

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

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

- A) of / for B) in / across
C) to / as D) at / throughout
E) by / of

2. Amethyst is a very widely distributed mineral, but fine and clear specimens fit ---- cutting as ornamental stones are confined, most of the time,---- comparatively few localities.

- A) by / of B) for / to
C) in / at D) into / across
E) through / in

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) harnessing
C) invasion D) conversion
E) exposure

4. Hong Kong, one of the most densely populated cities in the world with 6,659 people per square kilometer, has the world's highest life expectancy with 87.8 years and 82 for females and males----.

- A) respectively B) successively
C) consecutively D) enormously
E) predominantly

anoora

anoora

anoora

anoora

5. **Neuroplasticity, the ability of the brain to form and reorganize synaptic connections, especially ---- life experiences or following injury, underlies the capacity for learning and memory, and it enables mental and behavioral flexibility.**
- A) with the aim of B) in response to
C) in order for D) in terms of
E) with a view to
6. **To prevent cardiovascular disease, doctors often advise patients to ---- meat and encourage a diet high in vegetables and low in animal foods.**
- A) brush up on B) boil down to
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 ---- only in the second half of the 20th century.**
- A) to have been practiced / created
B) to be practiced / having created
C) practiced / to have been created
D) to practice / to be created
E) having been practiced / to create
8. **As smaller societies are assimilated into national and global cultures, half of all human languages ---- by the end of this century, which ---- a heavy blow to cultural studies and cognitive science alike.**
- A) are disappearing / would inflict
B) have disappeared / may inflict
C) will have disappeared / could inflict
D) are going to disappear / had to inflict
E) disappear / should inflict

9. ---- resembling 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 are able to adapt to their local environment.
- A) Prior to
B) Apart from
C) As well as
D) Rather than
E) In contrast to
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 / until
B) for / on
C) over / through
D) within / in
E) throughout / with
11. Plants use carbon dioxide and water from the air and the soil respectively ---- sugar and oxygen during photosynthesis.
- A) making
B) to make
C) made
D) make
E) to be made
12. ---- all the amazing advances in artificial intelligence, there is no computer today that understands that it is a computer, or has thoughts and feelings – they only focus on specific sets of data to solve specific problems.
- A) Notwithstanding B) Because of
C) Apart from D) As opposed to
E) As if

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

- A) Just as B) Unless
C) Given that D) In case
E) Although

14. ---- you are relaxing in your favourite corner of the house reading your book or recent articles in your field or engaged in a physical activity, the amount of energy used by the brain remains much the same.

- A) Now that B) Whether
C) When D) Although
E) Unless

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) just / so
C) either / or D) such / that
E) as / as

16. ---- recent work revealing the genetic underpinnings of reindeer's unusual characteristics, their superpowers, such as 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) Prior to D) Thanks to
E) Just as

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 says that those who are married are, on average, healthier than those who are not – but the situation is likely to be much more complex than this. (18) ----, it's not clear if being in a relationship offers health benefits or if there are other explanations for this association. What's more, while being in a relationship is often linked to certain health advantages, it could bring health (19) ---- 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) ---- being in a happy relationship may bring certain advantages, being in a dysfunctional one is unlikely to do so.

17.

- A) is cited B) cited
C) was cited D) has been cited
E) would be cited

18.

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

19.

- A) defects B) hazards
C) conflicts D) treatments
E) occurrences

20.

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

21.

- A) Whenever B) Whereas
C) Similar to D) In case
E) As soon as

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

The space surrounding Earth is becoming a dirty place. More and more satellites and spacecraft launch into it **(22)** ---- a recurring basis and leave ever-growing troves of dangerous space junk. Debris in space **(23)** ---- in Earth's orbit for more than half a century, and the old adage, "out of sight, out of mind" is already far from applying to the issue of the thousands of individual space assets and debris. NASA estimates there are **(24)** ---- 22,000 objects larger than ten centimeters in diameter in near-Earth orbit. **(25)** ----, there are likely tens of millions more of smaller pieces, most of which are moving at extremely high speeds – up to seven times the speed of a bullet. At that speed, an object no bigger than a penny could destroy a spacecraft. Even more worryingly, a 'critical mass' of space junk may be only a few decades away, where one major collision could result in an uncontrollable chain reaction, causing untold damage. Possible clean-up solutions include gathering the debris using various tools **(26)** ---- nets, harpoons, laser beams or mini-satellites, or forcing the junk to burn up in the atmosphere.

22.

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| A) under | B) beyond |
| C) on | D) along |
| E) within | |

23.

- A) was accruing
- B) has been accruing
- C) will be accruing
- D) is accruing
- E) had been accruing

24.

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| A) relatively | B) discreetly |
| C) meticulously | D) roughly |
| E) extremely | |

25.

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| A) In addition | B) Instead |
| C) Consequently | D) Conversely |
| E) In fact | |

26.

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| A) aside from | B) unlike |
| C) such as | D) whether |
| E) due to | |