

PART ONE: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Directions: You will hear a text about **Dutch cheese** 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 **5 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 traditional cheese market in Holland has not changed much for the last three centuries.

- A) True B) False C) No information in the text

2. The most popular cheeses are not sold on traditional markets.

- A) True B) False C) No information in the text

3. Buyers are given to taste a piece of cheese only because Dutch people are very hospitable.

- A) True B) False C) No information in the text

4. When negotiating the price of cheese, it is common for buyer and seller to slap each other's backs.

- A) True B) False C) No information in the text

5. After a deal has been made, the buyer carries the cheese by means of leather straps.

- A) True B) False C) No information in the text

Directions: You will hear a story about **King Arthur** 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 **5 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. The enemies kept King Arthur in prison for a year.

- A) True B) False C) No information in the text

7. Finally King Arthur was pressed by time and circumstances to ask the witch for help.

- A) True B) False C) No information in the text

8. Lancelot looked upon his marriage to the witch as a sacrifice.

- A) True B) False C) No information in the text

9. The witch answered Arthur's question in a dark room.

- A) True B) False C) No information in the text

10. Lancelot and the witch went abroad for their honeymoon.

- A) True B) False C) No information in the text

Directions: You will hear a text about *some English phrases* 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 **5 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 phrase “red letter day”

- A) can be interpreted in different ways.
- B) was used for the days when monks wrote in red ink.
- C) is not used by any one nowadays.
- D) has been in existence for more than six centuries.

12. Which of the following occasions will most probably NOT be a red letter day?

- A) The day someone was born.
- B) A national holiday.
- C) The day someone buys a computer. D)
- Someone’s tenth wedding anniversary.

13. By her song in the movie *Aladdin*, Princess Jasmine means to say that

- A) the moments spent with Aladdin are very dear to her.
- B) she likes the red letter she has received from Aladdin.
- C) red is her favourite colour.
- D) she receives red letters every moment.

14. Mark Twain used the term “green with envy” A) before Shakespeare or Chaucer used it.

- B) round the end of the nineteenth century.
- C) in its present meaning for the first time.
- D) to describe someone who is never jealous.

15. Long before Shakespeare, the Greeks associated the green colour with

- A) nature.
- B) sickness.
- C) wealth.
- D) summer.

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.

The elegant simplicity of football has made it a world sport. With simple rules and inexpensive equipment, it can be played anywhere, from Brazilian beaches to Moroccan mountains, but what do we know about its origins? Many people think football was invented by working-class Englishmen. This isn’t quite right. In China, statues and inscriptions about the sport date back 2000 years. English football was actually developed by the upper classes (while aristocratic cricket was originally a game for shepherds and street children). The rules

of the modern game were agreed by an association of public schools and universities. The word “soccer” – most common today in the United States – was probably invented by Oxford students to distinguish Association Football from Rugby Football, which is nicknamed “rugger.”

During the first international matches, players wore long trousers and hats. There were no referees and no penalties, as it was assumed that gentlemen would not foul on purpose. Players could, however, appeal against decisions to captains. When referees were first introduced on the pitch they had to wear black trousers, blazers and bow ties. It is true that English businessmen and workers spread the game around the globe, though. A British doctor, James Richardson Spensley, founded the Genoa Cricket and Football club in 1893. Charles Miller brought the first footballs to Brazil in 1894.

Soccer is also a cultural phenomenon. The English are obsessed with their captain, David Beckham, whose autobiography was a best-seller. A more literary success was Nick Hornby’s entertaining account of a season as an Arsenal fan: *Fever Pitch* was later made into a film starring Colin Firth. An unexpected big screen hit, *Bend It Like Beckham*, made actress Keira Knightley a star and brought women’s football into the public eye.

16. For years there have been debates where exactly in China football was first played.

- A) True B) False C) No information in the text

17. That football was invented by working-class Englishmen is as true as the statement that cricket was invented by English aristocrats.

- A) True B) False C) No information in the text

18. The word “soccer” was certainly coined in the United States.

- A) True B) False C) No information in the text

19. Penalties were introduced into soccer with the first international matches.

- A) True B) False C) No information in the text

20. Beckham’s book had less artistic merit than Hornby’s.

- 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.

It was Monday and pretty near Christmas, and all the stores were open. So it wasn’t so bad walking on Fifth Avenue. All those Santa Clauses were standing on corners ringing those bells, and the Salvation Army girls were ringing bells, too. You know them – they are the ones that don’t wear any lipstick or anything.

