PRACTICE TEST 18

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the word whose underlined part differs from the other three in pronunciation in each of the following questions.

1. A. lived B. concerned C. decided D. studied
2. A. funny B. rubbish C. upper D. student

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

3. A. believe B. provide C. decide D. enter
4. A. disappear B. arrangement C. opponent D. contractual

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions.

5. The weather is very cold, _____?
   A. is it B. isn't it C. does it D. doesn't it
6. Two dozen cookies _____ by Susan for the bake sale.
   A. have baked B. bake C. will be baked D. will bake
7. Britain's Prince William arrived_____ Hanoi on Wednesday for his first visit to Vietnam.
   A. at B. to C. on D. in
8. _____ you climb, the colder it gets.
   A. The higher B. The highest C. Higher D. Highest
9. That old man used to live in a _____ house.
   A. nice big brick B. nice brick big C. brick nice big D. big brick nice
10. He found some money when he _____ the cupboards.
    A. cleaned B. has cleaned C. was cleaning D. cleans
11. _____ the old age, the woman managed to finish the last round in the marathon.
    A. Because B. Because of C. In spite of D. Although
12. I'll go to sleep _____.
    A. as soon as I finish the homework B. after I had finished the homework
    C. While I was finishing the homework D. before I finished the homework
13. _____ this, Napoleon rode on to meet Marshal Lannes, who, hat in hand, rode up smiling to the Emperor to congratulate him on the victory.
    A. To have said B. Having said C. Said D. Being said
14. Travelling to _____ countries in the world enables me to learn many interesting things.
    A. differently B. different C. difference D. differ
15. The trouble with James is that he never _____ on time for a meeting.
    A. turns up B. takes off C. takes up D. turns down
16. I know he wouldn't _____ a promise to me, so I try to keep this promise.
    A. break B. cut C. lend D. say
17. The _____ of living in some places can be very high. Prices in London are particularly exorbitant.
    A. value B. price C. worth D. cost
18. At the _____ level, you can join three-year or four-year colleges.
    A. primary B. secondary C. postgraduate D. undergraduate
19. When my brother got angry I told him to keep his _____ on.
    A. shoe B. shirt C. coat D. hat

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the word CLOSEST in meaning to the underlined word in each of the following questions.

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20. **Decent** and quality jobs must be available for all people who are able to work.
A. Inevitable B. Compulsory C. Suitable D. Unreliable

21. In the current financial crisis, the banks must not break with their **commitment** to society.
A. engagement B. movement C. judgement D. achievement

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the word(s) OPPOSITE in meaning to the underlined word(s) in each of the following questions.

22. Some companies are making **strenuous** efforts to increase the proportion of women at all levels of employment.
A. decisive B. determined C. continuous D. half-hearted

23. Ben's dreams of a university education **went by the board** when his father died and he was forced to earn a living.
A. became possible B. turned into a nightmare
C. got rejected D. got prolonged

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the option that best completes each of the following exchanges.

24. *Sam is talking to Mai on the first day at school.*
- **Sam**: "How long does it take you to get to school?"- **Mai**: "_____. "
A. About 2 kilometres B. 2 years ago
C. About 15 minutes D. 15 pounds

25. **Linda**: "I think it's a good idea to have three or four generations living under one roof. They can help one another. "
Janet: " _____ . Many old aged parents like to lead an independent life in a nursing home"
A. It's nice to hear that B. Me, too
C. That's not true D. I agree with you completely

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct word or phrase that best fits each of the numbered blanks from 26 to 30.

Many parents believe that they should begin to teach their children to read when they are slightly more than toddlers. This is fine if the child shows a real interest but forcing a child could be counter-productive if she isn't ready. Wise parents will have a hopeful attitude and take the lead from their child. What they should provide is a selection of stimulating toys, books and (26)____ activities. Nowadays there is plenty of good material available for young children, and of course, seeing plenty of books in use about the house will also encourage them to read.

Of course, books are no longer the only source of stories and information. There is also a huge range of videos, (27)_____ can reinforce and extend the pleasure a child finds in a book and are equally valuable in helping to increase vocabulary and concentration. Television gets a bad review as far as children are concerned, mainly because too many spend too much time watching programmes not intended for their age (28)_____. Too many television programmes induce an incurious, uncritical attitude that is going to make learning much more difficult. (29)_____, discriminating viewing of programmes designed for young children can be useful. Just as adults enjoy reading a book after seeing it serialised on television, so children will pounce on books which (30)_____ their favourite television characters, and videos can add a new dimension to a story known from a book.

