PART ONE: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Directions: *You will hear a text about* ***how an Air Bed-and-Breakfast host has transformed his life,*** *twice. Before you listen to it, you have* ***1 minute*** *to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have* ***3 minutes*** *to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among* ***A, B*** *or* ***C****. Then you will hear the text again and will have* ***1 minute*** *to check your answers.*

1. Jonathan does not have a partner to help him with the children.

A) True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

2. Jonathan's working hours were made shorter before he joined *Air Bed-and-Breakfast*.

A) True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

3. Jonathan's home has three bedrooms.

A) True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

4. Before his job with *Air Bed-and-Breakfast* Jonathan had less time for his family.

A) True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

5. Jonathan has left his old job in order to devote more time to doing ceramics.

A) True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

Directions: *You will hear some* ***tips on making the perfect*** **latkes,** ***potato pancakes,*** *twice. Before you listen to it, you have* ***1 minute*** *to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have* ***3 minutes*** *to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among* ***A, B*** *or* ***C****. Then you will hear the text again and will have* ***1 minute*** *to check your answers.*

6. *Latke* is a traditional dish usually prepared early in the morning.

A) True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

7. To prepare *latkes*, you have to boil the potatoes.

A) True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

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8. *Latkes* can be less oily with the help of a paper towel.

A) True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

9. *Latkes* are served while still hot.

A) True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

10. You decide whether to be creative with *latke* accompaniments.

A) True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

Directions: *You will hear **Richard's story about his encounter with Laura** twice. Before you listen to it, you have **2 minutes** to read the questions. While listening for the first time, you can look at the questions and the suggested choices, but you are not allowed to take notes. When you hear the whole text, you have **4 minutes** to answer the questions on your answer sheet, choosing among **A, B, C** or **D**. Then you will hear the text again and will have **1 minute** to check your answers.*

11. Richard thinks he was a good DJ because

A) he held his job in Kentish Town for many years.
B) people often came up to him to compliment him on his work.
C) he had a very high rating among the DJ community.
D) he had regular customers who obviously enjoyed his music.

12. When Laura addressed Richard,

A) he had already seen her twice.
B) it was the third time she had been to the club.
C) she asked him to play a record that everyone liked.
D) he knew which record she would ask him to play.

13. Richard wanted to know whether

A) the record Laura had asked for was popular with the other customers.
B) Laura had asked him to play the record before.
C) Laura was aware of how unpopular the record was.
D) Laura had brought all her friends to the club.

14. Richard got nervous because

A) the dance floor lights were too strong.
B) he did not like to see an empty dance floor.
C) Laura asked him to play a record he didn't have.
D) the song Laura had requested lasted for too long.

15. Richard made Laura happy by

A) selling her the record she liked.
B) telling her how much he liked her.
C) promising to give her a disc with the music he had just played.
D) directing her to a nearby shop that sold the record.

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PART TWO: READING COMPREHENSION

Directions: *Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question among **A**, **B** or **C**, marking your answers on your answer sheet.*

MAINTAINING A POSITIVE SELF-IMAGE

The need to maintain a positive self-image is a powerful motivator. Much of our behaviour is directed toward satisfying our own personal standards; for example, if we believe that we are good and honest people, we are likely to engage in honest and good behaviour even when no one is watching, because we want to maintain a positive self-image. If we believe that we are capable and intelligent, we try to perform well in situations which require intelligence and capability.

However, sometimes the realities of life force us into situations where our behaviour and beliefs contradict our positive self-image. For example, in an episode of *Candid Camera* TV reality show many years ago, a coffee shop distributed sugar packets that could not be opened. The hidden camera recorded many customers trying to open the packets and then deciding that they really preferred unsweetened coffee (exactly like Aesop's fox, who decided that the grapes he couldn't reach were probably sour anyway). One customer, after making an extraordinary effort to open the sugar packet, looked around and then dropped it whole into his coffee! A member of the *Candid Camera* crew approached the man and asked him why he had dropped the sugar packet into his coffee. The man replied that he always did that, that he liked his coffee that way.

