

Test 3a

Choose the correct answer — *a*, *b*, *c* or *d* — to complete the following texts. Only one answer is correct.

1. After a few days, the cheese began to _____ a pungent smell.

- a) give off
- b) let off
- c) send off
- d) put out

2. —Which one can I have?

—Take your _____, mate. It's first come, first served.

- a) choice
- b) pluck
- c) vote
- d) pick

3. The hotel room was _____ furnished: a bed, a wardrobe and a plain wooden chair.

- a) sparsely
- b) thinly
- c) lightly
- d) sketchily

4. Nadal's left knee, _____ was badly injured some time ago, is now all right.

- a) which
- b) what
- c) that
- d) it

5. They _____ with friends in the country when they heard the news. They left immediately.

- a) stayed
- b) had stayed
- c) have been staying
- d) had been staying

6. I put up with her parking on my spot for a while, but finally I had it _____ with her.

- a) out
- b) plain
- c) mere
- d) simple

7. I've _____ to tell her to clean the kitchen again. It's still filthy.

- a) a mind and a half
- b) two halves of a mind
- c) half a mind
- d) two minds

8. It was _____ pleasure to be working out of doors after five long years locked in a cell.

- a) plain
- b) sheer
- c) mere
- d) simple

9. He hadn't the slightest idea _____ hear from her again.

- a) of how he will
- b) of when he would
- c) on how he would
- d) on when he would

10. The Japanese used to buy American cars as a way to express themselves. _____ selling to Japanese consumers was ever easy.

- a) Not that
- b) No what
- c) Not what
- d) No that

11. His statement about _____ no truth in the allegations was difficult to believe.

- a) there had been
- b) there was
- c) there having
- d) there being

12. The manager was _____ to stress that the company had no intention of cutting jobs.

- a) at pains
- b) in pain
- c) at great pain
- d) pained

13. Hardly anyone had known, ____?

- a) had one
- b) hadn't they
- c) had they
- d) had he

14. Sorry I'm late. I was ____ in the traffic.

- a) held out
- b) held up
- c) kept up
- d) let down

15. The school authorities ____ the child's behaviour on a total lack of discipline.

- a) blame
- b) attribute
- c) accuse
- d) ascribe

16. He hadn't expected ____ such an outcry.

- a) to be
- b) to have
- c) there to be
- d) it being

17. —If they invite you to dinner, don't take wine. They're teetotal.

—Are they? I'll ____.

- a) take that on account
- b) bear that in mind
- c) keep that in view
- d) keep account of that

18. Nor, the officials claimed, ____ the way to peace.

- a) does the agreement pave
- b) the agreement paves
- c) the agreement doesn't pave
- d) the agreement isn't paving

19. The sound of a tap ____ kept me awake all night.

- a) dripping
- b) lapping
- c) seeping
- d) dropping

20. We're planning a party for Julia's birthday, but don't let _____. It's a surprise.

- a) on
- b) out
- c) off
- d) up

21. ____ bet on that horse, he would have won £22,000.

- a) Had he
- b) Was he to have
- c) Should he
- d) Were he to

22. If you park in the General Manager's space, you'll soon get your ____ orders.

- a) battle
- b) standing
- c) marching
- d) out of

23. The committee asked that the accident ____ investigated thoroughly.

- a) be
- b) would be
- c) should have been
- d) has been

24. He ____ his car repaired at the moment.

- a) has
- b) is having
- c) is making
- d) makes

25. I very much ____ his sarcastic comments.

- a) resented
- b) molested
- c) grudged
- d) objected

26. To everyone's surprise, Cynthia ____ her engagement just before the wedding.

- a) broke up
- b) broke off
- c) broke out of
- d) split up

27. —Did you see the way Jonathan spoke to his wife?
—Yes. It was _____, wasn't it? I never knew he was such a jealous type.