26. A. other B. others C. another D. one
27. A. who B. whom C. which D. whose
28. A. set B. band C. group D. limit
29. A. Therefore B. However C. Consequently D. Although

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30. A. illustrate B. extend C. feature D. possess

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

As customers choose brands based on how they make them feel, rather than their actual products or services, there is an intrinsic advantage to those organizations that use designed experiences as a weapon to cut through the most competitive of markets. Those that don't, operate in what we call the "experience gap", the space between them and their customer's expectation of them. Make no mistake, in our high paced and digitally connected economies, the experience gap is driving markets, fast.

For example, take Instagram and Twitter. These brands filled the demand for a whole new human experience that did not exist before the evolution of digital technologies enabled that. They were pioneers, and there were no established players to unseat. But we are also seeing a similar dynamic in existing industries. New entrants are coming in and taking the space, also using whole new experiences, purely because the incumbents left the door open. Tran Truong Thanh (Zalo 00369904425)

Closer to home, this can be seen with Australian neobanks **who** are giving customers a better experience than the incumbents. Robert Bell is the CEO at neobank 86400. He says banking has already become quite complicated and he wanted to make a change. His neobank is working to solve customers problems more holistically. Bell said, "It's significantly harder work and takes more time to become a bank, but having done that we can have a much better relationship with our customers and we can offer them a lot more products and services. "

Think about that for a moment. Do you notice how better experiences, leads to better relationships, which is then the **stepping stone** for more offerings? Many brands still jump straight to modified offerings, without gaining that customer connection and the necessary foundation of trust first.

(source: https: //which-50. com/)

31. What does the passage mainly discuss?

A. The importance of experience to competitive advantage.
B. Businesses are unwilling to disrupt themselves.
C. A far-reaching cultural transformation.
D. Knowledge drives behavior, loyalty, satisfaction.

32. The word "**who**" in paragraph 3 refers to _____.

A. incumbents B. neobanks C. customers D. experiences

33. According to paragraph 2, what is true about Instagram and Twitter in the stated instance?

A. Their reputation famously preceded even the 4th Industrial Revolution.
B. They are the one and only companies providing such revolutionary services.
C. They were the trailblazers for the experience-oriented marketing strategy.
D. Prior to their advent, there were already several competitors in the field.

34. According to paragraph 3, what is the attitude of Robert Bell towards the customers?

A. He sees them as modern slaves to consumerism.
B. He maintains a healthy relationship of give and take.
C. He displays worship in its purest form towards them.
D. He views them as the golden goose for his business.

35. What does the phrase "**stepping stone**" in paragraph 4 mean?

A. An asset or possession prized as being the best of a group of similar things.
B. A person who travels without settling down for any significant period of time
C. An important clue to understanding something that is challenging or puzzling.
D. An action or event that helps one to make progress towards a specified goal.

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

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Every summer, when the results of university entrance exam come out, many newspaper stories are published about students who are top-scorers across the country. Most portray students as hard-working, studious, smart and, generally, from low-income families. They are often considered heroes or heroines by their families, communes, villages and communities. And they symbolize the efforts made to lift them, and their relatives, out of poverty. The students are often too poor to attend any extra-classes, which make their achievements more illustrious and more newsworthy. While everyone should applaud the students for their admirable efforts, putting too much emphasis on success generates some difficult questions.

If other students look up to them as models, of course it's great. However, in a way, it contributes to society's attitude that getting into university is the only way to succeed. For those who fail, their lives are over. It should be noted that about 1. 3 million high school students take part in the annual university entrance exams and only about 300, 000 of them pass. What's about the hundreds of thousands who fail? Should we demand more stories about those who fail the exam but succeed in life or about those who quit university education at some level and do something else **unconventional?**

"I personally think that it's not about you scoring top in an entrance exam or get even into Harvard. It's about what you do for the rest of your life, " said Tran Nguyen Le Van, 29. He is the founder of a website, vexere. com, that passengers can use to book bus tickets online and receive tickets via SMS. His business also arranges online tickets via mobile phones and email. Van dropped out of his MBA at the Thunderbird School of Global Management in Arizona in the United States. His story has caught the attention of many newspapers and he believes more coverage should be given to the youngsters who can be role-models in the start-up community. Getting into university, even with honours, is just the beginning. "We applaud them and their efforts and obviously that can give them motivation to do better in life. However, success requires more than just scores, " Van said. Van once told a newspaper that his inspiration also came from among the world's most famous drop-outs, such as Mark Zuckerberg of Facebook or Bill Gates who also dropped out of Harvard University.

