

## Unit 1. LIFE STORIES

## LANGUAGE FOCUS

## Phonetics

Homophones (words having different spelling but the same pronunciation): *piece – peace, higher – hire*

## Grammar

- Review: the past simple and the past continuous

*Einstein was one of the most intelligent people in the 20th century.*

*What was he doing in his garden when you came?*

- Definite and indefinite articles

*The koala is an arboreal herbivorous marsupial.*

*A koala was first recorded to encounter a European in 1798.*

- Omission of articles

*Koalas are found only in Australia.*

## Vocabulary

Words and phrases related to people's life stories: *achievement, successful ...*

**I. Mark the letter A, B, C or D to indicate the word that differs from the other three in the position of primary stress in each of the following questions.**

1. A. impact                      B. inspire                      C. decide                      D. prefer  
2. A. stimulate                      B. amputate                      C. determined                      D. talented  
3. A. considerate                      B. priority                      C. influential                      D. experience  
4. A. campaign                      B. waiver                      C. gossips                      D. knowledge  
5. A. interpret                      B. stimulate                      C. determine                      D. distinguish

**II. Mark the letter A, B, C, or D indicate the word whose underlined part differs from the other three in pronunciation in each of the following questions.**

1. A. diagnose (n)      B. distinguish      C. dedication      D. figure  
2. A. wavered      B. talented      C. respected      D. awarded  
3. A. diagnosed      B. distinguished      C. passed      D. launched  
4. A. mission      B. gossip      C. boss      D. jobless  
5. A. amputate      B. alive      C. impact      D. talented

III. Mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the word(s) CLOSEST in meaning to the underlined word(s) in each of the following questions.

1. The film was so successful that the main actor became a household name afterwards.  
A. a well-known person                      B. an unknown actor  
C. an experienced director                D. a house owner
2. The wound had become so infected that the doctors had no choice but amputate the soldier's arm.  
A. cut off                      B. bring around                      C. recover                      D. replace
3. Despite all the obstacles, Mariah's determination to become a famous singer never waivers.  
A. becomes stronger                      B. gets better                      C. becomes weaker                      D. get destroyed
4. From humble beginnings, sales have rocketed and are set for further high growth in the next three years.  
A. promising                      B. poor                      C. impressive                      D. unexpected

5. It is quite common for students to gather at the canteen and shoot the breeze during the break.

- A. enjoy fresh air  
B. check the homework  
C. gossip about unimportant things  
D. fight with each other