The man in the *Candid Camera* episode was responding to an embarrassing situation by explaining his strange behaviour, hoping to maintain a positive image in others' eyes (and thus keep his own positive self-image). Similarly, a student who is caught cheating on a test might justify his behaviour by stating (and even believing) that "everyone does it", or denying that he cheated, despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary. Highly competitive athletes who are otherwise careful about their health might justify taking muscle-enhancing anabolic steroids by explaining that the drug will strengthen them and, therefore, help bring victory to their team.

In a classic example, a student who usually gets good grades receives a poor mark on a quiz. The mark is inconsistent with her self-image, and causes her discomfort. To resolve this discomfort, she may decide to work harder to make certain that she never gets such a low grade again. On the other hand, she may try to justify her low grade: "The questions were tricky. I wasn't feeling well. I wasn't really trying. It was too hot." All these excuses are directed at avoiding an unpleasant pairing of inconsistent ideas: "I am a good student." and "I did poorly on the quiz, and it was my own fault."

16. The main idea in the first paragraph of the text is that people's behaviour often depends on the image they have of their character and abilities.

A) True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

17. According to the writer, only a small percentage of people behave well when no one is watching.

A) True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

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18. To illustrate his point of view, the writer gives a detailed description of an episode of the *Candid Camera* reality show.

A) True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

19. One coffee shop customer tried to open the sugar packet with his teeth.

A) True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

20. A male customer is compared to Aesop's fox for refusing to drink his coffee unsweetened.

A) True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

21. Students who are caught cheating on a test may deny the accusation despite the available evidence.

A) True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

22. It is common for drug stores to sell anabolic steroids to athletes.

A) True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

23. Low grades motivate some students to work harder and make others put the blame on the circumstances.

A) True. **B)** False. **C)** No information in the text.

Directions: *Read the text below. Then read the questions that follow it and choose the best answer to each question correspondingly among **A**, **B**, **C** or **D**, marking your answers on your answer sheet.*

A FOUNTAIN OF KNOWLEDGE

Throughout the year, as far as I was concerned, the most important day of the week was the day that Theodore visited us. Sometimes it would be a long family day – a drive down south and a picnic on a remote beach, or something similar; but, normally, Theo and I would set off alone on one of our excursions, as Theodore insisted on calling them. Equipped with our collecting kits and bags, nets, bottles and test-tubes and accompanied by the dogs, we would set out to explore the island in much the same spirit of adventure that drove Victorian explorers to venture into the farthest corners of Africa.

But not many of the Victorian explorers had the benefit of Theodore as a companion; as a handy encyclopaedia to take along on the trip he could not be bettered. To me, he was all-wise as a god, but much nicer since he was available. It was not only his incredible erudition that astonished everyone who met him but his modesty too. I remember how we would sit on the verandah, surrounded by the remnants of one of Mother's extravagant teas, listening to the tired cicadas singing in the evening, bombarding Theodore with questions. Elegantly dressed in his tweed suit, his blond hair and beard perfectly trimmed, his eyes would sparkle with interest as each new subject was introduced.

"Well," Theodore would say cautiously, "I'm afraid it's a subject about which I know very little. But I believe I'm right in saying that…"

During the next half hour he would give an all-embracing and concise lecture on the subject and then end by saying "But if you want an expert opinion, there's a Doctor X who'd give you much more information than I can."

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It was small wonder that we treated him like an oracle. The phrase "Theo says" set the seal of authenticity and validity on whatever item of information the person was going to disclose. Theodore was everything to everyone. With Mother he could discuss plants, particularly herbs and recipes, while keeping her supplied with reading matter from his big library of detective novels. With my sister Margo he could talk of diets, exercises and various creams supposed to have a miraculous effect on spots, pimples and acne. He could keep pace effortlessly with any idea that entered the enquiring mind of my brother Larry, from Freud to the popular belief in vampires; while Leslie he could enlighten on the history of guns or the winter habits of the hare. As far as I was concerned, with a hungry and ignorant mind, Theodore represented a fountain of knowledge on every subject from which I drank greedily.

