

1 - 6: For these questions, choose the best word or expression to fill the space.

1. Astronomers have recently created the most detailed ---- ever of a giant molecular cloud, a nursery for stars, by which they will be able to understand how stars form and evolve.

- A) devotion
B) assessment
C) simulation
D) objective
E) grievance

2. In recent years, science has last confirmed what Aboriginal Australians, the world's oldest ---- living culture, always knew: the Pilbara region of Western Australia is among the oldest places on Earth.

- A) derivative
B) expository
C) essential
D) continuous
E) superfluous

3. Sophisticated agricultural techniques such as terraces played a vital role in the ---- of the Inca empire and catered to the needs of its people.

- A) comprehension
B) expansion
C) collapse
D) reference
E) familiarity

4. Children who are severely allergic to milk may be able to start tolerating it under a well-organised regimen, if they are given tiny amounts of baked milk followed by ---- larger doses.

- A) progressively
B) doubtfully
C) painstakingly
D) accurately
E) deviously

5. The new world of remote jobs has made small towns and cities explode with growth as workers ---- alternatives to big metropolitan areas.

- A) integrate
B) preview
C) accomplish
D) explore
E) provide

6. The charity that maintains Wikipedia has developed artificial intelligence that can ---- contradictory claims in articles and alert the human editors who write and edit the collective encyclopaedia.

- A) take off
B) make up
C) catch on
D) deal with
E) pick out

7. In the near future, dairy products' climate costs ---- significantly thanks to a set of innovations that ---- the power of the enzymes and microbes found in the guts of cows themselves.

- A) would be reduced / have drawn on
- B) can be reduced / are drawing on
- C) should be reduced / will draw on
- D) could be reduced / were drawing on
- E) may be reduced / draw on

8. A chemical ---- from human skin and breath has no detectable scent but ---- behaviour, which makes men calmer and women more aggressive.

- A) emitting / may influence
- B) to emit / might have influenced
- C) being emitted / has to influence
- D) emitted / can influence
- E) to be emitted / must have influenced

9. Some countries are full of educated people whose skills are needed badly, but there are barriers to ---- them to jobs, which ---- to 'brain waste'.

- A) be matched / led
- B) have matched / has led
- C) matching / leads
- D) match / had led
- E) be matching / will lead

10. People who are in a coma after a brain injury, such as ---- a car accident or a stroke, sometimes emerge ---- a new condition between coma and consciousness called the vegetative state.

- A) with / onto
- B) of / as
- C) from / into
- D) by / from
- E) on / among

11. People communicate in different ways; some are constantly attached ---- their phones, while others want to disengage ---- them for longer chunks of time.

- A) to / from
- B) off / on
- C) of / to
- D) about / within
- E) amid / in

12. ---- it scores even better on measures of sustainability compared to traditional meat, cultured meat is unlikely to be adopted by meat-haters as it is not commonly considered vegan.

- A) Until
- B) Although
- C) Even when
- D) Since
- E) Whereas

13. How we sleep now in the 21st Century is kind of odd, in an evolutionary sense, ---- we weren't evolved to sleep like we are dead for eight hours, and not wake up, in total silence and total darkness.

- A) so that
B) given that
C) as though
D) while
E) even if

14. Alternative plastics derived from plant sources like corn starch and seaweed are renewable and biodegradable, ---- they are also energy-intensive to make and hard to recycle.

- A) since
B) before
C) once
D) while
E) after

15. Salmon, a food source for a variety of animals, are also ---- economically important to Vancouver ---- deeply significant in Indigenous cultures in the region.

- A) both / and
B) neither / nor
C) no sooner / than
D) either / or
E) whether / or

16. Droughts, which are becoming more severe ---- climate change, may harm tropical forests and release some of the carbon they store.

