



Name: _____

Date: _____

Section A Vocabulary

Choose the most suitable word and write its number in the bracket provided.

1. The two wicked men _____ a plan to cheat the old lady of her money.
(1) hatched
(2) invented
(3) arranged
(4) programmed ()

2. "I am not sure which secondary school to go to. Please give me your _____."
She said to her father.
(1) tip
(2) clue
(3) advice
(4) lecture ()

3. According to the folk tale, many soldiers perished while fighting with the swordfish.
(1) died
(2) ran away
(3) collapsed
(4) were injured ()

4. Mrs Chan has drawn up a guest _____ for the party she is throwing.
(1) list
(2) schedule
(3) timetable
(4) programme ()

5. The passengers are getting ready to disembark from the plane.
- (1) leave
 - (2) board
 - (3) settle into
 - (4) wave from ()
6. This travel agency is highly recommended by friends as it is dependable.
- (1) new
 - (2) helpful
 - (3) reliable
 - (4) popular ()
7. He took a _____ breath before diving into the water.
- (1) high
 - (2) deep
 - (3) thick
 - (4) heavy ()
8. The _____ of a shark consists of fish and other sea creatures.
- (1) diet
 - (2) habit
 - (3) lifestyle
 - (4) appearance ()
9. This towel can _____ a lot of water.
- (1) suck
 - (2) drink
 - (3) absorb
 - (4) swallow ()

10. The bees in the garden _____ from flower to flower.
- (1) fly
 - (2) trot
 - (3) swoop
 - (4) waddle
- ()

Section B Grammar

Choose the most suitable word and write its number in the bracket provided.

11. The bag I bought last month at the sale _____ ten dollars less.
- (1) cost
 - (2) costs
 - (3) costing
 - (4) will cost
- ()

12. Next Monday _____ Dad's birthday. I have bought a present for him already.
- (1) are
 - (2) was
 - (3) will be
 - (4) shall be
- ()

13. Our parents _____ to the park every morning for a stroll.
- (1) go
 - (2) goes
 - (3) went
 - (4) are going
- ()

14. Everyone _____ taking a break now except you.
- (1) is
 - (2) are
 - (3) was
 - (4) were
- ()

15. You will _____ your classmates if you do not work hard for better grades now.
- (1) fall by
 - (2) fall into
 - (3) fall over
 - (4) fall behind ()
16. We have forgotten to seek permission from our parents _____ we cannot join our friends for the outing.
- (1) so
 - (2) for
 - (3) but
 - (4) because ()
17. The school basketball team lost _____ important match because one of the players was not well.
- (1) a
 - (2) an
 - (3) any
 - (4) some ()
18. Please come punctually as dinner will be served _____ time.
- (1) in
 - (2) on
 - (3) into
 - (4) onto ()
19. Mindy _____ some of her pocket money to get a gift for her mother.
- (1) set up
 - (2) set off
 - (3) set into
 - (4) set aside ()

20. Tim had _____ tea and a few pieces of biscuits just now.

- (1) few
- (2) little
- (3) some
- (4) several

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Section C Punctuation

Choose the most suitable word and write its number in the bracket provided.

Upon entering the house, the city mouse whispered, “Shh! There were people in the living room. Let(21)s go into the kitchen for the cheese and bread.”

Just as they were both about to bite into a slice of cheese, a cat suddenly appeared in front of them.

“Run (22) cried the city mouse, “The cat is in the house!”

The country mouse ran for his life. As he was running out of the house, he shouted (23) I’m going back to the country. You never told me there were cats here. I prefer to live in the country where I can eat my humble crumbs in peace!”

21. (1) [.] full stop
(2) [‘] apostrophe
(3) [?] question mark
(4) [!] exclamation mark

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22. (1) [,”] comma and inverted commas
(2) [.”] full stop and inverted commas
(3) [?”] question mark and inverted commas
(4) [!”] exclamation mark and inverted commas

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23. (1) [:”] colon and inverted commas
(2) [,”] comma and inverted commas
(3) [.”] full stop and inverted commas
(4) [!”] exclamation mark and inverted commas

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Section D Comprehension

Read the passage carefully. Choose the most suitable answer for each question and write its number in the bracket provided.