**IV. Mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions.**

1. \_\_\_\_ Arctic tern is \_\_\_\_ unbelievable bird which can migrate thousands of miles every year.  
A. The /the B. An/an C. An/the D. The /an
2. In \_\_\_\_ 1950s, many people moved from \_\_\_\_ West Indies to \_\_\_\_ England because their life was so hard there.  
A. the / the / Ø B. the / Ø / Ø C. Ø / the / Ø D. Ø / Ø / Ø
3. While the guests were having dinner upstairs, the thieves \_\_\_\_ in and \_\_\_\_ the most valuable bikes in the garage.  
A. broke / stole B. were breaking / stealing  
C. had broken / stolen D. were broken / stolen
4. A musical diva, according to many, should be able to have a(n) \_\_\_\_ on the next generations of artists.  
A. inspiration B. decision C. reliance D. impact
5. The new teaching method is supposed to \_\_\_\_ students' creativity.  
A. dedicate B. inspire C. stimulate D. distinguish
6. A new campaign has already been \_\_\_\_ by all high schools in the district to help disadvantaged children go to school.  
A. stimulated B. achieved C. launched D. determined
7. Richard Byrd was \_\_\_\_ first person in history to fly over \_\_\_\_ North Pole.  
A. the / a B. the / Ø C. the / the D. Ø / Ø
8. When I \_\_\_\_ at the party, everyone \_\_\_\_ a good time.  
A. was arriving / had B. arrived / was having  
C. arrived / had D. arrived / were having
9. \_\_\_\_ a good time last night?  
A. Did you have B. Were you having C. Will you have D. Are you having
10. While I \_\_\_\_ to work this morning I \_\_\_\_ an old friend.  
A. went / meet B. am going / met C. go / was meeting D. was going / met
11. The kids \_\_\_\_ to get up this morning. It \_\_\_\_ and it was cold, and their bed was so warm.  
A. don't want / is raining B. are not wanting / rains  
C. weren't wanting / rained D. didn't want / was raining
12. I \_\_\_\_ to the news on the radio when the phone \_\_\_\_.  
A. listened / was ringing B. am listening / was ringing  
C. was listening / rang D. listen / is ringing
13. Ms. McGonagall is such a \_\_\_\_ woman that we all respect her.  
A. respectful B. respecting C. respectable D. respective
14. The Beatles \_\_\_\_ in 1970 and its members followed their individual careers.  
A. fell out B. got over C. let down D. split up
15. After quite a(n) \_\_\_\_ starting point, the contestant gained confidence and delivered an impressive performance.  
A. ordinary B. humble C. inferior D. normal
16. Different people would \_\_\_\_ the Luke's message in different ways; it's hard to know which one is right.  
A. figure B. interpret C. translate D. distinguish
17. The students admire Prof. Marshall not only for his \_\_\_\_ knowledge but also his dedication to work.  
A. wit B. wide C. large D. enormous
18. Many students opted for English 101 \_\_\_\_ to History 101.  
A. with respect to B. with reference to C. in preference to D. in view of



19. Daniel inherited the whole legacy of his grandma when she \_\_\_\_ last week.  
A. brought up      B. passed out      C. passed away      D. brought around
20. The villagers rumoured that the boy was \_\_\_\_ by his uncle and aunt not his parents.  
A. brought in      B. brought up      C. grown up      D. raised up
21. A(n) \_\_\_\_ friend never tells lies to his friends.  
A. truly      B. truthful      C. true      D. untrue
22. What a \_\_\_\_ sight! It may make a child cry.  
A. fearsome      B. fearless      C. fearful      D. fearing
23. This soup \_\_\_\_ more pepper will taste better.  
A. with the exception of      B. with the addition of  
C. in conformity with      D. in connection with
24. - X: "What's the problem, Harry?"  
- Y: " \_\_\_\_."  
A. No problem      B. No trouble at all  
C. Thank you for asking me about it      D. I can't remember where I left my glasses
25. - X: "What kind of TV program do you like best?"  
- Y: " \_\_\_\_."  
A. I like them very much      B. I only watch them at weekends  
C. It's hard to say, actually      D. I'm too busy to say
26. A doctor, together with two nurses, \_\_\_\_ sent to that faraway village to help the sick people.  
A. have been      B. has been      C. has      D. have
27. He hurried to the bus stop, \_\_\_\_ the last bus had already left.  
A. only finding      B. only having found      C. only to find      D. only to have found
28. \_\_\_\_ he known my address, he would have come.  
A. Were      B. Did      C. Had      D. Should
29. If only I \_\_\_\_ not so nervous at the important interview.  
A. am      B. has been      C. be      D. were
30. While the robbers \_\_\_\_ from the building, the alarm went off.  
A. was escaping      B. had escaped      C. were escaping      D. are escaping

**V. Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct word or phrase that best fits each of the numbered blanks.**

#### THE PRICE OF FAME

Charlotte Church looks like a normal teenager, but she is far from average. She has an amazing voice. Her fan stands in (1) \_\_\_\_ for hours to get tickets for her concerts, and she is often on television. Charlotte's singing (2) \_\_\_\_ began when she performed on a TV show at the age of 11. The head of a record company was so impressed by her voice that he (3) \_\_\_\_ her up on the spot. Her first album rose to number one in the charts.