- A) on behalf of
B) in spite of
C) different from
D) as opposed to
E) owing to

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

“You are getting sleepy” is a common catchphrase in movies and stage performances that **(17)** ---- hypnosis. Yet, when people appear to fall asleep while doing hypnosis on stage, they remain awake and responsive to the performer’s suggestions. Because people who are gifted in hypnosis often forget what happens while they are within a hypnotic state, they may not recall what happened during the time they were “sleeping.” **(18)** ----, this does not mean that they have fallen asleep. On the other hand, hypnosis can help people become very relaxed, and if they are tired they can become sleepy **(19)** ---- their relaxed state. Sometimes, patients can be taught how to use hypnosis to fall asleep as a treatment for insomnia. Once again, in this scenario, it should be **(20)** ---- that the patient chooses to use hypnosis to fall asleep. The hypnotist has no power **(21)** ---- the patient.

17.

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| A) has depicted | B) depicted |
| C) had depicted | D) depicts |
| E) will depict | |

18.

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| A) However | B) Thus |
| C) In contrast | D) Meanwhile |
| E) To this end | |

19.

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| A) along with | B) in terms of |
| C) as a result of | D) despite |
| E) as opposed to | |

20.

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| A) delivered | B) reconstructed |
| C) emphasized | D) performed |
| E) cleansed | |

21.

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| A) into | B) among |
| C) above | D) within |
| E) over | |

22 - 26: For these questions, choose the best word or expression to fill the spaces in the passage.

Humans are born with a love of sugar, but everything else is a/an **(22)** ---- taste. As a result, your dietary preferences are largely the product of what you've been exposed to. **(23)** ----, there are some seemingly universal principles of deliciousness: A balance of contrasting flavours certainly makes for yummiier food, and ingredients that share similar aromatic undertones can create more subtle, interesting notes – aroma is, **(24)** ----, responsible for most of what we call flavour. Guiding concepts like these explain why some dishes pop and others flop. Chefs use them **(25)** ---- exquisite meals, but the same rules can elevate even a humble hamburger patty **(26)** ---- a thing of beauty.

22.

- | | |
|-------------|----------|
| A) acquired | B) flat |
| C) edible | D) plain |
| E) creative | |

23.

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| A) Besides | B) Therefore |
| C) Similarly | D) Still |
| E) By the same token | |

24.

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| A) in contrast | B) after all |
| C) therefore | D) instead |
| E) or else | |

25.

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| A) creating | B) created |
| C) to create | D) having created |
| E) having been created | |

26.

- | | |
|--------|---------|
| A) for | B) to |
| C) on | D) from |
| E) off | |

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

27. The saying “out of sight, out of mind” doesn’t quite hold true for radioactive materials ----.

- A) although some countries have failed to gain approval for long-term nuclear waste depositories
- B) but many energy specialists claim that the future of energy belongs to renewable sources to a great extent
- C) whereas it is necessary to dig into the earth for almost half a kilometre to safely hold radioactive waste there
- D) since proposed permanent storage facilities for nuclear waste have encountered fierce opposition in many countries
- E) and many countries keep following the unsafe procedures to get rid of their nuclear waste

28. ----, but despite that apparent lag, Finnish students score higher in reading comprehension than those from the UK and the US at age 15.

- A) In Finland, there is the Upper Secondary School which is a three-year program that prepares students for the test that determines their acceptance into a University
- B) Students in Finland often have the same teacher for up to six years of their education, during which the teacher can take on the role of a mentor or even a family member
- C) There is a general trend in what Finland is doing with its schools: less stress, less unneeded regimentation and more caring
- D) Finnish students are getting everything they need to get done in school without the added pressures that come with excelling at a subject
- E) In Finland, often hailed as the country with one of the best education systems in the world, children begin school at the –relatively late– age of seven

29. Though developed countries are lifting restrictions regarding Covid 19 after having vaccinated most people with three doses, ----.

