- E) women have given a long fight to be granted equal rights with men in education, employment, payment, and equal treatment

29. Because the more hygienic conditions in human houses leave less work for the immune system of domestic pets, which eventually get inappropriately sensitized to normally harmless particles in the environment, ----.

- A) their temperament and strength as well as their ability to resist disease and reproduce in captivity make some species ideal for domestication
- B) the likelihood of developing allergic reactions to environmental factors increases when our immune system is compromised
- C) pet ownership has been shown to enhance fitness levels, relieve stress, improve heart health, and boost overall happiness and well-being
- C) the first animal believed to have been domesticated is the dog some 15,000 years ago, possibly due to its sensitivity to human emotions
- E) allergies seem to be much more common in domestic pets than in wild animals or farm animals that spend most of their time outdoors

30. Unlike most other vaccinable diseases, such as yellow fever, dengue, diphtheria, and cholera, which are encountered by travelers to tropical regions in particular, ----.

- A) there is not yet a vaccine against malaria, which can only be temporarily blocked through the use of certain drugs
- B) these diseases continue to affect millions of people in underdeveloped countries where access to vaccines is limited
- C) they should have a medical consultation to learn about the risk of disease in the country or countries they plan to visit
- D) most infectious diseases that once took thousands of lives worldwide have now been eradicated thanks to the development of vaccines
- E) vaccine-hesitant individuals are a heterogeneous group with varying levels of indecision and concerns in the middle of this continuum

31. In case commercial jets need to be ditched into the water due to engine failure or some other kind of emergency, ----.

- A) flight attendants evacuate the plane within 90 seconds of contact
- B) ditching is a controlled emergency landing on water in an aircraft not designed for the purpose
- C) they receive scenario-based training in flight simulators
- D) their seat cushions have been designed to function as flotation devices
- E) passengers are required to put on the life vests under their seats

32. While volcanic eruptions are a significant threat to people, property, and agriculture in populated regions, ----.

- A) the soil can be extremely arid and unfit for habitation in their aftermath
- B) they cause more people flee to the safety of these regions
- C) they make it difficult for the people living in the region to breathe
- D) the seismic waves they create sometimes trigger strong earthquakes
- E) with volcanic ash clouds posing a serious risk, they can be equally dangerous in unpopulated areas

33. ----, governments must rely, in part, on secret intelligence to locate and identify them and penetrate their groups in their fight against terrorism.

- A) Since terrorists operate secretly and generally hide in remote locations
- B) While terrorism refers to the use of force or threats to demoralize and frighten people
- C) As long as the intelligence community collects and analyzes secret information about terrorist groups
- D) As governments use advanced technologies to access communications among terrorists
- E) When we witness the tragic consequences of terrorist attacks on crowded locations

34. Experiments with chimpanzees show that they display instructional patterns similar to those of humans in their interactions with their offspring ----.

- A) while they possess the ability to build and use tools
- B) as they learn new information more quickly than other animals
- C) just as they use sign language to communicate with humans
- D) in that they train their babies in particular behaviors
- E) though they bear genetic resemblance to other clever primates

35. Just like humans, most animals close their eyes and adopt positions referred to as sleep postures, ---.

- A) whereas some others, such as dolphins, can sleep while they are moving
- B) but some people are known to be sleepwalkers, performing tasks such as looking for lost objects
- C) though scientists are not sure if some animal species such as reptiles and insects sleep at all
- D) if humans typically close their eyes and lie down when they are sleeping
- E) just as sleep patterns show marked variations among species

36. Over the past few decades, alternative forms of medicine, such as acupuncture and reflexology, have gained a lot of prestige and attention alongside modern medicine, ----.

- A) which is why a lot of modern therapists refrain from combining alternative and modern practices
- B) so much so that many governments now have alternative medicine directorates
- C) even if they have lost their faith in the effectiveness and reliability of modern medicine completely
- D) as if banning these practices altogether could help to reinforce people's trust in modern medicine
- E) in contrast to the side effects that drug use creates in individuals sensitive to certain active ingredients

43-46: Answer these questions according to the passage below.