Anyway, it was pretty Christmasy all of a sudden. A million little kids were downtown with their mothers, getting on and off buses, and coming in and out of stores. I wished my sister Phoebe was around. She is not little enough any more to go staring like mad in the toy department, but she enjoys hanging around and looking at people.

Last Christmas I took her downtown shopping with me. We had a hell of a time. I think it was in Bloomingdale’s or some other classy store.

We went into the shoe department and we pretended she wanted to get a pair of those very high shoes, the kind that have about a million holes to lace up. We had the poor salesman guy going crazy. Phoebe tried on about twenty pairs, and each time the poor guy had to lace one shoe all the way up.

It was a dirty trick, but it pleased Phoebe. We finally bought a pair of moccasins and left. Still, the salesman was very nice about it. I think he knew we were fooling around, because Phoebe always starts giggling. Some guys are like that salesman, you know, they don't want to spoil your fun. Or it was Phoebe who made him be nice to us. Not that she meant it, oh, no, simply one can never be cross with her. I'm just recalling this helped me feel better.

Anyway, I kept walking up Fifth Avenue without any purpose or anything, feeling sort of happy.

21. It was near Christmas and

- A) it was nice to walk in the shopping streets.
- B) Fifth Avenue was closed for pedestrians.
- C) Santa Clauses were singing loudly on corners.
- D) Salvation Army girls were wearing make up.

22. It was Christmasy all of a sudden as

- A) millions of kids caused a traffic jam.
- B) mothers with kids were all over the city centre.
- C) the narrator's sister Phoebe was coming.
- D) Phoebe was old enough to buy shoes.

23. The previous Christmas the narrator and Phoebe

- A) went window-shopping.
- B) had a really good time.
- C) went to the cinema.
- D) bought too many presents.

24. In the shoe department Phoebe

- A) bought a pair of very high shoes.
- B) tried on a dozen pairs of shoes.
- C) wanted to try on all types of shoes they had.
- D) and her brother bought one pair of shoes.

25. The salesman

- A) had to lace approximately 20 pairs of high shoes.
- B) let Phoebe and her brother have fun.
- C) hardly paid Phoebe and her brother any attention.
- D) got very angry at the dirty trick.

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.

In the evening, we assembled, to arrange our plans for the trip. Harris said:

“The first thing is what to take with us. Now, you, Jerome, get a bit of paper and write down, and you, George, get the catalogues, and somebody give me a pencil, and then I’ll make out a list.”

That’s Harris all over – so ready to take the burden of everything himself, and put it on the backs of other people.

He always reminds me of my uncle. You never saw such a commotion up and down a house, as when my uncle undertook to do a job. A picture would have come home from the frame-maker’s, and be standing in the dining-room, waiting to be put up; and my uncle would say:

“Oh, you leave that to ME. Don’t you, any of you, worry yourselves about that. I’LL do all that.”

And then he would take off his coat, and begin. He would send the girl out for nails, and then one of the boys after her to tell her what size of nails to get; and, from that, he would gradually work down, and involve everyone from the house.

He would lift up the picture, and drop it, and cut himself; and look for his handkerchief. He could not find his handkerchief, because it was in the pocket of the coat he had taken off, and all the house had to stop looking for his tools, and start looking for his coat.

“Doesn’t anybody in the whole house know where my coat is? Six of you! – and you can’t find a coat that I put down not five minutes ago!”

Then he’d get up, and find that he had been sitting on it, and would call out:

“Oh, you can give it up! I’ve found it myself now. Might just as well ask the cat to find anything as expect you people to find it.”

Harris and my uncle, two of a kind, as the saying goes.

26. Harris, George and Jerome met to

- A) test Harris’s managing skills.
- B) see how they work as a team.
- C) have a drinking spree before their trip.
- D) make preparations for their trip.

27. Harris reminds the narrator of his uncle because both of them

- A) need to be urged to start doing something.
- B) like putting pictures on walls at home.
- C) boast of being able to do everything all alone.
- D) never engage other people against their will.

28. After taking off his coat, the narrator’s uncle would

- A) send a boy to the shop to purchase something.
- B) send the girl to specify what exactly to buy.
- C) turn out to be so clumsy as to hurt himself.
- D) find his handkerchief in his trouser pocket.

29. Everybody would be looking for the coat A) while carrying on doing their other jobs. **B)** unless they had anything else to do. **C)** because of the nails in its pockets. **D)** while the uncle was sitting on it.

