PART ONE: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Directions: *You will hear a text about* **the Royal kiss** *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. The royal kiss was very long and passionate.

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

2. The royal wedding is said to have been watched worldwide.

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

3. The royal wedding took place in Canterbury Cathedral.

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

4. The queen herself publicly commented on the ceremony after returning to Buckingham Palace.

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

5. An admirer from the audience warned William to think his marriage over.

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

Directions: *You will hear a text about the* ***Royal marriage*** *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.*

6. The narrator believes Kate and William's royal marriage will stand the test of time because

A) Kate is more mature than Diana was.
B) Kate has experience with the media.
C) Kate has known William for years.
D) All of the above.

7. Kate and William seem to be deeply in love despite

A) their awareness of each other's flaws.
B) what they show in public.
C) Prince William's problems with publicity.
D) the unsuccessful rehearsals of the wedding.

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8. Kate and William's separation in
2007 A) lasted for several months.
B) started while vacationing together.
C) was caused by mutual friend Sam Waley-Cohen.
D) began after a serious argument.

9. The Queen
A) initially disapproved of William's choice.
B) would rather call William's wife Kate.
C) highly appreciates Kate's family background.
D) None of the above.

10. Kate's parents
A) are millionaires by birth.
B) have taught her what hard work means.
C) were in the ground aviation business.
D) are now in the entertainment business for adults.

Directions : *You will hear a text about* **some mysteries** *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. The Mars Face was first captured on camera in
A)1976.
B) 1975.
C) 2003.
D) None of the above.

12. The Mars Face was eventually identified for what it is by
A) Viking 1 orbiter.
B) some ET-believing organizations.
C) the European space agency.
D) a representative of NASA.

13. The mysterious Ica Stones were
A) covered with paintings.
B) sold to farmers.
C) made by cavemen.
D) never identified.

14. Among the rumors surrounding the discovery of the *Mary Celeste* were all EXCEPT
A) the meals on her were still hot.
B) all the sailors' belongings were on her.
C) there were burn circles on her deck.
D) the crew left her because of a technical problem.

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15. The most likely reason for the *Mary Celeste* abandonment

A) was the invasion of aliens.
B) was the unusual noises she produced.
C) was her sinking under her weight.
D) was the crew uprising against the captain.

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, C or D, marking your answers on your answer sheet.*

The Brontë Sisters

A small building on the edge of beautiful, lonely fields is a place many thousands visit every year. Haworth Parsonage, in Yorkshire, Northern England, is the place where three remarkable sisters worked on their great love – writing poetry and romantic fiction. Their books stand out like true landmarks of English literature.

The girls' parents were not local, they came from Ireland and Cornwall and married and settled there, near the lively Yorkshire city of Leeds. Their father, the strict Reverend Patrick Brunty, took a post at the local church and he changed his name to Brontë to honour Lord Nelson whose title it was.

From early childhood the countryside of heather-covered wild moors provided inspiration for the sisters, Charlotte, Emily and Anne Brontë, who all had literary works published under pseudonyms. Publishing new work seems to have been as hard a road 150 years ago as it is today. The first of the sisters' novels, Charlotte's '*Jane Eyre*', was published in October 1847 and it met with increasing success. Then came Emily's chance for fame, '*Wuthering Heights*' and Anne's '*Agnes Grey*' followed later the same year. In spite of their literary success, the Brontë sisters remained in Yorkshire, rarely travelled (even to London) and worked mostly in solitude, helping one another in their literary attempts. They had a routine of discussing their works together at the dining room table in the evening, planning the plot of their novels and the description of their main characters.

It is difficult to focus on just one of these fascinating women. To speak of one is to bring in all three, for their fortunes were closely interrelated. Let's take Charlotte, for example. She went to school at Roe Head, where she later worked as a teacher. She fell ill, suffering from melancholia, and gave up the post. Charlotte traveled a bit, going to London and also to work in Belgium twice (once with Emily) where she fell disastrously in love. Coming back to Yorkshire, she married her father's assistant, the Reverend Arthur Bell Nicholls. Her first love though was writing, creating an imaginary world as she had done since childhood. At the age of 21 she asked poet Robert Southey's advice about her writing prospects. 'Literature cannot be the business of a woman's life,' he answered. So her first novel, '*The Professor*', was not published in her lifetime but, not discouraged, she started on '*Jane Eyre*', which immediately captivated Victorian readers.

'*Jane Eyre*' is a powerful novel about an educated but poor orphan and her love for her hero, Mr. Rochester, who turns out to have an insane wife hidden in the attic of his grand house. It remains popular today, both in film and TV versions, as well as in printed word. Many people wonder how such a dramatic work could have been written by a shy and reclusive woman. The answer must be that all three girls were gifted with colossal and unique imaginations and they sparked one anther on.

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16. The girls' father took the name of Brontë because

A) he was a very strict priest.
B) he had to have an aristocratic title.
C) he deeply respected Lord Nelson.
D) Lord Nelson was patron of the local church.

