I. Vocabulary: choose the appropriate meaning of the underlined words 30%

1. A graceful person generally **downplay** his role in an event when he is high and mighty.
   a) plays soft feathers  b) makes more important  c) plays games down  d) relaxes  e) makes less important or less noticeable

2. The embroidered bag I carried yesterday is **hand sown**.
   a) locally made  b) hand-grown  c) hand-made  d) grew in the backyard  e) made at home

3. Using of **pesticide** has become part of modern life in cleaning houses. However, one may wonder if it is us who drove these pests out of their home neighborhood or they who annoyed us by staying inside our homes.
   a) slaughterer  b) a chemical used to destroy pests  c) cannibal  d) a chemical used to kill pets  e) liquid used to commit suicide

4. Michael is computer-literate. So he may be able to give you some solutions to your problem.
   a) civilized  b) widely read  c) well-informed  d) able to use  e) brainworker

5. Having just one child means that an only child may be more spoiled than one with **siblings**.
   a) brothers or sisters  b) sisters  c) brothers  d) cousins  e) aunts

6. It is important for many youngsters to be in the **mainstream** so that they won’t be different from their peers.
   a) principal current of river  b) the majority group  c) tenor  d) the way the wind blows  e) swing

7. A **franchise** is a good starting point for someone who is interested in doing business and doesn’t want to start from scratch.
   a) privilege  b) copyright of an invention  c) right to vote in State election  d) a business that is associated with a larger corporation  e) citizenship

8. The **workout** is great. It targets the exact parts of my body.
   a) providing for all details of  b) working outside  c) a period of exercise  d) weight control  e) dancing

9. Many people claim to be sport fans. However, they don’t play any sports; they play **couch potatoes** during the game.
   a) a special kind of potatoes  b) sweat potatoes  c) Irish potatoes  d) produce  e) a lazy, do-nothing television watcher

10. Mosquitoes are the sources of many contagious diseases. We need to keep them from populating in our environment at all times.
    a) prevent  b) maintain in proper order  c) retain possession of  d) own and manage  e) carry on

11. Most of our politicians can’t make the grade at the end of their terms. But the voters still trust them and give them their votes.
    a) get an extra grade  b) cheat  c) go on to a higher grade  d) be what is expected  e) score

12. We all need a good **incentive** to push us to be successful in life.
    a) payment  b) a reason to do something/motivation  c) sexual intercourse of near relations  d) concession  e) beginning

13. Fighting for justice and fairness are sometimes **lost causes**, however, that doesn’t mean we should give up.
    a) a project with no reasons  b) a project with unclear reasons  c) a project with great hope  d) a project with serious reasons  e) a project with no hope of success

14. Many of the **scams** target elderly as their victims because they are old, feeble, and totally defenseless.
    a) a deceptive act or plan  b) insider trading  c) short weight  d) burn  e) racket

15. Mary is a **tinker**. She does everything without commitment.
    a) gypsy  b) itinerant mendicant of kettles and pans  c) a person who works, but not seriously  d) doctor  e) repairperson

II. Grammar: fill in the blank 30%

16. I **___** my Aunt Lily’s home many times when I was a little boy.
    a) visit  b) am visiting  c) had visited  d) was visited  e) visited

17. Don’t **___** a little weight around his middle. He needs to get more exercise.
    a) is putting on  b) had put on  c) been putting on  d) put on  e) is put on

18. The little boy had a lot of trouble **___** anyone that he had seen a unicorn.
    a) convinced  b) convince  c) been convinced  d) convincing  e) convincingly

19. Do you believe **___** ghosts?
    a) on  b) in  c) with  d) at  e) of

20. Children rely **___** their parents for food and shelter.
    a) in  b) with  c) on  d) at  e) to

21. I’ll give you my telephone number **___** you need to get in touch with me.
    a) unless  b) in case  c) though  d) so that  e) otherwise