24. This is the narrator's personal story about

A) his holiday on a remote island.
B) his quiet and uneventful life.
C) a scholarly and erudite friend.
D) his family's daily routine.

25. The narrator and Theodore used to explore the island,

A) fully equipped with hunting gear.
B) accompanied by family and friends.
C) looking for suitable picnic sites.
D) excited and eager to see new things.

26. What made the narrator's trips really worthwhile?

A) The information provided by his companion.
B) The encyclopaedia he carried for reference.
C) The equipment he had borrowed from Theodore.
D) Theodore's shyness and natural modesty.

27. Despite the breadth of Theodore's knowledge on every subject,

A) he avoided answering many questions.
B) he failed to give the right answers.
C) he admitted others might have more expertise.
D) he refused to introduce subjects he knew little about.

28. According to the narrator's family,

A) whatever Theodore said was the ultimate truth.
B) Theodore was afraid to share his real views.
C) Theodore hated to disclose any personal details.
D) whatever Theodore said needed to be tested first.

29. Theodore used to

A) share herbs and spices with Mother.
B) discuss various ideas with Larry.
C) cure Margo's pimples and acne.
D) talk about his experience with guns.

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30. The narrator calls Theodore "a fountain of knowledge" because

A) Theodore could not help sharing what he knew without being asked.
B) Theodore knew everything about everyone on the island.
C) Theodore had the same hobbies as the members of the family.
D) Theodore could supply all sorts of information whenever asked.

PART THREE: USE OF ENGLISH

Section One: Cloze

Directions: *Read the text and the sentences below and for each numbered gap choose the letter (**A, B, C** or **D**) of the word or phrase that best suits the gap, marking your answers on your answer sheet.*

In a typical zoo, animals are in cages, especially those animals that can **(31)** …….. people. But the tables have turned for zoo-goers in China. Lehe Ledu Wildlife, which is **(32)** …….. in Chongqing city, has a way to give unique animal-interaction **(33)** …….. to their guests. People are paying to be locked in cages to get the hair-**(34)** …….. chance to learn what it's like to come face to face with a huge predator. They are caged in the back of a truck as it **(35)** …….. its way through the animal park while hungry lions and tigers follow their every move.

Just to make sure they get the attention of the beasts, huge pieces of raw meat are tied to the bars of the cage on the outside to **(36)** …….. the animals closer.

"We wanted to give our visitors the thrill of being stalked and attacked by the big cats but with, of course, none of the risks," said zoo-spokeswoman Chan Liang. "The guests are **(37)** …….. to keep their fingers and hands inside the cage **(38)** …….. all times because a hungry tiger wouldn't know the difference between them and breakfast."

The chilling, once-in-a-lifetime experience has been a hit with visitors – the **(39)** ……. have been sold out for the next three months, according to Central European News reports.

"It's **(40)** …….. nothing I've ever experienced before in a zoo," said visitor Tao Jen. "We're not looking at them, they are looking at us – and we're lunch."

31.	**A)** harm	**B)** bully	**C)** damage	**D)** spoil
32.	**A)** placed	**B)** positioned	**C)** found	**D)** located
33.	**A)** awareness	**B)** experiences	**C)** knowledge	**D)** sense
34.	**A)** rising	**B)** raising	**C)** standing	**D)** curling
35.	**A)** goes	**B)** has	**C)** makes	**D)** runs
36.	**A)** push	**B)** fetch	**C)** take	**D)** draw
37.	**A)** assured	**B)** instructed	**C)** alarmed	**D)** announced
38.	**A)** at	**B)** in	**C)** on	**D)** by
39.	**A)** drives	**B)** hikes	**C)** trips	**D)** travels
40.	**A)** as	**B)** about	**C)** like	**D)** near