Books

There are many kinds of books in the world. They fall into two major categories which are fiction and non-fiction. Well-received books from either kind are even made into movies and games.

Fiction books are written using the imagination. The character and events surrounding them are not real. Fiction books can be found in abundance at bookstores and libraries. They can even be found on the shelves of comic shops and game shops. Often, fiction books are written into two or three combinations from the science, fantasy and classical groups. The most popular kind among youngsters is probably in the area of fantasy. Anything involving magic, spacecrafts and aliens, or superheroes and time travel maybe used in this category.

Many different kinds of non-fiction books are available on the market. These are written about facts, real events and real places. Most of the time, non-fiction books are written by people who have experienced or witnessed the happenings themselves. Real-life stories can also be found in magazines and newspapers.

As more books are written and produced, we have more to choose from. Although reading is a good form of habit, choosing the right kind of books to read is just as important. We, as the readers, have the responsibility to learn to choose wisely.

By Feliciano Wong

24. According to the passage, the two major categories of books are _____.
- (1) thick and thin
 - (2) fiction and non-fiction
 - (3) science-fiction and fantasy
 - (4) magazines and newspapers ()
25. We can find the largest collection of books in _____.
- (1) markets
 - (2) libraries
 - (3) game shops
 - (4) comic shops ()
26. Which of the following will not be found in a fantasy book?
- (1) Magic
 - (2) Superheroes
 - (3) Real people and events
 - (4) Aliens, spacecrafts and time travel ()
27. Which of the following is most likely a work of fiction?
- (1) A book about gardening
 - (2) A book about flying dragons
 - (3) A book about building webpages
 - (4) a book about taking care of dogs ()
28. Which of the following statements is true?
- (1) Libraries only have fiction books.
 - (2) The costlier a book, the better it is.
 - (3) Reading the right kinds of books is important.
 - (4) Books with nice covers are important for us to read. ()

Section E Grammar Cloze

Read the passage carefully. Choose the correct answer from the words given in the boxes and write its letter (A to K) in each blank.

(A) begins	(C) although	(E) is	(G) were	(J) so
(B) was	(D) began	(F) moreover	(H) until	(K) however

It was a cloudy day in July. It started to drizzle at noon. By late afternoon, it was raining heavily. I had promised to go to a friend's house. (29) _____ it was raining heavily, I decided to make my way there. On my way there, the rain got heavier and soon it looks like sheets of water (30) _____ pouring from the sky. Luckily, I reached my friend's house safe and sound.

My friend and I were watching television when we heard sounds of water gushing outside. We got up to check what (31) _____ happening. To our surprise, we saw water rushing into the garage. When the flood (32) _____ receding, I decided to head home.

When I reached my hostel, I was surprised to see that the rain had broken down the roof of the hostel. So, my room, which was on the third floor, was destroyed. I was moved to another room where there were clean beds. (33) _____, there was no electricity or hot water for showers for the next three days. What a terrible experience!

Section F Editing

Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammatical error.

Write the correct word in each of the boxes.

By the time they reached home, it was getting dark. They were expecting the house to

be (34) pisful, but the house was filled with noise and loud music. There was a party going on.

Axel was feeling (35) exzausted already. All he wanted to do was to get a good night's

rest. Just as he was (36) reach out for the doorknob, there was a loud explosion. Flames and

smoke could be (37) saw from the kitchen.

People started rushing out of the house. Everything was in chaos. Screams were ringing in the air. It was sheer madness. Axel wanted to do something. He wanted to help. But

he could not. It was then that he (38) rielysed his leg was bleeding and it was bleeding profusely.

Section G Synthesis

Rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in **one** sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentence(s).

39. Jane is reading a book. The book belongs to her sister.

_____ which
_____.

40. My mother did not want to cook. We went out for dinner.

_____ so
_____.

41. We waited at the shopping mall. It was raining heavily and we could not get a taxi.

_____ because
_____.

42. Peter went back to the canteen. Ken was waiting for him there.

_____ where _____
_____.

43. Linda is reading her book in her room. Her father was watching the news on the television.

_____ while
_____.

Section H Comprehension Cloze

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

One day, the Wind and the Sun had an argument. The Wind (44) _____ about his great strength. The Sun argued that his power lay (45) _____ his gentleness. So they decided to have a competition.