22. We haven’t met before, **___**?
    a) haven’t we  b) don’t we  c) do we  d) aren’t we  e) have we

23. It’s a bit expensive. You haven’t got anything cheaper, **___**?
    a) haven’t you  b) don’t you  c) have you  d) do you  e) are you

24. They still show **___** loyalty to their parents.
    a) amazed  b) amaze  c) been amazed  d) amazing  e) amazingly

25. If someone makes you sad and unhappy, you feel **___**.
    a) depressive  b) depressing  c) depression  d) depressiveness  e) depressed

26. I enjoyed Dr. Brown’s visit. He is a very **___** speaker.
    a) interesting  b) interested  c) interest  d) interests  e) interestingly
27. This is one of the most ___ books I've ever read.
   a) bored       b) bore       c) boring
   d) borer       e) boredom

28. If you can spare me ___ time, I'd like to make some suggestions.
   a) a little    b) a few      c) a
   d) an          e) (none)

29. In a park, all dogs ___ be kept on a lead.
   a) must        b) can        c) don't
   d) should      e) had

30. ___ monk from Romania came to make a speech of the life of monastery.
    a) An           b) A          c) The
    d) (None)      e) Some

III. Four sentences out of the five sentences are telling about an incident. The fifth one is not related to the incident. All five sentences are randomly arranged. Which one is the unrelated sentence? 20%

31. a) At last it arrived.
    b) I sat in the boat and closed my eyes.
    c) We sat inside the cool house, out of the sun and wait for the time to come.
    d) On the table in front of us lay the letter.
    e) We waited for the day when we could open the letter.

32. a) Miranda put the gun carefully into a pocket in her overalls.
    b) Varon saw the white control switch.
    c) The switch slowly began to glow with a red light.
    d) Varon held the key firmly.
    e) He pointed the key at the switch and pressed the button with it.

33. a) Adam stopped just inside the door and watched as Sam was secured into the Chair.
    b) Nugent went first into the Camber Room, then Sam, then Adam.
    c) The execution team were there, but they all looked away from Sam.
    d) For a moment, Adam's eyes met Sam's.
    e) Lee began walking very slowly to the house, and then stopped.

34. a) She taught her maid to hand a glass of water held in a white cloth, to knock before entering a room, to dress her mistress.
    b) In the daytime, Emma wore a long dress with a silk belt and little red silk shoes.
    c) But she tried to improve things in her house.
    d) The meeting ended and everybody was pushed out of the hall.
    e) She thought she would like to travel, or to go back to her school.

35. a) I am surprised that she wants to come since usually she hates anything so public.
    b) She shows an extraordinary interest in my case, and plans to sit in court every day of the trial.
    c) Sam raised his eyes as if this kid was the stupidest human he'd met in decades.
    d) Barbara drives me everywhere nowadays, my concentration is not good enough.
    e) Stern is pleased; he wants the jury to see my wife's support for me.

36. a) "Tell you what to do?" his mother said.
    b) "He put me here. Why would he want to do that?"
    c) "I can't tell you what to do, Ishmael."
    d) "But I have to say that, no matter how I try, I can't really understand you."
    e) "I've tried to understand what it's been like for you, having gone to war, not having married or had children."

37. a) The fishes had to catch extra fish for the party meal.
    b) I watched Sally from just inside the long house door.
    c) The lids were hammered down.
    d) Everyone was standing in a big circle and she was in the middle, marching around and shouting out orders.
    e) The cooks had to cook seven whole chickens.

38. a) Meggie wrote to him often, but he didn't answer her letters.
    b) One day Ann came to her with an offer.
    c) The baby was healthier than Meggie, who looked tired and ill.
    d) The months passed, and still Luke stayed away.
    e) Lucy's bed was empty and the bedroom door was wide open!

39. a) No one liked her. No one excepts Vic.
    b) He seemed to enjoy talking to her.
    c) This young girl was awful to everyone.
    d) I knew very well that if Sir Percival or the Count found us, we could expect no mercy from them.
    e) Angela laughed. Helen looked at them.