30. The coat would be found A) accidentally by the uncle himself. **B)** and the uncle would thank everybody. **C)** not without the cat's help. **D)** and the uncle would sigh with relief.

PART THREE: USE OF ENGLISH

Section One: Cloze Test

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.

A "white elephant" is something which will cost you money, perhaps an increasing (31) _____ of money over time, and in the end, have no (32) _____. It may be something that costs too much to fix or too much to use.

A "white elephant" could be a car, a boat, a house, or even a business which (33) _____ more and more of your money without bringing in enough profit in return.

In the words of the poet, John Cheever Goodwin

– "For the elephant ate all night And that elephant ate all day

Do what you could to furnish him food,

The cry was still "more hay."

This is true of all elephants, white or dark. As we all know, the elephant is the largest land mammal, and perhaps the heaviest of eaters.

White elephants are (34) _____ to be holy or sacred in parts of Asia. Here is an explanation of the present use of the (35) _____ "white elephant:"

Hundreds of years ago there were so (36) _____ white elephants that every one was taken by the king. And because they were sacred, it was unlawful to put any of them (37) _____ work.

The king used a white elephant to punish any of his officials who (38) _____ him. He gave the man the elephant as a/an (39) _____. Then, the king just waited. He knew that, (40) _____ time, the official would spend all his money feeding the elephant. And, because the elephant could not do any work, the official could not use him to make any money. So, the present of a white elephant resulted in ruin.

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|---------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| 31. A) price | B) volume | C) cost | D) amount |
| 32. A) advantage | B) value | C) meaning | D) reason |
| 33. A) makes | B) asks | C) demands | D) involves |
| 34. A) looked | B) estimated | C) considered | D) rated |
| 35. A) expression | B) aspect | C) sign | D) sentence |
| 36. A) few | B) a few | C) little | D) a little |
| 37. A) at | B) to | C) in | D) for |
| 38. A) disheartened | B) dismissed | C) displeased | D) disowned |

39. A) donation B) honour C) gift D) distinction
 40. A) in B) on C) at D) by
41. The wind was so strong that we couldn't _____ our tent.
 A) get up B) put up C) take up D) work up
42. In conclusion, I would like to _____ a toast.
 A) tell B) propose C) suppose D) invite
43. Tom was trying to _____ another biker when he crashed.
 A) overpass B) overcome C) overtake D) overcharge
44. The football fans climbed over the fence to _____ paying.
 A) avoid B) prevent C) abandon D) refuse
45. I fell over while skiing and my friend had to _____ a doctor.
 A) meet B) ask C) call D) see

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. We had _____ great fun at the party _____ no one felt like going home.
 A) quite ... that
 B) a so ... and
 C) such ... that
 D) a very ... so
47. My mother didn't let me spend the weekend with my boyfriend because we _____ each other long.
 A) didn't know
 B) weren't knowing
 C) hadn't known
 D) hadn't been knowing
48. I didn't expect my father _____ such a great fuss about my new hairstyle.
 A) making B)
 make C) to
 make D) to
 be made

49. Let's go somewhere abroad for a holiday,
_____?

- A) shall we
- B) will we
- C) won't we
- D) don't we

50. I have absolutely no idea what you are talking about and I strongly suspect that
_____.

- A) you haven't, either
- B) you haven't, too
- C) so haven't you
- D) neither you have

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. "We'll be staying at a hotel next week as our flat is to be refurbished," said Lisa. Lisa said _____.

52. My parents were really glad that I managed to find a good job for the summer.
My parents were really glad that I succeeded _____.

53. I wrote my first poem when we came to live on Corfu.
I _____ poems ever since we _____.

54. I don't like your complaining about anything and everything all the time.
I wish you _____.

55. You can have either only tea or only coffee with the voucher for a free drink.
You can't _____.

56. If you don't complain so much, you'll do it faster.
The _____, the _____.

57. Was it because you didn't know about the accident that you didn't visit your boyfriend at the hospital?
If you _____?

58. The smell of lilac is not as strong as that of jasmine.
Jasmine smells _____.

59. It was such good coffee that I had another cup.
The coffee was _____.

60. Do you think we can rely on the weather forecast?
Do you think the weather forecast _____?

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:*

1. Describe your favourite sportsman. Who is he/she? What sport does he/she play? What makes him/her special?
2. Write about your experience in some volunteer or charity activity. Who initiated it? How did you get involved? What did you do? How did it feel?

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