Gardáns
learn, achieve, excel

PRACTICE TEST

1. Many members of the scientific community claim that having strong religious beliefs is totally acceptable and justifiable, but, according to a recent survey, __ actually go to church.

- **a.** few
- **b.** several
- **c.** they
- **d.** most

2. Although the famous actor believes he can adapt to the roles' demands, he stated he might have trouble __ down for scenes of his seventy-year-old thin and frail character.

- **a.** to be slimmed
- **b.** to slim
- **c.** slimming
- **d.** for slimming

3. The woman __ whom the well-known politician left after the conference was thought to be the head of the immigration department, and various rumors about that meeting have spread during the past few days.

- **a.** by
- **b.** for
- **c.** with
- **d.** to

4. Even though Mark has always loved driving fast, he's changed since he had the accident. Yesterday, he said that he __ be reckless enough to drive over the speed limit again.

- **a.** never
- **b.** never to
- **c.** will never
- **d.** is never

5. Deborah's started her blog a decade ago and, since then, it __ a million visitors from all over the world.

- **a.** was hosted to close
- **b.** hosted closer than
- **c.** is hosted as close as
- **d.** has hosted close to

6. If John loses his temper in front of such important clients again, I am sure that Mr. Wailer __ in a matter of minutes.

- **a.** should have fired him
- **b.** will have fired him
- **c.** may fire him
- **d.** will have him fired

7. Since they did not want to take sides, the shareholders of the company __ neutral throughout the meeting and especially during the presentation of the new financial plan.

- **a.** were remaining
- **b.** have remained
- **c.** have been remaining
- **d.** remained

8. Despite his promise to elaborate on the health insurance issue during his talk, the minister __ provide the public with reasonable arguments.

- **a.** has simply not to
- **b.** was simply not able to
- **c.** simply not be able to
- **d.** could simply not have to

9. Edgy __ about his future with the company, he can neither handle situations that demand clear thinking and critical judgment nor communicate effectively with his colleagues.

- **a.** as he is
- **b.** like he is
- **c.** he is like
- **d.** who he is

LIVEWORKSHEETS

10. "Do you happen to know where the post office is?" "Of course, drive on a little __ and at the end of the road turn left. It is the small yellow building you'll see on your right."

- **a.** along
- **b.** past
- **c.** towards
- **d.** farther

11. Before I found this apartment last year, I __ moving back in with my parents.

- **a.** had been considered
- **b.** was considering
- **c.** have been considering
- **d.** am considering

12. Nobody __ there instruments without the technician's express permission.

- **a.** is touching
- **b.** is to touching
- **c.** to touch
- **d.** is to touch

13. Only after we have inspected the entire building __ as safe.

- **a.** will it certify
- **b.** will it be certified
- **c.** it will be certified
- **d.** will be certified

14. The prosecutor has demanded that the accused __ out on bail before the trial, on the grounds that he is a danger to the community.

- **a.** lets him
- **b.** to be let
- **c.** not be let
- **d.** has been let

15. Sales of ordinary cell phones have collapsed __ the success of the smartphone.

- **a.** in spite of
- **b.** on the grounds of
- **c.** on account of
- **d.** with a view to

16. All these problems you're causing won't disappear; they're going to __ you one day.

- **a.** catch up with
- **b.** catch down on
- **c.** catch onto
- **d.** catch out

17. We think this is the best course of action, but __ our parents will agree.

- **a.** we're not completely sure whether
- **b.** we're completely not sure whether
- **c.** we completely aren't sure whether
- **d.** completely we're not sure that

18. Joan deeply regrets __ those negative things about you to the manager, and asked that you forgive her.

- **a.** having to say
- **b.** having said
- **c.** to having said
- **d.** to say

LIVEWORKSHEETS

This passage is about globalization.

Economists who support globalization often point to the drop in world poverty it has brought about over the last two decades. Life expectancy is up, 2 billion more people now have access to clean water, and deaths from preventable diseases like TB, malaria, and measles are down. Death rates for infants and mothers have also seen a reduction, as have numbers of underweight children.

Yet in the West, things are not so rosy, and could even be said to be taking the opposite course. Between the end of the Second World War and the beginning of the eighties, income for the bottom 20% in society increased at a greater rate than that of the top 20%. Since 1980, their income has hardly increased at all, while that of the top 20% carried on increasing steadily. Today, over half of US wealth is in the hands of just 3% of the population, and America is less equal than the Philippines in those terms.

Those that blame jobs going overseas for these ills are shooting wide of the mark. Domestic companies are also cutting wages, and at the same time corporate profits are through the roof. Indices of poverty such as infant mortality are on the rise once again. The American Dream of rising out of a life on the breadline, struggling week to week to pay rent and utilities, to education, wealth and a middle-class life, are more unattainable than practically ever before.

There are a number of theories as to where this trend will end up. It could all seem to point to the fact that as the wealth of a country rises, it only benefits all areas of society for a limited period of time. Another theory says that the trend will continue until all countries have reached a similar level of wealth. Nobody, however, seems at all confident that things will improve for the USA – or other countries of the West – any time soon.

151. What is the main idea of the passage?
   a. Globally, economies are going consistently downhill.
   b. Quality of life indicators are not growing so fast in the USA.
   c. Globalization is not affecting countries equally worldwide.
   d. Globalization has meant wealth leaving the West for developing countries.

152. What does evidence from the developing world show?
   a. Globalization is having an undeniably positive impact there.
   b. Economies there are finally benefiting from wise economic decisions.
   c. Healthcare figures are improving due to better education.
   d. People are living longer and putting pressure on welfare bodies.

153. What economic picture do we get of the USA?
   a. Trends are practically opposite to those in the developing world.
   b. Economists are not at all optimistic about its future.
   c. Only 23% of the population has grown wealthier in over 40 years.
   d. It is now a poorer country in real terms than the Philippines.

154. In the last sentence of the third paragraph, what does **on the breadline** mean?
   a. just getting by
   b. living off charity
   c. having plenty to eat
   d. living on the streets

155. How does the author feel about the future?
   a. pessimistic that the developing world can rise much further
   b. optimistic that economies will meet in the middle
   c. resigned to a long period of American decline
   d. certain the developing countries will rise and then fall too

LIVEWORKSHEETS