40. a) The soldiers went away to fight in the war.
    b) Wang Lung told his workers to build and repair walls and to tend animals.
    c) The twins laughed and played in the doorway.
    d) His poor, foolish daughter sat for hours and hours twisting a piece of cloth in her hands.
    e) He, himself was idle for the first time in his life and had the time to watch his family.
V. One sentence in every question would be the topic sentence that the other four sentences relate to or provide support for. The order is randomly arranged. Which sentence is the topic sentence? 20%

41. a) But to do so he needed Laura’s signature to show that she gave her permission for him to use her money.
b) To my surprise, she didn’t seem upset.
c) I understood everything very clearly.
d) I crept back upstairs to Laura’s room at once to tell her what I’d heard.
e) Sir Percival was going to try and obtain Laura’s twenty thousand pounds to clear his debts.

42. a) At night the singing of the women and their laughter came from the windows.
b) This new teahouse had two floors.
c) They were very noisy.
d) On the ground floor, men sat drinking tea and gambling with dice and dominoes.
e) One the upper floor, there were women who entertained men.

43. a) Soon there were coffee houses in many European cities.
b) The Persians, Arabs and Turks were drinking coffee many hundreds of years ago.
c) Then, in the 1600s, Europeans learned about coffee.
d) The first people to grow coffee beans lived in the Middle East.
e) They quickly learned to like it.

44. a) Then, slowly, the wheels began to turn.
b) People came from miles around the small Pennsylvania town to see the first run of the steam locomotive, the Stourbridge Lion.
c) As the signal to start was given, there was a moment of suspense.
d) Cheers went up as engineer Allen opened the throttle wide and began his historic trip.
e) The engineer refused to let anyone ride with him—perhaps because neither the engine nor the trestle had been tested.

45. a) He passed 30 years to Ed Boyle for another touchdown.
b) George Heston tallied on a 66-yard gallop to open the scoring.
c) A five-yard aerial play from Heston to Boyle turned out to be the final score in the game.
d) The Buffaloes walloped the Cardinals 31-0 at Memorial Stadium yesterday.
e) The Buffaloes were led by halfback Bob Anderson, who scored two touchdowns.

46. a) Antarctica is the most isolated place on earth.
b) Between February and October each year it gets so cold that parts of the continent are inaccessible.
c) Every year, scientists from all over the world travel there to work in conditions of extreme cold, with temperatures reaching minus 100 degree Fahrenheit.
d) Around the middle of the continent, near the South Pole Station, the cold weather causes plane fuel to change consistency, making it impossible for aircraft to land.
e) In addition to being cold, the atmosphere is extremely dry and windy.

47. a) The TV networks make great profits from the commercial ads during basketball games.
b) The teams are owned by people who view them as at least partly a financial investment.
c) They are a great influence in deciding when to schedule games—they want prime time audience.
d) Each owner tries to make his team as profitable as possible.
e) Basketball, like other sports, is big business in the United States.

48. a) In developing countries, local populations often depend on selling wild animal and plant products for their livelihood.
b) As the number of wild animals and plants decreases, people may find that they no longer have a means of making a living.
c) The disappearance of species has devastating effects on a country’s economy.
d) Governments depend on the taxes and duties received from exporting these products.
e) Most nations have some national legislation designed to prevent trade in endangered species.

49. a) These structures, which were carved by ancient people to resemble human heads, range in height from about 31/2 to 12 meters.
b) Located in the South Pacific, Easter Island is one of the most isolated places on earth.
c) Today, roughly 600 stones remain.
d) It is famous for the large stone monoliths that line its coast.
e) Two of the most intriguing places are Easter Island and Stonehenge.

50. a) There are many factors that can cause an animal or plant species to become endangered.
b) Deforestation and soil, air, and water pollution can all destroy a habitat.
c) Another cause of endangerment is exploitation of animals.
d) The main cause of species endangerment is humanity’s destruction of both aquatic and terrestrial habitats.
e) This can then cause a large number of animals or plants to die.