Cryonics is the preservation of deceased individuals in liquid nitrogen in the hope that future technologies will succeed in reviving them. It is a practice that will extend people's lifespan only if future technology allows not only for the reanimation of a body that has been cryopreserved for years but also for the retrieval of a significant portion of a person's mental states, memories, and psychological characteristics. Revival after cryopreservation is far from being technically feasible as yet, so the possibility of 'cheating death' raises ethical questions, nevertheless. For instance, should cryonics be considered the most cost-effective life-saving treatment that could possibly be developed? Or could cryonics be a bad investment even if it turned out to be technically feasible? Future human beings may have no interest in reviving cryopreserved people with whom they have no meaningful connection, or from whom they differ very profoundly. Under such circumstances, the cryopreserved would remain such even if, technically, there was no obstacle to doing so. Alternatively, life in the distant future could prove to be **excruciating** for someone who was born and lived in the remote past because they lacked the cognitive or biological tools developed by future humans to adapt to a vastly different environment. Perhaps most importantly, the prospect of immortality presents us with difficult philosophical questions about what makes our life worth living, and whether living is always a better alternative to non-existence.

43. Currently, cryopreservation ----.

- A) is practiced to reanimate dead individuals who have long been preserved in liquid nitrogen
- B) helps to restore people to life both physiologically and psychologically years after death
- C) has helped to improve the overall well-being of people who have lost their cognitive abilities
- D) remains a theory as revival of the cryopreserved depends on the capabilities of future science
- E) has technically been proven to be the most feasible method of extending humans' lifespan

44. Cryonics poses several moral issues ----.

- A) though it is a highly lucrative and efficient treatment
- B) even if it becomes practicable sometime in the near future
- C) due to the existing circumstances that limit its feasibility
- D) as it promises to push the limits of human existence
- E) so as to avoid investing in a potentially arid field

45. The author sees it unlikely that in the future, ----.

- A) humans will be eager to revive cryopreserved individuals
- B) cryonics will continue to be a matter of controversy
- C) it will be difficult for revived individuals to adapt to new conditions
- D) people will find it hard to form emotional bonds with one another
- E) revived individuals will be willing to recall their memories of their past lives

46. Which of the following can replace the underlined adjective 'excruciating' in the passage?

- A) exhilarating
- B) unequal
- C) disgraceful
- D) fictitious
- E) unbearable

51-54: Answer these questions according to the passage below.

Scientists have been surprised to find that trees communicate with one another and depend on one another for survival. They give each other space instead of hogging all the sunlight, and when there's a threat, like a disease or an insect infestation that could endanger their existence, some trees release stress signals. The acacia tree, which grows in Africa, is one example. When a giraffe takes more than its share of leaves from an acacia tree, that tree **secretes** a chemical that causes its neighbours to make their leaves taste bitter and repel the animal. Trees also help each other through an underground network of fungi whose tiny filaments, like the power lines that carry electricity, connect the trees and help them help one another, especially the young saplings, which, in the shade of their taller neighbours, may be too small to reach the sunlight they need for photosynthesis. The older, larger trees have enough nutrients to spare, and the extra nutrients they take in flow through the fungi network to the fragile saplings. It seems that trees are not silent types but, in their own way, big talkers – and hospitable neighbours.

51. It can be inferred from the passage that scientists ---

- .
- A) had previously thought that trees lacked the ability to communicate
- B) believe that insect infestation is the ultimate threat to trees
- C) have observed giraffes to be more harmful to trees than generally assumed
- D) are now able to gauge the amount of stress that plant species feel
- E) have included the African acacia trees in the list of endangered species

52. Which of the following is true about the acacia trees in Africa?

- A) They grow and thrive in very dense groups.
- B) They are capable of staving off diseases.
- C) They react chemically when overconsumed.
- D) They require more sunlight than most other trees.
- E) They attract insects rather than herbivorous mammals.