Far below them, a traveller was (46) _____ a winter coat. "Let's see which one of us can take the coat off the man," said the Sun. "It'll be (47) _____ for me to force him to remove his coat," declared the Wind.

The wind started to blow with all his strength and all his (48) _____. He blew so hard that the birds clung to the trees. Dust and leaves flew about and filled the world. But the (49) _____ the Wind blew, the tighter the shivering man clung to his coat.

Now it was the Sun's turn to prove his (50) _____. He began to warm the air and the frosty ground. The man on the road started to unbutton his coat.

The Sun grew brighter and brighter and the world grew warmer and warmer. Soon, the man (51) _____ so hot that he took off his coat completely and sat down in a (52) _____ spot.

"How did you do it?" the Wind (53) _____. "It was easy," the Sun said. "I lit the day. Through gentleness, I had my way."

Section I Comprehension Open-Ended

Read the passage carefully and answer the following questions in complete sentences.

The release of the movie *Wild Kingdom* before Christmas 2001 caused a concern among many animal protection groups, whose members worried that the movie's portrayal of owls would encourage the giving of owls as gifts for the holiday season.

In the movie, Freddy owns a friendly snowy owl named Louie that delivers messages to Freddy. The owl seems to be an excellent pet in the movie, causing a great concern in the United Kingdom, where it is legal to buy and keep owls. A snowy owl can be purchased in the United Kingdom for about 400 pounds, about 576 US dollars. Several groups voiced concern about the welfare of the owls given as gifts. Reporter John Roach states, "They fear that when people find out the difficulty of keeping an owl as a pet, the owls will be abandoned to a barn or released into the outdoors where they will likely starve to death." If the owls do manage to survive on their own, they will compete for food with the local population of owls. This could have a terrible effect on the troubled population of barn owls in the United Kingdom.

The group also worried that the movie gave the wrong impression about how owls should be cared for as pets in captivity. Jenny Thurston, a trustee at the World Owl Trust, was concerned about how the snowy owl was featured in the movie. She stated, "We understand that Freddy keeps it in a parrot cage, which is against everything we know. **That is terrible.**"

Considering the difficulties involved in keeping and training owls, it is easier for humans to enjoy the owls in their natural habitat.

Adapted from *Owls* by Rebecca O'Connor

54. Why were the animal protection groups worried when the movie *Wild Kingdom* was released before Christmas in 2001?

55. Name one problem that could come about when people start giving owls as gifts.

56. Which two words in the second paragraph tell you that the barn owls in the United Kingdom are facing a problem already?

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57. From the third paragraph, what does the sentence "That is terrible." refer to?

58. How should humans enjoy the company of owls?

Answers:

- | | | |
|-------|-------|---------------|
| 1. 1 | 14. 1 | 27. 2 |
| 2. 3 | 15. 4 | 28. 3 |
| 3. 1 | 16. 1 | 29. C |
| 4. 1 | 17. 2 | 30. G |
| 5. 1 | 18. 2 | 31. B |
| 6. 3 | 19. 4 | 32. D |
| 7. 2 | 20. 3 | 33. K |
| 8. 1 | 21. 2 | 34. peaceful |
| 9. 3 | 22. 4 | 35. exhausted |
| 10. 1 | 23. 2 | 36. reaching |
| 11. 1 | 24. 2 | 37. seen |
| 12. 3 | 25. 2 | 38. realized |
| 13. 1 | 26. 3 | |

39. Jane is reading a book which belongs to her sister.
40. My mother did not want to cook so we went out for dinner.
41. We waited at the shopping mall because it was raining heavily and we could not get a taxi.
42. Peter went back to the canteen where Ken was waiting for him.
43. Linda is reading her book in her room while her father is watching the news on the television.
- | | | |
|-------------|------------|-----------|
| 44. talked | 48. might | 52. shady |
| 45. in | 49. harder | 53. asked |
| 46. wearing | 50. power | |
| 47. easy | 51. got | |
54. They were worried that the movie's portrayal of owls would encourage the giving of owls as a gift for the upcoming Christmas.
55. When people realized the difficulty of keeping owls, they will abandon them to a barn.
56. troubled population
57. It refers to Freddy keeping his owl in a parrot cage.
58. Humans should enjoy the owls in their natural habitat.