

1. The media nowadays is often accused of \_\_\_\_\_ people's privacy.  
A. infringing on      B. imprinting in      C. impinging on      D. indulging in
2. The head of the Human Resources Department found himself in the \_\_\_\_\_ line over recent job cuts.  
A. heating      B. firing      C. blazing      D. flaming
3. "Don't make the situation more complicated. It's not worth \_\_\_\_\_ hairs."  
A. drying      B. cutting      C. trimming      D. splitting
4. The book is such a \_\_\_\_\_ that I can't put it down.  
A. page-turner      B. best-seller      C. duvet-cover      D. mind-reader
5. The government has taken tough measures to \_\_\_\_\_ corruption in the country.  
A. stamp out      B. stretch away      C. struggle on      D. strike up
6. Closer \_\_\_\_\_ of the documents revealed a number of interesting and important facts.  
A. suspicion      B. scrutiny      C. inception      D. peculiarity
7. Although emails have been \_\_\_\_\_ over the past years, sending Christmas cards by post to friends and family members is still a tradition among many British people.  
A. all the rage      B. all around      C. all along      D. all the while
8. Some novels can be killed \_\_\_\_\_ dead by bad reviews when they are first published.  
A. axe      B. hammer      C. rock      D. stone
9. Personal feelings should not come into \_\_\_\_\_ when you are making business decisions.  
A. force      B. effect      C. play      D. question
10. The company wouldn't have seen such a quick turnover of staff had its manager not treated the employees with \_\_\_\_\_ contempt.  
A. utter      B. total      C. wide      D. high
11. You don't need to go into details. I just want the \_\_\_\_\_ of it.  
A. thick and fast      B. hard and fast      C. long and short      D. short and sweet
12. His energy and optimism were a tribute, perhaps, to the \_\_\_\_\_ life he advocated.  
A. deleterious      B. abstemious      C. amorphous      D. deciduous
13. The politician's speech was full of \_\_\_\_\_ rhetoric designed to appeal to voters' emotions rather than their reason.  
A. insidious      B. pernicious      C. inflammatory      D. surreptitious
14. The new evidence completely \_\_\_\_\_ the defendant's alibi, leaving the prosecution's case in tatters.  
A. undermined      B. supplanted      C. corroborated      D. vindicated
15. After years of financial struggle, the company finally managed to \_\_\_\_\_ and become profitable again.  
A. turn the corner      B. cut corners      C. corner the market      D. paint into a corner
16. The CEO's decision to \_\_\_\_\_ the merger talks came as a shock to investors.  
A. call up      B. call off      C. call out      D. call for
17. Her \_\_\_\_\_ attention to detail made her an invaluable asset to the research team.  
A. meticulous      B. fastidious      C. scrupulous      D. punctilious

18. The scandal has really put the government \_\_\_\_\_ as public trust continues to erode.  
A. on the back foot    B. on the front line    C. on thin ice    D. on cloud nine
19. The documentary \_\_\_\_\_ light on the environmental impact of fast fashion.  
A. cast    B. shed    C. threw    D. placed
20. His \_\_\_\_\_ for classical music was evident in his extensive vinyl collection.  
A. predilection    B. proclivity    C. propensity    D. penchant
21. The witness's testimony was so \_\_\_\_\_ that it cast doubt on the entire prosecution case.  
A. equivocal    B. unequivocal    C. vociferous    D. perspicuous
22. Don't \_\_\_\_\_ around the bush – just tell me what happened.  
A. cut    B. beat    C. trim    D. hedge
23. The new software has helped \_\_\_\_\_ our workflow and increase productivity significantly.  
A. streamline    B. underline    C. outline    D. sideline
24. The professor's lecture was so \_\_\_\_\_ that half the students fell asleep.  
A. soporific    B. sporadic    C. sophomoric    D. sycophantic
25. The company decided to \_\_\_\_\_ its losses and close the unprofitable division.  
A. cut    B. reduce    C. minimize    D. curtail
26. Her \_\_\_\_\_ nature made it difficult for her to trust anyone completely.  
A. circumspect    B. introspective    C. retrospective    D. prospective
27. The negotiations have reached an \_\_\_\_\_ as neither side is willing to compromise.  
A. ultimatum    B. impasse    C. embargo    D. moratorium
28. The artist's work is known for its \_\_\_\_\_ style that blends traditional and modern elements.  
A. eclectic    B. esoteric    C. eccentric    D. endemic
29. I'm afraid we'll have to \_\_\_\_\_ our holiday plans due to the current circumstances.  
A. shelve    B. shelf    C. shave    D. shape
30. The manager's \_\_\_\_\_ approach to leadership created a hostile work environment.  
A. autocratic    B. democratic    C. bureaucratic    D. aristocratic
31. The journalist's \_\_\_\_\_ investigation uncovered widespread corruption in the industry.  
A. cursory    B. perfunctory    C. assiduous    D. desultory
32. He tends to \_\_\_\_\_ his achievements, which makes him very likeable.  
A. play up    B. play down    C. play out    D. play into
33. The company's reputation has been \_\_\_\_\_ by the recent scandal.  
A. tarnished    B. burnished    C. furnished    D. garnished
34. Her \_\_\_\_\_ personality made her the life of every party she attended.  
A. vivacious    B. voracious    C. vicarious    D. vexatious
35. The proposal was met with \_\_\_\_\_ criticism from environmental groups.  
A. scathing    B. soothing    C. smoothing    D. smothering
36. Don't count your chickens before they \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. fly    B. nest    C. hatch    D. roost