- A) the rate of vaccine delivery has accelerated over the past year
- B) delivering vaccines to lots of people in low-income countries is an easy task
- C) almost 24 billion doses of vaccine will be delivered to give everyone three doses
- D) only about 10% living in low-income countries have had even one dose
- E) three doses per person may well be enough to bring the pandemic under control

30. Parents around the world want their children to stand out rather than fit in, ----.

- A) so they are increasingly picking unique names for their new-borns
- B) but by doing so they represent a shift from collectivism to individualism
- C) otherwise children with ordinary names wouldn’t be able to blend in
- D) thus they tend to go for generic names, instead of exceptional ones
- E) and they urge them to take part in extra-curricular collective activities

36. Since even numbers were thought by the Romans to bring ill-fate, ----.

- A) in Rome, February was linked with rituals of purification, or *februum* – giving it its name
- B) the length of the months in Pompilius’ calendar alternated between 29 or 31 days
- C) in 731BCE, the king of Rome decided to line the calendar up with the phases of the moon
- D) the Gregorian Calendar was introduced in 1582, named after Pope Gregory XIII
- E) people living far from Rome did not realise that the extra month had been added to the calendar

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

Finding a life partner is considered a major milestone – one that requires deliberation and careful assessment. We want someone whose long-term plans match our own: someone to whom we are attracted, someone with whom we feel comfortable sharing our home, finances and, maybe, children. This person is our life partner, after all – naturally, we assume we will take care with the decision. But it turns out we may be less selective about whom we spend our lives with than we think. Research shows hidden biases mean we will give people a chance, even if they don't quite meet our criteria. And when we do pick a partner, we are driven by a psychological tendency called "progression bias" to stay in the relationship, rather than end it. In other words, we are hard-wired to be in a romantic relationship, say psychologists, despite trends among young people to shun marriage in favour of a calculated approach to singlehood. Yet, even as the combination of evolutionary instincts and societal pressures steer us towards the coupled life, being aware of our progression bias could help us understand why we pick the partners we do – and why we stay with them.

43. The passage makes it clear that finding a life partner ----.

- A) isn't as important as progression bias
- B) is a very important decision in people's lives
- C) can be a quest that lasts a lifetime for some
- D) proves that people lack the skill to make long-term plans
- E) always means making careful decisions

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

- A) are programmed by society to make rational decisions, not emotional ones, about their partners
- B) often choose not to share their finances with their life partners
- C) are quite picky about whom they are going to share their lives with
- D) can make logical partner choices if they know what progression bias is
- E) have always inclined to be single instead of getting married

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

- A) cleanse
- B) uphold
- C) embrace
- D) avoid
- E) deceive

46. It can be understood from the passage that when it comes to finding a life partner ----.

- A) the new generation goes through a thorough planning period
- B) progression bias is not taken into consideration much
- C) people do not carefully assess who they are going to share their lives with
- D) people who do not meet our criteria will not get a chance
- E) financial concerns and decisions about children play a major role

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Bonus1

Which of the following is not cited among the reasons why one finds a partner?

- A) Feeling allured or charmed by another person
- B) The desire to ensure the continuation of one's own line
- C) Finding someone whose priorities and interests are akin to ours
- D) Societal pressures around us
- E) Our instincts telling us to opt for a life with a partner

Bonus 2

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

- A) A brief insight into love and marriage
- B) A glimpse into how the young view marriage
- C) To marry or not to marry? That's the question
- D) Progression bias and its effects on the young
- E) Finding a life partner: how and why?

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

The desert has never been far from Dubai's doorstep. Now a modern financial hub of some three million people, the United Arab Emirates' (UAE) most populous city remains surrounded on one side by sea, on the other by a seemingly endless carpet of sand. Over the last 50 years the city has become a somewhat improbable success story, transforming from a sleepy fishing port to a shining urban metropolis. But despite its opulence, the city faces a major challenge: encroaching deserts which threaten the emirate's remaining fertile land. The UAE is around the same size as Portugal, but some 80% of its land area is already desert. Its ecosystem is fragile and, partly due to desertification, much of its most valuable land is coming under increased strain. A government report published in 2019 stated that "with an increase in population and food consumption systems, land degradation and desertification are becoming rampant". Finding effective solutions has become a priority for the country. The goal is not to conquer the desert, but to restore areas of land that are no longer productive.

Bonus 1

According to the passage, the author's stance considering the goals of the UAE is ----.