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41. I'm sorry, but these pills are only available on doctor's ……..
A) recipe **B)** receipt **C)** order **D)** prescription

42. If you work for someone and get paid for it, you are their ……..
A) employ **B)** employee **C)** employer **D)** employment

43. My mother smelled her perfume on me and I had no …….. but to tell her I was going on a date.
A) choice **B)** chance **C)** possibility **D)** opportunity

44. I am dark and I can't wear blue; it just doesn't …….. me.
A) match **B)** fit **C)** suit **D)** agree with

45. I am very …….. for the assistance all of you gave me.
A) glad **B)** grateful **C)** pleased **D)** content

Section Two: Sentence Completion

Directions: *For each of the sentences below, choose the letter **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** of the word or phrase that completes its meaning, marking your answers on your answer sheet.*

46. I don't mind …….. but he won't listen to reason.
A) giving Pete an advice **C)** to give Pete an advice
B) giving Pete advice **D)** to give Pete advice

47. …….. my grandfather is nearly seventy-five, he can still beat me at tennis.
A) Despite **C)** Since
B) In spite of **D)** Although

48. Melissa …….. mostly tight jeans before she got the twins and gained weight.
A) was used to wear **C)** used to wear
B) got used to wear **D)** would wearing

49. Who …….. the milk and then left the empty bottle in the fridge as a distraction?
A) has drunk **C)** was drunk
B) has been drinking **D)** was drinking

50. Anthony …….. at the garage around the corner and says that the boys there are very efficient.
A) has his car washed **C)** has washed his car
B) washes his car **D)** gets washed his car

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Section Three: Sentence Transformations

Directions: *On your sheet for open-ended answers complete the second sentence so that it is as close as possible in meaning to the first one.*

51. **They have been quarrelling over that issue ever since the meeting began.**
    They _____ as soon as the meeting _____.

52. **"Don't approach the monkeys!" Jill said to her children.**
    Jill warned her children _____.

53. **The teacher asked her students when they had last read a book.**
    "When _____?" the teacher asked.

54. **The flight from New York was reported to have been cancelled because of the weather conditions at JFK.**
    JFK reported that _____ because of the weather conditions there.

55. **It's not necessary that you pay a deposit when you book a room at a hotel.**
    You _____ pay a deposit when you book a room at a hotel.
    (Use a modal verb.)

56. **Only you and I knew about this meeting so I'm sure *you* called the media.**
    Only you and I knew about this meeting so you _____ the media.
    (Use a modal verb.)

57. **The performance they gave was so exciting that I couldn't sleep a wink that night.**
    They gave _____ that I couldn't sleep a wink that night.

58. **A dog demands a lot of attention but, actually, a child does the same.**
    A dog demands a lot of attention but, actually, so _____.

59. **I think that it is the best price you can get for this car.**
    I don't think that you _____.

60. **You can't tell whether this photo is fake because you don't have the necessary software.**
    It _____ possible to tell whether this photo is fake only if you _____.

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PART FOUR: WRITING

Directions: *On your sheet for open-ended answers write a composition in standard English of about 160-170 words on* **ONE** *of the following topics. When you write your composition, make sure you DO NOT include in it any personal names or give any information about your school, town, etc. Circle the topic you have chosen on your answer sheet.*

1. **Every student finds some school subjects intriguing and others boring and meaningless.**

   Which subject or subjects were you interested in at school and which did you have to force yourself to study? What were you motivated by?

2. **Is it worth having a hobby?**

   Do you have one? If yes, what is it and why have you chosen it? If no, why? Do you know someone who has a hobby – how do they feel about it? Does having a hobby make people happier?

Mind that if you submit two texts as well as in case of indecent language, plagiarism, identical texts or if your composition is under 80 words or totally unrelated to the chosen topic, it will get 0 points.

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