17. Charlotte, Emily and Anne Brontë

A) took their literary inspiration from their travels.
B) used their real names when publishing their work.
C) wrote only one novel each in their whole lifetime.
D) exchanged ideas and shared opinion in the process of work.

18. Charlotte Brontë

A) never had another job beside being a writer.
B) was not put off by her colleague's advice.
C) became famous for her first novel.
D) never achieved fame during her lifetime.

19. Charlotte

A) married her first love.
B) always travelled alone.
C) enjoyed perfect health.
D) was a rather shy person.

20. The novel '*Jane Eyre*'

A) is a typically romantic novel.
B) is autobiographic in character.
C) wasn't very popular in its own time.
D) has never been adapted into a screen-play.

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 Short History of *Google*

Nowadays we use computers every day. This piece of technology has become a huge part of our lives. The same can be said about ***Google***, without which we could hardly find a simple website on the World Wide Web. But how exactly did it all start?

Google began in 1996 as a project by Larry Page and Sergey Brin, both of whom were studying at Stanford University in California. In their PhD research project they came up with a plan to make a powerful search engine. Before creating ***Google***, the two friends developed ***BackRub***, a less refined version of the search engine that ran for over a year on the servers of Stanford University before it was closed down because it was using too much of the university's band width.

That setback did not make Larry and Sergey end their project. With the financial support of Andy Bechtolsheim, the co-founder of **Sun Microsystems**, the two friends

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bought their own servers and set up a shop in the garage of Susan Wojcicki, who was Sergey's sister-in-law. They also changed the name of the search engine to ***Google***. The name originated from a play on the mathematical term "*googol* ", which is the number 1 followed by 100 zeros. This name was perfect for what Larry and Sergey had in their minds – a large-scale search engine with the ability to organize an unlimited amount of information on the internet. The domain **google.com** was registered on September 14, 1997 and ***Google*** **Corporation** was formed a year later in September 1998.

Since then ***Google*** has come a long way from the garage office and the imperfect mechanism of ***BackRub*** . Today it has about a thousand employees, working in **Googleplex** in California, as well as in offices outside the US. The company has expanded globally by releasing ***Google*** in 26 languages and launching many additional applications and services for internet users. ***Google*** continues to develop and improve how people experience the internet – there's no doubt that it will remain a very influential part of our lives in years to come.

21. Larry and Sergey knew each other before they came to Stanford University.

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

22. *BackRub* was discontinued because it couldn't do what it was created for.

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

23. The two friends' business project was initially funded by Sergey's sister-in-law.

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

24. The new name Larry and Sergey chose for their search engine had a symbolic meaning for them.

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

25. Most of *Google*'s employees work in the Californian office of the company.

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 58-year-old grandmother in Massachusetts won one of the biggest prizes in U.S. history – $294 million. If she had taken the 26-year payout, Doris Stevens would have received $11 million a year for 26 years, before taxes.

Mrs. Stevens decided to take the lump sum payment. People who take the lump sum get paid within 60 days, but their total payment is reduced by almost 40 percent. Mrs. Stevens's lump sum was $168 million, but after the federal tax was applied, she received $110 million. That's the amount that Mrs. Stevens got to put in her purse.

Recently divorced, Stevens says that her ex-husband has already called her to ask about a "loan". She laughed. "I wouldn't lend him a quarter to call the police if he was getting robbed. Let him borrow money from his new young girlfriend who makes him so happy."

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What is she going to do with her unexpected wealth? "Well, the first thing I'm going to do is to help out my children and grandchildren, of course. Next, I hope to revolutionize the housecleaning industry."

A housewife for her entire life, Mrs. Stevens says she's going to establish a National Housecleaner Helper Corporation. Her corporation would focus on giving money to various individuals and research firms to develop more efficient and more powerful housecleaning solvents and tools.

"When was the last time you saw something new in housecleaning?" Mrs. Stevens asked. "They keep claiming they've invented new products that remove any and all stains, but they still haven't invented a product that removes an ordinary ballpoint ink stain from your ordinary white shirt. This industry needs some new products. I hope to revolutionize the cleaning world, so that my 'sisters' will have an easier time of it in the future. We've all spent too much time on our hands and knees. If men had to do housecleaning, you know that they'd be inventing more powerful products every week."

26. The prize which Mrs Stevens won could have been paid

A) in yearly sums, free from federal taxes.
B) within 60 days with a tax of almost 40%.
C) as a total payment, reduced by 40%, and no taxes.
D) in at least 26 instalments, reduced by taxes.

27. Mrs Stevens was asked for money by

A) her husband.
B) her children.
C) her grandchildren.
D) All of the above.

28. Mrs Stevens intends to invest

in A) her grandchildren's education.
B) various research projects. **C)**
the housecleaning industry. **D)**
trade with cleaning products.

29. Mrs Stevens claims that

A) the cleaning industry is developing very slowly.
B) new cleaning products should be invented every week.
C) the cleaning industry is run entirely by men.
D) there should be universal cleaning products.