37. The defendant's lawyer tried to \_\_\_\_\_ doubt on the witness's credibility.  
A. cast                      B. throw                      C. place                      D. put
38. The board's decision was \_\_\_\_\_ influenced by the CEO's personal preferences.  
A. unduly                      B. duly                      C. newly                      D. truly
39. The startup managed to \_\_\_\_\_ significant investment from venture capitalists.  
A. secure                      B. procure                      C. ensure                      D. assure
40. His \_\_\_\_\_ remarks about his colleagues made him very unpopular in the office.  
A. disparaging                      B. encouraging                      C. discouraging                      D. embarrassing
41. The new policy aims to \_\_\_\_\_ bureaucratic red tape and improve efficiency.  
A. cut back on                      B. cut through                      C. cut down on                      D. cut out
42. The scientist's theory was initially \_\_\_\_\_ by the academic community.  
A. spurious                      B. spurred                      C. spurned                      D. sporadic
43. We need to \_\_\_\_\_ our differences and work together on this project.  
A. set back                      B. set up                      C. set out                      D. set aside
44. The company's \_\_\_\_\_ growth strategy focuses on sustainable development.  
A. long-term                      B. short-term                      C. mid-term                      D. full-term
45. The politician's speech was full of \_\_\_\_\_ statements that could be interpreted in multiple ways.  
A. ambiguous                      B. unambiguous                      C. ubiquitous                      D. incongruous
46. The team's performance has been \_\_\_\_\_ this season, with inconsistent results.  
A. static                      B. ecstatic                      C. erratic                      D. dramatic
47. The new regulations will \_\_\_\_\_ into effect next month.  
A. come                      B. go                      C. put                      D. take
48. Her \_\_\_\_\_ memory for faces made her an excellent detective.  
A. precocious                      B. prestigious                      C. prodigious                      D. pretentious
49. The company's profits have been \_\_\_\_\_ steadily over the past five years.  
A. dwindling                      B. swindling                      C. kindling                      D. handling
50. It's time to face the music and \_\_\_\_\_ the consequences of your actions.  
A. respect                      B. except                      C. expect                      D. accept
51. The merger will \_\_\_\_\_ the company's position in the global market.  
A. consolidate                      B. conjugate                      C. consecrate                      D. confiscate
52. The professor's \_\_\_\_\_ explanation helped clarify the complex concept.  
A. lucid                      B. lurid                      C. livid                      D. liquid
53. The team needs to \_\_\_\_\_ their act together if they want to meet the deadline.  
A. set                      B. put                      C. get                      D. keep
54. The government's \_\_\_\_\_ measures have failed to curb inflation effectively.  
A. austerity                      B. prosperity                      C. sincerity                      D. posterity
55. His \_\_\_\_\_ behavior at the meeting was completely inappropriate.  
A. poorish                      B. moorish                      C. boorish                      D. flourish

