

1 - 16: For these questions, choose the best word or expression to fill the space.

1. As the world has recently witnessed, certain variants of the pandemic coronavirus can be more than twice as infectious as previous ----, increasing the death toll to unprecedented numbers.

- A) tributaries B) strains
C) transactions D) deliveries
E) injuries

2. A new report finds that carbon emissions from deforestation and other land use changes have decreased over the past decade, partly ---- for increases from burning fossil fuels.

- A) scrutinizing B) craving
C) overwhelming D) accounting
E) compensating

3. Different from most fruits we know, which generate a ---- amount of ethylene as they ripen, bananas produce a relatively large amount.

- A) considerable B) predictable
C) negligible D) permissible
E) deniable

4. Burial rituals are ---- held for the dead and to console the close relatives of the deceased, though they can also tell rich stories of a culture's living.

- A) scarcely B) cautiously
C) apparently D) ideally
E) eventually

5. The word "underrepresentation" does not even begin to describe the lack of Black, Latino, and Native American people in astrophysics even today as they have little to no ---- in the field.

- A) presence B) projection
C) ground D) outcome
E) existence

6. Animal species search out habitats that are the most appropriate for ---- their essential survival needs, especially in terms of food supply and if possible shelter.

- A) breaking into B) coping with
C) figuring out D) catering to
E) going without

7. The latest developments for the worse in the world ---- a toxic effect on people's manners as employees ranging from waitstaff to flight attendants ---- much ruder clients.

- A) would have had / report
B) must have had / will report
C) should have had / would report
D) could have had / were reporting
E) may have had / are reporting

8. In the wake of the artificial intelligence revolution and with remote working opportunities, millions of people ---- traditional jobs and they seem to be determined not to commit themselves to ---- in all over again.

- A) had left / clock
B) are leaving / clocked
C) have left / clocking
D) were leaving / be clocked
E) leave / being clocked

9. Islands ---- as geographical formations that are completely surrounded by water, yet there exist many islands ---- with a diverse plant life.

- A) have been defined / to be covered
B) are defined / covered
C) are defining / to cover
D) define / covering
E) defined / having covered

10. Many species of marine animals, smaller fish in particular, travel ---- schools rather than alone, moving in tight formations often ---- the precision of a disciplined military troop on parade.

- A) with / on
B) for / of
C) from / off
D) in / with
E) at / around

11. Alongside our thirst ---- fossil fuels, humans' destruction of nature has triggered the climate and ecological crises that now threaten our life ---- this planet.

- A) in / from
B) for / on
C) of / to
D) about / in
E) among / into

12. ---- you are unhappy or unfulfilled in your present role at your company, that doesn't necessarily mean you need to leave.

- A) Unless
B) Given that
C) Even if
D) Because
E) Whereas

13. Nearly 90 per cent of Iceland's workforce already work fewer hours, and similar initiatives are being considered in New Zealand and Spain, ---- politicians in Japan and California have proposed pilot-testing it.

- A) while
B) since
C) as
D) when
E) only if

14. Over time, some aspects of pet behaviour have become, and are still ingrained in our psyche as common knowledge, ---- in fact this 'knowledge' is often quite incorrect.

- A) after
B) because
C) before
D) given that
E) when

15. Interestingly enough, ---- do people all around the world share the same emotions, such as embarrassment, guilt, love, and pride, ---- they use the same facial expressions to show these emotions.

- A) both / and
B) either / or
C) whether / or
D) not only / but
E) no sooner / than

16. In the US, more and more schools are eliminating mandatory physical education, and there are some scientists who think this trend should continue ---- the validity of parental oppositions.

- A) due to
B) despite
C) apart from
D) in terms of
E) with a view to

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

For more than 100 years, linguists have been debating when, where, and how a group of languages spoken today across central and eastern Asia, including those in the Japanese, Korean, Tungusic, Mongolic, and Turkic families, **(17)** ----. A new study combining linguistic, genetic, and archaeological data suggests these Trans-Eurasian languages share a common origin and **(18)** ---- early with agriculture. Researchers compared ancient DNA from 23 individuals, stretching back to 7500 B.C.E., representing populations across Eurasia, **(19)** ---- modern reference genomes to construct a rough family tree. The team mapped those relations onto data from hundreds of archaeological sites and analysed etymological similarities in modern languages **(20)** ---- puzzling out the evolution of these ancient people's material culture and language. Taken together, the evidence indicates the Trans-Eurasian languages originated about 9000 years ago with millet farmers in the West Liao River Valley in present-day north-eastern China, and **(21)** ---- spread and split apart throughout the continent.

- 17.A) having emerged B) emerging
C) emerged D) to emerge
E) emerge

18.

- A) enhanced B) spread
C) observed D) cost
E) refrained

19.

