1. **The investment banker was charged with intent to ____.** [=deceive/rob]

(a) inscribe
(b) defraud
(c) punctuate
(d) posit

2. Employees like her are an asset to our company, so we try to ___ them. [=keep]

(a) retain
(b) refrain
(c) curtail
(d) hamper

3. Our political union aims to _____ racism among members of our broader community. [=stop/ terminate]

(a) eradicate
(b) clog
(c) commence
(d) relinquish

4. My parental duties ____ my career prospects. [=limit/ control]

(a) constrain
(b) override
(c) garnish
(d) mow

5. The illustration creatively ___ a dense forest. [=showed/ illustrated]

(a) grunted
(b) depicted
(c) imparted

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(d) vibrated

6. Even though it had ___ a great deal of support, the political party suffered a resounding defeat. [=gathered/ collected]

(a) flinched
(b) endowed
(c) downplayed
(d) rallied

7. He realised he was ___ and badly needed a shower. [=was sweating]

(a) disseminating
(b) perspiring
(c) fretting
(d) flattering

8. The deranged husband __ the ice pick into the woman's chest. [=pushed]

(a) espoused
(b) banded
(c) remedied
(d) plunged

9. The authorities are investigating how they managed to ___ illegal immigrants into the country. [=illegally import]

(a) swoop
(b) smuggle
(c) underline
(d) relegate

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10. Unconditional acceptance was the principle ___ his core philosophy. [=forming the foundation for]

(a) snagging
(b) underpinning
(c) conspiring
(d) limping

11. Difficult assignments should not be _____ to the new assistant because he is not dependable. [= given/ assigned]

(a) disseminated
(b) conspired
(c) delegated
(d) relegated

12. She ____ the information by phone. [=communicated/ transmitted]

(a) relayed
(b) scoured
(c) diluted
(d) ascended

13.The little boy felt that a dark presence was skulking behind the __ trees. [=producing a sound when leaves move against each other]

(a) rustling
(b) overshadowing
(c) sighting
(d) quantifying

14. A tsunami is ___ to be one of the most catastrophic natural phenomena. [=believe/ expect/ estimate]

(a) tacked

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(b) streaked
(c) reckoned
(d) acquitted

15. The feature-length documentary was about the way slaves were ___ by their masters in the 18th century. [=taken advantage of/ abused]

(a) exploited
(b) denoted
(c) quantified
(d) ousted

16. Her parents eventually ___ to the engagement. [=agreed]

(a) pedaled
(b) evaded
(c) ensued
(d) consented

17. She is the eternal optimist, who always ___ anything negative that happens to her. [=minimises/ rejects]

(a) engulfs
(b) weds
(c) pedals
(d) relegates

18. Her uncontrolled anxiety ___ into every aspect of her life.
[=moved/intruded/ invaded]

(a) encroached
(b) spiralled
(c) panted
(d) grieved

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19. This low-budget independent film, which came out last month, certainly _____ among the most entertaining of the year. [=lists/ ranks]

(a) harnesses
(b) grieves
(c) pants
(d) ranks

20. The naughty boy ___ his face against the car window to make his sister laugh. [=pressed]

(a) dissipated
(b) stiffened
(c) squashed
(d) waned

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