56. The company decided to \_\_\_\_\_ a new marketing campaign to boost sales.  
A. launch                      B. lurch                      C. lunch                      D. lynch
57. The witness's testimony proved to be \_\_\_\_\_ to the case.  
A. instrumental              B. detrimental              C. experimental              D. ornamental
58. She has a \_\_\_\_\_ for getting herself into difficult situations.  
A. neck                      B. knock                      C. knack                      D. nick
59. The economic downturn has \_\_\_\_\_ havoc on small businesses.  
A. wreaked                      B. reeked                      C. wrecked                      D. racked
60. The politician's \_\_\_\_\_ promises failed to convince the electorate.  
A. gratitude                      B. granular                      C. gradient                      D. grandiose
61. We need to \_\_\_\_\_ our resources more effectively to achieve our goals.  
A. deploy                      B. decoy                      C. destroy                      D. delay
62. The company's \_\_\_\_\_ approach to innovation has kept it ahead of competitors.  
A. pioneering                      B. pinpointing                      C. patronizing                      D. paralyzing
63. He got the job because he really stood \_\_\_\_\_ from the other candidates.  
A. in                      B. down                      C. out                      D. away
64. My flight was delayed, so I had to \_\_\_\_\_ my meeting.  
A. put up                      B. put in                      C. put off                      D. put away
65. They moved to the countryside to enjoy a quieter \_\_\_\_\_ of life.  
A. rhythm                      B. speed                      C. rate                      D. pace
66. We were told to keep \_\_\_\_\_ from the construction site.  
A. away                      B. along                      C. across                      D. through
67. He was very nervous before the interview, but he tried to keep a straight \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. mouth                      B. hand                      C. face                      D. look
68. She finally broke \_\_\_\_\_ and told us what was wrong.  
A. away                      B. in                      C. through                      D. down
69. It's important to \_\_\_\_\_ a good impression at a job interview.  
A. create                      B. leave                      C. make                      D. do
70. That movie was really boring – it was a real \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. sleeper                      B. snorer                      C. drag                      D. bore
71. I can't \_\_\_\_\_ the difference between these two photos.  
A. do                      B. tell                      C. make                      D. say
72. We can't afford a new car right now – money is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. tight                      B. strong                      C. limited                      D. strict
73. You don't have to decide now. Just \_\_\_\_\_ it over and tell me tomorrow.  
A. turn                      B. speak                      C. think                      D. work
74. We arrived just in \_\_\_\_\_ to catch the last train.  
A. moment                      B. time                      C. hurry                      D. minute

75. I had to learn the speech by \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. memory                      B. brain                      C. heart                      D. head
76. I usually get along well with my classmates, but today I'm not in the \_\_\_\_\_ for talking.  
 A. feel                      B. spirit                      C. mind                      D. mood
77. Can you give me a \_\_\_\_\_ with this box? It's really heavy.  
 A. push                      B. lift                      C. hand                      D. pull
78. I'm afraid I can't come to the party. Something has \_\_\_\_\_ up.  
 A. moved                      B. come                      C. shown                      D. picked
79. She's always early – she doesn't like being \_\_\_\_\_ time.  
 A. out of                      B. off                      C. late for                      D. behind
80. The weather was so bad that we had to \_\_\_\_\_ the picnic.  
 A. cancel                      B. call                      C. take                      D. end
81. This coffee is too hot to drink – I'll let it \_\_\_\_\_ for a bit.  
 A. chill                      B. sit                      C. cool                      D. freeze
82. We stayed in a small hotel by the \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. sea                      B. beach                      C. shore                      D. coast
83. It's not polite to talk with your mouth \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. wide                      B. open                      C. full                      D. eating
84. She wasn't interested at first, but I managed to talk her \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. in                      B. over                      C. out                      D. up
85. I always take my phone \_\_\_\_\_ in case I get lost.  
 A. on                      B. along                      C. up                      D. around
86. He's very good at solving problems – he always keeps a cool \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. brain                      B. head                      C. face                      D. mind
87. The collapse of the company will have \_\_\_\_\_ for the whole industry.  
 A. repetitions                      B. repercussions                      C. reflections                      D. reformations
88. The book was really interesting – I read it from cover to \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. back                      B. bottom                      C. start                      D. end
89. He didn't mean to hurt you – it was just a slip of the \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. mouth                      B. tongue                      C. speech                      D. voice
90. I need to \_\_\_\_\_ my Spanish before the trip to Mexico.  
 A. bring up                      B. break out                      C. brush up                      D. build on
91. You should \_\_\_\_\_ your shoes before entering the house.  
 A. leave                      B. take off                      C. put down                      D. step off
92. Please keep \_\_\_\_\_ while I'm speaking.  
 A. quiet                      B. low                      C. calm                      D. silent
93. Don't worry – it's not a big \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. thing                      B. matter                      C. deal                      D. issue

94. She has a very good \_\_\_\_\_ for names and faces.  
A. knowledge      B. memory      C. brain      D. attention
95. We finally \_\_\_\_\_ an agreement after hours of discussion.  
A. came      B. reached      C. did      D. found
96. He left the room without saying a \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. word      B. thing      C. speak      D. message
97. I \_\_\_\_\_ across some old photos while cleaning the attic.  
A. came      B. got      C. looked      D. went
98. It's not a good idea to \_\_\_\_\_ up problems from the past.  
A. raise      B. pull      C. bring      D. push
99. His jokes always crack me \_\_\_\_\_, even when I'm sad.  
A. on      B. over      C. down      D. up
100. The child's \_\_\_\_\_ questions were beginning to get on her nerves.  
A. consistent      B. recurrent      C. persistent      D. pertinent