Charlotte still attends school in her home town when she can. (4) \_\_\_\_, she is often away on tour for weeks at a time. She doesn't miss out on lessons, though, because she takes her own tutor with her! She (5) \_\_\_\_ three hours every morning with him. Her exam results in all the (6) \_\_\_\_ she studies are impressive.

But how does she (7) \_\_\_\_ with this unusual way of life? She (8) \_\_\_\_ that she has the same friends as before. That may be true, but she can no longer go into town with them because everybody stops her in the street to ask for her (9) \_\_\_\_\_. It seems that, like most stars, she must learn to (10) \_\_\_\_ these restrictions and the lack of privacy. It's the price of fame.

- |                  |           |             |             |
|------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. A. rows       | B. files  | C. ranks    | D. queues   |
| 2. A. profession | B. job    | C. career   | D. labour   |
| 3. A. wrote      | B. signed | C. made     | D. picked   |
| 4. A. However    | B. While  | C. For      | D. Although |
| 5. A. takes      | B. spends | C. utilises | D. uses     |

- |                     |                 |               |                |
|---------------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 6. A. titles        | B. materials    | C. lessons    | D. subjects    |
| 7. A. cope          | B. adjust       | C. bear       | D. tolerate    |
| 8. A. denies        | B. refuses      | C. insists    | D. complains   |
| 9. A. letter        | B. autograph    | C. signs      | D. writing     |
| 10. A. look down on | B. make do with | C. run out of | D. put up with |

**VI. Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.**

David Beckham is an English footballer who has played for Manchester United and Real Madrid, as well as representing his country 100 times. He moved to the Los Angeles Galaxy in 2007 to increase the profile of football in America. He married *Spice Girl* Victoria Beckham and has become a worldwide celebrity, an advertising brand and a fashion icon.

Beckham was born in London in 1975. His parents were **fanatical** Manchester United supporters. His talent was obvious from an early age and he signed with Manchester United on his fourteenth birthday. He helped the youth team win several trophies and made his first team debut in 1995. He helped his team achieve considerable success in his eleven seasons with them.

Beckham has been runner-up twice as world football's best player. He won many trophies with Manchester United, including the Champions League, and won a league title with Real Madrid. He also captained his club and country. He was famously sent off in a match against Argentina in the 1998 World Cup. In 2003, Beckham received an honour for services to football from Britain's Queen.

Beckham has many interests off the soccer pitch and is rarely out of the headlines, especially concerning his marriage and children. He has established football academies in Los Angeles and London. In 2006 he was named a judge for the British Book Awards. He lives near Tom Cruise and the two are best buddies. Beckham is also a United Nations Goodwill Ambassador.

- What is the main idea of the reading passage?
  - The life and career of David Beckham
  - Beckham's family background
  - Beckham's life before and after getting married
  - Beckham's marriage with a Spice Girl's member
- According to the passage, Beckham has played 100 times for \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Real Madrid
  - Manchester United
  - the national team of America
  - The national team of England
- The word "**fanatical**" is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - inspired
  - enthusiastic
  - realistic
  - idealistic
- When did Beckham receive the royal award for his contribution to football?
  - In 1995
  - In 1998
  - In 2003
  - In 2006
- Which of the following is NOT mentioned about Beckham?
  - He contributed to the success of the youth team of the Manchester United.
  - He made England lose the match against Argentina in the 1998 World Cup.
  - He was voted one of the best football players of the world more than once.
  - Some of Beckham's interests are not related to football.

**VII. Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.**

Mark Zuckerberg was born in 1984, in New York, into a prosperous, professional family. He developed an interest in computers at an early age and when he was twelve, he created a messaging program which he named "Zucknet". His dentist father used it in his surgery so that his receptionist could inform him of the arrival of a patient without yelling across the room. Together with his friends, Mark spent much of his spare time as a boy designing and making computer games just for fun.