30. Which of the following is NOT TRUE?

A) Mrs Stevens has been working as a professional housecleaner all her life.
B) Mrs Stevens is determined to relieve the heavy everyday duties of housewives.
C) Mrs Stevens thinks that men don't understand the problems of housecleaning.
D) Mrs Stevens thinks she can contribute to the improvement of housecleaning products.

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PART THREE: USE OF ENGLISH

Section One: Cloze Test

Directions: *Read the text 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.*

Photography

In 1760, a man named Tiphaigne de la Roche made an **(31)** ……. prediction. In an imaginary story called "Giphanrtie", mirror images of **(32)** …….. from nature could be captured permanently on a canvas covered with a sticky material. After the material dried in darkness, the image would **(33)** ……. on the canvas forever. At the time, the idea was unheard of. It was not until the following century that the **(34)** …….. of photography was born, starting with some **(35)** …….. conducted by Nicephore Niepce.

Nicephore Niepce, who was a French inventor, was interested in lithography, which is a printmaking **(36)** …….. . He was working in his lab when he found a way of copying engravings onto glass plates using a chemical that changes when it is **(37)** …….. to light. He learned to burn images onto the plates and then print the images on paper. He shared his **(38)** …….. with Louis Jacques Mande Daguerre, who improved the process and **(39)** ……. it to the French Academy of Sciences in 1839. The *Daguerreotype*, the photography method named **(40)** ……. Daguerre, met with great success. It was so successful, in fact, that French newspapers said the French **(41)** ……. had an illness called *Daguerreotypomania*! Daguerreotypes were inexpensive and were suitable for portraiture. People called the Daguerreotype a "mirror with a memory". Some portrait artists went **(42)** …….. business when Daguerreotypes came into **(43)** ……. . Others became Daguerreotypists, now known as photographers.

Photography **(44)** ……. and today includes You Tube fans, I-Reporters, and everybody with a cell phone camera. Today photography captures life around the globe. The prediction of Mr. de la Roche has come true.

But how was de la Roche's prediction of mirror-image pictures made in the first place? Was it just a lucky **(45)** …….? Or was the Daguerreotype a picture-perfect case of life imitating art?

31.	A) abnormal	B) irregular	C) uneven	D) odd
32.	A) scopes	B) scenes	C) sites	D) domains
33.	A) remain	B) stand	C) rest	D) keep
34.	A) conviction	B) design	C) concept	D) belief
35.	A) experiments	B) experiences	C) examinations	D) discoveries
36.	A) style	B) manner	C) fashion	D) technique
37.	A) uncovered	B) faced	C) exposed	D) revealed
38.	A) finds	B) findings	C) scores	D) outcomes
39.	A) announced	B) shared	C) held	D) pronounced
40.	A) to	B) for	C) after	D) on
41.	A) mass	B) public	C) assembly	D) audience
42.	A) off	B) through	C) without	D) out of
43.	A) vogue	B) popularity	C) trend	D) mania
44.	A) made off	B) cleared off	C) took off	D) ran off
45.	A) suspicion	B) guess	C) suggestion	D) hint

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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 best completes its meaning, marking your answers on your answer sheet.*

46. She's not so young as she looks. She has a _____ son.

A) twenty-year **B)** twenty-years **C)** twenty-years-old **D)** twenty-year-old

47. Are you going to eat at some roadside restaurant or _____ make you some sandwiches for lunch?

A) I shall **B)** shall I **C)** will I **D)** I will

48. Do you believe that your father _____ all day yesterday?

A) worked **B)** had been working **C)** has worked **D)** has been working

49. This cathedral may not be very stylish, but you must admit it looks _____.

A) mostly impressive **B)** most impressively

C) most impressive **D)** mostly impressively

50. _____ happened twenty years ago between us does in no way concern our children.

A) That what **B)** That which **C)** What **D)** Which

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. I started working here three months ago.

I _____ for three months.

52. Her father managed to persuade her to study medicine.

Her father succeeded _____.

53. Jessica was the only one who did not enjoy the film.

Everybody _____ apart _____ Jessica.

54. It wasn't necessary for you to cook all this food!

You needn't _____!

55. It's a good thing you phoned me, or I wouldn't have known about the meeting. If you _____.

56. "Have you ever seen the Star Wars films?" I asked her.

I asked her _____.

57. Computer World are supplying our company with computers.

Our company _____ Computer World.

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58. I'm pretty sure that she's driving home – her car isn't here.
She _____ home – her car isn't here. *(use a modal verb)*

59. People think that three convicts have escaped from Dartmoor Prison.
Three convicts _____.

60. It is a long way to their house: we cannot walk there.
Their house is so _____ .

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, marking the topic you have chosen on the sheet:*

1. Tell about the last time you or your friend cheated at an exam. Why did you cheat? Was it worth it? How did you feel?

2. It is 2099. What is your prom dress like? How are you going to celebrate your graduation?

*Mind that in case of indecent language, plagiarism, identical texts or if your composition is under 80 words or totally irrelevant to the chosen topic it will get **0** points.*

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