Alarming statistics about unemployment continues to **plague** us. As many as 162, 000 people with some kind of degree cannot find work, according to Labour Ministry's statistics this month. An emphasis on getting into university does not inspire students who want to try alternative options. At the same time, the Ministry of Education and Training is still pondering on how to reform our exam system, which emphasises theories, but offers little to develop critical thinking or practice. Vu Thi Phuong Anh, former head of the Centre for Education Testing and Quality Assessment at Viet Nam National University in HCM City said the media should also monitor student successes after graduation. She agreed there were many success stories about young people, but added that it was imbalanced if students taking unconventional paths were not also encouraged.

Viet Nam is, more than ever, in desperate need of those who think outside the box. Time for us to recognise talent, no matter where it comes from or how.

(Source: http: //vietnamnews. vn)

36. Which of the following best describes the main idea of this passage?

A. Many students consider universities as their only way after school.
B. A good model of being successful in the real life out of school.
C. Not many students are successful after graduating from universities.
D. University is not the only way to success.

37. What is **NOT** stated in the passage about the top-scorers in the entrance exam?

A. The majority of them are poor but intelligent and eager to learn.
B. They are hoped to find the way to better their families' lives.
C. Their success is more glorious because they attend more classes than others.
D. The students are admired for the great efforts.

38. The word "**unconventional**" in paragraph 2 could best be replaced by _____.

A. common B. unusual C. well-known D. infamous

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39. The author described Tran Nguyen Le Van in the third passage as _____.
A. a good example to achieve success although he didn't finish his education.
B. a businessman who gains money by selling mobile phones online.
C. a founder whose website was inspired from social networks like Facebook.
D. a top-scorer who books online tickets and confirm through messages.

40. The word "**them**" in paragraph 3 refers to _____.
A. honours B. role-models C. the youngsters D. newspapers

41. The word "**plague**" in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to _____.
A. conflict B. afflict C. remind D. bother

42. According to the fourth paragraph, what is TRUE about the modern exam system?
A. It puts too much pressure on students who must get a place in a university.
B. Students are not encouraged to do something different.
C. The government is trying to change the theories of exam.
D. Many stories about successful students cannot inspire those who attend universities.

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the underlined part that needs correction in each of the following questions.

43. She doesn't sleep well last night due to loud music from neighbours
A.doesn't B.well C.due to D.neighbours

44. At the age of 50, Robby William changed its career after spending his twenty years playing electric guitar.
A.of B.its C.spending D.playing

45. The teacher's explanation was confused. Most of students didn't understand it.
A.explanation B.confused C.students D.understand

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the sentence that is closest in meaning to each of the following questions.

46. She started working as a teacher of English ten years ago.
A. She had worked as a teacher of English for ten years.
B. She had been working as a teacher of English for ten years.
C. She worked as a teacher of English for ten years.
D. She has been working as a teacher of English for ten years.

47. "I'll call the police if you continually make noise at night", she said to her neighbour.
A. She enjoyed calling the police if her neighbor continually made noise at night.
B. She promised to call the police if her neighbor continually made noise at night.
C. She threatened to call the police if her neighbor continually made noise at night.
D. She denied calling the police if her neighbor continually made noise at night.

48. My car keys are possibly in the kitchen.
A. My car keys should be put in the kitchen.
B. My car keys cannot be in the kitchen.
C. My car keys might be in the kitchen.
D. My car keys must be in the kitchen.

Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the sentence that best combines each pair of sentences in the following questions.

49. I was busy yesterday. I couldn't complete my homework.
A. If only I had more time yesterday, I could complete my homework.
B. As soon as I didn't have more time yesterday, I couldn't complete my homework.
C. If I had more time yesterday, I could have completed my homework.

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D. I wish I had had more time yesterday, I could have completed my homework.

50. The soccer team knew they lost the match. They soon started to blame each other.

A. Not only did the soccer team lose the match but they blamed each other as well

B. No sooner had the soccer team started to blame each other than they knew they lost the match.

C. As soon as they blamed each other, the soccer team knew they lost the match.

D. Hardly had the soccer team known they lost the match when they started to blame each other

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