In 2002, Mark enrolled at Harvard University. By his second year at the institution, he had acquired a reputation on the campus as a developer of software. It was at that time he invented "Facemash" which compared pictures of female students and allowed users to vote on which one was the most attractive. The program became very popular on campus, but was later shut down by the university authorities who deemed it 'inappropriate'.

Based on the buzz of "Facemash", three of Mark's fellow students, Divya Narendra, and twins, Cameron and Tyler Winklevoss, asked him to work with them on an idea for a social networking site called "Harvard Connection". This site was designed to use information from Harvard's student networks to create a dating site for the university's elite. Mark was initially enthusiastic about the complex project but boredom soon set in and he backed out of it to work on his own social networking site. He created a site that allowed users to produce their own profiles, upload photos, and communicate with other people beyond the confines of the university. He called the site "Facebook" and he operated from one small college room until June 2004 when he finally abandoned his studies to devote himself fully to Facebook and moved the company to California.

By the end of 2004, Facebook had one million users and Mark was climbing high. However, in 2006, the multi-millionaire business **mogul** faced his first big hurdle. The creators of Harvard Connection claimed that he had used their idea, and insisted that he should compensate them for their business losses. Mark maintained that the ideas were based on two very different types of social networks but, after lawyers searched his records, incriminating emails revealed that he may have intentionally stolen the intellectual property of his former partners. Although an initial settlement of \$65 million was reached between the two parties, the legal dispute over the matter continued well into 2011, after the Harvard Connection creators claimed they were misled with regards to the value of the Facebook stock.

Since amassing his sizeable fortune, Mark has used his millions to fund a variety of **philanthropic** causes. He has put lots of money into the deteriorating schools system in deprived parts on New York and he actively encourages other wealthy, young entrepreneurs to follow his example and put back something into society.

1. As a child, Mark Zuckerberg \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. created a software package for dentists
  - B. developed a communications program
  - C. sold computer programs to his friends
  - D. was mainly interested in playing computer games
2. According to the passage, during his time at university, Mark \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. was known for developing unsuitable software
  - B. made a program that was disliked by the authorities
  - C. developed an unsuccessful program
  - D. produced education programs
3. The Harvard Connection network was \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. originally Mark's idea
  - B. a site for all university students
  - C. for exchanging academic information
  - D. not interesting enough for Mark
4. The Facebook social network developed at Harvard \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. was a collaborative project with other students
  - B. could only be accessed by Harvard students
  - C. became Mark's full-time job after completing university
  - D. became really successful after June 2004
5. What does the word "**mogul**" in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to?
  - A. tycoon
  - B. thief
  - C. manager
  - D. inventor
6. The creators of Harvard Connection were unhappy because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. Mark was more successful than they were
  - B. they had lost a lot of business

- C. they thought Mark had used their original concept  
D. Mark had stopped working for them
7. Which of the following statements is TRUE according to the passage?  
A. Mark did not copy the idea behind Harvard Connection.  
B. The two parties in dispute were unable to come to an agreement.  
C. Mark stated that the two websites were not in any way alike.  
D. The Harvard Connection team were unaware of the value of Mark's company.
8. The word "**philanthropic**" in paragraph 5 can best be replaced by \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. failing                      B. moral                      C. problematic                      D. humanitarian
9. Which of the following is NOT MENTIONED in the passage?  
A. Some of the creators of Harvard Connection used to be Mark's fellow students.  
B. Mark has deliberately taken the ideas of the creators of Harvard Connection.  
C. Mark has been investing in improving education in less developed areas of New York.  
D. The legal dispute that Mark faced started in 2006 and continued well into 2011.
10. Which of the following best serves as the title for the passage?  
A. The Inventor Of Facebook                      B. The Legal Dispute Over Facebook  
C. The Harvard Connection Creators                      D. The Success of Facebook

**VIII. Mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the underlined part that needs correction in each of the following questions.**