- a) a true eye-test
- b) an unblinded eyepiece
- c) 20/20 hindsight
- d) a real eye-opener

28. The accused denied trying to blackmail his alleged victim _____ over £50,000 in unmarked bills.

- a) into handing
- b) out of handing
- c) to hand
- d) that he should hand

29. Accepting the job in Glasgow will mean _____ the family and moving to Scotland. We'll also have to find a new school for the children.

- a) dislodging
- b) supplanting
- c) transposing
- d) uprooting

30. Only 35% of _____ are still studying full time.

- a) 17-years-olds
- b) 17-year olds
- c) 17-year-olds
- d) 17-years olds

31. He's always _____ the government, but then he never votes in the elections.

- a) shooting off
- b) calling out
- c) running down
- d) calling off

32. —Why do you think we were chosen to make the presentation? I mean, we don't have much experience doing presentations.

—I don't know. It's just the _____, I suppose.

- a) luck of the draw
- b) draw of the luck
- c) stroke of the luck
- d) luck of the stroke

33. The problem is that council environmental health departments have _____. So there's simply too much work.

- a) too few staff
- b) too few staffs
- c) too little staff
- d) too few a staff

34. —Will you _____ the baby for a moment while I make a phone call?

—Of course. No problem at all.

- a) control
- b) settle
- c) mind
- d) attend

35. John wondered if she had undergone plastic surgery. She certainly looked a lot younger than her _____ years.

- a) fifty odd
- b) fifty-odd
- c) odd fifty
- d) fifty's odd

36. Whether France would be _____ off without the European Union is a moot question.

- a) good or better
- b) best or worst
- c) better or worse
- d) more or less than

37. He only took _____ golf because his doctor told him he would have to get some exercise. Now he thinks of nothing else.

- a) up
- b) over
- c) on
- d) off

38. Is this your first day here? Well, don't worry. You'll be spending a couple of weeks with someone who knows the

- a) cords
- b) lines
- c) ropes
- d) hawsers

39. It's more than twenty years since I worked in Germany, so my German is pretty _____ now.

- a) rusty
- b) scratchy
- c) sloppy
- d) scruffy

40. They had been so helpful to her that _____ she could do was to say thank you.

- a) the last
- b) the least
- c) the less
- d) at least

41. —I'm not going to be treated like this. I've had enough! Do you hear?

—Now calm down. Don't _____.

- a) sink the ship
- b) make the waves
- c) hit the rocks
- d) rock the boat

42. I've been playing tennis for years. If this complete beginner beats me, I'll never _____.

- a) look up to it
- b) take after it
- c) cut down on it
- d) live it down

43. There were so many people _____ me in the crowd that I couldn't hold the camera steady.

- a) jerking
- b) jostling
- c) agitating
- d) colliding

44. When she left school Sheila wanted to go in for politics, and _____, involving herself in the nuts and bolts of local campaigns.

- a) so did she
- b) she went in
- c) so she did
- d) so she went

45. She's got _____ about people keeping their dogs under control. In fact, she's fanatical about it.

- a) a bull by the horns
- b) a cat in the bag
- c) ants in her pants
- d) a bee in her bonnet

46. —Where are we going to get the money?
—Desmond will lend us a few pounds _____ he's been paid.

- a) so long
- b) whereas
- c) notwithstanding
- d) provided

47. A good friend is one who will _____ you when you're in trouble. You know what they say: a friend in need is a friend indeed.

- a) stand up to
- b) stand over
- c) stand by
- d) back up

48. The River Breem rises in the hills to the north, then _____ south-west to the sea.

- a) pours
- b) discourses
- c) drips
- d) flows

49. When I came _____ after the accident, I couldn't remember a single thing that had happened.

- a) about
- b) off
- c) round
- d) over

50. I used to be criticised a lot when I started this job but it doesn't bother me now. It's like water off a _____.

- a) duck's beak
- b) parrot's back
- c) duck's back
- d) parrot's beak