- A) skeptical
- B) appreciating
- C) pessimistic
- D) indifferent
- E) cautious

47. According to the passage, desertification ----.

- A) is the major cause of degradation in food consumption systems in the UAE
- B) is inevitable in Dubai, but increasing fertile lands might offer a solution
- C) is the reason why people in Dubai decided to turn a fishing town into a metropolis
- D) has been a problem in the world, and the UAE is not an exception
- E) is one of the causes of the increasing problems the fertile lands in the UAE are facing

48. It can be concluded from the passage that the current status of Dubai as a successful urban metropolis ----.

- A) does not do much to help decrease the population now
- B) makes it the most famous financial hub in the Middle East
- C) was not foreseen by many people fifty years ago
- D) has been made possible by the rich resources that can be found in the UAE
- E) has attracted at least three million people from the UAE

49. It is clear from the passage that ----.

- A) land degradation and desertification are getting widespread throughout the UAE
- B) solutions to the problem of desertification in Dubai are high in number and varied
- C) the increase in food consumption systems is the most serious problem in the UAE
- D) the government report released in 2019 has claims that are no longer valid
- E) 50 years ago the Emirates in the UAE chose Dubai to be their capital

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

- A) Conquering the Desert: The Latest Challenge for Dubai
- B) From a Fishing Village to Metropolis: The Rise of Dubai
- C) Successful and Rich, But Dubai Also Has its Own Problems
- D) Dubai vs the Desert: How the UAE Will Solve its Land Degradation Problem
- E) The World's Rising Metropolis: Dubai

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

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has sparked global outrage and a desire to show support for Ukrainian citizens. Many people who are not in Ukraine have felt desperate to do something positive, something that will help. Some have donated clothing and blankets. Others have registered to host refugees. And everywhere from government buildings to school playgrounds, the colours of the Ukrainian flag have been flown, solidarity writ large in blue and yellow. But alongside this positive support for Ukraine is a more negative rejection of anything – and everything – associated with Russia. Military anthems by long-dead Russian composers have been stricken off concert playlists. Russian cats have been banned from international feline exhibitions. This begs the question of what these actions seek to achieve and who is being impacted. As research shows, the second world war offers multiple examples of destructive antagonism directed at German, Italian and Japanese citizens living in the UK and the US. As always in times of war, it is citizens who suffer the consequences of the actions of their government. A lack of geographic knowledge and understanding among the general public has always caused issues in times of war. Elsewhere in the world, Ukrainians and Latvians are currently being targeted because people mistakenly think they are Russian.

55. According to the passage, Ukrainian citizens

----.

- A) have been subject to acts of violence along with Germans, Italians and Japanese
- B) look very much like Latvians, but they don't resemble Russians
- C) have received both support and mistreatment from people in the world
- D) have been accommodated in government buildings and school playgrounds
- E) have become subjects of an ongoing research on the impacts of war on ordinary people

56. It can be inferred from the tone of the passage that the writer ----.

- A) does not approve of what is being done to things associated with Russia
- B) has witnessed the second world war and its impact on people
- C) has shown his support for Ukrainian citizens by hanging their flag out
- D) has mixed feelings about the invasion of Ukraine by the Russians
- E) seems to be especially disappointed by the exclusion of Russian cats from feline exhibitions

57. Why does the writer mention the second world war?

- A) For the purpose of attracting readers' attention to Ukrainian citizens
- B) To commemorate German, Italian and Japanese citizens who were subject to violence
- C) In order to convince the readers that wars are bad for people
- D) To emphasize the fact that ordinary citizens are harmed by the actions of governments
- E) To make a point about the hardships Russians are going through now

58. What does the passage mainly focus on?

- A) The invasion of Ukraine by Russia and its possible reasons
- B) How Russian citizens are targeting Ukrainians and Latvians
- C) The pointlessness of second world war and the Russian invasion of Ukraine
- D) How citizens –those of both the invading and invaded side– suffer the consequences of war
- E) The enormous support the world has given to Ukrainian citizens