- A) to B) in
C) by D) into
E) through

20.

- A) with the help of B) instead of
C) similar to D) with a view to
E) with the exception of

21.

- A) otherwise B) accordingly
C) meanwhile D) subsequently
E) therefore

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

Making a wish after the Sunday roast by splitting a greasy wishbone with a family member while sitting around the dining table is a tradition in many families. But did you know the origins of this wish-making go back as far as the Etruscans, an Italian civilisation contemporary to the Romans and who were eventually absorbed by the Roman empire. They believed in *alectryomancy*, or rooster divination, a form of prophecy which involved using the movements of a rooster to determine future events. The process was simple. An Etruscan alphabet would be drawn on the ground by a diviner who would then scatter grain over each letter. Then a rooster was set loose to peck the grain. The order in which the rooster pecked the grain would spell out a message, such as what lay ahead for society. When the rooster 'oracle' died, the furcula, or wishbone, was dried and preserved – as it was viewed as being the centre of the bird's predictive **prowess**. As the Etruscan culture was absorbed by the Romans, the valuation of the wishbone remained but with a twist – the Romans began the tradition of breaking it to allow two people to wish upon the bone, as there weren't enough birds for everyone. As the Roman Empire continued to expand, it carried the wishbone tradition with it.

43. According to the passage, the Etruscan diviner would scatter grain on an alphabet drawn on the ground because ----.

- A) people were interested in the wishbone of the rooster that would peck the grains
- B) Romans and Etruscans were gullible enough to buy into *alectryomancy*
- C) he wanted to give a message to the people who would gather around the alphabet
- D) people wanted to see what message the rooster's movements would reveal
- E) people wanted – and at times forced – him to do so

44. According to the passage, Romans ----.

- A) were the first nation to use a rooster to predict the future
- B) adopted the wishbone tradition from the Etruscans and modified it
- C) eradicated the Etruscan alphabet when they absorbed the Etruscans
- D) had more than enough number of chickens but nevertheless chose to break the wishbone
- E) were not as effective as the Etruscans in making the wishbone tradition common

45. The underlined word 'prowess' is closest in meaning to ----.

- A) might
- B) recipe
- C) movement
- D) ability
- E) trigger

46. It can be understood from the passage that today's wishbone tradition ----.

- A) is totally different from what the Etruscans did with the bone
- B) owes the entirety of its origins to the other nations that the Romans absorbed in time
- C) consists of drying the bone that is believed to be the core of a rooster
- D) involves drawing an alphabet on the ground and setting a rooster loose
- E) is quite similar to the very first one practiced by the Etruscans

47- 50: Answer these questions according to the passage below.

Ordering lobster in a restaurant or serving it at a party is considered the height of gastronomic sophistication. But that hasn't always been the case – lobster has worked its way up from humble beginnings to become a gourmet delicacy. In the 18th century, lobster was considered a highly undesirable food that wealthy families steered clear of. It was so abundant along the east coast of the US that it was used as fertiliser and served in prisons. Kentucky politician John Rowan joked: "Lobster shells about a house are looked upon as signs of poverty and degradation." It was the development of railways in the US, which transformed lobster into a luxury. Train operators decided to serve lobster to their wealthy passengers, who were unaware of the seafood's poor reputation. They quickly got a taste for lobster and brought it back to the cities, where it appeared on the menus of expensive restaurants. By the end of the 19th Century, lobster had cemented its status as a luxury food.

47. According to the passage, in strike contrast to its status as a gourmet delicacy, lobster ----.

- A) was considered a delicacy among railroad employees in the past
- B) wasn't even known to belong to the crustacean family
- C) was not known in the US in the 18th century – except for Kentucky
- D) was shunned by the wealthy families in the 18th century
- E) was served only in posh parties in the 18th century

48. It is clear from the passage that a long time had to pass ----.

- A) until all the railroads in the US added lobster to their menus
- B) for lobster to decrease in numbers on the east coast of the US
- C) before lobster was able to become the luxury food today
- D) before John Rowan could wean his palate to enjoy lobster
- E) for American railroad employees to accept lobster as a luxury food

49. It can be concluded from the passage that ----.

- A) lobster's being served in prisons probably played a role for its being unpopular among the rich
- B) John Rowan later became a fan of lobster following his train journey from the east to west
- C) people on the west coast of the US were accustomed to using lobster as a fertilizer for their crops
- D) it took lobster to become a food of gastronomic sophistication more than two centuries
- E) people living in the east coast of the US in the 18th century were afraid to order lobster in a restaurant due its high price

50. Which of the following could be the best title for the passage?

- A) The Brief History of Lobster Menus
- B) Lobster: Literally From Rags to Riches
- C) Lobster as a Loser in the US
- D) The Rise and Fall of Lobster
- E) How Lobster Fell into Disrepute from Luxury