53. Which of the following can replace the underlined verb 'secretes' in the passage?

- A) absorbs
- B) releases
- C) solidifies
- D) evaporates
- E) ferments

54. It can be understood from the passage that young trees ---.

- A) need the fungi networks to be able to photosynthesize
- B) take in nutrients in the soil through their tiny filaments
- C) help older trees stay intact, strong, and nourished
- D) would probably die off in the absence of tall trees
- E) could easily perish in an abundance of fungi

55-58: Answer these questions according to the passage below.

Schizophrenia, any of numerous severe mental disorders characterized by such symptoms as hallucinations, disorganized thinking, withdrawal from reality, or bizarre behavior, is produced by premature deterioration of the brain. It is typically a product of genetic predisposition combined with stress, but it can be accelerated by external diseases or parasites. Schizophrenia affects only 1% of the population, although many people are predisposed to it but are never exposed to enough stress to exhibit any symptoms. It turns out that one of those potentially accelerating parasites can be found in our feline friends. *Toxoplasma gondii*, *T. gondii* for short, is a parasite that lives in raw meat and some garden soils. Cats become infected with it through consuming outdoor prey and then can pass it along to humans through their fecal matter. So, does owning a cat make people susceptible to schizophrenia? Though a limited number of studies have been conducted, none has been conclusive. The current consensus is that there is a definite correlation between cats and schizophrenia, but it is unlikely that the animals are a causal factor in the development of the disorder. Basically, cats probably don't actually cause someone to develop schizophrenia. The *T. gondii* found in some cats can cause cysts that accelerate premature brain deterioration, but such deterioration can happen only in individuals who are predisposed to schizophrenia.

55. Which of the following is true about schizophrenia?

- A) It refers exclusively to an acute disconnect from reality.
- B) Outside factors can precipitate its progression.
- C) Its most visible sign is frequent displays of improper conduct.
- D) It results in the premature deterioration of the brain.
- E) Just 1% of the population have a genetic predisposition for it.

56. It is clear from the passage that *T. gondii* ---.

- A) affects people who are genetically susceptible to stress and sensitive to stressors
- B) is a parasite that cats contaminate garden soils and other organisms with
- C) has been observed to cause displays of anxious behavior in cats
- D) is transmitted to cats through contact with their own excrement
- E) carries the danger of speeding up schizophrenia in vulnerable individuals

57. Studies on the correlation between cats and schizophrenia ---.

- A) are still far from yielding definitive results proving a direct link
- B) have shown that people infected with *T. gondii* suffer from cysts
- C) reveal that cats, too, can actually develop schizophrenia
- D) have caused a major controversy in scientific circles
- E) are multitudinous and quite comprehensive in scope

58. Which could be the best title for this passage?

- A) A Brief Account of Schizophrenia
- B) Our Best Friends and Our Worst Fears
- C) Are Felines a Threat to Mental Health?
- D) Is Schizophrenia a Barrier to Owning a Cat?
- E) Mystery of Schizophrenia Finally Solved

71. **Veganism can actually be a healthy choice as long as it is carefully planned by a dietician, yet its critics insist that such a diet can result in seriously low levels of nutrients that are essential to good health.**

- A) Although dieticians criticize veganism on the grounds that it can lead to seriously low levels of essential nutrients, it can actually be a healthy choice with careful planning.
- B) According to its critics, veganism is far from being a healthy option unless it is carefully planned by a dietician to include nutrients that are indispensable for good health.
- C) Despite the claims of critics to the effect that veganism deprives its followers of essential nutrients that are necessary for good health, dieticians have shown that it is actually a healthy option.
- D) Veganism is not an unhealthy choice, as some dieticians claim; on the contrary, it is healthier than other regimens when carefully planned.
- E) Critics of veganism contend that it can lead to critically low levels of nutrients essential for good health, when, in fact, veganism can be a healthy option provided a dietician designs a careful plan.

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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						27. D	28. B	29. E	30. A
31. D	32. E	33. A	34. D	35. A	36. B				
		43. D	44. D	45. A	46. E				
51. A	52. C	53. B	54. D	55. B	56. E	57. A	58. C		
71. E									