1. To be effective, an advertisement must first attract an attention.  
A                      B                      C                      D
2. Arthritis, a painful swelling of the joints, is often associated with elderly people, but can afflict young as well.  
A                      B                      C                      D
3. About the third of the earth's land surface is covered by relatively flat plains.  
A                      B                      C                      D
4. While the workers stood on the scaffold, it suddenly collapsed.  
A                      B                      C                      D
5. My mother was coming across a ring that she had lost months ago when she was cleaning the attic.  
A                      B                      C                      D
6. The police were trying to put end to the motorbike race among teenagers.  
A                      B                      C                      D
7. Dry farming is a type of agriculture used in areas which has less than 20 inches of rainfall.  
A                      B                      C                      D
8. Candles which are made from a beeswax burn with a very clean fame.  
A                      B                      C                      D
9. After years of war, we tried to keep in the touch with our relatives.  
A                      B                      C                      D
10. I have no difficulty in making the good use of the plans you have prepared.  
A                      B                      C                      D

**IX. Mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the sentence that is closest in meaning to each of the following questions.**

1. He knows nearly everything there is to know about whales.  
A. There's nothing that he knows about whales.  
B. Little does he know anything about whales.  
C. There is nothing that he doesn't know about whales.  
D. Hardly does he know anything about whales.
2. I only made that terrible mistake because I wasn't thinking.



- A. Had I been thinking, I wouldn't have made that terrible mistake.
  - B. If I was thinking, I wouldn't make that terrible mistake.
  - C. I wasn't thinking, which resulted from that terrible mistake.
  - D. The terrible mistake is caused when I am not thinking.
3. John has played the guitar since he was twelve.
- A. John has started to play the guitar since he was twelve.
  - B. John began to play the guitar when he was twelve.
  - C. The last time John played the guitar was at the age of twelve.
  - D. It has been twelve years since John played the guitar.
4. When we asked the Minister about the strike, he declined to comment.
- A. On asking us about the strike, the Minister declined to comment.
  - B. When asked about the strike, the Minister declined to comment.
  - C. We declined to comment when the Minister asked us about the strike.
  - D. Declining to comment, the Minister asked us about the strike.
5. The film star's behaviour was a shock to the fans.
- A. The fans are shocked by the film star's behaviour.
  - B. The film star's behaviour took the fans by surprise.
  - C. It is a shock to the fans to see the film star's behaviour.
  - D. The film star was too shocked to behave well to the fans.

**X. Mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the sentence that best combines each pair of sentences in the following questions.**

1. I prefer to go out for a meal. I really don't want to eat at home.
- A. I'd rather to go out for a meal than to eat at home.
  - B. I prefer to go out for a meal than eating at home.
  - C. I prefer going out for a meal to eating at home.
  - D. I'd rather go out for a meal than eating at home.
2. You are spending money recklessly. Others are saving.
- A. You are spending money recklessly, so others are saving.
  - B. You are spending money recklessly, for others are saving.
  - C. You are spending money recklessly, but others are saving.
  - D. You are spending money recklessly, or others are saving.
3. Mike's uncle is interesting. He always has stories to tell us.
- A. Because Mike's uncle is interesting, he always has stories to tell us.
  - B. While Mike's uncle is interesting, he always has stories to tell us.
  - C. Mike's uncle is interesting as he always has stories to tell us.
  - D. Mike's uncle is so interesting that he always has stories to tell us.
4. Laura didn't know many people at the party. She felt uncomfortable.
- A. Because Laura felt uncomfortable, she didn't know many people at the party.
  - B. If Laura knew many people at the party, she wouldn't feel uncomfortable.
  - C. Provided that Laura had known many people at the party, she would have felt uncomfortable.
  - D. Laura felt uncomfortable, for she knew few people at the party.
5. Mariah sings well. She writes good songs, too.
- A. Mariah can either sing well or write good songs.
  - B. Mariah can neither sing well or write good songs.
  - C. Not only does Mariah sing well but she also writes good songs.
  - D. Well as Mariah sings, she writes good songs.